



UNDERCURRENTS

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

April 2018

Volume 48, Number 4

April's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 10th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
 Social at 7

Location: **Urban Squirrel Storage**
203 Lisle Industrial Ave

Program: **Care and Maintenance of**
Scuba Tanks by Mike

President's Message

By Tracey Combs



The Bluegrass Dive Club family lost a member of its family, Richard Rabek. Rick passed away March 21, 2018. He will be greatly missed. We offer our sincere condolences to Rick's family and friends.

Rick with Mike McCann



For those of you still looking for a dive trip, check out the website for more details. The Planning Committee is currently working on the 2018 Diving Calendar. If you have ideas or recommendations, please email or talk with Steve Gahafer.

There are several upcoming events on the calendar. The always fun and sometimes profitable Derby Party is May 5 and the Pig Roast in August. Mark your calendars and please note the venue change for the Derby party. Our next meeting will be April 10, 2018 at the Urban Squirrel. You do not have to be a member to attend, everyone is welcome!! I hope to see you there. 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



For this month I have included some pics from our last meeting at The Urban Squirrel. So come out to the meeting and meet our new place. 🚩

2018 BGDC Officer's

Tracey Combs, President	621-4066
Mike Sullivan, Vice President	327-8906
Kris Harn, Secretary	333-6911
Dan Miller, Treasurer	948-5133
Steve Gahafer, Trip Director	229-9408
Rick Stephan, Safety Info Dir.	223-3719
Alex Fassas, Webmaster	582-1600
John Geddes, Newsletter Editor	608-0682

Vice President's Report

By Mike Sullivan



The door prizes were won by Charlie Denham and Alan Stubbs. The program for April is the care and maintenance of SCUBA tanks, aluminum and steel. 🚩



From The Secretary

By Kris Harn



Membership Meeting

A general membership meeting was held on 3-13-18 at the Urban Squirrel. 20 people were in attendance. Presentation was a DVD on Grand Turk.

Board Meeting

A board meeting was held on 3-27-18 at Beaumont Branch Public Library. 6 of 8 board members in attendance. Reviewed reports, trips, new & unfinished business.

If you need to see a copy of the minutes, please contact me. 🚩

From the Treasurer

By Dan Miller



2018 Membership Dues

Student (High School or College ID) ..	\$10.00
New Diver (First year only).....	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](#). 🚩



Trip Director's Report

By Steve Gahafer



AFRICA DIVE & SAFARI 2018

This trip is going full steam ahead we might still have open spots on this trip. If you are thinking about this trip need to decide pretty quick as we are going to have to give up spots and the airfare will start going up very fast. Please contact Dan before you do anything if you want to join this trip to make sure we still have room. Check the website [Africa 2018](#).



As of today the Trip Committee has not met but we will before this is published. Hopefully next month I will have some news on upcoming trips. 🚩

Dive Committee Members

Steve Gahafer – Chairman	229-9408
Tracey Combs	621-4066
Ralph Covington	621-3862
Mike Sullivan	266-4516
John Geddes	608-0682

If you would like to be on the Dive Committee, contact Steve Gahafer, 229-9408

Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Note: This month's article comes from [scubadiving.com](#) and should be filed under the category: Dive Safety: Well, DUH!

This is because from your first introductory course you have learned (or should have, anyway!) that bubbles are dangerous in your body and you get rid of bubbles by safety stops. Most computers these days recommend, and depending on the settings, may require you to do a safety stop, or even several. Mine will recommend a deep stop at around half my lowest depth – sometimes I do it, sometimes not. (It is quite difficult to do a safety stop at 54 feet in open water when the rest of the group are swimming away in current...)



The important thing is to do the stop at 15 feet, and make sure your lungs (torso in the article) are at that depth. If there are 6' seas, and you're hanging from a decomp bar you will be at considerably deeper and shallower alternatively – hard to make your stop appropriately with that combo! So, make yourself neutrally buoyant and let the bar go up and down without you.

Another important item is to time yourself. I wish I had a dollar for every diver who has swam up to the hang line from the reef while I was waiting for a 3 minute stop to finish, pause just a little, then swim to the ladder in front of me. When I suggest that they may

Safety Corner Cont.

want to do a safety stop for at least 3 minutes, they always say "I did!" They must have a much faster watch than I do! 3 minutes means just that, not 1 or 2. If you want to not do 3 minutes, then do 4 or 5!

Anyway, this article is just a reminder to take care of yourself by remembering to do the basics, and do them correctly. Like I always



say:

Remember, safe diving is fun!



5 Tips for the Best Safety Stop

By Travis Marshall

Every dive should end with a safety stop. But being close to the surface makes buoyancy a challenge, and without the right technique, you might find yourself ascending unintentionally. Here are five tips for making safety stops look easy.

1. SLOW ASCENT

Keep an eye on your computer or depth gauge to make sure you ascend no faster than 30 feet per minute. Remember to vent expanding air from your BC as you go, and always send up a surface marker if you're ascending away from your boat.



2. PROPER POSITIONING

Once at 15 feet, position yourself head-up and keep your depth gauge at chest level so your torso stays at the right depth.

3. STEADY AS SHE GOES

If you're holding a down line attached to boat, grab the line loosely with one hand, with your arm outstretched to prevent the line from pulling you up and down.



4. TIME IT

Every diver should time his or her own safety stop — don't rely on another diver.

5. SWIM SLOWLY

Divers sometimes think once the safety stop is over, they can fin to the boat as fast as they want. But the final 15 feet are the most dangerous part of the water column for lung-overexpansion injuries. Ascend the final 15 feet at the same, slow 30-feet-per-minute rate. 🚩

Webmaster's Report

By Alex Fassas



As the club has moved its meeting location several times between February and March, we have strived to keep you informed by our email list and with updates on the club website. Remember that if you ever have a question about the latest club news, your club's website will have it. <http://bluegrassdiveclub.com> 🚩



Bluegrass Dive Club 2018 Calendar

April

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
24, Tuesday Board Meeting



May

5, Saturday Club's Derby Party
8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
29, Tuesday Board Meeting

June

10-23, Africa
12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
26, Tuesday Board Meeting

July

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
31, Tuesday Board Meeting

August

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
28, Tuesday Board Meeting



See you at the Urban Squirrel

September

11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
25, Tuesday Board Meeting

October

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
30, Tuesday Board Meeting

November

13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
27, Tuesday Board Meeting