



UNDERCURRENTS

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

December 2010

Volume 40, Number 12

Club's Christmas Party

Date: Saturday, Dec. 11th
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Home of Mark & Stella Kidd
991 Lakeland Drive 266-2276

Guest, Children and Grandchildren Welcome

President's Message

By Rebecca Singer



It sure is cold outside and I sure wish I were somewhere warm diving. For some club members, we are close to the next club dive trip - Fiji - and I am jealous! At least we have some good social activities planned in December to get us together. Mark and Stella Kidd have graciously opened their home to the dive club once again for our Annual Christmas Party. I hope to see you all there on Saturday, December 11, 2010. Check out the website for additional details. The club will provide the ham, rolls and soft drinks but please bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share so that everyone has plenty to eat!

Elections are over and I want to welcome two new Board members: Tracey Combs as Vice President and Kris Harn as Secretary. Thanks to Krisy Carty for doing such an amazing job as VP this past year and to Maryanne O'Canina for serving for so many years as Secretary. Remember, if you want to run for a board position, all you have to do is ask next year!

In case you didn't get the email earlier, the Bonaire trip just got a little sweeter. We were able to renegotiate and get the 6-boat dive package included in our price FOR FREE. We also go more comps so keep signing up. We have a good group but the more the merrier!

Happy holidays everyone. 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



The Pics for this month are from the Key West trip, there wasn't much diving, but shopping, Duval St and the Company were great. Hope to see you at the Christmas Party. 🚩



2010 BGDC Officer's

Rebecca Singer, President	552-0880
Krisy Carty, Vice President	497-4333
Maryanna O'Canina, 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

Vice President's Report

By Krisy Carty



This past month has been a busy one for me personally. Jason and I welcomed our third son on November 5th. So on that note, I would like to announce Mr. Kellan Tate Carty as our newest member. Thanks to everyone that filled in during my absence. Congratulations to the new members of the EC. A special thanks to Maryanne O'Canna for your years of service to the club.



This month we do not have any new memberships to report. However, I am certain that will change in the upcoming months as our Trip Planning Committee has been organizing more diving and fun activities for our members.

As 2010 comes to a close I would like to thank you for all of the wonderful support the past year. The club is more than individuals interested in diving, it is an extended family. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year BGDC! 🇺🇸



From The Secretary

By Maryanna O'Canna



General Meeting Minutes

11-9-10

Attendance: 21

George started the meeting by giving the treasurer's report.

Rebecca gave the trip report:

Fiji: one on the waiting list

Bonaire, Grenada and Eleuthera: available spots

Dale Hollow trip report was given by Corinne.

One visitor was present.

The officer election was conducted by Rick. The following officers for 2011 are as follows:

President: Rebecca

Vice-President: Tracey Combs

Secretary: Kris Harn

Trips Officer: Doug

Safety Officer: Rick

Webmaster: Mike

Newsletter Editor: John

Thanks to Steve, Russ and Krisy who made up the nominating committee.

Program: Doug's slides of club's last trip to Fiji 10 years ago.

Board Meeting

11-30-10

Present: Rebecca, Krisy, John, Doug, Maryanne, Rick, George, Mike and one guest, Gordon Green.

Treasurer's report: projector and screen purchased, paid dues for 2011 are doing well, Fiji trip paid up, and 2 cancel for Bonaire, Grenada and Eleuthera trips growing in participants.

VP report: door prizes to be transferred to Tracey.

Trip report: Fiji (2/11) trip paid in full, Grenada (4/11) slowly adding on with 7 total, Bonaire(6/11) has new DEMA pricings with lower comp numbers and an upgrade on boat dives.

The dive trip committee met and the following trips were discussed for 2012: Philippines, Cozumel, BVI (land based), Provencales. A motion

From The Secretary Cont.

was made to accept a deposit to be made to reserve two resorts in the Philippines for Spring 2012 with a DEMA rate by the end of the year. The board voted to accept the motion.

Old business: Christmas party at Mark and Stella's house on December 11.



New business: A motion was made by Doug to add two line items to every finished trip on the treasurer's report. One will show the rebates returned to the participants of the trip. The other will show the dive bucks, if any, awarded to the members of the board. The motion was seconded and passed.



The VP will discuss the issue of dive bucks at the September meeting with the club members. New members will receive a club packet including the club's bylaws.

The budget and calendar meeting will be at Mike's house on January 16, 2011 at 3pm.

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.

Year almost over, so the list is winding down. Hope to fill it back up soon. Keep you posted.

Fiji - February 2011 - It is amazing; we are really getting close to going on this trip. Before you know it, we will be flying out to LA to head to Fiji. We are still full, but only have one person on the waiting list. Sign up now so you can be the next to go, if a space should open up. Nowhere in the world is the diving better. Ask Charlie or Noel, they have been to most of them.



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. Finally this trip is starting to fill up. Don't wait until all the spots are taken. If you are going, now is the time to sign up.

Bonaire - June 2011 Price got even better. Almost a can't miss trip if it wasn't for the high airfare. But I have been told you can get creative a find better pricing than a direct flight.

Eleuthra - October 2011 Is now on our website.. check it out..WOW what a great location. I know this is a ways off, but if you have an interest, please let us know. We have had several persons sign up

Trip Director's Report Cont.

for this awesome trip. Still plenty of space and time to sign up, but don't wait too long if you are really interested.

2012 - The dive committee is currently looking into several great locations for 2012. If you have one you are thinking about, please drop us a line. One of the hot spots would be a land base trip to the Philippines in March /May time frame. This will be a great location for divers and non-divers to visit. We have cut it down to two locations, but are awaiting the space available during the months we want. You will need to respond soon, once I send out an announcement. Even though it is a land base trip the number of people will be restricted do to the size of the resorts. 🚩



From the Treasurer

By George Fleischmann



2011 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](#). 🚩

Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: *Wow, another year finishing up... The BGDC has had a very busy year in 2010, but 2011 looks even busier. With all the trips on the calendar, it may be a good time to figure out what you or your favorite diver might want to see under the tree. It's a good time to start dropping hints in the right direction to make sure your Secret Santa has the right inspiration for gifts.*

Safe diving requires gear that works, and divers that know how to work it. Making sure that you are well equipped for that trip to Fiji or Bonaire will make the trip even more fun. And, as we all know...



Remember, safe diving is fun!

Scuba for Christmas

Buying presents for your favorite diver can be a difficult task, but with a little thought and some investigation, you can make a great holiday even more wonderful.

What to Get?

Obviously, the answer to that question can vary from person to person. From the title of this column, you might guess I'd recommend some safety equipment (and you'd be correct). However, safe diving is the result of making sure that all the equipment of the diver is operational, well maintained, and properly fitted.



Safety Corner Cont.

Find out if any of your diver's gear is having problems. Most divers are pretty vocal about a regulator that sticks or a watch that flooded, or a mask that leaks. Ask your diver about their last dive trip. Find out what kind of diving they do most often – or what kind of diving they always wanted to do. (More about that later...)



Stocking Stuffers

Smaller dive gadgets are great for this. Some considerations might include a small dive light, suitable for carrying in a BCD pocket to be able to light up a crevice on an afternoon dive to see the baby octopus, or to serve as a backup light on a night dive. (They are also good for rummaging in a dive bag for something stuffed in the bottom.)



Save-a-dive kits are always important to have, and can literally be a real life saver. These kits can be purchased as a package or you can make up one yourself. Include at least some o-rings, and straps for a fin and a mask.

Another kit you can buy or make yourself is a safety kit, including an inflatable safety sausage, an audible signaling device such as a whistle, and a visible signaling device such as a mirror. Put it in a small mesh bag with a closure and a clip so it can be taken underwater on every open water dive.

Other small but important stocking stuffers could include mask defogger, waterproof sunscreen, a drybag for the boat, or clips for attaching gear to your BCD.

Going Bigger

Personal scuba gear is often very difficult to buy because of fit or preferences. You might do okay by buying something that matches current gear (like an octopus regulator for an existing primary), or replacing something that is worn out (such as a gear bag), but be sure to check with your vendor about return and/or exchange policies.

Masks, fins, and exposure gear must be validated for fit. An ill-fitting mask is almost worse than using an old mask. If prescription lenses are required, it is best to get that handled when the mask is purchased.

Type, fit, and included options are important considerations for buying a BCD. There must be enough lift to properly support the diver when inflated. Integrated weight systems are a matter of personal preference, but after becoming part of a diver's routine, should be maintained to help the diver perform weight releases with speed and ease.



Gift certificates are a good option, you can always cut some pictures of the type of gear you're suggesting and let the diver pick the exact version for themselves.

The Biggest

Buying an entire package is a great way to help your favorite diver update all his or her gear at once, while assuring that it will all work together. Again, personal preferences and fit can affect this for safety sake, so make sure you can adjust or exchange the gear if your diver is picky about a certain piece.

Safety Corner Cont.

What about something for that diver that has “everything”? There are underwater video and still cameras, communication and location systems, and dive propulsion vehicles. You can even buy a submarine to do even more extreme diving. Cool site at:

http://www.submarines-rovers.com/newsletter_feb_2005.html

Dive gear is no fun if you don't use it. What about arranging a trip for you and your giftee? The BGDC has a very full schedule of great diving set up for the next year plus, and there will be some new trips announced very soon. There's no better way to enjoy the sport than to travel with a great group of safe and experienced divers to some of the best locations in the world and see the beautiful sights both above and below the surface.



To prep yourself for these trips, what about taking some new courses? Certainly if your diver has been landlocked for a while, taking a refresher course could be very illuminating. Buoyancy control classes would be very good, especially if you need to try out new gear. Get it done before the trip - it's much better to figure out how the gear works in a pool in 12 feet of still, clear water than to jump into 80 feet of ocean with a strong current and 20 feet of visibility! There are also specialty courses to help your diving buddy learn how to do cave or cavern diving, deep diving, Nitrox, and so forth. (Remember, I suggested finding out what kind of diving they always wanted to do?) Contact your local dive shop to find out what classes are available.

Here's hoping you have a wonderful and blessed Christmas season and an exciting and dive-filled New Year! 🚩

The Webmaster's Tip

By Mike McCann



Basic mouse right-click tips

Sorry for such a long article this month, but it is full of useful tips and ideas. It may take some practice to get the hang of it all, but it is worth the effort.

As a mouse user, you've probably noticed that there's more than one way to click it. There's the primary click that you do with your index finger, and there's a secondary click that you do with one of your outer fingers. This is known as the right-click. (Why? Because right-handers rule. It's a left-click for left-handers.)

Check out the video, "[How to shortcut your shortcuts with a click](#)" to see exactly what we're talking about. A right-click brings up a handy menu of shortcuts right in the place where you need them.

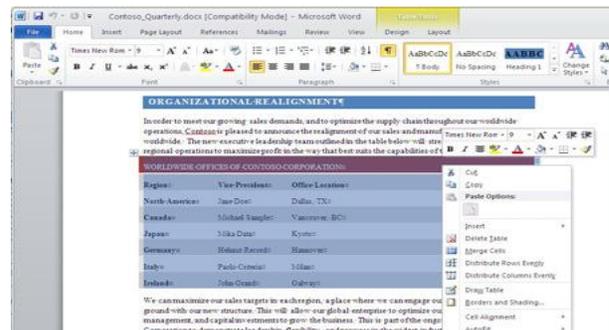
Maybe you've seen some of these menus but haven't taken much notice, or you haven't realized how pervasive—and how useful—they are. The items on the lists change depending on where you are and what you're doing. They'll give you speed and convenience without the need to memorize keyboard shortcuts.

You'll see these right-click menus in Windows 7, Windows Vista, Windows XP, and in most of the programs you use. Here are a few of our favorites, just to get you started.

Right-clicks in Microsoft Office programs

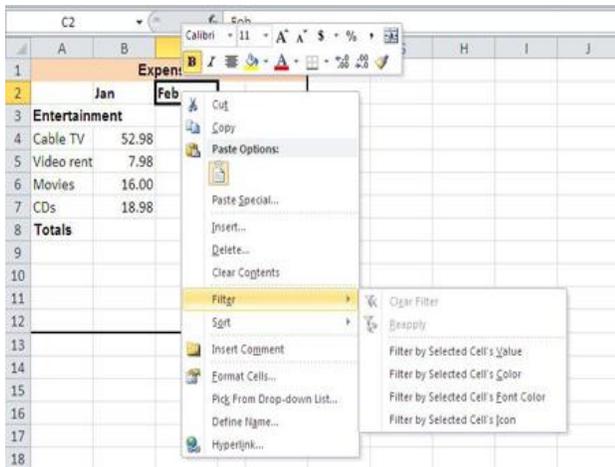
Microsoft Office programs are so packed full of right-click menus that you may never need to use the ribbon again. Give it a try.

In a Microsoft Word table, right-click and you'll be able to do all sorts of table formatting, directly from the shortcut menu. For example, you can insert and delete rows, columns, and cells, add borders and shading, and adjust the width of the table.

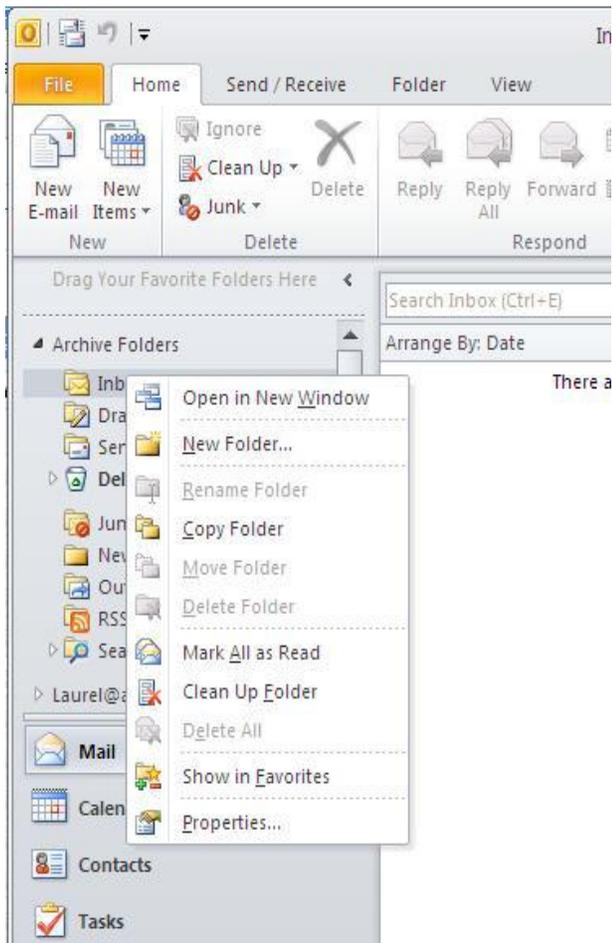


Likewise, in Microsoft Excel, you can format cells with a right-click. The exact commands you see on the menu

depend on where you click in the spreadsheet. For example, you can easily filter or sort a list from a right-click.



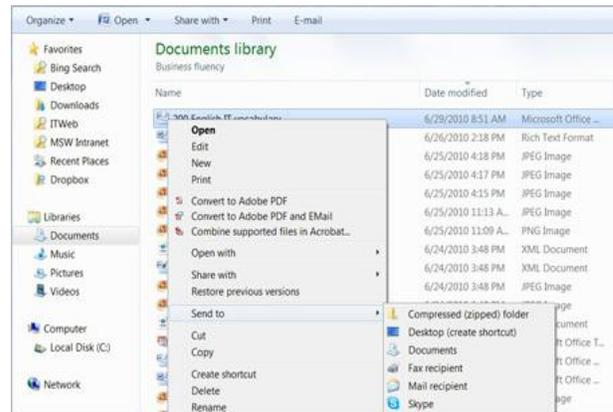
Microsoft Outlook also has lots of useful right-click menus. For instance, you can right-click the Inbox to create more folders in your folder list—an excellent way to organize and keep on top of your email messages.



Right-clicks with files

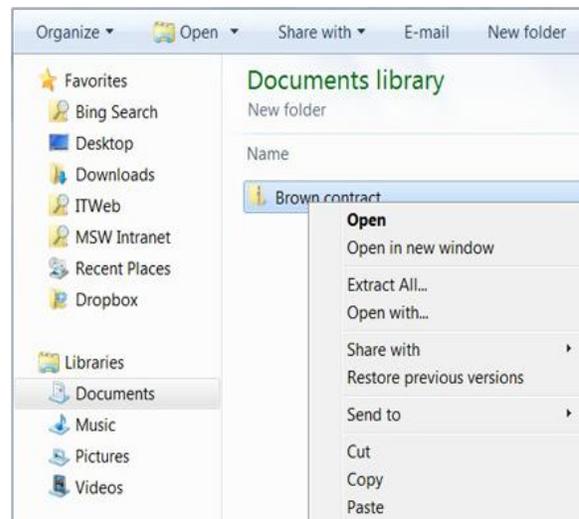
I use both the CTRL+C and CTRL+V keyboard shortcuts and the right-click menus to copy selected text from one

place to another in a document. But it took me a while to notice that this also works on files. For example, I can right-click a file in a folder and then click **Cut**, **Copy**, **Delete**, or **Rename**. I can even click **Send To** to copy a file directly to another location.



If I want to be able to open a file or program quickly, I right-click the file or program and then click Create Shortcut. This creates a shortcut icon that I can move to wherever I want.

And here's a handy way I use to open a folder that's been compressed. I right-click the folder name, point to Extract All (Windows 7 only) or Open With, and then click an option for extracting the files. In fact, I can't remember how to do it any other way!



Right-clicks with pictures

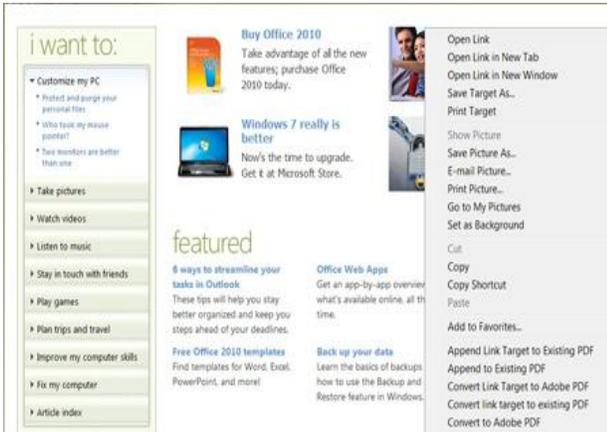
When you double-click a photo on your computer, it opens in a program, such as Windows Live Photo Gallery, that is your default program for opening pictures. If you want to open a photo in another program (for example, if you want to edit it in Microsoft Paint), simply right-click the picture icon, click Open With, and then click the program you want to use to open the file.

You can download Photo Gallery for free: Paint is included with Windows 7 and Vista.



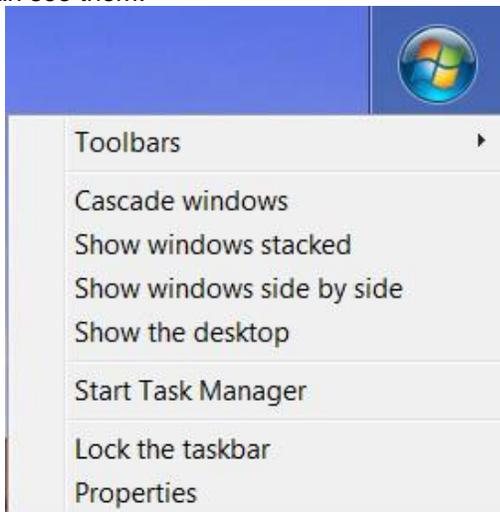
You can also print the picture right from this menu, without even opening the file.

And speaking of pictures, if you see a picture you like on a webpage, you can right-click the photo and print it or save it to your computer.



Right-clicks with the taskbar and desktop

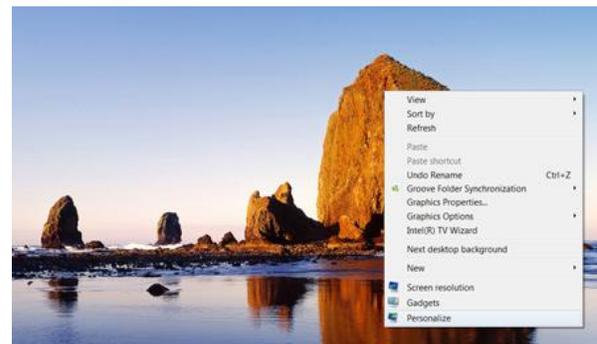
Sometimes, during a multitasking session on my computer, I lose control of the number of windows I have open. I regain control by right-clicking the taskbar and then choosing an arrangement for displaying the open windows on the desktop so that I can see them.



Likewise, if I have lots of files open for a particular program, I click the program icon in the taskbar and then click Close all Windows to close all the files I have open in that program at once.



Finally, I should point out that right-clicks aren't only for use with documents and files. For example, every once in a while I get the urge to change the background on my desktop. So I right-click anywhere on the desktop and click Personalize (Windows 7 or Windows Vista) or Properties (Windows XP), click Next Desktop Background, and then choose a new photo.



These examples give you some ideas for why you might want to use the right-click menus yourself. You'll understand their usefulness more fully if you give right-clicking a try while you're working and see what's on the menu. 🚩

**Bluegrass Dive Club
2010 Calendar**

December
11, Saturday Club Christmas Party