



UNDERCURRENTS

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

February 2009

Volume 39, Number 2

February's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 10th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: VIDEO ON FIGI

Vice President's Report

By Rebecca Singer



I hope you are all surviving the 2009 ice storm. As I write this, I am stuck at home dealing with downed trees. I hope you all have power by the time you are reading this article and the ice storm is simply a bad memory.... Sure makes you want to go diving, right?

Speaking of diving, I want to include a short update on the St Croix 2009 trip. This is going to be a great trip folks so sign up if you can. We already have over a dozen people going to St Croix this June 13-20th and we'd love to have a few more. We'll be staying at the Palms at Pelican Cove Resort and diving with Dive Experience. Pricing information can be found online. Please be aware that the first 14 divers who sign up will get the reduced dive rate. We can certainly accommodate more than 14 divers but the rate is about \$35 more expensive. Also, there is NO club airfare for this trip. If you are interested in going on this trip and want to know what flights the rest of us are on, please contact me (rasinger@mindspring.com) for flight information. We have folks leaving out of Cincinnati and folks leaving out of Lexington. If anyone has questions about this trip, please feel free to contact me.

I have good news to report. We have two new memberships. Sidney Yarbrough is a returning member of the club and is back in the country and able to come to meetings again. I missed him at the January meeting but hope to see him at this next meeting. We also have a new family membership. Norm and Jan Williams recently became members and we hope to see them at the February meeting as well. Please extend a warm welcome to these new (and returning) friends.

Have a safe couple weeks and I hope to see you all at the upcoming meeting! 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



This month I thought I would promote with my "pics of the month" to set the mood and gear up some people for diving in those warm places. As Rebecca's and Doug's articles will info you on the dive trips coming up, if you're not already signed up, than what are you waiting on...

President Dan did not have internet and therefore his article was not received for the newsletter, see you next month Dan.

We have lost a long time member of our dive club, Rose Kaeder passed away Monday the 2nd of February. Rose was the wife of Al Kaeder, who was our Treasurer for many years and had passed away in 2003. Rose has been an honorary member of our dive club for the last 6 years. She was 89. If you had ever met her, you would say; she was such a lovely and gracious woman. 🚩

Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



CURACAO 2009

If you are still considering this trip, you might want to go ahead and make up your mind. We are getting awful close to the deadline for being able to add on. Once we pay our invoice, we have to give up any extra rooms we may have on hold. We might even have a couple of club airs available, so write me an email to check it out.

INDONESIA 2009

We filled two of our 5 spots, but then lost one more. If you are on the list and are considering dropping off this trip, please do so as soon as possible. I am trying to find replacements, but as time gets closer, it gets harder to do. I am not in a panic mode, yet, but I need to find out a definite number of solid commitments we have for this trip. If you have been waiting to sign up for this trip, please do as soon as possible. I would hate to sell our last spots to a dive shop or travel agent and someone miss out. But, I will do what it takes to make sure that this trip goes off with a full boat. Check out our website and see if this is for you. The price for the whole trip plus a few nights for travel dates should run around \$6000. I know this sounds like a lot of money, but this is for 11 nights on the boat. The retail alone for the boat is now around \$4300.00. We are paying only \$3275. I doubt we will do this trip again, so you better do it this time. 🚩



From the Treasurer

By George Fleischmann



2009 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, 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. . 🚩



From The Secretary

By Maryanna O'Canna



General Meeting Minutes 1-13-09

Dan, the president, calls the meeting to order with 22 members in attendance. Treasurer's report was presented by George. The Curacao trip bills will be out by the first week of Feb. Doug speaks about upcoming trips: Curacao (3-09), St. Croix (6-09) and Indonesia (10-09). Ky lake trips are still undecided for 2009. An audit of the club's books is being done. The program was a video on the Mayan Cenotes.

Board Meeting 1-29-09

Present: Dan and Maryanne
Since there was not a quorum present, no motions were made to be voted on. Three new members paid their dues for 2009. The next payment for St. Croix by the club is due the end of Mar. according to a report sent in by Rebecca. Maryanne has researched an all-inclusive dive resort in San Salvador, Bahamas for a possible dive trip in 2010. 🚩



Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: Safety in diving includes keeping safe as we travel to go diving. The BGDC travels in large groups as a norm, but you never know when you might get separated due to airline problems or weather, etc. You should have your full travel itinerary with you, and make sure you keep your money, identification, required medications, etc. with you as carry-on luggage. If you lose your passport before you get on the plane to Curacao- you won't get on the plane to Curacao. And, if you require blood pressure medication, the fact that your bag got misplaced in Atlanta won't help you when you get to a remote location and realize you don't have that medication. A little planning and preparation can help you have a much safer and relaxed trip. You know what you need to bring, so make a list, or use the one provided, and keep using it trip after trip, modifying it as you go, and you will be a safer and happier dive traveler.

This is an article from a PADI website and it provides some basic straightforward advice. Review it to see if you're preparing yourself correctly for your travel. At the end, there are some websites to get additional information about travel.



Remember, safe diving is fun!



Safety Corner Cont.

Packing for your Scuba Diving Trip

You need to bring the equipment appropriate for where you're diving, except your tank and weights. You normally rent those at your destination. If you don't yet own your own gear, most dive shops and resorts have rental stock (but confirm this prior to your trip). Make sure to also pack your certification card, logbook, sunscreen, passport (for international travel) or photo identification, seasickness medications and bathing suit. Carry prescription drugs (with a copy of the prescription), contact lens cleaners and the like with you in case of a baggage delay. For some destinations a voltage adapter may be useful.

Download the Scuba Diving Vacation Checklist (PDF) to make sure you pack the appropriate gear. (Note: I've created a MS Word version of the Checklist, so you can edit it and add your own special items. The key thing is to use the same list each time, so you will learn and add or subtract from the items, for both local and ocean trips. I've asked Mike to put this on our website for your ease to download.)



Airline Excess Baggage Fees and Restrictions

With some airlines charging for bags that weigh more than 22 kilograms/50 pounds to most destinations, you may have to pay an added fee for your scuba gear bag (up to 32 kilograms/70 pounds) if you have many accessories (such as a large underwater photography system). For typical scuba equipment needed for warm water destinations, it's not hard to stay within the weight limit.

An extra piece of baggage will cost extra regardless of what it weighs. Remember, you can equally distribute the weight of your gear among your bags to stay within limits, and then redistribute

everything once at your destination. Weight allowances and costs vary depending upon carrier and destination.

A dive knife or cutting tool must be in your checked baggage and not in any baggage you take into the cabin. Some regions prohibit dive knives - either entirely or over a certain size - and many countries prohibit spear fishing equipment. Although you wouldn't typically carry a scuba tank when traveling by air, if you do for some reason, it must be depressurized with the valve removed. For latest, most accurate information, go to your airline website.



Special Permits

In most places you don't need a permit but where you do they are usually easy to obtain and the local PADI Dive Shop or Resort can help get the permit for you. One or two places, particularly in the Middle East, don't allow you to get a permit on short notice. If you're not sure about permit requirements, check with your dive travel specialist.

Special Inoculations

This is not typically an issue with most popular dive destinations. Follow the travel advisories established by your home country.



Safety Corner Cont.

Travel Safety Tips and Information

Travelers Health

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/vaccinat.htm>

Currency converter:

<http://finance.yahoo.com/currency/convert?amt=100&from=XPF&to=USD&submit=Convert>

World Electric Guide:

<http://kropla.com/electric2.htm>

Foreign Entry Requirements:

http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/brochures/brochures_1229.html

Security checkpoint wait times:

<http://waittime.tsa.dhs.gov/index.html>



Travel insurance:

<http://www.padi.com/english/common/travel/insuranceInfo.asp> (Note: or look at the BGDC website for DiveAssure information, or consider DAN insurance.)

Reentry requirements:


<http://travel.state.gov>

Safety tips for traveling with electronic devices:

<http://safetravel.dot.gov/>

<http://safetravel.dot.gov/tips.html>

Passport information:

http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html 

Bluegrass Dive Club 2009 Calendar

February

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

March

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



April

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

May

2, Saturday Club's Derby Party*
12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting



2009 Calendar Cont.

June

- 9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
13-20, Saturday St. Croix Trip
30, Tuesday E.C. Meeting



July

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

August

- 11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
22, Saturday Club Pig Roast*
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

September

- 8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
29, Tuesday E.C. Meeting



October

- 5-21, Monday Indonesia Trip
13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
27, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

November

- 10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
(Elections)*
24, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

December

- 12, Saturday Club Christmas Party *

NOTE * Pending Board Approval



2009 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

So, are you signed up yet?

