

Given to Paul Oberle at Dema 2000 Dealers Meeting

Isn't it amazing what we learn from children? Kids are resilient. Kids don't have the inhibitions, and kids are not bogged down with making a living. Children are what we live and work for. As we were assembling the parts of the NEW programs, I came across something I felt was very valuable. I learned this from my daughter's sixth grade class. It is quite elementary and profound, but all so true. I wish we could teach this simple lesson to the entire diving industry, and someone in this room taught it to me.

In my Comfort Zone:

- I feel safe
- I know what I am doing
- I am relaxed
- Things are easy
- I am comfortable
- I do not make mistakes
- I do not need help

Equated to the children this means the SSI "Comfort Through Repetition."

In My Learning Zone:

- I feel stress
- I am uncomfortable
- I make mistakes
- Things are hard
- I may be embarrassed
- I mess up
- I need help

From a child's point of view this means: The SSI "Diver's Diamond," (Proper Knowledge, Proper Skills, Proper Equipment and Proper Experience.)

In My Danger Zone:

- I am afraid
- I quit
- Things are too hard
- I want to leave
- I refuse to try

Simply stated: If I don't feel safe, I won't continue.

We can all learn from children, especially our own. Children are our future. It gives me great pleasure to recognize someone who has recognized children and developed a program for them. This is someone who has created a reputation of "Dad, don't wake me up too soon in the morning so it won't be so long before I can go **Scuba Rangers!** To **Mr. Paul Oberle, the Father of Scuba Rangers, Thank You and We Salute You.**

Doug Mcneese

Chief Executive Officer