



UNDERCURRENTS

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

September 2008

Volume 38, Number 9

September's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 9th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
 Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
 3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: DVD on Philippines Diving

President's Message

By Dan Miller



Message from the Deep


VP Rebecca Singer will be conducting the 9/9 meeting in my absence since 14 of us will be in Galapagos. The program is a DVD on Philippines diving.

If you missed the New Horizons Falling Rock Park Treasure Hunt on 8/16 in LaGrange then too bad. Among the prizes that BGDC members won were a BCD, dive computer, 2 gear bags, \$25 gift certificate and other assorted items. Once again Neil McEachin and his staff put on a good show with a hearty feast and gave away many wonderful prizes. Guests were wowed by Greg Snowden's rebreather rig. New Horizons now offers rebreather instruction so call them to find out about training and gear.

September has much in store for local divers, something for any taste and budget so there's absolutely no reason to not get wet this month.

- (1) BGDC trip to Galapagos 9/8-9/23
- (2) BGDC trip to Ft. Lauderdale/Key Largo 9/13-9/20

- (3) KUES ecology dive Fall Creek campground, Lake Cumberland 9/20
- (4) New Horizons Diving Center USS Oriskany wreck diving, Pensacola, FL 9/18-9/21
- (5) BGUE/DIR technical intro with Ed Gabe at Pennyroyal in Hopkinsville, KY 9/20
- (6) John Bryant rescue course beginning 9/7 at Beaumont Centre YMCA. Call him at 361-9254 for details.
- (7) DUI dry-suit demo days at Mermet Springs, IL, buy tickets at New Horizons 10/4-5

We counted in excess of 60 folks that attended the annual BGDC Pool Party & Pig Roast hosted by Maryann & Doug Geddes on 8/23. Thank the Geddes' when you see them next to show appreciation for their allowing us entry to their home for this event. The weather was hot and dry but the pool was refreshingly wet. Some members were inspired by the Olympics and really got pumped up for the annual volleyball games! 

Dan



The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



This month's pics are from the Pig Roast, so enjoy. Check out "The Hall BVI trip", WWW.SAILINGMON.COM, Nice site by Patrick Shackelford. It's hard to have a favorite BVI trip, but I think this one edged out the others; they just keep getting better every time. 

Vice President's Report

By Rebecca Singer



Summer is almost over, but the dive club never sleeps.... We've got a group getting ready to go to the Galapagos (have I mentioned how jealous I am?) and some great trips coming up in 2009. I want to say thanks to everyone who has been coming to the meetings over the summer. It's been amazing to get such a great turnout all summer.

New Members Krisy and Jason Carty with Mike McCann



New members continue to join us at meetings and it's *great* to have you all. A continued welcome to you. We welcomed one new visitor at the August meeting: Francis Gagnon joined us and we hope to see much more of him in the future. We also are pleased to announce yet another "out-of-towner" new member! Linda Rohde, from Florida, recently joined the Bluegrass Dive Club and will be joining the crew heading to Florida for some diving in just a few weeks.

A heads up that it's almost that time of year when we start talking about officer elections. We've still got a few months but keep an eye out for special announcements via email or the newsletter for important information! 🚩



(L to R) Gorden, Autumn, Doug, Amanda and Richie

From The Secretary

By Maryanna O'Canna



General Meeting Minutes 8-12-08

In spite of several of our members out for a dive trip in the BVI, the meeting was well attended by 21 loyal members. The Racquet Club invited our members to join them in their summer barbecue for dinner.

The Club's Annual Pig Roast was discussed. It will be held at the home of Doug and Mary Ann Geddes on 8-23-08.

The treasurer's report was presented to the members. Trips for 2008 and 2009 were discussed: Galapagos, Curacao, St. Croix, Indonesia.

The program for the evening was a video on the British Virgin Islands.

Board Meeting 8-26-08

Present: Dan, John, Mike, George, Maryanne, Rebecca, Doug and Rick.

The nominating committee (Rebecca, Tracey, Noel) met to decide the slate of officer candidates. A motion was made to accept their recommendations. Motion seconded. All approved. The nominating committee will prepare the paper ballots for the Nov. meeting. Candidates will be announced in the Oct. newsletter.

George presented the treasurer's report. The trip summary of Dale Hollow was reviewed. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded and all approved.

Future meetings for the Board will start at 7 pm on the last Tues. of the month. 🚩

Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



GALAPAGOS 2008

Well it is hard to believe it has been almost two years since we booked this trip and here we are. While you guys are at our September meeting, 14 of us will be diving in Galapagos. It has been a weird change on events, but we are finally at full capacity and getting ready to have a time of our lives. We should by now have been diving for several days and hopefully have seen Misses Big (whale sharks) If not I guarantee you have seen our share of big sharks. After our dive adventures, 7 of us are staying and going to the rain forest to swim with Parana and electric eels. Keep us in your prayers as we continue this journey. Hopefully we will have lots of pictures and video's to share when we get back.



Karen Rabek, Ellen and Rick Fontaine with Richard Rebek

FT. LAUDERDALE 2008

Not sure how this trip will turn out. We still have two spots open. If you have an interest in going to Florida for less than \$150.00 for the week at a 5 star resort, then you need to get with David Graves and sign up for this great trip. The trip is a go and will be done with or without you, but it would be more fun with you.

Anna and Dan Miller



CURACAO 2009

If you haven't signed up for this, you better get going, our club air is about out. We have over 20 persons signed up for 25 spots on our flights. Don't worry you will still be able to go on the trip if you don't get one of the club airs. There are other flights to Curacao, so you can still join us. We have over 30 persons signed up for the trip, but have room for many more. Please go ahead and make up your mind if you are thinking about going. I don't want to see you get left off like last year to Utlia. Go to the web site and sign up today.

Gary Zunker in the Red



INDONESIA 2009

With the loss of three persons, we now have a space available for another diver. If you have an interest, please go to the web site and check it out. It is still far enough out to be able to work this trip into your schedule. 🚩

Lyn Thomson, Sherry McCann with Jessica, Brian and Gianina



2008 BGDC Officer's & Staff

Dan Miller, President	948-5133
Rebecca Singer, Vice President	552-0880
Maryanna O'Canna, Secretary	277-2634
George Fleischmann, Treasurer	873-9539
Doug Geddes, Trip Director	224-3197
Rick Stephan, Safety Information Dir.	223-3719
Mike McCann, Webmaster	255-3937
John Geddes, Newsletter Editor	223-7926

Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: I found this month's article on line. It was written by a Dutch citizen who lives in Egypt. (Cool that we have those international articles in Undercurrents, eh?) In all honesty, this could have been written by almost anyone diving anywhere. Exotic locations and gin-clear water may make you think more about advanced diving techniques and skills, but the basics will be what saves you in times of trouble.

As our intrepid BGDC crew takes off for the Galapagos, they should be thinking about the basic dive skills that we all should think about when we're diving at Dale Hollow in the summer. Out of air drills, mask clearing, regulator retrieval, and buoyancy control... how often do you actually try those out when you're on a trip? (I can think of others, like ditch and don underwater, diver surface tows, etc.) Those of us that play at other sports, such as golf, understand that we have to practice certain skills (say sand shots) over and over to get good at them, even though we may only use them a few times a round. AND (big and...) if you don't even remember how to do the drills, strongly consider taking a refresher course or even an advanced course from your local dive instructor.

Think about doing a little practice before your next dive, whether you're in the pool or swimming with hammerheads in frigid waters with heavy currents.



Remember, safe diving is fun!

"The A Team"



Add

Lily

Noel

Scuba Diving Safety - Practicing Your Basic Diving Skills

By Thijs Hottenhuis

One aspect of scuba diving safety is the training of your basic diving skills: mask clearing, regulator recovery, out-of-air drills and buoyancy control. There are more skills that are considered to be basic diving skills; buddy checks and compass navigation to name a few, but let's look at these four for the moment.

Autumn Geddes with Friend Lily



Mask clearing is a skill you need, when water leaks into your mask because you move your facial muscles, you need to clear the water out of your mask. The regulator recovery is a skill you might need when you lose your regulator from your mouth, often caused by a fin-kick from your buddy. There are two ways to recover the regulator, the "sweep-method" and the "reach-method."

For John and Mike, I don't know what there doing



But here's Rick and Charlie as they cheer on their teams

Out-of-air drills are normally only needed when you forget to monitor your air supply, and breathe your tank empty. You then need to secure the octopus of your buddy for breathing. And buoyancy control is a basic skill, because without

Safety Corner Cont.

good buoyancy control, you need to use your strength and stamina to control your depth, and this depletes the reserves you might need during an emergency.

These four skills have in common that they have to be practiced until they become second nature. You cannot practice them once or twice and then think that it is enough. When you need the skills they have to be trained reflexes, and that means that they have to be trained regularly, over and over again.

Friend David with Tracy Combs



Most holiday-divers, and even some divers who dive almost every week, hardly practice the basic diving skills. This is downright naive. If you study martial arts, how often do you practice a certain kick? One, two, or hundreds of times? When you play tennis, how often do you repeat your backhand drills, before you are satisfied with the results? Five times, ten times, or hundreds of times?

Every year several divers die because they have a regulator or mask problem, and they do not have the necessary routine to solve the problem, and then panic. They thought that practicing a couple of times would be enough, and they were proven wrong. Do not end like one of these statistics. It does not take much time to practice the basic drills, and it will build your skill and confidence.

Joey with Scott Thomson



A good way to practice your basic diving skills is to take a couple of minutes during every dive, after the safety stop, to work on improving your skills. Mask clearing, mask removal and replacement, regulator recoveries (both ways) and an out-of air drill, all while remaining neutrally buoyant, to practice your buoyancy control at the same time.

Kris Harn, Helen Denham and MaryAnn Geddes



If you make this "skill drills" part of your diving routine you will become a more confident and capable diver. The more skilled you are the better you will feel underwater. You will be better equipped to cope with emergencies. You will feel more relaxed and have more fun while diving. 🚩



From the Treasurer

By George Fleischmann



2008 Membership Dues

Student
(High School or College 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
% George Fleischmann
9048 Clifton Road
Versailles, KY 40383 -9077

New Members: Fill out & mail a membership form from the web site. . 🚩

A ??? Dive by Amanda



4.5 6.5 5.5 5.0 7.0 7.5 6.5 6.0

Bluegrass Dive Club 2008-09 Calendar

September

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
30, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

October

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

Anna and Karen



November

11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting (Elections)
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

December

13, Saturday Club Christmas Party

January

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

February

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
24, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

March

10, Tuesday Dinner Meeting
24, Tuesday E.C. Meeting
28, Saturday Curacao thru 4/4

April

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