



**NEWS FROM
The "Get Wet" Club**

May 2004

The **BAD** Calendar

May, 2004	
	BAD BOD Meeting
	DIVING Classes offered by — Bill Jones
	CoCo View 2004 Trip — Randy Widaman
	BAD General Membership Meeting
June, 2004	
	BAD BOD Meeting
	Seaspace
	2 nd Annual Blue Lagoon Picnic
	DIVING Classes offered by — Bill Jones
30	BAD General Membership Meeting
July, 2004	
	BAD BOD Meeting
17	Canoe Trip — Beverly Cutler
	Spearfishing Rodeo — Dennis Camp
August, 2004	
	BAD BOD Meeting
	Jamaica — Bill Jones
23	Cozumel — Bill Jones
	BAD General Membership Meeting
September, 2004	
	BAD BOD Meeting
	BAD General Membership Meeting
October, 2004	
2	TRASHFEST
	B.A.D. FLEAMARKET
	DEMA
23	Galveston Strand Historical Tour
December, 2004	
11	Austin Steam Train Trip
Have an event you want to lead, contact the Board for more details.	



May Guest Speaker: We have invited down from the Houston U/W Photographic Society Dennis Deavenport. Dennis is bring to us a short digital slide presentation and will be talking to us on the techniques of using U/W Digital cameras. So if you have been wanting to get into U/W Digital Photography here is your chance to get some expert advise from Dennis. So come prepared to ask questions and bring a friend . **The old meeting place is finally finished and we are moving back to the 5001 NASA Rd. 1 location this month (May 26th). So we will see each and everyone of you at the May meeting in our newly remodeled location.**

April Speaker: We would like to thank John Forsythe for coming out to our April meeting. Due to Technical equipment problems though we were not able to have Johns presentation on "Flamboyant Cuttlefish" John has agreed to come back at a later date to present to us his story on the cuttlefish. So for those that could not attend the April meeting and really wanted to you will get a second chance.



Cathy Schneyndler	May 4
Fred Swerdlin	May 7
Linda Jorgensen	May 12
Kenneth Ortolon	May 22

**COME VISIT and DIVE
WITH YOUR FRIENDS and NEIGHBORS**

Bay Area Divers meet at Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Road 1 at 7:30 pm the last Wednesday of each month (except December).

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

President's Corner...

FINS TO THE LEFT . . . FINS TO THE RIGHT

by Mike White

First, an update since last month. I passed my third ASA sailing test, "Bareboat Chartering/Intermediate Coastal Cruising", and now have my certification to bareboat charter sailboats in those exotic sailing and diving destinations I mentioned. I have reserved a 38 foot Beneteau out of Tortola for a week in October (yes, I'll be praying to the hurricane gods to be merciful), and I am really looking forward to returning to the British Virgin Islands. My previous BVI sailing/diving trip was one of my most enjoyable vacations ever. I hope they have restocked up on rum!

But before that, we have a little work and some local BAD activities coming up.

On the immediate horizon is **SEASPACE 2004**, on **June 5 and 6**. In addition to a great scuba diving show, Bay Area Divers will be having our usual booth in the Environmental Awareness area. I am chairing our booth this year and, as always, we need **your help**. At the April BAD meeting, I passed around a sign-up sheet to work at the booth, and got a lot of volunteers. I still need a few more, and will bring the sign-up sheet to the May BAD meeting. If you cannot make the May meeting, but want to volunteer a little BAD time during SEASPACE, want

please send me an e-mail note to BeemerMike@aol.com or call me at 281-798-5325. In addition, if you have a video or pictures about scuba diving or BAD events, please let me know or just bring them to the May meeting, so we can use them at our booth.

Later in June, after SEASPACE, we will be having our second annual picnic (and diving) at Blue Lagoon on June 26. This was a fun time last year, and I encourage you all to attend. The picnic is great way to meet your fellow BADdies, get wet, and have some great food, all for a modest cost. What a bargain! Then, in July, we will be having our canoe trip, and there are some BAD dive trips to Jamaica and Cozumel coming up in August.

As I discussed at the April BAD meeting, the Board is trying to schedule a variety of club activities for BADdies to participate in locally (as fun as those Belize dive trips are, you just can't go there every month). If you look at the BAD calendar, you will see we already have quite a few, but we always want **your** ideas for activities, because the goal is to schedule activities that BAD members want to participate in. We got a few ideas at the April meeting, but I encourage you (and will continue to remind you) to let the Board know if you have an idea for something fun that you think other BADdies would also like. Our e-mail addresses are on the front page of the newsletter.

OFFICERS 2004

President Mike White beermike@aol.com
Vice President Randy Widaman
cap10randy@houston.rr.com
Secretary Madeleine Barnes dwbmkb@aol.com
Treasurer Kenneth Kimmey klk43@aol.com
Editor Ja Van Pruett javan@wt.net
Webmaster: Todd Rushing txscubaman@yahoo.com
Bartender: Gloria Pechacek dmgkr@aol.com
Sales: Verna Shannon butch@pdq.net
Librarian Greg Trevino scubapal68@aol.com
Historian: Madeleine Barnes dwbmkb@aol.com
TGCC/Board: Don Eubanks deubanks@houston.rr.com
Board: Beverly Cutler bcutler@pdq.net
Board: Todd Rushing txscubaman@yahoo.com
Board: Butch Shannon butch@pdq.net

Kenneth Brown	June 5
Rebecca Sykes	June 7
Jim Carmin	June 19
Ellen Eastham	June 19
Rowe Henry	June 24



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MAY BOD BRIEF

Blue Lagoon Picnic

June 26 & 27, 2004

It is going to be upon us before we know it. So mark your calendar for this bubble blowing picnic and camping event. Details are still being worked out but there will be an under water hunt, an afternoon picnic, overnight camping and all the diving you can do in 36 hours. We have reserved Sites 1 & 2 at Lagoon II. We will be serving hamburgers Sat. afternoon. Please bring a snack to share with all that attend. We would like to have a grill to cook on so if someone has one and is willing to bring it to Blue Lagoon it would be appreciated (please let me know).

If you pay for Sat. and Sunday diving, onsite camping is free.

Guests are requested to contribute \$5 to BAD if they participate in the meal and/or Underwater Hunt. Or you can join BAD for \$15 for a single person or \$20 for a family. Please see me at Blue Lagoon about these issues

Directions: I-45 N. past Huntsville to exit 123-FM 1696, Right 3 miles to Blue Lagoon.

Gates open at 10 AM and close at 10PM.

Sign in & Pay at Gate. Blue Lagoon charges \$15 per Diver per day and \$10 for a Non-Diver per day.

BAD will be at Sites #1 & 2 at Lagoon II

This will be a great opportunity to check out your dive gear, have some underwater fun and visit with your dive BADDies.

Beverly



By Madeleine K. Barnes

The BOD approved the Paintball Competition event between HUC and BAD scheduled for November 6th. BAD will be applying to TGCC for sanctioning of the Paintball competition, the December 2004 train trip, and the Flea Market. Look for information from Randy Widaman about a dive trip to Coco View scheduled for May 14th through May 21st for 2005. Preparations are underway for the Seaspace Booth and volunteers can still sign up. Current newsletter advertisers will be receiving invoices for the 2004 newsletter ads. They can still make changes to their ads including increasing the ad size. The BOD approved the angelfish logo as the official club logo and it will replace all other logos. Club members will be able to run a business card size ad for their personal business in the July newsletter at a cost of \$10. This annual opportunity was approved for one issue per year during last year's BOD.

BAD'S BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL, so come on out and join us for our next meeting **Tuesday June 8, 2004 at 7:00 PM** at Ryan's Steak House on Bay Area Blvd. near Hwy 3. Everyone is encouraged to attend as we appreciate everyone's participation and your input is appreciated. Come earlier if you would like to eat and visit with some of us prior to the meeting.



BAD SPEAKERS at SEASPACE 2004

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Houston, Texas. Three BAD Speakers have been scheduled to lecture at SEASPACE 2004. Expo participants can meet the speakers at the *Meet the Speakers Party*, June 4 at 7:30p in the Houston Museum of Natural Science. SEASPACE 2004 seminars will be June 5 and 6 at the Reliant Center next to the Dome.

BAD **Jesse Cancelmo**, who is a contributor to Rodale's Scuba Diving and Dive Training magazines, will lecture on *Techniques for Improving Your Underwater Photography*. Cancelmo will discuss the equipment that you really need, tips for successful underwater photography, and how to maximize your photographic dramatic effect. Cancelmo will also speak about *the Secret Reefs of the Northwest Gulf of Mexico*, an area for diving often overlooked. Cancelmo has written two books and has made contributions for articles in the prestigious National Geographic Magazine and USA Today.

BAD **Chuck Boyd** will discuss volunteering at area aquariums as a *Labor of Love*. Boyd is a long-time NAUI DiveMaster that has consistently donated considerable amounts of his time and energy to volunteering for environmental and scuba related initiatives, programs, and fund-raising efforts, creating a legacy that is for the betterment of all divers. Boyd's down-home and "Howdy-Folks" lecturing style will be an interesting, friendly, and honest opportunity for those thinking about volunteering to ask some inside questions about donating their time.

Yours truly, BAD **Bill Jones** will give you some conventional and un-conventional *Tips on How to Improve Your Diving Skills*. Included in both lectures will be ways to work on diving skills while **driving your car**, a diver's guide to skill-review while flying to resort destinations, how to get more out of your instructor without paying him a nickel more, and the top ten ways of becoming an expert recreational diver. A PADI Master Instructor, Jones is a published and award-winning writer that has written two books and written for television.



His articles have appeared in magazines with worldwide distribution including The Undersea Journal.

Many BAD members will man the BAD Booth at SEASPACE 2004. If you have not volunteered, check with one of the BAD Board Members for details.

SEASPACE 2004 is a Scuba Trade Show & Exposition started in 1969 by the Houston Underwater Club. Originally located at the Houston Music Hall, it has been in Jones Hall, the Shamrock Hilton Hotel, the Hyatt Regency Hotel, the Astro Area, and is now in Reliant Center. SEASPACE is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that has provided more than \$360,000 in grants and scholarships. About 250 area volunteers work the show every year.

BAD SEASPACE BOOTH

By Madeleine K. Barnes

Seaspace is rapidly approaching and we need photos for the display in the BAD booth. I know that some of you have been on recent dive trips and have some great photos that you could share to help our booth look great. Pictures of marine life or Baddies having fun times would be appreciated. When we are done at the booth, the pictures could then go to our BAD 2004 Photo Album. If you have video (VHS format) from your trip, we would greatly appreciate the loan to show it on the booth television. We have so many visitors in the BAD booth during Seaspace and we want it to reflect our wonderful membership and great fun times that we have together. I needed photos for the album this year as we only have one set so far, so this is an opportunity for you to share your good time with many divers and diver-wanna-bees. Hope you can help out by volunteering and if not, I hope to see you there for the exhibits and seminars. It is always good to get trip ideas to new locations, put in for free drawings, check out new equipment, attend the film festival, and learn new things at the seminars.



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Diving Not Required, Divers Must Show Proof of Certification Signed Liability Release Required

Contact Bill Jones: Bjones@houston.rr.com

JAMAICA \$850

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4 Days, 3 Nights at The Breezes Resort Hotel (5-star)

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BLEND OF THE BAYOU SEAFOOD CASSEROLE

1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese
1 stick margarine or butter
1 lb. Shrimp, peeled
1 lg. Onion, chopped
1 bell pepper, chopped
2 ribs celery, chopped
2 T butter
1 can mushroom soup
1 can mushrooms, drained
1 T garlic salt
1 tsp. Tabasco
1/2 tsp. Red pepper
1 pt. Crab meat
3/4 cups cook rice
Sharp cheese, grated
Cracker crumbs

MELT CREAM CHEESE AND BUTTER USING DOUBLE BOILER. SAUTE' SHRIMP, ONION, PEPPER, AND CELERY IN 2 T BUTTER. ADD TO THE FIRST MIXTURE. ADD SOUP, MUSHROOMS, SEASONINGS, CRAB MEAT, AND RICE. MIX WELL, PLACE IN 2 QUART CASSEROLE, AND TOP WITH CHEESE AND CRACKER CRUMBS. BAKE AT 350° F ABOUT 20-30 MINUTES UNTIL IT

BUBBLES. FREEZES. SERVES 8 TO 6 HUNGRY PEOPLE.

Quoted from Oceana:

By Don Eubanks

In [a letter to Oceans](#) (PDF format), Royal Caribbean Chairman and CEO Richard Fain has committed the company to do the following.

Install advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) systems on every ship in their fleet — just as Oceana has been calling on Royal Caribbean to do — as their ships come in for their scheduled drydocking, which means their whole fleet will have them by 2008.

Select AWT systems whose treated discharges meet the stringent standards of the state of Alaska — the same standards which Oceana has been calling on Royal Caribbean to meet.

Have a third party monitor the performance of the AWT systems, and make the results of that monitoring public.

It is very gratifying to see Royal Caribbean make this decision. As you know, we have been urging them for almost a year now to start down this road, so it's great to see them beginning the journey.

The campaign against Royal Caribbean has been suspended great news for all of us that enjoy both diving and cruising! I am so proud to be a member of an organization that can bring about change without blowing anything up or hurting any at all for that matter. Almost 90,000 members made this possible and congratulations everyone!

Those of you who have not joined in yet are not to be left out. There is always going to be another "battle" to save our oceans, our reefs and all the beautiful creatures that we all enjoy so much. I don't know if we can save Social security for our children however we can obviously save the oceans but we must all act now.

What can you do now? Go the Oceana Website <https://secure.ctsg.com/oceana/formdonation.asp> you can join for as little as \$15.00 that's just two tanks of air to really help make positive change!

The Oceana web site is full of information that will bring you to movement!

Our Oceans remain in critical condition and now our Governor can help but, he needs your encouragement.

Last month, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, which was appointed by President Bush in 2001, issued its preliminary report about the state of America's oceans.

Before a final version of the report is sent to President Bush And Congress, the Commission is seeking comments by May 21 from State Governors. This is a great opportunity for you to alert your Governor about the importance of healthy oceans and the need for strong directions in the final report.

Opening the door to the governor's office just may also help get Texas' artificial reef program going again too!

Remember the USS Oriskany!

This is the buddy system at it's most basic level folks! If we buddy up on this we can make a difference for the oceans and Texas. Get on board Buddy!

Write Governor Perry today at

<http://www.governor.state.tx.us/contact> and start letting your voice be heard!

Join some group that is fighting for our oceans today, it really is easy and what a feeling of accomplishment that can be gained that impacts a sport that we all Great News divers!

Oceana the lead organization that has been trying to stop cruise ships from polluting our reefs has just announced that a great Victory has been won!

It's official: **Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines has heard your calls** for them to clean up their sewage-treatment act And **they are doing something about it.**



"YES, THERE ARE PLENTY OF FISH IN THESEA, DOREEN... THERE'S ALSO AN OCTOPUS, FOUR STINGRAYS, AND PLANKTON."

Back to the Sea of Cortez:

Sailing with the Spirits of John Steinbeck and Ed Ricketts on a New Journey of Discovery Around Baja California.

On March 11, 2004, a team of scientists led by Dr. William F. Gilly from Hopkins Marine Station in Monterey, California, will embark on a 73-foot fishing boat to retrace the historic expedition that John Steinbeck and Edward F. "Doc" Ricketts made to explore the Sea of Cortez in 1940. Their journey was immortalized in a book they wrote together, *The Log from the Sea of Cortez*, still a popular and accessible paperback.

Jon Christensen, a science writer and Steinbeck Fellow at San Jose State University, will travel with the current expedition and post a daily log of the journey online. At various sites along the way, students and teachers in Baja California will join the expedition for a day of studying life in the tide pools.

Teachers and students everywhere are invited to join the expedition online, to communicate with the crew by e-mail, and to explore the connections between science, literature, history, the environment, conservation, and our oceans through resources and links online at www.seaofcortez.org and www.mardecortez.org.

For more information, e-mail jonchristensen@nasw.org or call (650) 320-9504.

The Sea of Cortez Expedition and Education Project is sponsored by the Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University, the San Diego Natural History Museum's binational education program PROBEA (Proyecto Bio-regional de Educación Ambiental), the Steinbeck Fellows Program and the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies at San Jose State University, the California Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence, the International Community Foundation, the Ocean Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy.

From *The Log from the Sea of Cortez*: In rubber boots we moved over the flat uncovered by the dropping tide; a silty sand made the water obscure when a rock or a piece of coral was turned over. And as always when one is collecting, we were soon joined by a number of small boys. The very posture of search, the slow movement with the head down, seems to draw people. "What did you lose?" they ask.

"Nothing." "Then what do you search for?" And this is an embarrassing question. We search for something that will seem like truth to us; we search for understanding; we search for that principle which keys us deeply into the pattern of all life; we search for the relations of things, one to another, as this young man searches for

a warm light in his wife's eyes and that one for the hot warmth of fighting. These little boys and young men on the tide flat do not even know that they search for such things too. We say to them, "We are looking for curios, for certain small animals."

Then the little boys help us to search.... Once they know you are generally curious, they bring amazing things. Perhaps we only practice an extension of their urge. It is easy to remember when we were small and lay on our stomachs beside a tide pool and our minds and eyes went so deeply into it that size and identity were lost, and the creeping hermit crab was our size and the tiny octopus a monster. Then the waving algae covered us and we hid under a rock at the bottom and leaped out at

fish. It is very possible that we, and even those who probe space with equations, simply extend this wonder.

-John Steinbeck & Edward F. Ricketts

To find out more contact:

Jon Christensen
Coordinator, Sea of Cortez Expedition and Education Project
Steinbeck Fellow, San Jose State University
265 Scripps Court, Palo Alto, CA 94306-4540
e-mail: jonchristensen@nasw.org
Web site: <http://www.seaofcortez.org> and <http://www.mardecortez.org>

To find out more about an educational Web site and log on to a scientific and literary expedition beginning March 11, 2004 at www.seaofcortez.org and www.mardecortez.org



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