

dead under water

aquaculture

Usually, the words "dead" and "under water" in the same sentence send shivers through the diving community, but in one case, the juxtaposition was also a cause for enjoyment, and commercial success.

A new video documentary by Florida cave diver, photographer, and filmmaker Wes Skiles documents a 3,500 mile voyage he took with the Grateful Dead's drummer Bill Kreutzmann in 1993.

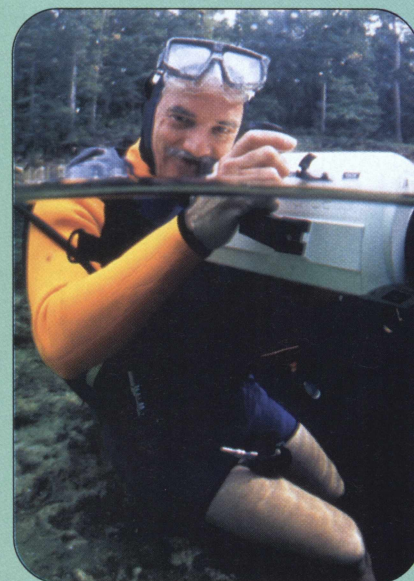
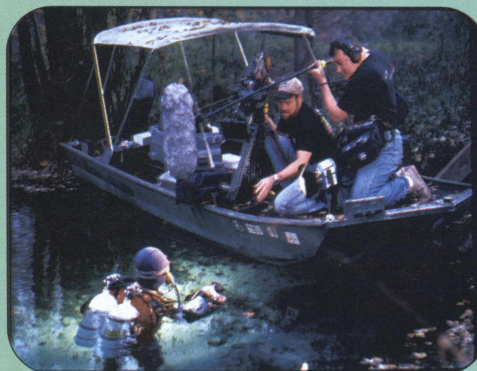
Kreutzmann, an avid diver and surfer, put together a team aboard the *Argosy*, a 110-foot wooden sailboat built in 1947, and left San Francisco Bay for a six-week journey to the islands off Mexico. His goal? To spiritually interact with creatures of the sea. Highlights of his trip? Free diving with a dozen mantas, each at least sixteen feet across; and being surrounded by fifty scalloped hammerhead sharks.

Groovy.

Skiles, an independent film producer, has aggressively marketed the video. He's sold it to German television, the BBC in London, and WGBH-Boston is offering it to PBS stations throughout the US.

You can find out more about Ocean Spirit at

www.://ftp.neosoft.com/pub/users/h/haupt2it/OS.html



As this issue was going to press, we received the sad news that Jerry Garcia, the Grateful Dead's lead guitarist and spiritual leader, died of heart failure at the age of 53. Garcia once told *Rolling Stone* that he chose the band's now famous name by randomly opening a dictionary. What he put his finger on was 'the grateful dead'—"a traditional British folk ballad in which a human helps the ghost of someone who has died recently find peace." Let's sing a grateful dead for Garcia.