



NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

February 2005

The BAD Calendar

February, 2005

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 14 **Ventine's Day** ♥
- 23 BAD General Membership Meeting

March, 2005

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 30 BAD General Membership Meeting

April, 2005

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 3 W.W. Diving pool day
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

May, 2005

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 14-21 CoCo View Trip-Randy Widaman
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

June, 2005

- 1 **Seaspace 2005**
- 7 BAD BOD Meeting
- 29 BAD General Membership Meeting

July, 2005

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 16,17 BAD's Annual Camping, Picnic & Treasure Hunt at Blue Lagoon, Beverly Cutler
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

August, 2005

- 2 BAD BOD Meeting
- 24 BAD General Membership Meeting

September, 2005

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 28 BAD General Membership Meeting

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



February 23 Speaker: For our February General Meeting we have invited one of our very own Rowe Henry. Rowe has been a long time BAD member and has traveled to many places and each time he has taken many pictures. So lets give Rowe a big welcome in this months presentation of his many travels underwater. So be sure to mark your calendar for February 23 and come out to our meeting and bring a friend.

January Speaker Thanks: Thanks goes out to David Lenderman from HUPS for coming out to our January meeting and giving us a wonderful presentation on those small underwater sea live animals that so many of us overlook. David's 2 slide shows were fantastic.



Kirk MacLean	Feb. 09
Verna Shannon	Feb. 16
Laura Heiman	Feb. 17
Debbie Sterling	Feb. 20
Barbara J. Morales	Feb. 23
Karen Mooney	Feb. 26
Steven Whitaker	Feb. 26
Keith Mooney	Feb. 28

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: **March 6th, 2005** E-Mail javan@wt.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



FINS TO THE LEFT . . . FINS TO THE RIGHT

by Mike White

If this month's column seems a little familiar to some of you, I'm just being a little environmentally conscious and doing some recycling . . . uh, my column from last January. Some might call this lazy. I prefer the term "efficient".

Unless you are fortunate enough to be jetting off (or better yet, sailing off) to some warm, exotic dive location, you are probably spending the cold, desolate winter months here in Houston reading your back issues of [the former Rodale's] Scuba Diving and dreaming of some warm, exotic dive location, while waiting for the distant spring so you can once again "get wet". Go ahead and dream a little, but don't waste these winter months. Take this downtime as an opportunity to get ready for the coming dive season. It will be here before you know it.

Clean and check over all of your dive gear. I'm sure you gave your gear a good fresh water rinse after your last dive in 2004 before you stored it in the closet for the winter, so you shouldn't have much cleaning to do [right?]. You should be ready to quickly move on to checking it over.

IT A NEW YEAR AND NEW BEGINNINGS.

Now is the time to renew you membership.

NEW BAD Members

**Steven Giesler,
Bill & Debbie Fuqua**

Perform any maintenance and repairs that may be needed. Take your regulator into the dive shop for an inspection and service. If you can't remember when you put the battery in your dive computer, go ahead and replace it. Better now than after your computer stops working during that first dive on the Spiegel Grove in July because the battery dies.

Thoroughly rinse out the inside of the air bladder on your BCD. Who knows what may be growing in there! Unscrew, clean, inspect, and lubricate with silicone grease the connections and gaskets on your BCD for the low-pressure inflator and the air dump valve(s).

Check the straps on your fins and mask. Are any of them getting a little worn? Do you have any equipment that is getting a little past its prime? Is your name or initials clearly marked on all of your gear? Organize all of your dive gear and see if there is any equipment that you need to add to your dive bag? Like a battery-powered tank light for night dives. Or an extra flashlight. Or missing spare parts for your "save-a-dive" kit.

Bone up on your dive knowledge. Get out the course books and notes from the dive classes you have taken and look over them. (You didn't throw them away once you got your C-card, did you?) Renew your knowledge and skills. Maybe take a refresher course. It's easy to get rusty on the little things you don't do very often, and you never know when one of those little things might be important. And if your book is more than 10 or 15 or 20 years old, think about going down to your dive shop and getting a new one. Things change over time!

Resolve to break some bad habits you may have fallen into over the years. Do you always make a minimum three-minute safety stop at 15 to 20 feet on every dive, even when you don't really "need" to? Do you always get to the safety stop with at least 500-700 psi in your tank? Do you always ascend at no more than 60 feet per minute (or even better, at no more than 30 feet per minute), especially in the last 20 feet before the surface after the safety stop? Do you periodically check yourself for proper weighting at the end of a dive to make sure you aren't over or under weighted? Do you remember how to check yourself for proper weighting? Do you listen carefully to the pre-dive briefing, and ask questions if there is

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

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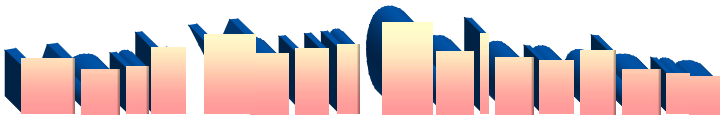
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something you don't understand? Do you plan each dive carefully and completely with your dive buddy, and then dive the plan you both agree to?

Yes, take this opportunity to get ready for diving in 2005. You've got lots of time, so use it wisely. Get all of your gear . . . and get you . . . ready to go. Don't wait until you're loading up the truck to drive down to the Fling to discover you can only find one bootie, all of your flash-light bulbs are burned out, and your tank's annual visual inspection has expired.

And don't wait too long. We plan to have an event or two early in the year to give you a chance to check out your gear in the water. Be ready.

Well, gotta go . . . get ready for diving in 2005!



*** **BAD's Annual Camping, Picnic and Treasure Hunt at Blue Lagoon in Huntsville, TX** is scheduled for July 16 & 17, 2005. Get your camping, treasure hunting dive gear and good times hat on because this promised to be another great trip to Blue Lagoon. This has proven to be a well liked event over the last couple of years. So don't miss this, plan to bring your drinks and some type of food to share.

Next:

BAD is trying a new event this year. On Clear Lake, July 4th, some BAD members will be putting their boats in the water and inviting other Bad members to join them to watch the fire works celebration. The plan is to tie the boats together so we may move among the boats as we visit and watch the fireworks. If you have a boat you want to add to the list and/or want to sign up as a boat rider, please contact me and let me add your name to the list.

Third Item:

Diving, camping and canoeing weekend trip to New Braunsfels. The BAD BOD would like to see this brought back for the membership. This will probably happen in the early part of the summer. For this to happen there needs to be a reasonable amount of interest from the membership. If you plan to attend this event, not just 'well, I might go', please let me hear from you as soon as possible.

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"TIME TO UNWIND"

Are your dive magazines so worn and dog-eared that you can't read them anymore? Do you need a water-break from your job and the boss? I have the answer to your winter woes.

Rebecca and Dennis at **W.W. Diving**, have graciously offered their indoor pool to B.A.D's for a get wet, tune up dive day. The water is a Caribbean 87*, 10' deep and best of all, is wet and wonderful. Their generosity also includes air and tanks for those of us who do not own their own tanks.

We have the pool reserved for us on **Sunday April 3rd from 1:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.** This should give you plenty of time to do at least three to four dives and suck down a tank of air (remember the pool is only 10' deep, compute that).

W.W. Diving is located in a short strip center at 1307 First Street in Humble TX, which is just one block off of 1960. The store is highly visible from First Street and the entrance is at the backside of the parking lot. Just look for all of the happy diver smiley faces behind the big plate glass window in the front of the building. Also I am sure Dennis will be more than happy to provide (sell) you any merchandise that you may see in the store.

So clear your calendars pack up your dive gear and be a participant in a guaranteed great day in the W.W. Diving pool. Let's show our club spirit by attending this big BAD tune up day and also support Rebecca and Dennis in return for their gracious and continued support of BAD's.

"Let's Get Wet" Larry Albritton



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CoCo View Resort Trip October 22-29, 2005

Hello fellow BADDies we are going back to CCV this fall and you are invited to come join us. If you go to the BAD web Page and click on "Events" there is a full description of the October 22-29,2005 CoCo View trip. www.bayareadivers.org The trip includes airfare, transfers, taxes, welcome drink, 8 days/7 nights lodging, 3 meals per day, 2 boat trips per day (2 tanks per trip), unlimited beach diving, wall diving, shallow water diving, one night picnic, one night BBQ on the cay, A/C rooms, kayak races, crab races and additional shore activities. Go to CoCo Views web page www.cocoviewresort.com and check it out. Be sure to click on "Resort" then click on "Web Cam" for a live picture of the "Front Yard" dive area right out in front of the clubhouse. This web cam only works during the day. We have 14 spots reserved that week and 6 spots are already taken so be sure to contact me for your spot soon.



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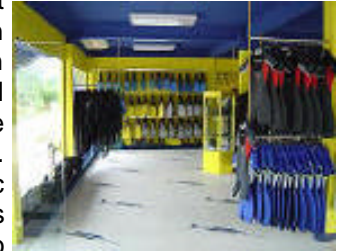
(1/2 mile west of Beltway 8 – Behind Church's Fried Chicken)



DIVING THE TSUNAMI

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Phuket Thailand. Fourteen recreational scuba divers completed a normal decent at Richelieu Rock on December 26, 2004 when an incredibly strong whirlpool swept divers deeper while separating the buddy teams. Creating unexpected havoc in a school of whale sharks and reducing visibility to poor, some of the divers began realizing that a huge wave had just gone over the dive site. All fourteen divers made safe ascents and found each other at the surface.



At the same time at another dive site, an American scuba diver and her husband were oblivious to the extent of the disaster. Faye Wachs said she "had no idea what was going on until after they surfaced". Their Divemaster received a text message from his wife suggesting the enormity of the situation. As the boat returned to shore, the Wachs saw bodies floating past them in this resort paradise.



Some divers at even other dive sites reported that they were below as the wave past over. They were so un-affected that they completed the dive and actually went on to make a second dive before the boat crew realized how widespread the devastation was. Some reefs suffered severe damage while others appear to be totally unchanged by the wrath of Mother Nature.

The photos to the right are the Andaman Scuba Dive Center before and after the Tsunami.

January B.A.D. Specials

For those of you that didn't make it to the January General Membership meeting you missed an exceptional deal on wetsuits. WW Diving presented those of us at the meetings an opportunity to purchase 3ml suits. A combo shorty and long john for men was \$150. A ladies combo shorty and long jane was \$140, with the shorty alone selling for \$80. Hope you didn't need a suit and were not at the meeting. See you in February.

Beverly

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Deadline for article submission for next month is: **March 6, 2005** E-Mail javan@wt.net

BAD BOD MEETING—FEBRUARY 1, 2005

The only thing I can say is, you should have been there. It was a great meeting with quite a few BAD's showing up to eat and take part in the meeting.

Mike brought it to order and the fun began with a review of the agenda and the reading of the previous meeting minutes. Fred gave the Treasurer's report (we are rich) and a motion for approval was asked for with a 1st by Jim Delane and a 2nd by Butch Shannon.

A charitable contribution of \$400.00 was approved to last months minutes and was accepted with a 1st by Butch Shannon and 2nd by Fred Swerdlin.

As I said in the newsletter last month, we are a dive club and it is time to get wet. Most of the meeting was spent coming up with ideas for monthly local diving activities.

Pool day at W.W. Diving has been graciously offered by Rebecca and Dennis and of course we accepted. The exact Sunday date will be announced by Mike.

Diving/BBQ Day at Twin Lakes is also going to be on the agenda. This one could probably turn into a week-ender. (FUN)

PeeWee, Butch, and I will be scouting out the bayou location for the "Great Crab Hunt" for the club.

Joe Neeley and Jim Delane are going to Moody Gardens to get approval for a behind the scenes tour for us. Beverly would like to hear from Baddies who would like being on the lake in a boat for a close up look at the 4th of July fireworks.

Kenneth Kimmey has a boat and is willing to take Baddies for a Gulf day dive at a very fair price.

Open house next month will be a little different this year. Vendors will be allowed to sell their wares so dig into the cookie jar and support them by buying that piece of dive gear you have been wanting.

The date for our "Annual Blue Lagoon Dive/Picnic/Campout" will be out soon. Beverly is working on it.

TASS/Ski Clubs "beach weekend" this summer was mentioned by Mike. Sounds like a fun packed weekend.

All good things must end so a motion was made to adjourn with a 1st by Butch Shannon and a 2nd by Rowe Henry.

I told you it was a good meeting. Do you have an idea for a club get together or something you want to talk about or just can't find a date for that night. Then get on over to Ryan's on the first Tuesday of the month, have dinner with us and help make the club a better place to be. We need you! "Let's get wet a lot this summer"

Larry Albritton

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BAD Charitable Contributions in 2005

by Mike White

As we discussed at the January BAD meeting, the 2005 BAD budget contains \$400 for charitable contributions in 2005. Although BAD has donated to certain charitable causes in the past, no specific charity or cause was designated in the 2005 budget, because the Board wants input from the current BAD membership on what charities and causes you think the club should support. We have already received a few suggestions, but I want to remind and encourage everyone to tell the Board what you think. We will discuss this again at the February meeting, and the Board plans to approve the specific contributions at the March Board meeting. Therefore, if you have a suggestion, send a note to me or another Board member, come to the February BAD meeting and offer up your suggestion, or come to the March Board

BAD AFTER MEETING GATHERING

by Beverly Cutler



How about we gather at **Boondoggles** in Seabrook for snacks and more socializing??? It is located on NASA Rd. 1, near highway 146. Plan to have even more fun and socializing. **See you there!**

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Bay Area Divers

P.O. Box 58404

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Catch us on the web at:

WWW.BAYAREADIVERS.ORG

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Contact Bill Jones: Bjones@houston.rr.com

Open Water Diver Class- (for those new to Scuba you earn the Certification Card you need) April 14–24 (in Webster area)

Advanced Open Water Diver Class- Pre-Req: Open Water Diver or equiv. April 23 (Blue Lagoon) (Requires an additional deep dive for Certification).

Enriched Air Nitrox EANx Class- Pre-Req: Open Water Diver or equiv April 19–23

First Aid/Emergency First Response- with Wendy, April 12–14 (in Webster area)

Rescue Class- April 18–24 (in Webster area), & (Blue Lagoon)

Other Speciality Class- April 233 (in Huntsville-Blue Lagoon)

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

DiverMaster, Assistant Instructor, Instructor Development Course Email Bjones@houston.rr.com for details.