



UNDERCURRENTS

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

January 2013

Volume 43, Number 1

January's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 8th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
 Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
 3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: Roatan Honduras

President's Message

By Tracey Combs



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our club members!

I hope you all enjoyed the holiday. The Christmas party was wonderful again this year. I'd like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the Kidd's for once again allowing us into their home to celebrate. Their home is always warm and welcoming, and so beautifully decorated.

As we go into 2013, we have a big dive year ahead of us. Please be sure to jump on one of the many trips we have planned. Doug Geddes and his Trip Committee worked so hard planning the trips for this year – check out his section of the newsletter and please, sign up for a trip.

Our next regular meeting is coming up on Tuesday, January 8th. I hope to see you there. 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



Hoped you enjoyed the Holidays as much as we did at our home. The pics for this month and for next month are from the Club Christmas Party. 🚩



2013 BGDC Officer's

Tracey Combs, President	621-4066
Corrine Mulberry, Vice President	913-0892
Kris Harn, Secretary	278-4246
Dan Miller, Treasurer	948-5133
Doug Geddes, Trip Director	224-3197
Rick Stephan, Safety Info Dir.	223-3719
Mike McCann, Webmaster	255-3937
John Geddes, Newsletter Editor	223-7926



Vice President's Report

By Corrine Mulberry



It's cold and blustery out. Wishing I was somewhere tropical.

I hope your holidays were peaceful and memorable. I look forward to seeing you all at the January meeting. 2013 here we come!

January's program will provide SCUBA diving highlights from the September trip to Roatan, Honduras. Thanks again to cinematographer, Noel Hall, for capturing the adventure. [I have been surprised at the number of people who have talked to me about Honduras and Roatan when they see me wearing my Roatan Marine Park long sleeve T-shirt. Amazing.]

If you have diving information that you would like to present at a Club meeting (past or potential dive trip, etc.), we would love to hear from you. Please contact me so that we can put on the calendar. 913-0892 or scubagirl07@insightbb.com

New Members: Mike Tinsley and Terri Anderson are new members that will be going on the Grand Cayman trip in early 2013. Mike and Terri live in Prospect, KY. I will gather some additional information and provide a more hearty welcome to Mike and Terri in February's newsletter. Welcome! 🚩



Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



GRAND CAYMAN 2013

We lost a couple but gained three so we are now at 29 persons, I think? It seems to change on a daily basis. If you are still thinking about going on this trip, you really need to decide soon. We will be sending our final check to our travel agent the first of the year. If you are thinking about going, give me a call or email before you purchase your airfare, we might not have a room for you? I believe almost everyone has paid in full now or should have, so we are ready to go. Once we get closer, I will send out more information. Most of us are on the same flight from Atlanta to the Caymans.

SPRING TRIP 2013

We are still looking into several locations for the spring trip. It seems like Grand Turk was going to be too expensive and we were not going to get the numbers we needed. We were thinking about a location in the Bahamas? If you know of a spot that you would like to go to, then let one of the dive committee know about it. Time is starting to run out on this one.

TRUK LAGOON 2014

We lost one of our travelers, so Gordon Green got to be added to the list. Dan will be getting out an invoice that will be due in February. Airfares should start showing up soon for this trip. They are not looking very good at the moment. Beware of high prices. We are still working on the Yap portion of the trip, if people want to do that one also. This is going to be an expensive trip, so you better start putting away your pennies now. 🚩

From the Treasurer

By Dan Miller



2013 Membership Dues

Student (High School or College ID)..	\$10.00
Single & Family (1 diver)	30.00
Family (non divers).....	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 / Mail to: Bluegrass Dive Club c/o
Dan Miller
824 Gunpower Drive
Lexington, KY 40509

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



Safety Corner

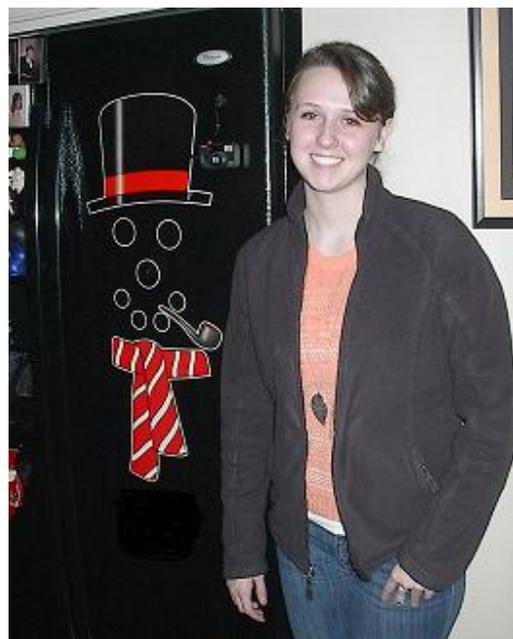
By Rick Stephan



Note: I found this article in *scubawizard.com*. It reminds us that no matter how 'experienced' you are in the water, it only takes one time to mess up to cause an accident.

When you get on a commercial aircraft, the pilot and co-pilot go through an extensive checklist to make sure they are both comfortable with the functioning of the equipment and all is in good working order – even if they just flew in on the same craft. They do this very formally – with a written list – so that there is no surprise when they hit the throttle and nothing happens or the flaps don't work, etc. As a frequent flier, I am glad they do this, and as a dive buddy, you should be glad that your buddy does this – and even the other folks on your trip, since an accident often means that everyone's dive is cut short.

No surprise generally means that everyone has a good, safe dive. And, as always...



Safety Corner Cont.



Remember, safe diving is fun!

Your Pre-dive Checklist

By John Bloom

Scuba diving is full of opportunities and experiences but being embarrassed is not one of those areas you want to find yourself in. Have you ever stepped off the boat without weights, or realized you BC wasn't buckled? That's why you need to run down your checklist with your dive buddy to be sure all of your gear is in order prior to taking that giant stride off the side of the boat. A good practice is to work from your head to your toes and from your front to your back. By doing so, you will not miss anything that maybe out of place.



Before we review our pre-dive checklist we need to first look at a list of items you will want to bring on a typical dive.

- You have your scuba certification card ("C-card") with you to show when you check in on the boat or need to get tanks filled.
- A "save-a dive" kit, including seasickness medication, if needed when you are going on a boat dive, extra "O" rings, a snorkel strap, sun screen and any items you feel you may need to be able to do minor repairs.

- Your scuba gear, packed in a gear bag, including:

Mask
Snorkel
BC and computer
Fins and booties
Weights and weight belt

In a sealed, water tight bag:

- Towel and warm, dry clothes
- Windbreaker or parka
- Bottled water
- Your dive log
- Pen (for writing in your log)
- Printed and laminated dive tables, (even if you have a dive computer your dive buddy may have forgotten theirs).
- For all day trips bring some food. Avoid salty snacks, chocolate and caffeinated beverages since these can all promote dehydration. Instead, choose fresh cut vegetables and fruits.



Conduct your pre-dive briefing with your dive buddy.

- Discuss your dive mission, objectives and goals. What is the purpose of your dive and what will you do if you're separated from your dive buddy or have trouble?
- Identify your dive, site entry procedures and exit access point(s).
- Define depth, bottom time and limits for your planned dive.

Safety Corner Cont.

- Define the next deeper depth and next longer bottom time limits in case planned limits are exceeded accidentally.
- Evaluate and discuss potential for encountering dangerous marine life.
- Evaluate and discuss surface and underwater conditions including strong current, low visibility, cold water, thermoclines, surge swell, or fog.
- Verify that your dive buddy is physically and mentally fit to conduct the dive. They didn't get sick on the way out or have severe cold conditions.
- Be sure that you and your dive buddy are properly hydrated and rested before your dive.
- Evaluate repetitive dive designations if a previous dive was made within 12 hours.
- *(Note: if you don't know your dive buddy well, make sure you know his/her experience level and how their equipment works, including regulator, safety gear, weight release mechanisms, etc. You should also review hand signals to ensure communication is good underwater.)*

Conduct your pre-dive check.

BC: Check adjustment, operation, low pressure inflator connection and ensure that the tank is properly adjusted. Depending on your entry technique, you may need to have your BC partially inflated.

Weights: Your weight belt should be set-up with a right hand release. You should be properly weighted - not over weighted. Your quick release must be clear for a quick ditching of your weights if required.

Releases: Make sure your buddy's releases work and you are familiar with their locations and operations.

Air: You should always start off your dive with a full tank of air. Confirm that you both have ample air for the dive, and that your valves are open, that your regulators including your octopus work. Know where to find and how to use your dive buddies octopus.

Final OK: Give each other a final inspection from head to toe and front to back. Check for dangling gauges, missing gear, torn straps or leaking hoses.

If you are diving from shore or on a private boat be sure you have appropriate dive flags that are prominently displayed during your dive.

Always be sure that all of your dives are planned, started and finished with your buddy. Don't forget if you are renting your gear from a dive shop, check your scuba tanks, BC and regulator before leaving the shop to be sure you have a full tank and everything is in working order. You don't want to be doing your pre-dive checklist and find a problem. 🚩

From The Secretary

By Kris Harn



BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 27, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:41 pm. Tracey, Dan, Corrine, Kris, Rick, John, Mike, and Doug in attendance. Treasurer's report given by Dan. Treasurer's report filed. Per John, newsletter articles due Dec 27th. Corrine went over DVD's for regular meetings. Doug reviewed trips. Mike has updated website. Budget meeting scheduled for January. Meeting adjourned at 9:33pm. 🚩

Bluegrass Dive Club 2013 Calendar

January

8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
29, Tuesday Board Meeting

February

12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
26, Tuesday Board Meeting



March

9-16, Grand Cayman Dive Trip
12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
26, Tuesday Board Meeting

April

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
34, Tuesday Board Meeting

May

4, Saturday Club's Derby Party
14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
28, Tuesday Board Meeting



June

11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
25, Tuesday Board Meeting

July

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
13, Saturday Dale Hollow Diving
30, Tuesday Board Meeting



August

13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
17, Saturday Club Pig Roast
27, Tuesday Board Meeting

September

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
24, Tuesday Board Meeting



October

8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
29, Tuesday Board Meeting

November

12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
26, Tuesday Board Meeting

December

14, Saturday Club Christmas Party

