



UNDERCURRENTS

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

April 2013

Volume 43, Number 4

April's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 9th
Time: 7:30-PM Meeting
Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: Noel's Grand Cayman DVD

President's Message

By Tracey Combs



Happy Spring everyone. Hopefully we are one step closer to warmer weather and more diving. We have just welcomed a large group back from a great trip to Grand Cayman. I can't wait to see the pictures and videos and hear all of the tales.

We will be having our annual Derby Party again this year at Mike & Sherry McCann's home. Make sure you check out the web site for all of the details and directions to their house. As always bring a dish to share and some extra cash for those bets.

Have you seen the New Horizon's new location yet? Be sure to swing by the shop to check out their new look.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 9th. I hope to see you there for our first spring meeting. 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



The pics for this month are from the Grand Cayman trip, more for next month. A little cool in the water for me, but another great trip. 🚩

It's Derby Party Time

For Club Members and invited guests only

Date: Saturday, May 4th
Time: 3:30 until
Location: Home of Mike & Sherry
McCann
3557 Gloucester Drive
Westmoreland Estates
Lexington 255-3937

Club will furnish: Ham, rolls and soft drinks, bring a dish to share.

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



Hello BGDC members. Does it feel like Spring yet? My goodness, I have had enough of this cold and snow. BRING ON THE SUNSHINE!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting and hearing about the wonderful East Grand Cayman trip. The pictures that were posted on Facebook were fabulous.

And speaking of.....the April program is brought to us by member Noel Hall and will feature the most recent East Grand Cayman dive trip. The "teaser" pictures I saw showed gorgeous water and diverse creatures. Plan to attend the meeting to see and hear more about diving East Grand Cayman!

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

Trip Planning Committee: The Trip Planning Committee is seeking input from members on potential dive trips for 2014 and 2015 (yes, we plan that far out!!). If you have a dive destination in mind, please pass it along to me and or any other member of the Trip Planning Committee. 🚩



Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



KEY WEST 2013

Sorry we don't have the Key trip up on the website yet, but the main thing you need to know is the date which is June 8-15. The accommodations will be the responsibility of each diver. We can try and match up if possible, but the club will not be doing this part of the trip. The club will only be running the diving portion of the trip thru the club to get the discounts. Gordon Green has gotten his room and air, so we are waiting for others to add on or not. If you are interested in this trip, please see me at the meeting or drop me an email.

TERRI LOOKED HAPPY WITH THAT DIVE



TRUK/YAP 2014

We have updated the website to have most of the information on this trip so you can see it. We have are still full but we are needing to add some more people to the waiting list, just in case. It doesn't cost anything to get on the list until it is time to get on the trip, then you have to pony up to the amount paid in so far. All pricing is now on the website for you to look at. It is not a cheap trip, due to two weeks of diving and the expensive airfare that United has control over. 🚩

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.

AFTERNOON BREAK



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](#). 🚩

THERE'S CHARLIE



From The Secretary

By Kris Harn



BOARD MEETING
02/26/13

Meeting called to order at 7:43 pm by Tracey. Tracey, Dan, Kris, Doug, Rick, John, Corrine, & Mike in attendance. Corrine went over new members and DVD for next regular meeting. Rick article will be about safety stops. John needs newsletter by 02/28/13. Doug went over upcoming trips and payment schedule for Truk/Yap. Code of conduct signed by board. Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

REGULAR MEETING
03/11/13

No report – Secretary was in Grand Cayman. 🚩

CAN YOU FIX THE "BRICK", ITS JUST 30 YEARS OLD



Bluegrass Dive Club 2013 Calendar Brief

April

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
30, Tuesday Board Meeting

May

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

Safety Corner

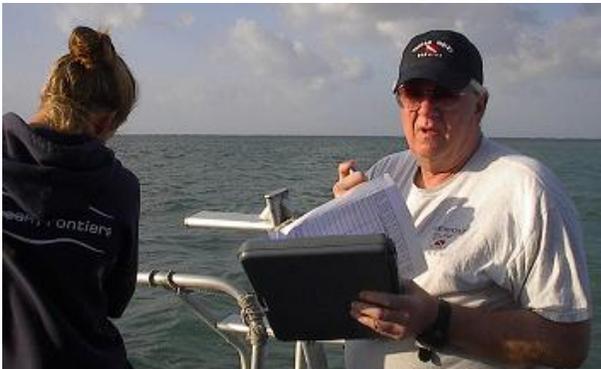
By Rick Stephan



Note: I wrote this month's article about some interesting safety devices that you may - or may not - consider acquiring for your dive trips. There are proponents and detractors from almost every type of gadget in diving. Cameras, scooters, dive knives, even snorkels are discussed around the bar on a lot of trips. However, since you are responsible for your own safety, you should be aware of things that can help. Most all these devices are available at your local dive shop or on line.

These should be considered in addition to the basics. You should have a manual signaling device (a whistle is most common) so you can signal your location on the surface. (Remember Rose in the movie Titanic?? Without that whistle, there wouldn't have been much of a story...) Also required is some kind of cutting device - a knife or shears - so you can cut entangling lines you may find - even in freshwater diving. Night dives should always include some sort of backup or marker light in addition to your primary light - that can be a beacon light or even a cylume-type chemical light.

RUSS RECORDING HIS O2



You may choose to put several items into a small safety kit. We bought some within the club a few years ago, which contain a

signaling mirror, a safety sausage, a light stick and a buddy rope. I put it in my BC pocket for every dive.

Regardless of what you buy, make sure you know how to use it, and that it is in working order before your trip. Trusting in a safety device that doesn't work is no fun, and, as we all know,



safe diving is fun!

DENNIS CHECKING IN HIS O2



Scuba Safety Gear

Nautilus Lifeline

Estimated price: \$300

Never be lost or out of touch again with this revolutionary new safety product. The first ever GPS radio for divers, it functions as a two-way VHF radio for everyday use and doubles as an emergency device by broadcasting your GPS coordinates to all vessels in an 8-mile area when the emergency button is activated.

Highlights:

Lifeline Button- Pressing the button for 3 seconds initiates a DCS transmission of distress, sending and displaying an emergency message and your GPS coordinates on other vessels' marine radios within an eight-mile radius.

Safety Corner Cont.

Hail & Distress Button- This button allows communication with the boat. It automatically uses Channel 16, the international hail-and-distress channel.

Chat Button- This can be preselected to a given VHF frequency to allow for two-way communication between divers or between divers and the boat.

LCD Display- On the side of the unit is a clearly legible readout for GPS position, signal lock, the channel in use, remaining battery power and other important information.

Strobe Light

Speaker and Microphone- Used to send and receive messages while floating on the surface, these features are actually submersible to 3 feet without the clamshell closed.

PHOTO OP FOR SUNRISE, ALAN AND GORDON



USB Port- Used for charging, downloading software updates, logging dive sites onto Google Maps or other advanced options.

Battery- Powered by an 1850 mAh lithium-ion battery, it provides 24 hours of power in distress mode.

More Features:

Encased in a waterproof clamshell case

Radio can be taken to 425 feet

Pre-installed rechargeable 1850 mAh lithium-ion battery

USB cable

Spare USB port cover

Quick start guide

PHOTO OP FOR ME



Dive Alert or Subduck

Estimated price: \$60-90

The Dive Alert signaling unit is a something to consider for your SCUBA safety. This ultra loud air horn attaches to your low-pressure hose in-line with your BC inflator. With the touch of a button, a signaling blast can be heard for over a mile. A must for night or drift diving.

NOEL ENJOYING HIS LOLLIPOP



THANKS MARYANNE

Spare Air

Estimated price: \$250

Spare Air provides a totally redundant air supply back up in case of an out-of-air emergency. No buttons to press, no knobs to turn, just bite the mouthpiece and inhale when

Safety Corner Cont.

you need it. With 3.0 cu. ft. of air, your Spare Air pony bottle will give you approximately 57 surface breaths (actual breaths will vary by individual and depth). It's easy to refill your Spare Air from a full 3000 psi scuba tank using the refill adapter included with every unit.

NO, I DID NOT HIT HIM, BUT THAT SEA WORM DID



Features:

- Compact
- User refillable (adaptor included)
- Easier than an octopus
- Light weight and compact, only 2 lbs
- Pass your Spare Air to your buddy

Signaling Mirror

Estimated price: \$12

Boats are required to carry various types of signaling devices whenever they leave the dock. Why should divers be any different? Voices don't carry over open waves and the best way to signal to a far off rescue ship is to redirect the light of the sun with this signal mirror.

GORDON AND CAROL



Most types come in soft carry cases that will fit easily inside a BC pocket. Consider getting one with two sides: shiny silver mirror for day use and red side for cloudy or night signaling with dive light.

Diver Flag and Float

Estimated price: \$15-40

Having a diver down flag on the boat is required, but if you venture far from the boat or are diving from shore, you should have a flag on a float that you tow with you. Styles range from a simple inflatable float with a small plastic flag to a larger flag on a staff with a float in the middle and a weight on the bottom to keep the staff upright. Select the type best suited for your style and location of diving (big waves need a taller flag so boaters are aware).

LISA AND JIM WITH HELEN, MARYANN AND BECKY



Safety Sausage

Estimated price: \$25-40

Many types of these devices are available. The idea is to have a device with you that people on a boat can see from a distance. Bright colors, at least 4-6 feet long, and easy to inflate are all good to have.

Features:

- Compact mesh carry bag or rollup
- Velcro strap normally included
- Surface signal device
- Bright Hi-Viz orange or yellow
- 6 feet long with a 9 inch circumference for highest visibility
- Inflatable with mouthpiece
- Easily attachable snap clip 

