



[www.bluegrassdiveclub.com](http://www.bluegrassdiveclub.com)

## August's Club Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, August 10th  
**Time:** 7:30-PM (business)  
 Social time to follow  
**Location:** The Racquet Club  
 3900 Crosby Rd.  
**Program:** Bonne Terre Mines

## President's Message



It can't be happening, yet summer is 2/3rds over, where did the time go?

For those who wanted simple local diving the July Dale Hollow trip was one of the most well attended spontaneous local trips we have had in a long time. Doug and the dive trip committee did a great job with more to come.

We have a full lineup of events coming your way so I will go over what we have just discussed at the EC meeting.

August meeting will feature a presentation on our fall trip to Bonne Terre Mines with video and verbal presentation Dan and the Dive Committee have an exciting fall dive opportunity planned. I have made 3 trips to Bonne Terre and loved it. Bring your check book and get in on this one!

Next is our pig roast August 21 at the Geddes home in Equestrian Woods.

Food, music, pool, and volleyball, the perfect summer mix. See article for info and directions.

Florida Springs trip and the Truk trip start up the 05 season with the Cozumel trip in April. If that were not enough we are working on an inexpensive live aboard trip to the Gulf of Mexico for the fall of 05.



*Go Noel!*

With the 10 new members we have seen join so far this year the BGDC is alive and flourishing. I encourage every member to come to the meetings and try to get wet with the club at every chance, if you would like to have the club visit one of your favorite dive sites contact Doug.

If you have not been to a meeting for a while now is the time with the exciting summer dive season winding down and the upcoming events. We have a hearty food service at the beginning of the meeting, So much food that we always have leftovers.

It is so exciting to visit with the new members and returning members to catch up with what has been going on.

Finally I am so excited that some of the newer officers and committee members have taken charge of helping plan trips and other duties of the club. The energy and enthusiasm is contagious and well received.

See you Tuesday August 10<sup>th</sup>; we have some great door prizes!

*Mark*

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## Pig Roastin' Time

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Mark that date down!!!

Aug 21<sup>st</sup>

Yeeeeeee Haaaaaa !!!

Suuuuuuuu-Eeeeeeeeeeee !!!

Time for our pig roast again.

Date: Saturday, Aug 21st  
Time: 4:00-PM  
Where: Doug & MaryAnn Geddes  
105 Country Knoll  
Equestrian Woods Estates  
(See BGDC Web Site for Map)  
(606) 224-3197

**Activities:** Swimming & volleyball.

What To Bring

- A dish to share with 12 others
- Swim suit & towel
- Lawn chairs

The club will provide the Bar-B-Que, beer, & Pepsi products.

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## Divemaster's Report

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*By Doug Geddes*



### COZUMEL 2005

Not sure what has happened, but this trip is taking off. We currently have 33 persons signed up for this trip. We were able to add more air spaces and rooms. If you are interested in this trip you better sign up ASAP, we only have 6 spaces left on the plane. You could still go, but with your own air travel. Check out the website for more information and to sign up. To lock in your spot we need a deposit check and reservation form. (I think Mike McCann's whole family and friends are going on this one) Don't miss out on this cheap and awesome trip.□

### TRUK 2005

What else can I say that hasn't been said in the earlier newsletters? Everyone is current with his or her payments and the airline tickets have been

purchased. This trip is sold out, but we are taking names for the waiting list. You never know with this group what might happen. For more information check out our website. If you have an interest, drop me a line. □



Charlie, Lynn and Corrine

## DALE HOLLOW LAKE REVIEW

A total of 16 persons went on our July 17 - 18 lake trip. Fun was had by all. A little too much sun for some. Even though the first dive at Divers Island was a little stirred and rough from all the boats, we had a great time. The water below 20' was so cold it stopped most of us without wetsuits from going too deep. A few of us used our little scooters to move us around the island quickly. The scooter also seemed to attract fish; they would come right up to us. The second dive was a lot better at table rock. More fish and better vis. After diving or while waiting to dive most of us enjoyed a few water sports. (Skiing, WaveRunner, etc.)



*...and there was tubing too, ask Autumn*

After returning to the campsites, we had a feast of food shared by all. The next day was about the same except the water was clearer earlier in the morning. We all just hung out the rest of the day and got burnt. Thanks to John & Lynn Walters, Ralph & Sherry Covington, for bringing their boats for the enjoyment of all. Also, thanks to Charlie Denham for taking control of the pontoon boat. For those that went it cost about \$25.00 for camping and gas. Now if that isn't a cheap trip, nothing is. We will definitely have to have more of this type of trips in the future. □

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## The Editor's Notes

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By John Geddes



In this issue, all of the pics are from the Dale Hollow Lake trip. I would like to give John Walters a big thank you for showing my girls a great time with the tubing and letting them try the skis out too. Enjoy the pics, we sure did the weekend. □

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## Safety Corner

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By Rick Stephan



**Note:** *I have come under direct attack (sniff, sniff) for having overly long articles in the newsletter. (I guess electrons aren't free?) So, I am keeping this month's article short and to the point. This article talks about better beach diving, but the techniques will apply very well to our Kentucky "beaches", whether they are a quarry, Diver's Island at Dale Hollow, or somewhere else. (Except maybe the tips on how to handle waves.) I have put some editorial comments in parentheses, hopefully these will help you enjoy the local dive season.*

*Remember, safe diving is fun!*



### 10 Tips for Better Beach Diving

By: John Francis

1. To keep sand (or dirt, or gravel) out of your wetsuit, your reg, etc., gear up at the car and walk straight to the water without stopping. Bring a tarp to stand on behind your car and a plastic tub to dump your gear in after the dive.
2. Take several jugs of rinse water. They'll get warm in the trunk of your car. (*Making the rinse – for you or your gear – much more comfortable.*)
3. To change clothes in public, one option is the Changing Room, such as a mini-tent found at [www.gochange.com](http://www.gochange.com). Another is a huge caftan

or bathrobe. But most divers work with a big towel and a car door.

4. Keep gauges clipped in and use an octo holder.
5. If you get knocked down by a wave, don't try to get up – especially with fins on. Just crawl on all fours, or swim.
6. Once past the surf, swim out on your back. Look at a fixed point on the beach to see if a current is carrying you down the beach. If you need to reach a specific point like a buoy, take a compass bearing from the beach and use the reciprocal.
7. Take a sharp knife or shears. There's more fishing line near shore and in kelp beds. (*or in the lakes!*)
8. Be aware that surf and incoming tides usually mean poor visibility. Vis usually improves farther from shore. (*or below the thermocline*)
9. To find the best entry points, ask lifeguards (*or folks at the local marina or bait shop*). Many are surfers or divers. (*Probably not true at the Kentucky lake areas... but the key is to find out from knowledgeable people the best and safest areas to dive. This is important whether you're diving from a beach or a boat in unfamiliar water.*)
10. Have an emergency plan: Where's the pay phone or cell phone? Who do you call? Where's the oxygen? Tell someone where you will be. (**ALWAYS!!** And make sure you have a first aid kit handy also. You can make your own – see the Safety Corner from December 2003...) □



John Walters with Laine and Autumn Geddes

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## 2004 BGDC Officer's & Staff

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Mark Kidd, President	266-2276
Carol Call, Co-Vice President	253-3992
Dan Miller, Co-Vice President	948-5133
Bob Shepard, Secretary	263-0165
Kit Hudson, Treasurer	873-4974
Doug Geddes, Divemaster	224-3197
Rick Stephan, Safety Office	223-3719
Mike McCann, Webmaster	255-3937
John Geddes, Undercurrents Editor	223-7926

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## Co-Vice President's Report

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By Dan Miller and Carol Call



For those that did not make it to the Dale Hollow Lake trip in July you missed a good time. Folks did diving, water-skiing, jet-skiing, tubing & camped under the stars. The BGDC picked up the cost of the pontoon so it was a cheap weekend trip. We definitely need to make this an annual trek.

I'll have info on the Halloween weekend Bonne Terre, MO trip at the next club meeting and soon on the website. Their website is [www.2dive.com](http://www.2dive.com) if you want to check it out.

On August 3<sup>rd</sup> Mark Kidd, Kit Hudson and yours truly performed a diving demo for the Lexington Ski & Sports Club meeting at The Racquet Club pool [www.lexskisports.org](http://www.lexskisports.org). We had a good time and showed the skiers what it's like to "get wet". □



Dan's ready for his test run!

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## From The Secretary

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By Robert Shepard



### General Meeting Minutes

7/13/04

Kit gave the treasurer's report. As of 7/1/04 there is \$11,786.26 in both the unreserved and reserved funds.

We welcomed one guest to the club meeting; Linda Gorman, President of the Lexington Ski Club, gave an invitation to the club to attend their next meeting. Dan Miller is going to demonstrate diving procedures to their members. They meet the first Tuesday of the month and have a happy hour every Friday evening at Murry's.

Doug I discussed the 2005 Yap/Truk trip. The trip is full, but a standby list has been created.

The dive committee discussed the following upcoming trips:

- Next weekend there is a trip to Dale Hollow
- 1/05 trip to Ginnie Springs to see the manatees.
- Bonne Terre Mine trip later this year.
- Flower Garden off the coast of Texas for next year.

The 2005 Cozumel dive trip still has space available. Anyone wanting to go on the trip should give a deposit to Kit.

Mark showed a video of his and Stella's trip to Curacao. Looked like a possible future dive trip for the club. Lots of small creatures to see. □



Laine, Ralph, John and Autumn

### EC Meeting Minutes

7/27/04

Mark, John, Dan, Kit, Rick, Doug and I met at Doug's shop.

The 2005 Truk/Yap trip is full. There is still a waiting list for anyone interested in going.

30 people have signed up for the 2005 Cozumel trip.

We discussed all of the payments and dates for the upcoming trips.

Set up assignments for the pig roast in August.

The Nov. dinner meeting will be at the Racquet Club.



Eric, Corrine and

16 people went on the Dale Hollow weekend trip. With boats, scooters, camping and diving fun was had by all.

We discussed the procedure to be followed for setting up the dive trips.

Bonaire, Florida Springs and Crystal River trips will be set up for next year. □



Dan at Breakfast

## From the Dive Committee

By Doug Geddes

Your dive committee has been busy. Just check out the number of trips that we have planned. When you see one of the members of the committee, thank them for working so hard to make this a better Diving club. □

## Bluegrass Dive Club 2004 Calendar

### August

- 10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
- 21, Saturday Club Pig Roast
- 31, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### September

- 14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
- 28, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### October

- 12, Tuesday Club Meeting
- 26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### November

- 9, Tuesday Club Meeting/Dinner (Elections)
- 30, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### December

- 11, Saturday Club Christmas Party



Time to catch the pontoon for the next dive site

## Ginnie Springs and Manatee Trip

By Lynn Walters

The dive club is planning a long weekend trip to Florida at the end of January 2005 to snorkel with the manatees and dive Ginnie Springs and the surrounding sites. The dates are Thursday 1/20/05-Monday 1/24/05. It is approximately a ten-hour drive to High Springs, FL and the Crystal River, Homosassa River and other dive sites are all within a 30-75 minute drive.

Ginnie Springs has often been called the world's favorite freshwater dive due to the crystal clear water that is 72\* year round and for the natural beauty of the area. Divers may dive in Ginnie Spring and explore the cavern; dive the three separate springs in the Devil Spring System and drift dive the adjacent Santa Fe River. Certified cave divers may explore over 3,000 ft of passageways in the Devils System. Snorkelers also enjoy the springs.

In the cavern, the upper room is illuminated by light from the entrance. Moving to the back of the upper room, divers pass through a large opening



Noel is checking out the air refill station

into “the Ballroom” which has unusual geological formations that are unique to the Florida aquifer with the ceiling an excellent example of spongework- a gigantic limestone swiss cheese. At the back of the Ballroom at max depth of 50 ft, is a large welded grate that blocks the cavern from the cave system. Divers enjoy pulling themselves up to the grate to feel the rush of the 35 million gallons of water that pass through the opening a day.

Devils Spring is a four ft wide fracture at the head of the Devil Spring system that runs fifty feet long and almost as deep. Devil’s Den is round opening, 20 ft wide and equally deep. At the bottom is the entrance to a small intricately decorated cavern to explore. Devil’s Ear is a canyon-like opening where the Devils Spring run joins the Santa Fe River.

The Ginnie Springs Outdoors Recreation area is the headquarters of the springs and has all amenities such as a full service dive shop, café, bath houses, pavilions and picnic tables, and rentals for tubes, canoes and kayaks, and camping.



*Doug and Barbara Geodes*

The best time to see and snorkel with the endangered manatees is Nov. - Feb. When the weather is at its coolest and the manatees are concentrated around the warm spring waters. The Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge and Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park are the main areas. The Manatee trips are early a.m. as that is the best time.

The American Pro Diving Center of Crystal River, FL has extensive experience and recommends that the group take the 2 day tour \$89 package of: an a.m. Crystal River Manatee dive/snorkel trip and dive/snorkel Kings Springs Cavern with a p.m. drift dive/snorkel in the Rainbow River, which is the world’s third largest spring system. The second day would be an a.m. Homosassa River Premium Manatee snorkel trip with breakfast

included. (Right out our villa’s back door!) Then add on the p.m. option of diver’s choice of Blue Grotto, Devil’s Den, Forty Fathoms, Manatees Springs, or Paradise Springs.



Blue Grotto, Florida’s largest clear water cavern, famous for its clear blue water and large cavern chamber has an air bell on the ceiling where you can stop and talk to your buddy! Devil’s Den is Florida’s only underwater prehistoric spring down into the earth where you enter a large air filled cavern with a 50 ft spring at the bottom of the stairs. Manatee Springs first site is a cavern to 80 ft and the second is a springs outflow propulsion ride! Paradise springs is a guided 2 tank dive into a prehistoric cavern reaching 105 ft. Forty Fathoms has unique wrecks, such as a suspended motorcycle, and some of Florida’s largest intact fossilize sand dollars.

Located on the Homosassa River, the accommodations at the American’s River Rendezvous are the essence of Florida and enjoy a picturesque view of the River. There is the Seagrass Pub& Grill and entertainment as well as the boat dock. They have 2, 3, and 4 room villas that can be shared or individual cottages for rent.

The trip should be a lot of fun and very casual. A great way to explore the real Florida! Prices are very reasonable and the cost of the whole trip should be \$400-\$500, depending on individual food costs and gas for the driving and any individual equipment rental needed. Driving together and sharing the gas and accommodations also helps keep the cost reasonable. To see exact schedule in more detail, go to the link on the web page. □



*Ralph and Sherry with their boat, Doug with his Seadoo*