

NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

June 2004

The BAD Calendar

June, 2004

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 4-6 Seaspace
- 26 2nd Annual Blue Lagoon Picnic
- 14-27 **DIVING Classes offered by — Bill Jones**
- 30 BAD General Membership Meeting

July, 2004

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 17 Canoe Trip – Beverly Cutler
- 23-25 Spearfishing Rodeo – Dennis Camp

August, 2004

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 6 Jamaica — Bill Jones
- 23 Cozumel — Bill Jones
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

September, 2004

- 7 BAD BOD Meeting
- 29 BAD General Membership Meeting

October, 2004

- 2 TRASHFEST
- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 9 B.A.D. FLEAMARKET
- 13-16 DEMA
- 23 Galveston Strand Historical Tour
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

November, 2004

- 2 BAD BOD Meeting
- 13 ANNIVERSARY PARTY 30TH YEAR
- 24 BAD General Membership Meeting

December, 2004

- 7 BAD BOD Meeting
- 11 Austin Steam Train Trip
- 22 BAD General Membership Meeting



Have an event you want to lead, contact the Board for more details.

June Speaker: We have invited Chuck Noe from Gulf-Tex to speak to us on Tech diving. Chuck has many years in the field of Nitrox, Deep diving, Tri-Mix diving and DPV's. Of his many accomplishments Chuck is one of only a few divers who has been down to the Brine seep on the East Flower Garden Bank on open scuba. So be sure to attend next months general meeting on June 30th.

May Speakers: We would like to thank both Dennis Deavenport and James Wiseman for coming out to our May general meeting. Both Dennis and James gave us a very interesting talk on both Digital and Film photography techniques. Along with their lessons on the use of various pieces of photo equipment they each showed us an excellent slide show. Those that were not able to attend this meeting missed an excellent opportunity to learn a lot on U/W photography.



JUNE

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

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!

The B.A.D. Board of Directors meet at Ryan's Steakhouse on Bay Area Blvd. on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome.

Deadline for article submission for next month is: **July 11th, 2004** E-Mail javan@wt.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



FINS TO THE LEFT . . . FINS TO THE RIGHT

by Mike White

Well, **SEASPACE 2004** has come and gone. The Reliant Center was a nice venue but, although I have not seen the attendance numbers, it just did not seem as crowded as previous years. Maybe it was the size of the place. However, for those of us who did go, it was a great show with lots of good exhibitors . . . and I was able to restock my supply of Rum Reggae shirts at a discount price from the local retail price. Always a good thing. Ja Van, Fran, and Beverly on the other hand, seemed to buy everything that wasn't nailed down. I think you'll be seeing some of it as the year progresses.

Bay Area Divers had our **booth** in the Environmental Awareness area as usual, and with a little coordination with the Houston Underwater Photographic Society next door, we were able to secure the extra table we needed to display everything. We had quite a few people stop by the booth and talk to us, several left with a BAD membership application, and one person joined BAD at SEASPACE. Hopefully, we will see some of these people at an upcoming BAD meeting or event. And . . . we passed out a lot of flyers for our Flea Market!

RETURN TO BAD— Members
Jimmy Atkinson, Ronald & Karen Stueber

NEW BAD Members
Julie Dunning, Sam & Mai Lindsey

I want to thank all of the BADDies who took some time out of their busy schedules to help out at the BAD booth. Thanks to Madeleine Barnes, Tom Burns, Beverly Cutler, Cliff Dominey, PeeWee Dwire, Fran Eubanks, Ja Van Pruett, Randy Widaman, and Patrick and Nick Wroblewski. "Many hands make the work light."

We are now in the heat of the summer. Be sure to come to our second annual BAD picnic (and diving) event on June 26 at Blue Lagoon near Huntsville. Cool off a little and party with your fellow BADDies. I promise we won't put your picture on display at SEASPACE 2005 (OK, my fingers are crossed, so you'll just have to risk it). And be sure to put the July canoe trip on you calendar. After that, we have some BAD dive trips to Jamaica and Cozumel coming up in late July and August which should be a great time (I am going to Jamaica, mon). There still should be some openings for all you last minute shoppers. Later on in the fall, we have the paintball challenge with HUC and our 30th anniversary party.

As always, the Board wants **your** ideas for activities, because our goal is to schedule activities that BAD members want to participate in. Our e-mail addresses are on the front page of the newsletter. If you have an idea, send us a note. If you think we forgot, send us another note!

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

OFFICERS 2004

President	Mike White	beermike@aol.com
VicePresident	Randy Widaman	cap10randy@houston.rr.com
Secretary	Madeleine Barnes	dwmbkb@aol.com
Treasurer	Kenneth Kimmey	klk43@aol.com
Editor	Ja Van Pruett	javan@wt.net
Webmaster:	Todd Rushing	trushing@wt.net
Bartender:	Gloria Pechacek	dmgkr@aol.com
Sales:	Verna Shannon	butch@pdq.net
Librarian	Greg Trevino	scubapal68@aol.com
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TGCC/Board:	Don Eubanks	deubanks@houston.rr.com
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Deadline for article submission for next month is: **July 11th, 2004** E-Mail javan@wt.net

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

By Madeleine K. Barnes

I am passing on "many thanks" from Chuck and Susan Boyd to the club for all of your hard work collecting medical and hygiene supplies for the islands and mainland around Cayos, Honduras. It was a huge success this year. There was a total of 174 lbs collected and it took six large boxes to hold it all. There will be lots of smiling faces this year when the supplies arrive as two full boxes contained tooth brushes and toothpaste. **Thanks again for all of your help!**

AFTER MEETING GATHERING

By Beverly Cutler

Spinakers has been suggested as this month's after the meeting gathering spot. It is located on the south side and under the Kemah bridge. They have a great upper deck.

GALVESTON STRAND GHOST TOUR

By Beverly Cutler



Get your calendars out.....we have another event to add to the B.A.D. roster. On Sat., **Oct. 23, 2004** a walking Tour of Galveston's ghostly historical Strand has been arranged for us. Mark your calendars and look for details in the future.

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JUNE BOD BRIEF

by Madeleine K. Barnes



The BOD discussed plans for the Seaspaces Booth, Flea Market, 30th Anniversary Party, Haunted Strand Walking Tour in Galveston, Austin Steam Train Trip, and possible club merchandise items. The Anniversary Party is scheduled for November 13th at Monument Inn. Upcoming BAD events include the Blue Lagoon Picnic on June 26th with an underwater contest and the Canoe Trip on July 17th. There was also discussion regarding the repeat of the Moonlight Ramble bicycle event as a possible addition in October. Invoices will go out in June to the vendors who are advertising this year in the newsletter. Reminder: The July issue (coming up) of the newsletter is open to members who want to run their personal business card size ad at a cost of \$10. Send your ads to Ja Van Pruett, BAD Editor at javan@wt.net. Payments can be sent at the same time to the BAD P.O. Box, Houston, TX 77258.

BAD'S BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL, so come on out and join us for our next meeting **Tuesday July 6th, 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.

SEARCHING FOR A CURE IN FIJI

A recent *Fiji Aggressor II* charter was designed to seek new anti-cancer drugs. Scientists from the University of the South Pacific, working with those of the University of Utah, sampled marine invertebrates tissue from around Vanua Levu. These samples were to be used initially in Fiji and then in the United States to see if they have potential to kill cancer cells. Marine invertebrates, especially those which cannot move, often use poisonous chemicals to prevent them from being eaten.

Positive samples are further studied to ensure they are not toxic to animals and then humans. After this, clinical trials might be undertaken. Several promising leads have been found from such research in Fiji over the last decade, especially samples from two Beqa Lagoon orange sponges.

The research is funded by a United States National Cancer drug Discovery grant. Another important aspect of the work is in the conservation of these marine resources. Divers monitor the health of the coral reefs and discuss their findings with nearby communities.

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T WOMAN SCUBA INSTRUCTOR

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Los Angeles California: Dottie Frazier, not as famous as SEA HUNT's Zale Parry, was one of the few women who had the courage and ability to enter the man's world of diving in the 1950s. At a little over 5 feet tall and weighing 90 pounds, Frazier beat the odds with gear so big that it had to be tied at the arms and legs with shoes several times too big.

Born in 1922, she began free diving at the age of 9 to recover a coffee pot that her father accidentally dropped over the side of his boat. By the time she reached her teens, she was free diving for lobster, abalone, and fish.

In 1955, Frazier enrolled in the Los Angeles County Underwater Instructors Certification Course, the forerunner of NAUI, and **became the first woman scuba instructor** in the United States. Met with considerable resistance, women "just weren't strong enough" to be Scuba divers. Men in the class shunned her and their wives hated her.

After taking a hardhat course in 1960, Frazier worked for an insurance company recovering lost items and Investigating sunken boat accidents. She never liked the restrictions of hardhat gear. Today, her hardhat has been converted to a lamp. "**But I never use it**", she laughs.

With 4 sons, 20 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren, Frazier is still active water skiing, owns several motorcycles, rides a dirt bike, and sings back up in a musical group.



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SEASPACE WAS BAD

The **SEASPACE 2004 Adventure Sport and Travel Expo** at the Reliant Center, next to the Dome, was as **BAD** as expected. **BAD** speakers **Jesse Boyd**, and **Bill Jones** delighted audience with candor, and wit.



Madline Barnes, **Beverly Cutler** a **BAD** job at the club booth. Our **BAD** with attendees interested in joining vast array of club activities.

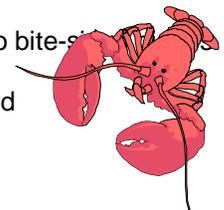
Newlyweds **Joe "Sweetie"** and **Gloria Pechacek** worked the SeaSpace Volunteer booth while **Chuck** and **Susan Boyd** were helping with a nearby booth. **Jose Garcia** worked the kid's virtual Scuba Dive. **Randy Widaman** was all over the place introducing speakers. **Ja Van Pruett** was scouting vendors for **BAD** door prizes.

Other **BAD** members spotted at the show were **Pee Wee**, **Windy**, **Joe**, and others. Club members were everywhere working and attending the Expo spreading plenty of **BAD** goodwill.

LOBSTER MEAT CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup butter
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 pounds Maine lobster meat, cut into bite-size pieces
- 1/2 cup cracker crumb mixture
- 3/4 cup Monterey Jack cheese, grated
- 1 Tablespoon butter



Preparation:

The lobster should be at room temperature before baking. Preheat the oven to 400° degrees. Heat the 1/3 cup of butter in a saucepan, stir in the garlic and cook for about 1 minute, stirring constantly. Do not let the butter or garlic brown. Place the lobster in a buttered casserole dish and toss with the melted butter.

Sprinkle the lobster first with the cracker crumbs, and then with the cheese. Dot with remaining butter. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes, or just until the lobster is heated through and the cheese is melted.

Diving in Current

Diving in currents is easily one of the most enjoyable but can be one of the most dangerous dives that a diver encounters. It is a low energy high speed trip that allows you to see much more of the rapidly passing reef. The flip side of this is that you miss a lot of small life, and the hazards of loss of control and any efforts to work against the currents are high energy and stress producing. Recognizing that a problem exists is the first thing a diver has to face. Dive-masters usually are on top of the problem and brief you appropriately.

Signs of a Current

Each diver can detect signs of current, such as:

- 1). fast moving surface water;
- 2). which way the boat is facing (depending on whichever is the stronger, the current or the wind);
- 3). movement of floating material on the water or in the water;
- 4). movement of divers away from the boat rapidly on entry;
- 5). bubbles moving away from a diver at an angle under-water;
- 6). if the plant life and soft coral underwater are laying down.

The contour of the ocean bottom will change currents, often dramatically. A diver can adjust his speed by moving to the bottom, slowing behind coral heads and outcroppings or holding on to permanent objects, all the time presenting the smallest frontal surface area to the current. Because of a "boundary layer" condition, water molecules that are closest to a surface move the slowest due to their nearness to the surface. Other areas of calmness are areas behind obstacles and the sides of walls. Getting close to the bottom and using your finger or dive knife to stabilize you is usually all you need to hold your position.

As the diver moves through the water column he encounters resistance-and this increases by the square of the velocity of the current as it passes over the body. As a diver works against the current along the bottom, a good indication of the amount of work being performed is by monitoring the respiratory rate, this rising exponentially as exertion increases. "Bottom crawling" is a technique that may have to be used when the swimming exertion level rises.

If conditions exist so that exertion levels continue to rise, it's better to surface, inflate and wait. Here is where a safety sausage comes in handy. This is an inflatable, long orange plastic tube that juts above the water 6-7 ' and can be easily seen as much as a half a mile or more. Shining a flashlight in the bottom of the sausage at night provides a long orange light that can be seen at a great distance.

Surface floats are other techniques used in diving in currents. A line attached to a float and to a diver give two advantages; the dive group is marked for the boat operator and any tired or nervous divers can hang onto the line and rest. When drifting free without a line, the boat operator relies on visualizing the diver's bubbles for location; a surface chop can make it difficult for the boat operator to see the divers bubbles,



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Sunday 12noon-6pm

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JULY



Joe Fishback	July 5
Jason Lawrence	July 5
Ja Van Pruett	July 5
Don Eubanks	July 9
Greg Trevino	July 13
Donna Gatewood	July 16
Steven Gibson	July 19

The dive group should have a clear understanding of exiting and entering the water in conditions of current. Divers should try to let the current work for them by initiating dives into the current on the first part of the dive and planning the return with the current. Float lines are essential for an orderly entry for the divers to hold position for descent and ascent, otherwise divers will be strung out too far apart for a safe dive. Entries should be timed so that there will be no stragglers and the descent be made under control. Exits are also planned so that the float line can be used to pull against the current rather than having to swim against it.

Currents are usually generated by wind and tides or a combination of the two. Predicting what you will encounter generally depends on using information from the local weather service combined with tide information from local dive operators

Bay Area Divers

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Contact Bill Jones: Bjones@houston.rr.com

Open Water (for those new to Scuba)

June 11-27 (in Webster area)

Advanced Open Water Diver Class- Pre-Req: Open Water Diver or equiv.

Enriched Air Nitrox EANx Class

June 22-26 (in Webster area)

Other Specialty Classes Email me about the schedule

Master Scuba Diver Class- Pre-Req: OWD ACWDM Rescue Diver, 50 logged dives, 5 Specialty certifications or equiv.

DiverMaster Email me about the schedule