

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

## **July 2006**

**July 26 Meeting - 7:30pm** Guest speaker is Joan David with [Sharks.org](http://Sharks.org) Expect to learn about the peaceful giants of the sea—the whale shark. Where they are found, how they live and when is the best time to see them.

**Thanks!** Guest speaker Carol Allen with H.E.A.R.T. - Help Endangered Animals - Ridley Turtles for the presentation at the general meeting June 28th.

These sea turtles are amazing and the efforts done by Carol and others to bring these wonderful creatures back from the brink of extinction is truly heroic. The shots of the baby turtles release on Sunday June 25, 2006 were great.

### **The BAD Calendar**

#### **July, 2006**

- 11 BAD BOD Meeting
- 15 & 16 Blue Lagoon Underwater Treasurer Hunt
- 26 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### **August, 2006**

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 23 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### **September, 2006**

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### **October, 2006**

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 7 Trashfest
- 14 BAD Flea Market — Jim DeLane
- 14 Ambergris Caye — Tom Doolin
- 21 Coco View Resort— Randy Widaman
- 21 Haunted Tour of Houston
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### **November, 2006**

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 18 BAD Anniversary Party
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

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



**JULY**

Ja Van Pruett	July 5
Kyle Luzny	July 6
Dustin Porter	July 8
Don Eubanks	July 9
David Johle	July 10
Linda Furlong	July 11
Shelly Luzny	July 11
Ginny Pettinati	July 11
Greg Trevino	July 13
Natascha Cox	July 25



### **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.

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Beverly Cutler



Yes it is getting hot out there, what better excuse to Get Wet?

## BAD ACTIVITIES

We still have space on the back table for Trip Flyers from other organizations, business and individuals to promote their trips. This helps keep our members informed of Trips that are being offered. Randy Weidaman is hosting a Hyperbaric tour on August 12, 2006. See him to sign up as space is limited. October 7 is Trashfest in New Braunsfels and we already have 8 people who have committed to being there for the fun, comerodery and competition. See **Rowe Henry** for to sign up. He will help you with getting on a team if you are not already signed up with a team. **October 14 is BAD's Annual Flea Market.** Jim DeLane will be coordinating the event. Beverly will have a signup sheet at the July BAD general membership meeting if you have a particular time and/ or place you want to volunteer for. AND, again Don Barnes will be turning out his wonderful briskets and chicken. Tom Doolin's Ambergris Caye, Belize, trip will leave on October 14, 2006. Randy Weidaman's trip to CoCoView is October 21, 2006. Look out for the October 21 Haunted Tour of Houston. At the October 25, 2006 General Membership Meeting we will be electing our Diver of the Year. This has been moved up 1 month so that this award can be presented at BAD's Anniversary Party in November. Also, our Costume Contest for BAD Members will take place October 25 so get your thinking/diving caps on. Jim Delane is looking for places to advertise our club and the Flea Market. If you have suggestions contact him at [Jimdelane@bayarea Divers.org](mailto:Jimdelane@bayarea Divers.org). Nov. 18, is our Anniversary Party that Randy

### Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

President	Beverly Cutler	<a href="mailto:bcutler@pdq.net">bcutler@pdq.net</a>
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Sales:	Verna Shannon	<a href="mailto:butch@pdq.net">butch@pdq.net</a>

### WEBSITE:

<http://www.bayareadivers.org>

# Membership Renewal

**New Members—** Richard Abel, Thomas & Lidia Arena, Anthony Berry, Thomas & Ann Marie Doolin, Holde Elizondo, Patty Gaubatz, Tanya & Chung, Christopher Gorguraki, Kathryn Hartman, Harrold Henck, Susie Hutchinson, Scott, Mary, Shelly, Kyle Luzny, Emsley Haywood Phifer, Nanette & Bechham, Joel & Jake Skelly

is hosting. Contact any Board Member for tickets.

It is time for us to start thinking about BAD Officers for 2007. We are searching for a Nominations Committee Chairperson. If you would like to volunteer for this Committee please contact me before the Aug. BAD BOD. Thanks! Also, be thinking about running for an office with the BAD BOD. There are 8 positions on the BAD BOD please consider filling one of the positions. They are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and 3 Board Positions. No we are not all abandoning the BOD, but, if you would like to run for an office. Contact the Nominations Committee Chairperson in a few weeks.

BAD BOD meets at 7PM the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at Ryans Steak House on Bay Area Blvd near Hwy 3 unless that falls on a Holiday or behind a 3-day weekend. Everyone is invited – come on and join us as your input is valuable to this organization. Some of us will be there at 6 or 6:15 PM for dinner and socializing before the meeting begins. See you there.

### Agenda for August BAD BOD

- ◆ *More Events*
- ◆ *Retain & Acquire more members.*
- ◆ *Discussion on possible movement of BAD's General Membership meeting to a Friday night.*
- ◆ *Nominations Committee Chairman.*

*Please take note that this agenda will probably be changing as the month progresses.*

**KEEP BLOWING THOSE BUBBLES!!!**

### May After Meeting Gathering

Don't forget about our After Meeting Gathering after the May General Membership Meeting. Everyone seems to be enjoying Boondoggles so let's meet there again.



If you have suggestions about where to gather in the future let me know. Please keep in mind that the location should be somewhere fairly close to our meeting location. Cell 713-898-9413

Deadline for article submission for next month is **August 6th, 2006** E-Mail [aladyfish@verizon.net](mailto:aladyfish@verizon.net)

# B.A.D.'S 4TH ANNUAL BLUE LAGOON PICNIC AND UNDERWATER TREASURE HUNT

By Beverly Cutler

Happened July 15 & 16, 2006 at Blue Lagoon north of Huntsville, TX. Comedery and good food abounded along with lots of underwater dive time available. Some past members joined us and gave a healthy donation in their support of the club. Unfortunately, Larry Albriton's job keeps him away during the week so they are not able to make our meetings. It was great seeing and diving with Larry and Blanche again. Jim DeLane provided a pit to cook food on, as well as providing some of the food, Thanks Jim. We had hamburgers, sirloin roast and chicken for dinner Sat. evening before the Under Water Treasure Hunt. The Treasure Hunt was great fun as no one was in a hurry to leave that evening. Door Prizes were plentiful again this year. **Thank You's** go out to **Divers Paradise and Linda Furlong** for donations to the Treasure Hunt. Sunday morning we awoke to fix Breakfast Tacos and more diving. This was an enjoyable and laid back event. Thanks to all that participated in and supported this event.

## URGENT RECALL

### Suunto D6, D9 Dive Computers

Date: 2006-06-16

Suunto has announced a recall of some D6 and D9 dive computers due to a software bug that causes the affected units to track dive time incorrectly.

- ◆ D9 serial numbers 62102582 and below
- ◆ D6 serial numbers 62103693 and below

Owners of the affected Suunto D6 and D9 dive computers should stop using the defective units immediately and contact Suunto and/or their local dealers for software updates.

For contact information please visit our web site [www.suunto.com](http://www.suunto.com) If that is not possible or if you require any further details, contact the Suunto Help Desk at [SuuntoD9-D6@nordictelecenter.fi](mailto:SuuntoD9-D6@nordictelecenter.fi) To contact Suunto by

### Scubapro X650 Regulator

Date: 2006-06-07

The recall affects **Scubapro X650** second stage regulators sold from June 2005 through May 2006.

A manufacturing error could cause the main housing of some regulators to change shape over time, which could cause the cover and diaphragm to become dislodged. If this occurs, air flow will be interrupted and the regulators will no longer function, posing a drowning hazard to users.

Consumers should stop using the product immediately and contact **Scubapro®** to determine if they have an affected second stage regulator. If so, they will receive a free replacement regulator. The company is contacting registered owners of the product directly.

Consumer Contact: For more information, contact **Scubapro®** at (800) 808-3948 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday or visit their Web site at [www.scubapro.com](http://www.scubapro.com). Firm's Media Contact: Cynthia Georgeson at (262) 631-6600.

### Oceanic Dive Computer


Date: 2006-05-03

Oceanic has announced a recall of all Oceanic Versa Pro revision 2A Digital Dive Computers due to reports that displayed Elapsed Dive Time can be in excess of actual elapsed time.

Owners of Oceanic Versa Pro 2A dive computers affected by the recall should return the units to their local dealers or directly to Oceanic.

Locate an Authorized Oceanic Dealer closest to you. Instructions for returns direct to the factory.

Should you have any questions, please contact our toll free Recall Helpline at (888) 854-4960 or locally at (510) 562-0500 between 8 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday Pacific Time.



**Any Member of the Bay Area Dive Club can run an add for as long as you would like.**  
**Business Card size would be \$10.00 a month**  
**Double Business card size would be \$20.00 a month.**  
**Please contact Editor @[aladyfish@verizon.net](mailto:aladyfish@verizon.net)**

# Researchers hope to learn more about whale sharks

Posted on Sun, Jul. 09, 2006

## Migration on list of items to study

By AL JONES

[afjones@sunherald.com](mailto:afjones@sunherald.com)

OCEAN SPRINGS - When it comes to the Gulf of Mexico, fish and creatures of all sizes swim daily during the survival of the fittest. That's why the bottom of the food chain begins with shrimp, baitfish and mullet.



It ends with the largest fish - and shark - in the world, the whale shark.

A recent trip deep into the Gulf of Mexico by biologists Dr. Eric Hoffmayer and Dr. Jim Franks of the Gulf Coast Research Lab in Ocean Springs and Dr. Trey Driggers of the National Marine Fisheries Service in Pascagoula was centered around the gentle giant. With four satellite tags in fish currently swimming in the Gulf of Mexico, the biologists hope to determine more about the fish in terms of migration and actual swimming depths. The tags will pop off the whale sharks in three months and a signal with important data will be sent to satellites.

"We are taking a chance with this," Hoffmayer said. "The satellites don't always work. We don't have any results.

"The idea is we don't know anything about the whale shark in terms of migration."

Here's a quick look at the whale shark.

Unlike most sharks, the mouth is on the front of the head, not on the underside, and can be four feet wide.



The whale shark has light yellow markings (random stripes and dots) on its thick, dark gray skin, which can be four inches thick.

According to the book "Sharks, Skates, and Rays of the Gulf of Mexico," the whale shark can grow to 65 feet in length and is no threat to humans. The whale shark is a filter feeder on large amounts of plankton through its gills while swimming and are often seen cruising the surface with the mouth open.

Whale sharks are found from New York to central Brazil and are very common in the Gulf. The monster

fish have been sighted around gas and oil rigs off the Mississippi Coast and south of the mouth of the Mississippi River and over to eastern Texas.

The population has declined and the whale shark is protected by U.S. and international law.

The litter size is more than 300 pups born at 1.8 to 2.1 feet in length.

The whale shark was first identified in 1828 off the coast of South Africa. The family name, Rhincodon typus, wasn't finalized until 1984. The docile fish has a life span between 60 and 150 years and they don't reach maturity until they are 30 feet long, which is between the age of 20 and 25.

Al Jones can be reached at 896-2351 or at [afjones@sunherald.com](mailto:afjones@sunherald.com)

## Two Resort Owners Pass:

June 2006

Daniel Tibbetts, 52, who built the Little Cayman Beach Resort in 1991, passed away in June. He also built the Conch Club Condominiums and owned Reef Divers, the dive operation for the Brac Reef Beach Resort, a family-owned business. He purchased Bob Soto's Diving on Grand Cayman in 2001, which became a casualty of Hurricane Ivan in 2004. . . .Coco View founder Bill Evans died in April. He founded Coco View in 1982 and managed the business with his wife, Evelyn, until its

## Memorial Hermann Hyperbaric Tour

By Randy Widaman

We have scheduled a tour of the Hyperbaric Chamber facility at Memorial Hermann hospital. The date is August 12, 2006 at 9:00am The tour is limited to 20 people so if you are interested and want to go let Capt. Randy know ASAP so you are guaranteed a spot. The tour will include a power point presentation and a tour of their chamber. Directions to the facility will be sent out as the trip gets closer to the actual date

Prices, Dates, & Specifications  
are subject to change until purchased

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Prices and Specifications Subject to Change until Purchased,

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& Experience

Signed Liability Releases Required

Contact Bill Jones: [bjones@houston.rr.com](mailto:bjones@houston.rr.com)

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Website: [www.wwdive.com](http://www.wwdive.com)



## CoCoView Resort Trip October 21-28, 2006

*By Captain Randy*

Come join me, Captain Randy Widaman (M/V Fling) and 13 other guest to CoCoView Resort on beautiful Roatan, Bay Island Honduras October 21-28, 2006. The trip includes round trip airfare from Houston IAH airport, transfers to and from the resort, 7 nights lodging and 6 days of diving, welcome drink, 3 meals a day, a BBQ picnic on the cay weather permitting, 2 boat trips per day with each boat trip having 2 dives each, unlimited beach diving day or night. We have 2 Bungalows and 5 A/C rooms reserved. Not included in the price is Roatans departure tax, tips, your drink tab, land tours, and gifts for the folks back home. We will soon have a flyer out on the BAD web page [www.bayareadivers.org](http://www.bayareadivers.org) so check it out under "events". For further info call Randy Widaman 281-338-8808 home/fax or 832-264-8047 cell. My email address is [cap10randy@houston.rr.com](mailto:cap10randy@houston.rr.com) You can also check out CoCoView's web page at [www.cocoviewresort.com](http://www.cocoviewresort.com) I have been to a lot of places diving and I honesty have to say this is the best, so come join me for a fun filled week of great diving and relaxation.

Deadline for article submission for next month is **August 16th, 2006** E-Mail [aladyfish@verizon.net](mailto:aladyfish@verizon.net)

**Bay Area Divers**

**P.O. Box 58404**

**Houston, TX 77258**

*Catch us on the web at:*

**Www.bayareadivers.org**

*Dive Smart!*  
**Dive Safe!**  
*Dive Happy!*

## **B.A.D. B.O.D. BRIEFS July 11, 2006**

*By Beverly Cutler*

All B.A.D. Board members were in attendance as well as several guests. Randy Weidaman will be hosting a trip to Houston's Hyperbaric Chamber at Memorial Herman Hospital on Aug 12, 2006. We have again joined TGCC for 2006. Blue Lagoon Picnic for 2006 has happened. See article in the newsletter for details. Flea Market signup sheet will be passed around at our meeting July 24, 2006. The Board has voted to donate \$100 each to Postage for medical supplies to be shipped to a Honduran Clinic, Divers Alert Network, H.E.A.R.T Sea Turtles here in Galveston and Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network. We have and are again looking at how we can reduce expenses and attract new members. **TRASHFEST!!! We have 8 people who have committed to this event. See Rowe Henry and he will help place you on a team if you don't already have one.** We are also volunteering to help serve food after the event and during awards and door prizes. The Board is continuing to explore other potential events for the club.

## **Texas Clipper in Trouble**

Texas Clipper in trouble, your help urgently needed. The Texas Clipper did indeed settle her stern at her berth in Beaumont. I'm unsure whether the exact cause was a leak, a bilge pump problem, or something else, but she has been fixed and is floating again. However, as a result of this incident MARAD (who currently holds title to her) has decided that maybe she'd be better off **scrapped** and has sent out emergency RFP's to get bids on scrapping her.

PLEASE WRITE MARAD AND LET THEM KNOW TEXAS DIVERS DON'T WANT HER SCRAPPED.

Emails should to to [Ms. Julie Nelson](mailto:julie.nelson@dot.gov) (julie.nelson@dot.gov) with a CC to [Ms. Zoe Washnis](mailto:zoe.washnis@dot.gov) (zoe.washnis@dot.gov).

**Deadline** for article submission for next month is **August 6th, 2006** E-Mail [aladyfish@verizon.net](mailto:aladyfish@verizon.net)

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