



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

### **February 2007**

**February 28 - Social starts at 7pm -  
Meeting at 7:30pm**

**Hope to see you there!  
Guest Speaker to be announced**

#### The BAD Calendar

##### February, 2007

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 28 BAD General Membership Meeting

##### March, 2007

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 28 BAD General Membership Meeting
- 31-4/1 SEASPACE 2007

##### April, 2007

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

##### May, 2007

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 30 BAD General Membership Meeting

##### June, 2007

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

##### July, 2007

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

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



#### **February**

Thomas Doolin	14
Jennifer Parrott	15
Verna Shannon	16
Laura Heiman	17
Randy Heath	19
Sarah Erchinger	20
Harrold Henck	20
Beverly Cutler	21
Barbara Tetley	22
Gary Connella	29
Sue Radoff	29



#### **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 Randy Widaman



Hello! fellow BADies just wanted to first thank all those that came out to our first meeting of the year. The turn out was very good. Those that could not make it missed a good presentation by Jim Morrison on our Texas "Rigs to Reef" program and the latest happening with the preparation of the sinking of the Texas Clipper later this year down on our own Texas coast near South Padre and Brownsville, Texas. I also want to thank those that came and paid for their 2007 club dues. I made and offer to those that paid that night that they would be eligible for a drawing to win a personal gift from me and **the winner was Jack Chambers**. Congratulations Jack. Your gift will be waiting you at our next meeting this month. I also made and offer to any club member to bring in 5 new members this year would also be eligible for a gift at the end of the year. Well Jim Delane has already brought in 3 new members. Thanks Jim and I hope to see more members bring in new guests that eventually join the club. I want to thank Valerie, Dee and Doug for offering to help out on this years Seaspace BAD booth. Also I wanted to thank Ja Van for offering to help out on this years Anniversary party with me. Well I hope to see all those that attended the January meeting back at our February meeting then some. I hope to see some older members come back to our meetings. WE are looking for a few more volunteers to step up and help head up some club activities this year. Tom Doolin has offered to look

## 2007 Officers

### Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

President	Randy Widaman	<a href="mailto:cap10randy@houston.rr.com">cap10randy@houston.rr.com</a>
V. President	Jim Delane	<a href="mailto:Jimdelane@bayareadivers.org">Jimdelane@bayareadivers.org</a>
Secretary	Jim Carmin	<a href="mailto:jim.carmin@us.army.mil">jim.carmin@us.army.mil</a>
Treasurer	Lucinda Guajardo	<a href="mailto:lucinda.guajardo@citihomestx.com">lucinda.guajardo@citihomestx.com</a>
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Board	Butch Shannon	<a href="mailto:butch@pdq.net">butch@pdq.net</a>
Board	Tanya Gorguraki	<a href="mailto:cchung95@yahoo.com">cchung95@yahoo.com</a>
Webmaster:	Jim Delane	<a href="mailto:Jimdelane@bayareadivers.org">Jimdelane@bayareadivers.org</a>
Bartender:	Polly Swerdlin	<a href="mailto:pfollyred@yahoo.com">pfollyred@yahoo.com</a>
Sales:	Verna Shannon	<a href="mailto:butch@pdq.net">butch@pdq.net</a>
<b>WEBSITE:</b> <a href="http://www.bayareadivers.org">www.bayareadivers.org</a> .		

Deadline for article submission for next month is:

## Members & Guests

*Now is the time to renew your membership.*

### Guests & New Members —

**Jack Chambers, Chris & Tanya Chung,  
Chay & Suzette Drab,  
Valerie Lyons, Tiffany Suraco,  
Chiquita Taylor**

into a tour of the Coast Guard station down in Galveston. Let's all have a great year and join in on the greatest club BAD.

Thanks,  
Your President and friend

## We are in need of some Officers

By: Randy Widaman

Hello fellow BADdies. I am sending out this request for **2 vacancies in our Officers and Board of Directors**. Our elected Secretary Jim Carmin has accepted and offer from our military and will be returning to full active service starting in April. Secondly Rowe Henry has purchased a home up in East Texas and will eventually be moving up there. **So I am asking of our membership if there are those out there how would be willing to step up and offer to help fill these 2 positions on the board.**

**BAD's BOARD (BOD) MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO All**, so come on out and join us for our next meeting **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2006** 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**. Come earlier if you would like to eat and visit with some of us prior to the meeting.

**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)**

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**March 11th, 2007** E-Mail [aladyfish@verizon.net](mailto:aladyfish@verizon.net)

# SCUBAMAN

(unknown author – 1997)

FOR SCUBAMAN DIVE SAFETY'S PRIME-  
ALL MUST FIT THE PLACE AND TIME.  
ON RIGHT PROCEDURE LIFE DEPENDS-  
YOU DO NOT WANT A BOUT WITH BENDS.

NEVER DIVE WITHOUT A MATE,  
FOR IF YOU DO YOU MAY TEMPT FATE.  
A DIVE COMPANION MAY JUST BE  
SALVATION IN EXTREMITY.

ALWAYS CHECK YOUR AIR SUPPLY  
YOU SURELY KNOW THE REASON WHY.  
DO NOT STRETCH YOUR TIME BELOW-  
LEAVE WHIN IT IS TIME TO GO.

BUT DO NOT LEAVE THE WATER FAST  
OR YOU MAY MAKE THIS DIVE YOUR LAST.  
SLOWLY TO THE SURFACE RISE,  
PRESSURE ALWAYS EQUALIZE.

WATCH OUT FOR THE STINGING FISH-  
TO QUIT THE SEA THEY'LL MAKE YOU WISH.  
REMEMBER, THOUGH, IT'S THEIR DOMAIN  
AND THEREFORE YOU SHOULD NOT COMPLAIN.

SCUBAMAN INSISTS YOU BE  
CAREFUL, IF YOU HUNT AT SEA.  
MAKE SURE YOUR TARGETS'S VERY CLEAR-  
ANOTHER DIVER DO NOT SPEAR.

THE SEA ALL DIVERS SHOULD PRESERVE-  
NOTHING LESS DOES IT DESERVE.  
SO DO NOT LEAVE YOUR JUNK TO ROT;  
AND NEVER TAKE WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT.

SCUBAMAN FEELS ALL SHOULD BE  
RESPECTFUL OF THE LIVING SEA.  
THE AQUA-WORLD DO NOT DESTROY-  
IT'S THERE FOR OTHERS TO ENJOY.

Sent in by Linda Jorgensen

## BAD AFTER MEETING GATHERING

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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Deadline for article submission for next month is: **March 11th, 2007** E-Mail [aladyfish@verizon.net](mailto:aladyfish@verizon.net)

## W. W. DIVING COMPANY

**Store Hours**  
Monday-Saturday 9am-7pm  
Sunday 12noon-6pm



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Email: [rebecca@wwdive.com](mailto:rebecca@wwdive.com)  
Website: [www.wwdive.com](http://www.wwdive.com)

## CoCoView Resort Trip October 20-27, 2007



By Captain Randy

Come join me, Captain Randy Widaman and 13 other guest to CoCoView Resort on beautiful Roatan, Bay Island Honduras October 20-27, 2007. 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 6 Ocean Front A/C rooms and 1 Cabana A/C room reserved. Not included in the price is Roatans departure tax of \$32.32, tips, your bar 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 Coco View'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.



## Diver Seriously Injured in Oz

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**Sydney Australia.** A 41 year-old male scuba diver suffered a fractured skull on February 11, 2007 while diving near Sydney.

During a "normal ascent", the diver was struck in the head by the propeller of the boat he was using to dive. The diver was airlifted to Gosford Hospital for initial treatment and then CareFlighted by helicopter to Sydney's Royal North Shore Hospital for emergency neurosurgery.

Police said the diver was injured at about 10:00a just off Shelley Beach near "The Entrance" while surfacing.

B.A.D. divers should remember to stay well clear of propellers, even when the engine is not running. While boat operators generally do not engage props while divers are below, it is always prudent to assume that the propeller could begin spinning at anytime. "Prop wash", the current produced by a spinning propeller, could pull or push you into an unsafe situation at any time.

## Diver: How I escaped from shark's jaws

Sent in by Jim Ward

**SYDNEY, Australia** (Reuters) -- An Australian diver on Wednesday told of how he wriggled free from the jaws of a Great White Shark that had half-swallowed him head first, saying he could feel the shark's teeth sink into his weight vest.

"I've never felt fear like it til I was inside those jaws, with those teeth getting dragged across my body," abalone diver Eric Nerhus told the Nine television network from his hospital bed a day after the attack off Australia's south-east coast.

Nerhus, 41, was partly swallowed by the 3-meter (9 foot) shark when it attacked at about 8 meters below the surface, but said he managed managed to fight his way free by jabbing the shark's eye with his free left hand.

"I went straight into its mouth, front onwards. My shoulders, my head and one arm went straight down into its throat. I could feel the teeth crunching up and down on my weight vest," he said.

Nerhus said he was collecting abalone when the shark struck, knocking the regulator, which supplies oxygen,

from his mouth and leaving him inside the shark's open jaws and throat.

"I put my left arm down the side of its face because my head and shoulders and right arm were right down in its throat. Half my body was in its mouth," Nerhus said.

"I felt down to the eye socket with my stiff fingers. I poked my fingers into the eye socket, which the shark reacted to in a way that it opened its mouth a bit, and I just tried to wriggle out."

As he pulled his head from the shark's mouth, it crushed his goggles against his face, leaving Nerhus with a broken nose.

He estimated he was in the shark's grip for up to two minutes. Once free, he grabbed his regulator for air and began to surface slowly, worried the shark circling him would attack again.

"It was just circling around my flippers, around and around in tight circles," he said. "As I was coming up out of the water, it was coming up under my legs."

Nerhus was pulled from the water by his son and other divers in their fishing boat before being flown to hospital, where he was treated for lacerations around his body and his broken nose.

The diver said he was lucky to survive, but he was determined not to die in the jaws of a shark.

"I couldn't think of a worse way to go than to end up as fish food. That's why I fought back. I was determined I didn't want to go like that. I like life too much," he said.

"I'm so fortunate that my survival instincts and reflexes took over."

## Oceanic Worldwide — Announces Voluntary Recall of ATOM 2.0 Wrist Watch Dive Computers



Important safety issue involves ATOM 2.0 wrist watch dive computer. It locks into the Gas Switch-to screen and did not return to the Main Dive screen when the divers switched the units from Gas 1 to Gas d2 during dives when they were only using one Transmitter, and Pressure associated with Gas 2 was being provided by an Analog Gauge. **WARNING: DO NOT CONTINUE USE.**

**Locate an Authorized Oceanic Dealer closest to you or 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

Sent in by Randy Widaman

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## Threat To Ocean Sharks Increases

Sent in by Jim Ward

**The blue shark is declining but not yet considered threatened**

The threat to ocean-going sharks is more severe than previously thought, according to conservation experts.

Scientists with the World Conservation Union, which publishes the Red Lists of Threatened Species, have upgraded the "threat" category of several sharks.

Those now considered "vulnerable to extinction" include the shortfin mako, a favourite of recreational fishermen, and the long-tailed thresher shark.

Scientists say over-fishing is a principal reason for the decline.

The World Conservation Union's (IUCN) shark specialist group announced their re-assessments at a workshop in Oxford, UK.

"Despite mounting threats and evidence of decline, there are no international catch limits for pelagic (ocean-going) sharks," said Sonja Fordham, deputy chair of the shark specialist group and policy director for the Shark Alliance.

"The workshop results underscore the urgent need for international fishery commissions to limit fishing for these vulnerable species and strengthen regulations on the wasteful practice of finning."

Cutting off shark fins, which are prized for soup in some east Asian cultures, is banned in many fisheries. But IUCN says enforcement is often weak.

### Mature problem

Sharks are more vulnerable than many other types of fish to environmental threats because they generally mature slowly and reproduce relatively late in life.

"The qualities of pelagic sharks - fast, powerful, wide ranging - too often lead to a misperception that they are resilient to fishing pressure," commented Sarah Fowler, shark specialist group co-chair.

"But several species are now threatened with extinction on a global scale."



The world's biggest fish, the whale shark, is one of them. Researchers found evidence last year that so many large specimens are being caught that the average length of the fish is falling.

However, many of the most threatened species are found in rivers and coastal waters, with the Ganges shark, the striped dogfish of South America and the European angel shark among those considered "critically endangered".

The new assessment sees the status of the scalloped hammerhead, another coastal species, worsen from "near threatened" to "endangered".

Hammerheads are among the most commonly caught sharks for finning.

Accidental catching by fishermen is as much a threat as targeted fishing.

There is a complex set of criteria for deciding which species go in which category of risk.

"Vulnerable" can mean that species numbers have declined by 50% in 10 years if the main threat is removed, or by 30% if the threat is still present; "critically endangered" can mean a 90% decline over 10 years.

The Oxford workshop is one of a series in which IUCN scientists are aiming to generate a more accurate picture of the threats to sharks and their close cousins, the rays.

Many of these species have not been studied sufficiently for scientists to assess their status, yet threats in the form of fishing and habitat disruption are clearly present.

### AERIS — Announces Voluntary Recall of EPIC Wrist Watch



Safety notice affects AERIS EPIC Wrist Watch dive computer. It locks into the Gas Switch-to screen and did not return to the Main Dive screen when the divers switched the units from Gas 1 to Gas d2 during dives when they were only using one Transmitter, and Pressure associated with Gas 2 was being provided by an Analog Gauge. **WARNING: DO NOT CONTINUE USE.**

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7 Sent in by Randy Widaman

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**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!*



## **CLUB LOGO MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

Hi, I'm Verna the "Shirt Lady". Are you thinking about replacing your Club Shirt, or are you a New Member and would like to have a "BAD" Logo shirt to wear just for fun? I am happy to report that I can help you with all of your "BAD" Fashion Needs. There are lots of styles, colors and sizes to choose from. I can get them made fast and you'll be ready to go in no time.

BAD Patches . . . . . \$ 5 ea  
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Short Sleeve Button Down Dress Shirt . . \$27 ea  
Long Sleeve Button Down Dress Shirt . . \$29 ea

\*Prices slightly higher for XX & XXX sizes

**Something New** - Tee-Shirts . . . . . \$12 ea

(The Tee's have an Angel Fish Photo on the Front and the BAD Dive Flag on the Back)  
See me about the possibility of putting your favorite photo on the front. Available in all sizes

I also have catalogs with of lots of other items you can purchase. Another item that we have available is "BAD" Logo patches. You can sew these on a jacket or bag that you already have.

If you are interested in any of these items, see me at the next club meeting or you can contact me, Verna Shannon at 281 334-7370, or e-mail me at [butch@pdq.net](mailto:butch@pdq.net)

Display your club logo with pride; it's **GOOD TO BE "BAD"**.

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