



UNDERCURRENTS

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

November 2015

Volume 45, Number 11

November's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 10th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: Oct Roatan Trip

President's Message

By Tracey Combs



I hope everyone had a SPOOKY Halloween, a fun Breeders' Cup and are enjoying the colorful fall leaves. Summer may be behind us, but that doesn't mean that we won't be diving. We have a several upcoming trips on our calendar and the dive committee will be meeting soon, so if you have ideas of new locations let us know!

Our November 10th meeting will include our Elections. If you are interested in a position on the board, please contact Corrine or the Nomination Committee. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held instead of the regular meeting in December. The party will be on Saturday, December 12th at 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to share with 10-12. Please visit the website for more information.

Adam Kidd is putting together a picture montage for the Christmas Party. He is asking for 3 - 5 pictures new or old to be sent to him

to add to the slideshow. We all want to see the older pictures!! You can email him at adam@wemowky.com.

I hope to see you at the next meeting. Please feel free to bring your family and friends who are interested in diving. Everyone is welcome. 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By Bart Bertetto



Greetings all. Was that a great Roatan trip or what! Man we rocked that key. If I had a bucket list I could have knocked off being in middle of shark feeding frenzy. Kudos and much thanks to Doug and team for putting it together. Daughter Jolene on her first big trip and she is now totally hooked. Enjoy the pics. 🚩



2015 BGDC Officer's

Tracey Combs, President	621-4066
Corrine Mulberry, Vice President	913-0892
Mike Sullivan, Secretary	266-4516
Dan Miller, Treasurer	948-5133
Doug Geddes, Trip Director	224-3197
Rick Stephan, Safety Info Dir.	223-3719
Mike McCann, Webmaster	255-3937
Bart Bertetto, Newsletter Editor	502-299-3656



Vice President's Report

By Corrine Mulberry



Program: We typically don't have a program at the November meeting because we're tied up with election for officers. However, everyone is still pumped up about last month's trip to Roatan, so we will offer a short Roatan program thanks to new member Tim Osborne. Thanks Tim!!

If you have diving information that you would like to present at a Club meeting (past or potential dive trip, etc.), I would love to hear from you. Please contact me so that we can put you on the calendar. 913-0892 or mulberryc1@gmail.com

Visitors: We welcomed **Sandi Graham** to her first Bluegrass Dive Club meeting last month. Sandi recently relocated to Lexington from Portland, Oregon where she has spent the past 15 years diving in Puget Sound (Washington) (brrrr!). She has over 500+ dives, has been diving for 25 years and is Search & Rescue certified. She found BGDC on the internet and is looking for new dive buddies. **Welcome Sandi!**

Election of Officers for BGDG (2016): Voting for 2016 Elected Officers for the Bluegrass Dive Club will occur during the November meeting. The Nominating Committee (Charlie Denham, Tamara Williams, Brian Elkins and Corrine Mulberry) developed a slate of proposed nominees for elected Board positions which was presented to the BGDC Board during the Board's October meeting. The slate of nominees, with a short bio, includes:

President

Tracey Combs



“I have been a member of BGDC since May 2006. I was appointed President, from Vice-President, in 2011. I will be glad to continue to serve as President in 2016.”

Vice President

Corrine Mulberry



“I have been with the BGDC approximately 11 years and have enjoyed many diving trips (Bonaire, Grenada, Belize, St. Croix, Costa Rica, etc!) as well as numerous social events. I appreciate all the wonderful friends and associates I have made through the Club! I was appointed Vice-President in May 2011. I have enjoyed serving the Club – from introducing and welcoming new members, to bringing new Programs to our meetings, to managing our door prizes. I also serve on the Trip Planning Committee and assist with planning and organizing some of our dive trips. I would be pleased to continue to serve the Club as Vice-President in 2016.”

Secretary

Mike Sullivan



“I have been retired for 10 years and diving for about 15 years. I am a Master Scuba Diver Trainer (MSDT) and have gotten to like diving in the Pacific best. I have been the Club Secretary for 2 years and during this time I have organized all the previous written

material into yearly and category specific files. I have updated the numbers from previous years on members within the Club in attempting to track ups and downs in membership. I maintain the Club Reports, take monthly minutes at the Board meetings and General Membership meetings and forward these minutes to the Newsletter Editor to be included in the Monthly Newsletter, and make Name Tags for new members. I really enjoy the position of Club Secretary and being more closely involved in the Club activities.”

Treasurer

Dan Miller



“Got book/pool certified at New Horizons with ocean checkout dives in Dominican Republic in 2001. Joined club in 2002 with first club trip to St. Thomas in April 2003. Certified in open water, advanced open water, nitrox and rescue diver. Served in following offices for BGDC: co-VP with Carol Call for 2 years, 1 year as VP, 2 years as President, in 4th year as Treasurer. I have over 650 logged dives to date. My (non-local) club trip participation is as follows: (2003) St. Thomas; (2004) Little Cayman & Bonne Terre lead mine; (2005) Florida Springs, Cozumel, North Carolina & Bonne Terre; (2006) Roatan; (2007) Bonaire & Ft. Lauderdale; (2008) Utila, Belize & Galapagos; (2009) Curacao & St. Croix; (2010) Little Cayman; (2011) Fiji; (2013) Grand Cayman; (2014) Truk/Yap. Graduated UK with degrees in accounting and political science. Worked at Trane the past 14 years. Live in Lexington with wife Anna and 3 cats.”



Trip Director
Doug Geddes



“Got certified in 1972 and a member of the club ever since. Have served as President and Dive Master (as it was called 30 years ago). Currently serving as Trip Director and have been for the past many years. Knowledge of working with travel agents and planning trips has been one of my strengths and did so alone for many years until current by-laws required a dive committee. Still have a few good years to devote to the position if elected, but will to step aside if someone desires this position. New blood is never a bad thing.”

Safety Information Director
Rick Stephan



“BGDC history: 35 year member, past President, Vice President, Treasurer, Dive Coordinator. Occupation: Full time BGDC Safety Information Director. Seriously, my intent is to help keep our safety record spotless. I try to find pertinent information and articles and share this with the club in concert with current club activities. While diving today is so much easier than in the past, it is important to remember it can be a dangerous sport if training, preparation, and planning is not done properly.”



Newsletter Editor
Bart Bertetto



“From Long Beach California. I started underwater as a kid spearfishing with a sling. Got NAUI certified in 1976 during college at San Jose. Was an avid California Kelp Diver all along the coast for many years. Continued my passion for freediving, hunting abalone in the rough waters off northern California. Active member of Douglas Aircraft Dive Club. Left the beach to join UPS Airline in Louisville. Kept diving during visits home, mostly on multi-day offshore boat trips. Retired from UPS as Aircraft Engineering Manager in 2013. Have really enjoyed the BGDC especially the organization, camaraderie, and of course the dive trips. Now that I'm retired and have the time I'd like to contribute and will be happy to continue the newsletter editor job.”

Webmaster
Mike McCann



“Currently retired, has over 40 years experience in computer hardware and software. Originally created the Bluegrass Dive Club website in April 1999 and has maintained it ever since as a resource to all divers in central Kentucky.”

Nominations and Voting

Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the November meeting. Nominees for elected positions must be in good standing (dues paid), have been a member for at least one full year and be at least 21 years of age.

BGDC members who are in good standing and eighteen years or older are eligible to vote. 🚩

Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



PHILIPPINES 2016

We still have 11 persons signed up and looking for more, but hey with 11 this will be a great trip with great friends. If you would like to join us, go to the website and check it out. This is my favorite dive locations as far as critters and resorts are concerned. We would love for you to join us.

BONAIRE 2016

The Bonaire trip for March 13 – 20, 2016, has been set up online. This is spring break for UK so you will need to lock in your air soon, but the prices have been very good. This trip should be on our website soon, so you can sign up but we have several room types available, so you won't miss out until it is on our website. We have 8 people at the moment that have shown an interest or bought airfare. So this is a viable trip.

ST. LUCIA 2016

St. Lucia date has been changed to June 11–18, 2016. This will be a very nice trip for those that are wanting more than just a dive location. The beautiful mountain views are some of the best in the world. The diving is also very similar to most Caribbean type of diving that we have done before. The resort looks awesome and can be found on the website now. We have booked rooms and we are ready for people to sign up.

GRAND CAYMAN PIRATE FEST 2016

The club has scheduled a trip for November 12 – 19, 2016 to coincide with Pirate Fest in Grand Cayman. We will stay at Compass Point once again. This should be a great time along with great diving. Trip should be on the website now, so go make your reservation soon. 🚩



From the Treasurer

By Dan Miller



2015 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](#). 🚩



From The Secretary

By Mike Sullivan



General Meeting Tuesday, October 13, 2015

- I. CALL TO ORDER 7:42 PM
 - a. There are 28 members present.
- II. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS:
 - a. TREASURER MILLER
 - i. Dan reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of 9/30/15.
 - ii. The Philippines trip has 11 people that have paid a deposit.
 - iii. The Pig Roast costs have been closed-out.
 - iv. The Roatan T-shirt costs have been closed-out.
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT MULBERRY
 - i. Corrine welcomed Sandy Graham as a guest.
 - ii. The door prize drawings were won by Sandy Graham, Gwen Clancy, and John Geddes.
 - iii. Corrine reminded everyone of the upcoming election of Club officers and to encourage members to contact the nomination committee if interested in running for a position.

- iv. The program this month is on the Club's trip to Dominica.
 - v. Corrine has purchased the new BluRay player and HDMI cable for the Club.
- c. SECRETARY SULLIVAN
 - i. No Comments.
- d. TRIP DIRECTOR GEDDES
 - i. The Philippines trip has 11 people signed-up.
 - ii. Final payment is due on 11/15 for the Philippines trip.
 - iii. The Bonaire trip for 3-20 March has 8 people signed-up.
 - iv. The St. Lucia trip 11-18 June 2016 is on the website.
 - v. The Grand Cayman trip for 12-19 November 2016 is on the website.
 - vi. Anyone interested in diving the Great Lakes should contact Ralph Covington to set a date.
 - vii. There is no current interest for a trip to Cuba with the high cost of the trip.
- e. WEBMASTER McCANN
 - i. The website is current for all planned Club trips.
- f. NEWSLETTER EDITOR BERTETTO Absent
- g. SAFETY INFORMATION DIRECTOR STEPHAN
 - i. Article this month is on Packing for a Trip. One item of interest was an overweight bag would have cost \$70 while a second bag would only have cost \$40. CHECK YOUR LUGGAGE WEIGHT BEFORE GOING TO THE AIRPORT.

ADJOURNMENT 8:53 PM

Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Remember, safe diving is fun!

Note: Our group does a lot of boat diving. While there is indeed a lot of shore diving (see upcoming trip to Bonaire), we generally find our intrepid cadre of erstwhile divers going to dive locations on a variety of boats. Sportdiver.com provides this month's article about general tips on how to behave on a dive boat.

Since we will use everything from a pontoon (a la Dale Hollow) to a 100' luxury liveaboard, these tips should be adjusted for the situation. Most commercial dive operators will readily provide their preferences about how to utilize their facilities. For instance, last year in Chuuk, the Odyssey crew were very clear about how to store your gear, which table was for cameras only, and how to record your nitrox analysis. Of course, that will differ with each boat.

Part of dive safety is to handle your gear properly, while maintaining good etiquette with your fellow divers. Some boats require bungees on tanks so they don't fall out of the racks, possibly injuring somebody or somebody's gear. Think proactively. After you rinse your mask, don't set it on the seat next to your gear. The next guy over may lose their balance with their gear on, and come down on your mask. Keep your stuff together and out of the way. A mesh bag with straps provides a convenient way to keep fins, booties, etc. from moving around on the dive boat, and is easy to pack up for removal (and even dunking in the rinse tanks) once you get to shore.

If there is a "dry" table on the boat, don't lean over it when you're wet. Keep your heavy

stuff (like bags with big land cameras) low, don't set it on someone's sunglasses. Consider a small crush-proof box to put your glasses in for safety sakes.

We often have a big group going on trips. This means we all have to get along, and as BGDC has always been a group of friends, let's keep it that way. Be considerate, and use the Golden Rule on dive boats. It will make you safe, and increase your fun.

Dive Boat Survival and Etiquette Guide

By Patricia Wuerst

Did you know PADI offers a Boat Diver Specialty Course? It may seem silly, but boats come in so many different sizes and configurations that the course was devised to help you learn tips, tricks and correct behavior to enjoy and be safe on your boat dives — whether you're diving from a small inflatable or a luxury live-aboard. You might want to consider taking the course, especially if you're preparing for your first boat dive or live-aboard trip, but in the meantime, here are a few basic tips to help you fit right in on board:

BEFORE YOU GO

1. Pack boat clothes. A large, floppy hat keeps the sun off not only your face but also your ears and the back of your neck. Our favorite is a sun hat with UV protection built in to the fabric and a chin strap with lanyard. It's lightweight, washable and is made from a breathable nylon fabric. If you prefer a baseball cap, be prepared to apply plenty of sunscreen on your ears and neck, and to do it often. Protection against wind, not to mention spray, is critical to staying warm on the way out to the dive site as well as on the way home, so pack at least a windbreaker. If you're doing temperate-water or cool-weather diving, pack a boat coat that's lined with fleece, which will keep you toasty-warm — and look for one that comes with a hood.

2. Invest in decent sunglasses. They don't have to be Ray Bans, but get a pair of shades that meet the ANSI General Purpose standard: 60 percent UVA protection, 95 percent UVB. Take care of them once

onboard — keep them away from weights, seat benches and places where they could be blown or knocked overboard.

3. Pack an extra towel. Take a second small towel for wiping your face, your exposure suit, your camera and your first stage between dives. You'll use your larger towel for drying yourself after your dives. Chamois-type camp towels work well.

4. Don't forget a dry bag. This means a real dry bag, not a lined pocket in your gear bag or a "waterproof" bag with a conventional zipper — the zipper will leak. This is a personal-effects bag, separate from your scuba gear bag. Put everything inside it that you want to keep dry: your shore clothes, wallet and a big towel, for example. Try not to put things in it you'll need sooner (such as mask defog or sunscreen), so you don't have to open it often. Make sure it's one you can keep at your gear station — one where the inside will stay dry no matter what — in case the boat's dry area is limited or nonexistent.

5. Bring H2O and snacks. When you book, ask whether water and snacks are provided on board; if not, pack at least one water bottle (preferably a reusable one. It's always nice to bring something that can be shared with other passengers and the crew.

6. Seasick? It can happen to anyone, but if you're prone, remember to take anti-nausea medications like Dramamine at least 30 minutes before the boat departs. Train your eyes on the horizon and stay away from diesel-engine fumes. If you do get sick, get downwind and lean overboard. Your fellow passengers will appreciate it.

ON THE BOAT

1. Be on time. Find out if the time given is "show up" or "leave the dock" and adjust your schedule appropriately. Arriving early is usually fine (but when you arrive, ask for permission to board — the crew may still need time to prepare for the trip). Don't be the person holding up the boat's timely departure.

2. Set up your gear as quickly as possible. Once you've been shown your gear station,

ask the crew if it's OK to set up your gear. Every skipper has different rules — some may prefer that you set up immediately; other may ask that you wait until the vessel is underway. Either way, once you've set up your gear, make sure to review your dive plan with your buddy and review basic hand signals. Check his or her gear and vice versa.

3. Locate safety equipment. You should get a safety briefing, but it's always a good idea to make a mental note of where the life jackets, VHF radio (how to turn the radio on), handheld VHF, flares, flashlights, first-aid kits, etc., are. Before entering the water, you should be informed about the "dive recall" signal, in the event of a serious emergency. If the crew does not give a safety briefing, politely ask for one.

4. Find the rinse buckets. Water buckets on the deck are usually marked to indicate what they're for — mask rinsing, camera rinsing, etc. If they're not marked, ask the crew.

5. Stay organized. Don't spread out your dive gear. Keep it neatly organized at your dive station (some boats provide a crate to keep under the bench) or tucked away in your bag. After you place your tank in its station, deflate the BC, fold in the straps and move in the hoses so that your assembly takes up as little room as possible. Not only is this a courtesy to your neighbor, it will prevent your gear from being damaged. Secure tanks so they do not fall on anyone's feet or on gear. And remember: Dive gear, drysuit underwear, log books, etc., do not belong on the camera table. Ask the crew if there's a dry area where you can store small items you don't want to put away, like sunglasses.

6. Pay attention to the dive briefing. You'll not only get valuable information about the dive site and conditions, you'll learn how the crew prefers you enter and exit the water; whether you should remove only your fins or your entire kit at the ladder before boarding; where the anchor or mooring is located, etc.

7. Put away the cigarettes. These days, there's little tolerance for cigarette smoking on dive boats.

GETTING OFF THE BOAT

1. Help out if needed. Before getting off the boat, ask the crew if you can do anything before taking off. Make sure you take your trash with you and take a last look around for any items of gear or clothing you may have overlooked when packing up.

2. Don't forget to tip the crew. If they have done a good job, 10 percent of the cost of the trip is customary. If they did a great job, make it 15 percent. Keep in mind that tipping the crew is not recommended everywhere (for business or cultural reasons). Ask ahead as to what the operator's policy is regarding tipping. Sometimes, you'll tip the boat crew directly, but often, tipping is done in the dive resort or dive shop office (or at the end of a trip on a live-aboard, when you're settling your final bill) — and then all members in a team share the tip.

Follow just these few tips and you'll discover what we have — a day on the water on a boat is better than any day on land. 🚩



Bluegrass Dive Club 2015 Calendar

November

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
24, Tuesday Board Meeting

December

12, Saturday Club Christmas Party

Dive Committee Members

Doug Geddes – Chairman	885-2215
Tracey Combs	621-4066
Ralph Covington	621-3862
Mike Sullivan	266-4516
Gordon Green	C@Meeting
Ed Sullivan	C@Meeting
John Geddes	223-7926
Corrine Mulberry	913-0892



this guys must be tired of the shark frenzies outside his door tossing sand all over the place



whoever took this scored with the sunbeams