



NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

October 2005

The BAD Calendar

October, 2005

- 1 **Trashfest**
- 4 BAD BOD Meeting
- 3-7 DEMA—Las Vegas
- 15 **BAD Flea Market**
- 22-29 CoCo View-Randy Widaman
- 26 BAD General Membership Meeting &



Halloween Contest

- 31 **Happy Halloween**

November, 2005

- 8 BAD BOD Meeting
- 12 **BAD Anniversary Party**
- 24 **Happy Thanksgiving**
- 30 BAD General Membership Meeting



December, 2005

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 **Merry Christmas**



January, 2006

- 1 **Happy New Year**
- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

February, 2006

- 7 BAD BOD Meeting
- 22 BAD General Membership Meeting



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

October Guest Speaker: We have once again invited one of our local divers to bring us a wonderful digital show. Jesse Concelmo from Houston, Texas and the HUPS dive club has graciously agreed to come down and give us one of his presentations. At press time Jesse had not come up with a topic so it will be a surprise. So be sure to mark your calendar and come to this our last club meeting with a guest presentation. Be sure to invite a guest to join you.

August Guest Speaker: We want to thank James Wiseman for coming down from North Houston to give us a great presentation on his recent trip to the Bahamas and diving with the sharks. As in the past James has again brought to the club a wonderful presentation and we again thank him for the show.

October

Randy Widaman	Oct. 2
Karen Solis	Oct. 6
Donald Pallesen	Oct. 11
Cliff Dominey	Oct. 15
Bill Jones	Oct. 16
Wendy Whitehouse	Oct. 19
Richard Rowe	Oct. 20
Don Vanderslice	Oct. 26
Joe Neely	Oct. 28
Jim Delane	Oct. 30
Manual Garza	Oct. 29
Mike White	Oct. 30



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.

Welcome



NEW BAD Members

Thomas & Ann Marye Doolin,
Holde Elizondo, Kathryn Hartman,
Mikki & David Johle, R. Paul & Brandon Bird,
William Max Fink, Manual Garza,
Bill & Ginny Pettinati,
Dustin & Rachael Porter

BAD Members News Flash!!!



Bay Area Divers **Larry Albritton** has been missing in action, not only has he been working additional hours that have been taking him out of town during the week, he spends his weekend studying and training to earned his **Divemaster Certifications!**

Congratulations to Larry for continuing his diving education.

This is a repeat from last month due to editor's error.

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!**

November

Sylvia Resch Nov. 3
Christina Rushing Nov. 5
Howard Bartels Nov. 6
Jesse Cancelmo Nov. 9
James Hale Nov. 10
Dennis Camp Nov. 13
Barb Jenkins Nov. 13
Todd Rushing Nov. 28
Ann Marye Doolin Nov.30



Contest

Every time your name/or picture has been entered in the newsletter you receive a point. The way to get you name in the newsletter is to get involved. We have several events coming up. The Winner will receive they prize at the January meeting.

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors		
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Deadline for article submission for next month is: **November 6th, 2005** E-Mail javan@wt.net

30th Annual BAD Flea Market

Thanks to all the BAD volunteers for making the 30th Annual BAD Flea Market a great success.

I want to thank all the volunteers for helping out at the flea market this year. From start to finish, y'all were great. This event would not happen if not for your hard work. One vendor was so please with the help he had loading and unloading that he donated fins and mask for those volunteers that showed up and helped with the unloading. We have some great vendors who participated in the show.

I talked with the vendors and they were happy with the turnout. There were lots of deals and people walked out with lots of new and used gear. I know I bought a lot of stuff I cannot live without. I was surprised since I thought I had everything I needed but some things you just cannot pass up.

We could not have asked for better weather. It was warm, blue sky and a slight breeze. There was a large and steady flow of people throughout the morning and early afternoon. It all stopped about the time the Astros started to play.

This was an excellent event because of the BAD people who helped out. Please remember the vendors who participated and give them your business. When you need air or need gear, support them because they support us.

This year's vendors included:

Ascuba Venture, Inc. 6121 S. Padre Island Dr.,
Corpus Christi, TX 78412 361-985-1111

Baytown's Budget Scuba 5103 E. Wallisville Rd.
Baytown, TX 77521 281-421-2018

Discover Scuba 2307 Dunlavy Houston, TX 77006
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Dive & Sail Sports 4100 Westheimer, Suite 241
Houston, TX 77027 713-622-2660

Dive Shop 1 506A South First Street Lufkin, TX 75901
936-632-3483

Divers Paradise 20801 Gulf Frwy., Suite 10 Webster, TX
77598 281-332-9982

Gigglin Marlin Divers 2211 Richmond Ave. Houston, TX
77098 281-445-3483

International Scuba 2540 Marsh Ln., Suite 128
Carrollton, TX 75006 972-416-8400

Moody Gardens One Hope Blvd. Galveston, TX 77554
409-683-4926

Scubaland Adventures 1001 West Anderson Ln Austin,
TX 78757 512-323-6999

W.W. Diving 1307 First St. Humble, TX 77338
281-540-1616

Thanks again and let's do it again next year,
Jim Delane 2005 BAD Flea Market Coordinator

Half of Coral Reefs Could Be Destroyed

Conservation Group Says Half of Coral Reefs Could Be Destroyed in 40 Year

AP Associated Press **The Associated Press**
Sent to me by Jim Ward

BANGKOK, Thailand Oct 25, 2005 — Nearly half of the world's coral reefs may be lost in the next 40 years unless urgent measures are taken to protect them against the threat of climate change, according to a new report released Tuesday by the World Conservation Union.

The Swiss-based organization called for the establishment of additional marine protected areas to prevent further degradation by making corals more robust and helping them resist bleaching.

"Twenty percent of the earth's coral reefs, arguably the richest of all marine ecosystems, have been effectively destroyed today," said Carl Gustaf Lundin, head of the agency's marine environment program who helped write the report "Coral Reef Resilience and Resistance to Bleaching."

"Another 30 percent will become seriously depleted if no action is taken within the next 20-40 years, with climate change being a major factor for their loss," he said in a statement.

Coral bleaching is caused by increased surface temperatures in the high seas and higher levels of sunlight caused by climate change. As temperatures rise, the algae on which corals depend for food and color die out, causing the coral to whiten, or "bleach."

Prolonged bleaching conditions over ten weeks can eventually lead to the death of the coral.

"Current predictions are that massive coral bleaching will become a regular event over the next 50 years," Lundin said.

In its report, the organization said that marine parks reduce the stress on coral reef ecosystems by reducing the impact of pollution and overfishing.

The report also recommends a strategy for the establishment of a global marine park network in the face of climate change, covering all important marine ecosystems including coral reefs.

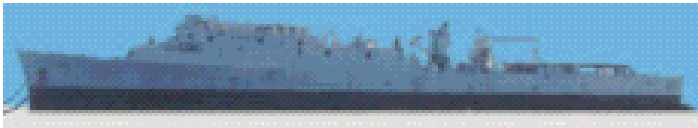
Other key strategies to enable coral reefs to be more resilient to bleaching are sustainable fisheries management and integrated coastal management, the report found.



Nature Fixes Man's Goof

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Key Largo, Florida: The **USS Spiegel Grove**



became the focus of worldwide attention when its deliberate sinking to create an artificial reef and dive site was botched. The ship prematurely sunk, rolled over, and came to rest on its starboard side on May 17, 2002. Three weeks later, a salvage team managed to fully sink the vessel and stabilize it.

When the eye of Hurricane Dennis passed 90 miles west of the Keys in July 2005, the storm rocked the ship causing it to roll again and now sit up-right in its initially planned position! **"I'm flabbergasted"**, said Rob Bleser, the volunteer Project Director, after his dive on the newly oriented ship. **"Nature took its course and put it where it belongs"**.

In spite of the initial fiasco, the Spiegel Grove has become the most popular artificial wreck in the Florida Keys. It is home to more than 160 different species, according to Lad Akins, Executive Director of the Reef Environmental Education Foundation.

The Spiegel Grove is considered an advanced dive because of the strong currents and its depth. Many dive centers caution novice divers against diving on it. A \$10 token is required for the dive.

The USS Spiegel Grove is a Navy Landing Ship Dock (LSD 32), that was sunk to create an artificial reef in the waters near Dixie Shoal, six miles off Key Largo. The vessel is 510 feet in length and 84 feet wide making it the largest intentionally sunk ship in the world. The ship rests in 130 feet of water.

Secrets of Largest Fish Revealed

Last Updated: Monday, 26 September 2005, 11:29 GMT 12:29 UK
(Sent to me by Jim Ward)

Hi-tech electronic tags on whale sharks, the world's largest fish, have revealed how and where they find food.

Researchers in Belize have tracked the sharks as they dive almost a kilometre in search of food, and find shoals of spawning fish in order to eat the eggs. The sharks grow to 20m in length and are listed as vulnerable to extinction



Knowledge of the whale shark's behaviour can help tailor conservation policies
Rachel Graham

The researchers believe their findings will help to plan tourism operations around whale sharks in a way that does not harm the creatures themselves.

These new, unprecedented insights into the whale sharks' world come from the Belize Barrier Reef, the world's second largest barrier reef system and a site given UN World Heritage status.

"Our study showed that sharks dive much deeper than previously believed, reaching depths of over 1,000m in search of food," said Rachel Graham, of the US-based Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

"Water this only a few degrees above freezing; and this explains why tropical whale sharks have an insulating fat layer just below their skins, something which has perplexed scientists for years."

Day or night

During the night, the sharks. Generally remain in shallow Water, feeding off plankton, And reserving deep dives for the heat of the day.

Close encounters with a Gentle giant





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Deep dives often end with a high-speed ascent, perhaps to deliver a burst of oxygen to their bodies after a period in deeper, less oxygenated water.

Around the time of the full moon, Cuba snappers come together near the shore to spawn, forming huge masses of spawning bodies in a "soup" of freshly-released eggs.

For the whale sharks, this is a feast, and they swim through the egg soup time and time again, filling their giant mouths with snapper caviar.

This habit of surfacing during spawning allowed the scientists to attach electronic tags to the whale sharks.

The tags make regular recordings of temperature, water pressure and light level. After a pre-programmed period, they automatically detach from the shark, float to the surface and beam their data back as an e-mail via satellite.

Slow and easy

The whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) is found globally, both in open water and near shore.



Despite its huge size, it eats plankton rather than people, and its slow movements make it easy to catch by harpoon or net.

Hunted primarily for fins, the whale shark is vulnerable to extinction

IUCN, the World Conservation Union, lists the whale shark as "vulnerable" in its Red List of threatened species.

Owing to a demand for fins, trade in its parts is now regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

However, a different industry is now growing in some parts of the world, including Belize, using the creature as a tourist attraction.

"Knowledge of the whale shark's dive behaviour can help us tailor conservation policies in a way which minimises impact on them," Dr Graham told the BBC News website.

"We now know that the spawnings, the predictable pulses of food, are important enough to the shark that they change their regular behaviour to make use of them.

"So protection of the critical habitat that these feeding sites represent, and of the sharks when they're visiting, is key to sustaining the sharks."

The WCS and University of York scientists publish their findings in the Royal Society's journal *Interface*.

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SNAPPER ALLA CARIBBEAN

Recipe

½ Cup Grape Seed Oil Juice of 1 lime
½ Small red onion, finely diced
¼ Cup cilantro leaves
2 Garlic cloves, minced ½ tsp.
Minced jalapeno ½ tsp.
Minced small red chile ½ tsp.
Dried oregano ½ tsp kosher salt
6 (1 ½ lb.) red snapper filets
1 Cup semolina flour for dredging
¼ Cup Grape seed oil (for pan)

Combine the oil, lime juice, onion, cilantro, garlic, jalapeno, red chile, oregano and salt in a blender. Process until mixed, but not puréed. Place the fish in a non-reactive shallow dish and cover with half of the chile mixture. Marinate 30 minutes to one hour.

Remove the fish from the marinade and wipe dry with paper towels. Dredge in the flour until lightly coated on both sides. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-heat. Add the fish and cook until browned on both sides, about 3 minutes per side. Transfer to a serving dish and top with remaining chile mixture.

Bay Area Divers

P.O. Box 58404

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Catch us on the web at:

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