



UNDERCURRENTS

Newsletter of the Bluegrass Dive Club / www.bluegrassdiveclub.com

February 2006

Volume 36, Number 2

February's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 14th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
 Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
 3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: Underwater Videos by John and Dan

President's Message



February our meeting will be on Valentines Day, so bring your honey to the meeting, have some food, fun and fellowship.

Dan O'Canna and John Geddes will have underwater videos so you can snuggle in a darkened room with your significant other and enjoy some of talents of our members.

At the last EC meeting planning for the rest of 2006 was discussed including a dinner meeting in April to welcome home the Roatan travelers.

2007 will feature 2 exotic trips one in January or February, and one during spring break. Details will be coming by the March meeting.

Look forward to seeing you on the 14th. □

Mark

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



I thought this month I would include some pics by George Fleischmann of The Baths in the British Virgin Islands to warm things up. With Roatan coming up, only 6 weeks away now, these pics should start setting the mood. □

Co-Vice President's Report

By Dan Miller and Carol Call



Report by: *Dan Miller*

Upcoming Trips

As your reading this I'm probably in Lake Tahoe Skiing with my better half and 50 of our pals from the Lexington Ski & Sports Club but I'm still always thinking about diving! Prep for the club's June '06 North Carolina trip and check out www.nc-wreckdiving.com.

This site has all the info you'll need to prepare for this great locale including links to every site we'll dive. We'll dive with *Discovery Diving* in Beaufort, NC whom we dove with in June '05 so it should be great. Go to the "Upcoming Events" tab on our site to sign up for the trip. The EC & Dive Trip Committee need help planning 2007 trips. Bonaire and Turks & Caicos are likely candidates so let

Co-Vice President's Cont.

Doug Geddes knows if you have other locales you're juiced to go visit. Etc.

Peter Hughes Diving just launched their new Maldives liveboard in January. They're offering 7 & 10 night packages that depart from the capital city of Male. Wonder which would win a battle of shark vs. octopus? If you have high-speed broadband go to

www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/octopus/media_players_blue/shark_hi.html and play the 2.5 minute film. I think you'll be surprised at the outcome.

Diver Interest

Scuba Diving Magazine is sponsoring the **2006 InTenCity Tour** in 2 nearby locations for BGDC members. On April 8th in Franklin, TN at *Middle Tennessee Scuba & Swim* and June 10th in Centerville, OH at *Aquatic Realm Scuba Center*. I suggest attending Centerville's (Dayton suburb) event in June as it's akin to ScubaFest on steroids! Drive time from Lexington is ~2:15. Check it out on www.scubadiving.com/tour/. □

Divemaster's Report

By Doug Geddes



ROATAN, HONDURAS 2006

All the details have been resolved and the monies have been sent to the resort. For some reason, if you did not get your reservation done in time, it is still not too late. They are still holding 3 rooms for us and we have awhile before we have to let them go. The only thing we can't get is the air reservations back that we gave up upon payment. You will need to get your own air. Check the web site for our air schedule and see what you can do on your own. For those of you that have already signed up (42 of you), I will have more details for you when we get closer to the trip. I am still working on travel to Cincinnati, but a lot of persons are traveling on their own and has reduced to number needing a ride to around 12-15 persons. The bus cost is too high for that small

number. If we can't work out some sort of transportation, then it will be up to each of you to get there on your own or in a small group. If you have any questions about the trip, drop me an email or give me a call.

GALLAPAGOS 2006

Finally all the details have been worked out for this trip including all side trips and their cost. For those on the list with a deposit, Kit is sending a letter out to you explaining all the cost involved. If you see or have a problem with this, please get back to one of us ASAP. There is a possibility that we might lose one or two persons, so those of you that have waited to put your name on the list, now is the time. We do not have anyone on the waiting list to date, so you would be added in case of a drop out. Check out the web site for the updated page on this trip. All the details have been added, so now you can see what you will get for your money.



NEXT YEAR'S TRIPS 2007

For those interested, we are looking into Bonaire for earlier in the year (Jan.) and Grand Turk for the spring break trip. I am looking into several locations on these islands. If you have a favorite spot on these islands that you would like us to stay at, then drop me a line. I will be looking at several, but mostly for one that can handle a group of our size. Price does make a difference, but we definitely need a place to hold our group. I should have more information in the next newsletter. It is never too early to start planning for trips in the future, especially with a group of our size. □

From The Secretary

By George Fleischmann



General Meeting Minutes 1/10/06

The 7:30 regular meeting was held on 1/10/06 and attended by 31 folks. The treasurer's report was presented and approved. An update on the upcoming dive trips was given.

EC Meeting 1/31/06

The 7:30pm meeting was attended by Mark, Dan, Kit, Doug, John, Rick, Mike and I. Mark called the meeting to order. Kit presented the treasurer's report and a review of all 2005 expenses. The report was approved.

Doug reported that all planning details for the Honduras trip are complete. Currently 42 people are signed up for the trip. Airline costs have been paid and final checks are being sent to the resort during the first week of January. Doug also reported that the Galapagos trip is proceeding with no problems. Dan presented information about the North Carolina trip for 2006. Details will be posted on the club web site.

George presented an early draft of the work to revise the Club By-Laws. A discussion followed. Several changes were identified. These changes will be made and then the document will be emailed to the members of the EC for additional review. □



From the Treasurer

By Kit Hudson



2006 Membership dues are due.

Student (with student id).....	\$	10.00
Single & Family (1 diver).....		30.00
Family (2 or more divers).....		40.00

Renewal: Please send payment to the address listed below. And please make sure there is a correct indication of your mailing address & phone number. And it is very important to indicate an email address.

Contact or Mail to: Bluegrass Dive Club
% Kit Hudson
231 Stourbridge Rd.
Versailles, KY 40383
(606) 873-4974
kithuds@iglou.com

New Members: Please go to the web site and fill in the membership form there. □

Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: I found some interesting reading on the web. (No, not that kind of website!!) This month's article is based on a set of web articles on the website of an individual, a Jeff Bevis, who appears to be a Vermonter interested in scuba diving. (So we aren't the only land-locked folks to have this habit.)

When going to a dive resort in Central America, or even a lake dive in southern Kentucky, if a problem arises, how would you react? No one is sure how they would respond to an emergency situation until it happens, but the chances are you will be more prepared if you've at least read about it. So, for the next few issues, I'm going to propose some things to do if you need to take matters into your own hands to rescue someone. Please note that if you are in the hands of a responsible dive guide or

Safety Corner Cont.

instructor, you should defer to them. However, if you are out on Dale Hollow, or doing some of your unlimited shore diving in Roatan, minutes count, and you should consider trying to perform at least a few of these steps.

To learn more and be even better prepared, go to your local dive instructor and see if there are Rescue Diver classes to be held. A full class, with in-water practice for search patterns, etc. is infinitely better than just



reading this article. fun!

Remember, safe diving is



Scuba Rescue Plans (Part 1)

Remember, in any emergency, to:

- Stop
- Breathe
- Think
- Act

Okay, you've heard that a scuba diver is in possible trouble or danger, what is the problem?

A Diver is Missing

Follow the outline below to find a missing diver.

1. Immediately determine where the diver was last seen from the buddy and/or others.

The first thing to do is determine where the diver was last seen. The diver's buddy and others, both in the water and on shore, should be interviewed as to when they each saw the diver last. Questions that should be asked include:

- Where was the diver last seen?
 - What was the diver doing when last seen?
 - How long has it been since the diver was seen?
- Get information on the diver such as, sex, what he was wearing, experience level, and other items that may help determine what happened to the diver and help identify the missing diver when found.

This is also a good time to gather information on the profile(s) of the dives the missing diver has done. This info will be needed if the diver is found in an emergency situation.

This information should be recorded for future reference. If it is likely that the diver has not left the area, notification of professional emergency personnel using the local emergency procedures is appropriate.



2. Assign spotters to watch the last known location of the victim.

Once it has been determined where the diver was last seen, the next thing to do is to place at least 2 spotters, preferably with binoculars, to watch the area where the diver was last seen, looking for bubbles, the missing diver, or other evidence of where the diver may be. The spotters should be widely spaced to get different angles of view. Gaining height above water level also helps in seeing the area more easily.

Spotters should be responsible individuals, but they do not need to be divers. Depending on the people available, the individuals with the lowest level of certification can be used for spotting. Divers with higher levels of training should be used for the in-water portion of the rescue.

People should also be assigned to handle crowd control and someone should be sent to watch for,

Safety Corner Cont.

and direct, professional emergency personnel if appropriate.

3. Send out Snorkelers to the area the diver was last seen.

Snorkelers should be sent to the area the diver was last seen to gain a vantage point in the water. These people may be able to see the diver, depending on visibility, and the spotters may be able to direct the snorkelers to bubbles or other signs.

Snorkelers do not need to be divers, but they must be good swimmers. Additional flotation should also be taken with them so they will not tire as easily -- this flotation may also come in handy later if a rescue is needed.

4. Assign a team of divers to define the search area and begin the initial search.

A group of at least two divers should be sent to mark the search area and begin a preliminary search. These divers should take both surface and underwater markers to mark the area. Divers with training in search and navigation should perform this duty. At least one diver with Rescue training should be on the team in case the missing diver is found in trouble during the initial search.

5. Determine if the diver left the area without notifying anyone.

At times a diver that is reported missing has actually become tired of diving and left the water or the dive area completely. Before you commit to a full scale search and recovery operation, be reasonably sure the diver is still in the water -- preparations should still continue to implement and complete the search if necessary.

Send people to look for any of the diver's personal effects such as a gear bag, automobile, towel, or clothing. Also, during the discussions determining when the diver was last seen, try to determine if someone saw the diver leave the water.



Prepare another team, or more, of divers with proper equipment to conduct a more systematic and complete search. A team or teams of divers should be sent to conduct a complete and systematic search of the water for the missing diver. Be sure the search teams have proper equipment and know how to perform the required search patterns.

Ideally, one rescue level, or above, diver should be on each team. In any case, at least one member of each team should be a diver with search and navigation training.

The search method(s) chosen should be based on the bottom contour and conditions. Some search patterns include:

- "U" Pattern
- Expanding Squares
- Circular Search

Keep in mind the following cautions when conducting a search.

- Provide a means to recall searching divers.
- Searching divers should be in teams only and not exposed to any risk.
- Searches should be initiated at the point where the diver was last seen. Searchers should sink motionless to the bottom at the location where the victim was last seen.



If other qualified search teams are not available, the rescue coordinator may need to take another person for a buddy and conduct the search himself. If the victim is not recovered within 30 minutes, recall all searchers and turn over the rescue to other authorities.

By law, in the United States the first thing to do when a diver is missing is to notify the US coast guard or other police department services while you start your evaluations on who what when or where and how to do it. Dive boats must call the USCG the minute they know there a problem of any kind, missing, injury etc or the captain can lose his or her license. □

Bluegrass Dive Club 2006 Calendar

[Print out and post in your favorite place](#)

February

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

March

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

April

1-8, Saturday Roatan Dive Trip
11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting



May

6, Saturday Club's Derby Party
9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
30, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

June

13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
27, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

July

11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

26, Galapagos Islands Trip

August

8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
??, Saturday Club Pig Roast
29, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

September

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

October

10, Tuesday Club Dinner / Meeting
31, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

November

14, Tuesday Club Meeting (Elections)
28, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

December

??, Saturday Club Christmas Party

2004 BGDC Officer's & Staff

Mark Kidd, President	266-2276
Carol Call, Co-Vice President	253-3992
Dan Miller, Co-Vice President	948-5133
George Fleischmann, Secretary	873-9539
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

