



UNDERCURRENTS

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

August 2010

Volume 40, Number 8

August's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 10th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
 Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
 3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: BVI DVD Photos

President's Message

By Rebecca Singer



We've made it through most of the summer! It's still good diving weather so let's enjoy it while we can. We had several people enjoy Dale Hollow last weekend and I'm looking forward to hearing about all the fun I missed.

Don't forget to check out Doug's dive trip section and the upcoming events tab on the website for information about all our trips. We've got a heavy dive schedule for the next year and we hope to see you all on at least one of those trips, if not more.

Don't forget our Annual Pig roast on Saturday, August 21st at Doug and Maryanne Geddes' home. We thank them for hosting once again! Let's live up to our reputation of being the "dive and eat club"!

Our August meeting will be on August 10th, 2010 and the program will be a video from the BVI trip. Until then, dive safe! 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



This month, it's time for the Dale Hollow Trip pics and what a great time it was. 🚩



2010 BGDC Officer's & Staff

Rebecca Singer, President	552-0880
Krisy Carty, Vice President	497-4333
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

Here's Doug without the Seadoo



Vice President's Report

By Krisy Carty



It is a pleasure to see so many active members again in the BDGC. Don't pass up the chance to join one of the upcoming dive trips. Trip reservations are being taken for Key West in October 2010, Fiji in January 2011 (waitlist only), Grenada in April 2011, Bonaire in June 2011, and finally Eleuthera, Bahamas in October 2011. Shew....that was a mouthful, but you can't say we aren't appealing to the masses with all of the travel options available for club members. Thanks to the hard working Trip Planning Committee and Doug Geddes, the Dive Trip Coordinator for giving us so many places to consider!!

Corrine and Autumn



Visit the website [Upcoming Events](#) to place your reservations today.

We are pleased to have new members to announce this month. Welcome to the Bluegrass Dive Club:

- Nikki Stevens of Lexington, KY thanks to a member referral
- Hilary and Sue Skees of Lexington, KY thanks to New Horizons Diving
- Gary Collins of Richmond, KY thanks to a non-member referral
- David Allnut of Lexington, KY

I wanted to remind all members of the special opportunity you are offered as part of our wonderful dive club. Some "more" expensive trips (i.e. liveaboards) have a payment schedule set in advance, so you don't let the final payment sneak up on you. However, some of the "less" expensive trips do not require an aggressive payment schedule. Some of us reserve our space on trips but then time gets away and at the last minute the total payment is due. In the past, we have lost some reservations to this oversight; so don't let this happen to you.

Take advantage of making payments to your club account to prepay for future trips. You do not need to have a trip reserved in order to take advantage of this option. This money is held on your club account. When you choose you can apply funds on account toward a trip or toward your club dues. If you sign up for a trip and cancel prior to any penalty date, you can request a refund or just apply your funds toward another wonderful trip. Some members apply a specific amount of money each month on club account in order to "prepay" for future trips. Think of this as a **ZERO interest payment plan for dive trips**. Thanks to George Fleischmann, our fantastic club Treasurer, for keeping our finances in order!

Dan and Gary



REMEMBER, the annual Club Pig Roast is scheduled for Saturday, August 21st at the home of Doug and Mary Ann Geddes. Current club members and their guests are invited for an evening of food, swimming, and volleyball. Visit [Pig Roast-2010](#) on the club website for directions and details. See you all on August 10th for the regular club meeting. 🚩

From The Secretary

By Maryanna O'Conna



General Meeting Minutes 7-13-10

The meeting was attended by 31 members with a couple of visitors.

The meeting opened with the treasurer's report by George. A newly prepared handout of upcoming events was prepared by VP Krisy.

Doug gave the trip report about: Dale Hollow Lake, Key West, Fiji, Grenada, Bonaire and Eleuthera.

Three new members were welcomed in the club.

The New Horizons Dive Shop announced a new line of dive gear, called SubGear, by Scuba Pro, that promises to be of excellent quality for a more affordable price tag.

August 14th is the date for the club's Pig Roast at the home of Doug. September 18th is the date for the Ecology Dive.

The program was presented by Mike Sullivan from New Horizons about tank safety and correct handling and storage.

Gary and Corrine ready to go



Board Meeting

7-27-10

Present: George, Mike, Rebecca, John, Maryanne, Doug, Rick, and Krisy

The Treasurer's report was presented by George. A discussion was held about funding for food at the recent local trip. The Board decided to make the trip leader responsible for club money to be

used for food on a local trip. The new trip update handout was praised by Rebecca when given out at the last meeting. Future information will be presented to the club members by way of: power point, movie maker, etc. to be more economical.

A proposal was made to approve paying for food and gas at the recent local trip to Dale Hollow Lake. John made a motion to reimburse club members for pontoon rental, meat and paper supplies, and gasoline. The motion was seconded and approved. The budgeted amount was \$300, and the expenses were \$359.82.

Captain Corrine and First mate Belle



The trip report included:

Jason and Doug to discuss and resolve the handling of fees for the Key West trip.

Rooms for Musket Cove in Fiji have been reserved.

A payment schedule will be sent to Mike for Grenada.

A payment schedule will be determined for Bonaire.

Jason and Doug will be the trip leaders for Bonaire.

There was no discussion for old business.

New business items included: possible videos for the August program, allocation for funds for food used at the Pennyroyal trip up to \$53.89. The motion was made for this allocation, seconded and approved.

The YTD Budget Review was held, and found that the club is well within the proposed budget.

At the Pig Roast the club will provide the soft drinks, supplies, bbq, buns and sauce.

The meeting was adjourned by Rebecca at 9:55 pm. 🚩

Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



Here is a list of trips that we have in the works. Check the website for more information. If it isn't on there yet, it will be soon. We are working on them.

Key West - October 2010 - We need to finalize this trip soon. If you haven't signed up, you need to do it soon. Please get your reservations in now.

Fiji - February 2011 (Full with waiting list)

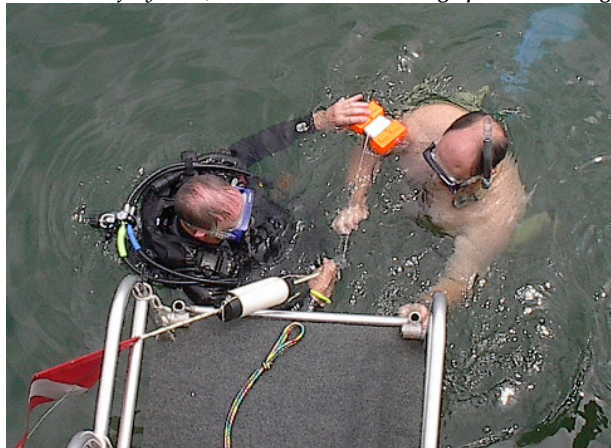
Grenada - April 2011 - What an awesome trip. Reservation forms are on our website. Don't miss this new and exciting location. This is our first time going here, so don't miss it. This is Fayette Co. spring break week, so bring the kids.

Bonaire - June 2011 Almost full, better sign up now. You won't see this price, ever again.

Eleuthra - October 2011 Is now on our website. check it out. WOW what a great location. This is a very aggressive dive schedule and we are looking for divers for all trips. Most of them are already well under way of having a good turnout or sold out.

I know a lot of you are waiting to sign up at the last moment, but on some of these trips, if we don't get enough response we will have to cancel them, so please sign up if you are planning on going. 🚩

Safety First, Charlie and Rick setting up the Dive Flag



From the Treasurer

By George Fleischmann



2010 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: Visit the website to fill out an on-line form or to access a Microsoft WORD printable form. [CLICK HERE](#). 🚩

Now you see it (Charlie and Doug under flag)



Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: This month's article comes from the AquaViews online magazine (<http://aquaviews.net>). As we've discussed before, most diving accidents occur when something unusual happens and the diver panics. The best way to handle this is to be aware of not only your own diving habits, but your buddies' as well. When someone is not acting naturally underwater, keep a close eye on them. (With some people, this can be difficult, as they dive oddly anyhow – but see if they are doing something unusual for them!) By understanding the situation you may be able to help someone avoid a life-altering (or life-ending) situation.

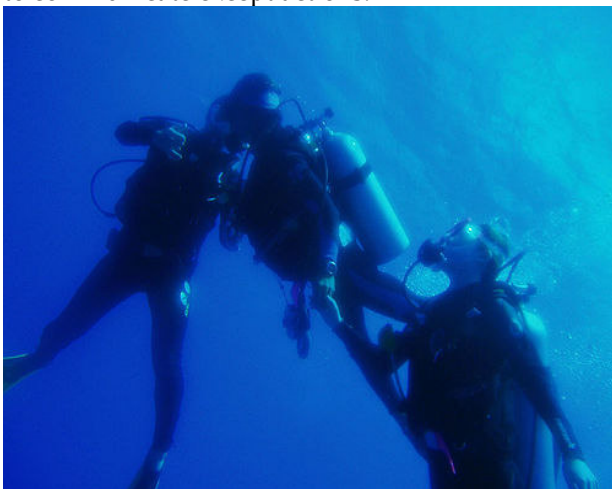


Remember, safe diving is fun!

Helping a Panicked Diver

By Noreen

One of the most critical situations that can happen to a diver underwater is to panic. Panicking causes one to forget what they already know and lose the ability to think rationally which is one of the worst things that can happen to you when you're tens or even hundreds of feet underwater with no means to communicate except actions.



If, you aren't rescue diver certified which we've always maintained should be the minimum certification level for even recreational divers, dealing with a panicking diver can be pretty daunting if not outright scary.

In most cases, divers tend to panic when they feel like they're out of air or aren't getting enough air. Due to the unnatural environment you're in, divers often predispose themselves to panic especially in such emergency situations. It's a natural human response to allow that overwhelming sense of anxiety to take over instead of recalling the training you've gone through. So before you know it rather than reaching for your octopus or back-up air supply or even signal to your buddy that you are out of air and take his or her alternate regulator, your first instinct is to get out of the situation as quickly as possible, which in diving is the absolute wrong thing to do since that instinct is to hold your breath and kick for the surface. To deal with a panicking diver it's important to first be able to identify the signs of panic, then how to deal with him/her.



Signs of Panic in a Diver

It's easy to identify active signs of panic, like a diver trying to tear the regulator from another diver's mouth in an effort to get air. However, some of the outward signs aren't so obvious to other divers, who aren't experiencing it. They may include;

Safety Corner Cont.

- a panicked wide-eye stare
- rapid, shallow breathing or hyperventilation
- breath holding on ascent
- sudden inability to communicate or recognize underwater hand signals or signs
- flailing arms and attempting to bolt to the surface
- withdrawal or a trance-like state, involuntary freezing or inability to move

Tips to Assist a Panicking Diver

Panic can happen at any time to anyone. But, by using basic rescue techniques like the ones below, you should be able to calm the diver down and safely get him/ her to shore to avert a potential emergency.

- Try communicating with the victim with calming and reassuring signs looking them straight in the eyes with confidence that says you know what you're doing. The last thing they need is to see fear in your eyes and you frantically signing something they can't understand. If they don't seem to comprehend or seem more confused...



- Establish buoyancy for them if they are quickly ascending or descending. To do this you need to get behind them, keep your hand on their tank valve to keep

them from turning around and reach around for their power inflator and do the needful.

- Check the victim's gauges to determine whether they are actually out of air, if they are lock arms with the diver and give them your octopus, purging it for them once it's in their mouth. If they aren't out of air like they seem to think, retrieve their own octopus and put it in their mouth purging it of any water.
- Once the air situation is solved, work on getting the diver safely back to the surface by, locking arms with them and making them ascending with you at a safe rate. This is easier said than done especially if the diver is very panicked. Getting them to an anchor line to ascend will help greatly as it gives them a sense of security.
- At the surface, expect a panicked diver to try pushing you or another diver in an attempt to get further out of the water. If the victim has grasped you around the head or neck, they will try to climb you. To escape, you need to turn your face away from the crook of their arm and towards their hand. Then grasp their elbow with your hand closest to the crook of their arm while grasping their hand or wrist with your other hand. Push up on their elbow and pull out on their hand, and as you sink, twist their arm away from you. Immediately swim clear and prepare to regain control.
- If the victim is still struggling at the surface you need to maintain a defensive position. Swim away on your back keeping your eyes on the victim. If they get too close to you, place your foot gently on their chest and push them away. Do not kick at them aggressively; just rather try to maintain a distance. Swim in the direction of safety, and they may continue to follow you there.

Remember the best way to deal with a diver in this sort of situation is to not let them panic in the first place and if it's too late for that, try calming them down and getting them to allow you to do things for them without resisting. The absolute best you can do to deal with a panicked diver is to do your rescue diver course, which teaches you to deal with different scenarios and actually practice them by role-playing exercises. 🚩

Bluegrass Dive Club 2010 Calendar

August

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
 21, Saturday Club Pig Roast
 31, Tuesday Board Meeting

And now you don't see the Flag



September

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
 28, Tuesday BOARD Meeting

October

12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
 27, Tuesday Board Meeting

I heard the other divers could see the flag



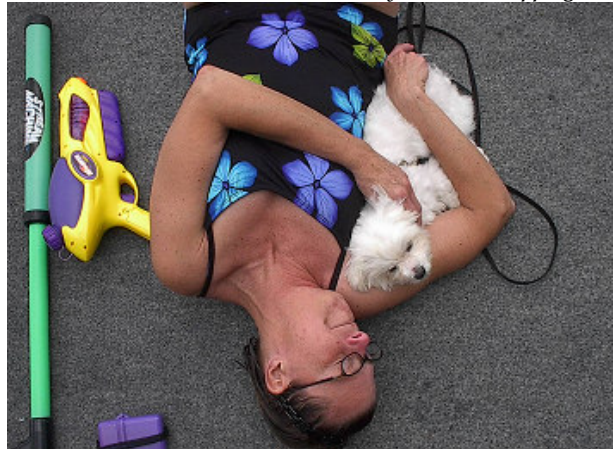
Autumn and Laine with guest



November

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting (Elections)
 30, Tuesday Board Meeting

Sherry and Belle napping out



December

11, Saturday Club Christmas Party

This one is for you Charlie, Ralph's boat and Me

