



UNDERCURRENTS

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

May 2006

Volume 36, Number 5

May Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 9th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: DVD of the Roatan Trip

President's Message



There off and running to Mike and Sherry McCann's the first Saturday in May which happens to be a rather important date in Kentucky. So what better way to celebrate such an important event than with your dive buddies?

Details on the Dive Club Derby Party are in the newsletter but bring a dish to feed a dozen or so and the club will be furnishing honey baked ham, beer and soft drinks. P.S. bring some cash for the pool, because you got to bet if you're going to win.

The Bonaire trip is off to a great start with about a dozen or so registered so far. Doug is asking that if you are interested get that \$100.00 deposit in ASAP as seating on the club air flight is limited.

With the cut backs on flights and the fuel surcharges we need to book our flights a little sooner that we used to in order to get the best prices and travel times. And remember that even if you send in a reservation form you do not have a spot until we get your deposit.

The dinner meeting was great thanks to the efforts of Linda and the rest of the staff at the Racquet Club in preparing another fine meal and the Video brought by George on the shark dive in Roatan looked great.

With about 50 members attending it was our largest dinner meeting to date. Everyone was talking about the great times they had on the trip as well a falling props from dive boats and the 5 to 10 pounds they gained on the trip.

As our membership grows we are adding more diving to the calendar this year and next so we can count on more great stories.

The meeting in May will feature a film by John Geddes on the club trip to Roatan and possibly a film on Bonaire to promote the January trip.

I look forward to visiting with you at the party and at the May meeting, yes two great chances to have fun. □

Mark

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



Hey there, it looks like we all are back home safely (including the chicken) from Roatan, as you can read more in Doug's article about the trip. I will tell my story in a DVD at the next meeting. It covers the highlights of the fellowship, some great diving and an overall view of some good times. Pics in the Newsletter are from the trip, so enjoy. □

MacKenzie Mink, Doug, Sarah Fishback, Noel and Barbara Geddes



Divemaster's Report

By Doug Geddes



ROATAN 2006

I just wanted to thank all those that went on our Honduras trip last month for making my job easy. With no snags, this trip was a breeze. I believe this has been the most relaxed trip we have taken in many years. The resort was great to deal with, the dive operators were fantastic and our divers were awesome. Once again we had no major or minor problems with our divers. Even with 17 divers on a boat and some rough water, we all got along pretty well. Maybe there were a few moments underwater when we all tried to see the same seahorse at the same time, but we all got over it and understood. It seemed like all was forgiven at happy hour...Thanks guys for a great trip.

GALAPAGOS 2006

All systems are still go for the 14 persons that are signed up for the Aggressor boat trip in July. All persons should have now paid in full and are on auto-pilot, just waiting for the day. Make sure if you haven't filled out the release form for the Aggressor, you need to ASAP and get it back to me. I hope everyone is working on their conditioning for this trip. I am trying, but just can't seem to keep it up. Hopefully the warm weather will get me going.

Rick and Richie just hanging on, heading for the next site



BONAIRE 2007

If you haven't checked out our web site on the Bonaire trip then you are missing the boat on this trip. This trip seems to be shaping up almost as good as our Honduras trip. With the lowering of the airfare and four to a suite, then the price isn't so bad. Remember, we get a van for unlimited shore diving or you can add two boat dives for an additional fee. We have reserved space for 40 persons and air for 30 persons. The dates are January 27 - Feb. 3. Please don't wait too late to sign up for this trip. It would be nice to get most of you to commit early, so I don't have to keep pushing this trip all summer. This has been our most requested location, so let's sign up now. We are asking for a \$100.00 deposit for the resort and a \$50.00 deposit on the air, if you are using club air. Please fill out the reservation form on the web site and get your deposit into Kit ASAP. I will have a DVD and brochures at the next meeting.

Dan and Maryanne O'Canna,



doing some last minute gear check

GRAND TURK 2007

Hopefully by the next meeting I will have more details on this trip. I have turned this trip over to Ultimate Dive Travel to handle the details of this trip. They will give us our standard discounts, but will make the trip easier to handle. Working on our own, the deposit schedule was going to make it rough for persons to sign up without a hefty deposit. With UDT our deposit will be close to our normal type of deposit. Airfare for this trip is still not available, so it has made it hard to price out. The dates are still March 31 - April 7, 2007. This is spring break week again and should be a great trip. Grand Turk has been voted one of the top dive locations in the world, right behind the Caymans. □

Derby Party

Date: Saturday, May 6th
Time: 3:30 until???.
Location: Home of Mike & Sherry McCann
3557 Gloucester Drive
Westmoreland Estates
Lexington 255-3937

Club will furnish: The Ham, Beer & Soft Drinks

What to bring?

- Yourself & spouse/date/significant other
- A dish to share with 12 others/snack/finger food/munchies / dessert to share.
- Lawn chair(s) if the weather is nice.

(For club members and invited guests only)

Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: Hey guys! Summer is coming – dive time for everyone! I'm backing off the safety lectures this month to take on another topic – equipment care. If you take good care of your gear, you will have many years of fun and safe diving for your expenditure. No one claimed that diving was a cheap sport, but there are a lot ways to make it more feasible.

Buy good gear and keep it in top working order. BCD's, regulators, computers – sure that makes sense to keep up, because you understand how you need them directly to keep safe. But remember that the proper insulation from a wet suit will keep you warm, help you breathe more regular, and be less apt to make mistakes in judgment.

Read these tips for keeping up your gear and start getting your dive equipment ready for some great dive adventures!



Remember, safe diving is fun!

Regulators - After each day of diving, the regulator must be cleaned, inspected and prepared for the next use or for storage. As soon as the regulator is removed from the SCUBA cylinder, reinstall the dust cap over the regulator inlet port. This cap is normally attached to the regulator yoke and therefore has been under water. Be sure to blow out the water in this cap before securing it over the inlet port. Ensure that the O-ring is in place inside the dust cap. As soon as possible after diving, the regulator must be soaked in warm (not over 120 degrees) tap water, for a short period of time, to remove salt and mineral deposits. The preferred method is to attach the regulator to a SCUBA cylinder, open the cylinder valve and thoroughly soak both the first and second stage regulators. Pay particular attention to directing water into the mainspring cavity of the first stage regulator, the second stage mouthpiece, and the holes in the second stage boxtop. Depress the purge button several times while the regulator is submerged in water. If no SCUBA tank is available, follow the above procedure, but be very careful NOT to depress the purge button, or leave the dust cap off when the regulator is submerged in water. Failure to do this will result in water entering both regulator stages, which could result in internal corrosion. Shake dry and wipe the regulator's exterior with a clean cloth. Store the regulator in a cool, dry place with a large loop in the hoses. Do not store in a small regulator bag, as this will damage the hoses.



George and Hays also checking some gear

Buoyancy Compensators

Internal Care - In a salt water environment, it is extremely important to flush all the salt out of the

Safety Corner Cont.

vest before it dries and forms rock salt. The rock salt will cut the bladder to shreds in a very short period of time. The vest should be rinsed internally with warm water after each day of diving. Depress the oral inflator button and allow warm water to flow into the vest until it is about 1/3 full. Grip the vest by the top with one hand and the bottom with the other allowing water to accumulate on one side of the vest only. Gather all the straps and the oral inflator hose in one hand and move the vest from side to side allowing the water to travel rapidly from one end of the vest to the other. Then transfer the water to the other side and repeat procedure. Next, gather all the water to the oral inflator side of the drain valve. Open the valve and allow the water to flow out. Before all the water is drained, taste it. If salt is present or the water is not clear, drain and repeat the rinsing procedure.

External Care - Rinse the exterior thoroughly in warm water, paying particular attention to push button valves and the oral inflator, and make certain they are operating freely. With the bladder bag vest, rinse the zipper while moving the slide back and forth about 2" otherwise it may freeze shut with salt corrosion. Spray it with silicone after it dries. Spray the outside of the power inflator hose with silicone. This will help prevent the hose from deteriorating. (Be careful to avoid spraying silicone on plastic parts).



Cathy Parks and Andrea Surface

Underwater Cameras - Before each day of diving, inspect O-ring(s) for cuts, tears, dirt or any damage. Clean all O-ring(s) then lubricate with a very light coating of the manufacture recommended type of O-ring grease. Replace any O-ring(s) if damaged.

Latch and inspect all compartment doors. Replace all worn or damaged parts. At the end of each day of diving, all underwater camera equipment **must be soaked in fresh water** to remove salt deposits. Keep everything sealed while rising. Never use detergents, cleaners, solvents or chemicals to clean your camera equipment. The mask bucket on a boat is full of detergent - **DO NOT USE THE MASK BUCKET TO RINSE YOUR PHOTO EQUIPMENT.** Let the water drain from all of your camera equipment and wipe with a soft dry towel (such as a chamois) until dry. **Be sure that you and your camera equipment are dry before opening any doors.** Always keep the compartment cover O-ring clean, dry and free from obstructions such as sand, lint or salt crystals. For prolonged storage remove all batteries and insert fresh "Moisture Muncher" desiccant capsules.



Happy Hour and the next pic, some more Happy Hour

Knives - All stainless steel knives will show some signs of rust due to their high carbon content (carbon creates tensile strength). After each use, rinse well with fresh water and dry outside of its sheath. Coat with a light layer of oil or silicone.



Wet Suits - After your dive, the wet suit should be washed thoroughly. A bathtub or large trash barrel

Safety Corner Cont.

can be used for washing the suit. Use wetsuit cleaner/conditioner (preferred) or warm water with a mild detergent. Push the suit up and down in the tub for about five minutes with all zippers open. After washing, all soap must be rinsed out. If your suit has an odor that soap cannot remove, use liquid sink guard (preferred) or a half a cup of baking soda in warm water and stir in well. Push the suit up and down occasionally and after about a half hour of soaking, rinse thoroughly (DO NOT put your suit in a washing machine.) If you are going to dry your suit on hangers, it is extremely important that you use an extra wide hanger. If narrow or wood hangers are used, the suit will be damaged due to excessive creasing. After the suit has dried, the zipper should be lubricated with zipper wax. □



Are there any sand fleas in Roatan, Nathan?

From The Secretary

By George Fleischmann



General Meeting Minutes 4/11/06

The 7:30 dinner meeting held on 4/11/06 was attended by 49 folks. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food and conversation.

Kit presented the treasurer's report. Dan gave an update on the North Carolina trip. Doug presented

details on the Bonaire trip scheduled for late January 2007. See club website for details.

A dive video was from the recent trip to Honduras was shown.

EC Meeting 4/25/06

The 7:30pm meeting was attended by Mark, Dan, Kit, Carol, Doug, Rick, John, Mike and I. Mark called the meeting to order. Kit presented the treasurer's report, and it was approved.

Dan reported that the North Carolina trip was being canceled because of lack of participation. Doug and Kit reviewed final details and payments for the Galapagos trip. Doug presented an update on the Bonaire trip and provided Mike with updates for the website. A motion was made and passed to set the cost for each of the club sponsored summer lake dive trips at \$10 per person. □

From the Treasurer

By Kit Hudson



2006 Membership dues to be paid.

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: Fill out & mail enclosed form at the end of this newsletter. □

Laurel Lake Dive Trip

By Corrine Wells



Mark your calendar now for the Laurel River Lake dive trip on **Saturday, August 26th**. We have two 25' pontoon boats reserved for this event. So, bring the family or bring a friend and enjoy a fun summer outing. If you have never been to Laurel Lake - it's beautiful. Surround by Daniel Boone National Forest, the scenery is great, with lots of small coves and inlets. Pack a lunch, grab your dive gear, sunglasses and sunscreen for a day on and in the lake.

While many people will plan this as a day-trip, camping is available 1/2 mile from Grove Marina (our arrival/return location). The Forest Service oversees the Grove Campground - electricity, drinking water, flush toilets and shower facilities are available. <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/r8/boone/districts/longdon/lrl.shtml>. The campground sits on a ridge above Laurel River Lake about 10 miles from Corbin, KY and 15 miles from Cumberland Falls State Resort Park (another option for staying overnight).

More details will follow and a trip page will be added to the website soon. Mark your calendars!



Bluegrass Dive Club 2006 Calendar

Dates in red are new or a reminder

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



Players"

And yes, "The Card

July

- 11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
- 15, Dale Hollow Lake Dive
- 18, Tuesday E.C. Meeting
- 26, Galapagos Islands Trip

August

- 8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
- 12, New Horizon's Treasure Dive
- 19, Saturday Club Pig Roast
- 26, Laurel Lake Dive
- 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

16, Saturday Club Christmas Party



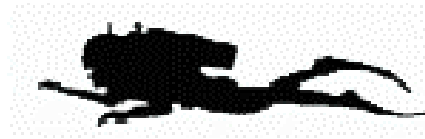
This night's beach entertainment was the Fire Dancers

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



Membership Form



Bluegrass Dive Club Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

No. of Family Members _____

No. of Divers in Family _____

Highest Level of Certification: _____

Basic Open Water _____

Advanced Open Water _____

Rescue Diver _____

Divemaster _____

Instructor..... _____

Membership Options (check one):

___ Student (with student ID) \$ 10.00

___ Single / Family with 0/1 diver \$ 30.00

___ Family with 2 or more divers \$ 40.00

Please fill out and mail to: **Bluegrass Dive Club**
(With payment please) **c/o Kit Hudson**
231 Stourbridge Rd.
Versailles, KY 40383

Questions: Kit Hudson (859) 873-4974

Email: kithuds@iglou.com

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