

The **BAD** Calendar

February, 2009

3 BAD BOD Meeting
14 Valentine's Day
21 TGCC 2009 Annual Banquet—
Bayland Community Center

25 BAD General Membership Meeting

March, 2009

BAD BOD Meeting
 Marine Conservation Research &
 Dive Trip to Belize–Jim Rosborough

 BAD General Membership Meeting

April, 2009

7 BAD BOD Meeting
 TBA 8th Annual Bill Jones 2009

 Cozumel Vacation

 29 BAD General Membership Meeting

May, 2009

5 BAD BOD Meeting27 BAD General Membership Meeting

June, 2009

BAD BOD Meeting
 BAD General Membership Meeting

WEBSITE:

www.bayareadivers.org



NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

February, 2009

February 25, 2009 - General Meeting

Social starts at 7pm - Meeting at 7:30pm

This meeting will be held at Clear Lake Park

Our guest speaker for February will be **Dennis Camp** (aka Capt Waldo). Dennis has been diving in and around Texas since 1968, and has traveled the world sharing dive experiences with many local, regional and international divers. Dennis' presentation will be on the new "Dive across Texas" program being offered through most of the Dive shops in the state of Texas! This is an exciting new program being sponsored by Dive Training magazine, most of the major equipment suppliers and certifying agencies of the recreational scuba industry. The concept is to promote local and regional diving in the state of Texas and bordering Gulf coast. Participants will receive the chance to win over \$10,000 in trips and scuba related prizes. For more information you can go to www.divearoundtexas.com; visit your local dive shop or come to our February meeting and get all the details first hand.

February



Daniel Sanders	6
Claudia Hess	10
Christine Longmore	12
Verna Shannon	16
Sarah Erchinger	20
Beverly Cutler	21
Steven Morrison	22
Barbara Clay	23
Debra Sanders	27

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!

B.A.D. Board of Directors meeting at Don Julio's Mexican
Restaurant & Cantina, 2900 East Nasa Parkway, Seabrook, TX
77586. Which is between Kirby Blvd. and Hwy 146. on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

All members are welcome.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Jim Delane

Spring is almost here and with it comes dive weather. Last month we had Maximum Scuba Shop in Seabrook give us a great presentation on spear fishing. They donated the door prizes and they really went all out. I think the most coveted was the dive computer but people jumped all over the fins and other great stuff. They told us about the spear fishing classes they offer. More important, they have a boat they go offshore and dive the rigs and wrecks with. If you have never dove the rigs, you need to. They go out for a day and it is affordable. You can get their contact info off the website at http://bayareadivers.org/links.html. These guys go out whenever they can. Personally, I find the water too cold at this time of year but not this group. If you want to go, they are always ready!

If you are not coming to the meetings then you are missing out on great presentations and door prizes.

This month's general meeting will be Wednesday, Feb 25th. Our guest speaker will be Dennis Camp. He will be telling us about a new dive program which is called the 'Dive Around Texas' Program. This program is sponsored by dive shops, dive equipment manufacturers and dive sites throughout Texas. I don't know the details but I think it has something to do with divers go out, dive different spots and qualify to win gear and stuff from the vendors. Attend the meeting and learn more.

Also, we got the referendum results in and I want to thank the membership for the feedback. We will move forward with making the referendums official. That means that for the next meeting, we will discus and vote on moving the

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

President	Jim Delane	Jimdelane@bayareadivers.org
V. President	Christine Zamora	crazamora@earthlink.net
Secretary	Sandee Roquemore	Moreroqus@aol.com
Treasurer	Steve Giesler	steve.giesler@gmail.com
Editor	Ja Van Pruett	aladyfish@verizon.net
Board	Randy Widaman	cap10randy@comcast.net
Board	Lanelle Hanagriff	Ihanagriff@gmail.com
Board	Paul Hanagriff	paulhanagriff@gmail.com

Webmaster: Jim Delane

Jimdelane@bayareadivers.org

Bartender:

Sales: Christine Zamora crazamora@earthlink.net

WEBSITE: <u>www.bayareadivers.org</u>.

Deadline for article submission for next month is:



club meetings to Chabuca's Restaurant on NASA Rd. I propose that the first meeting to be held there be in April. The Constitution Bylaws change ballot will be sent out to the membership by mail and will be discussed in the Feb general meeting and discussed and voted in the March general meeting.

I look forward for the weather to warm up and get some local diving in.

Dive safe – Dive often!

Door Prize Winners

Would like to thank **Craig Shannon** and **Maximum Scuba** for

or purchasing your door prizes for the club for the month of January.

Almost everyone that attended the meeting

won a Door Prize

So you see — sometimes it pays to go to the meeting.

Thank you

At the last General Meeting:

Wednesday - January 28, 2009

Bay Area Divers would like to send a special **THANK YOU** to **Maximum Scuba and Craig Shannon** on a great presentation on Spear Fishing and some SUPER door prizes at the January meeting. We all look forward to participating in upcoming tournaments and taking some classes.

BAD BOARD (BOD) MEETING

Meetings ARE OPEN TO All, so come on out and join us for our next meeting TUESDAY, March 3rd, 2009 at 7:00 PM at Don Julio's Mexican Restaurant & Cantina, 2900 East Nasa Parkway, Seabrook, TX 77586. Which is between Kirby Blvd. and Hwy 146. 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.

March 8th, 2009 E-Mail aladyfish@verizon.net

Members

<u>Members —</u> Now is the time to renew your membership. Please go on the web and fill out a membership form, send it in or bring it to the next meeting.

<u>New Members</u> Harry Brelsford; Shelby Dill; Jeff Gordon; Keith Love; Jim Parnell; David Pichler; Shirley Yarbrough

Re-Newed Members — Bess Bright; **Christopher Chung; Bill & Nina Clayton;** Beverly Cutler; Jim Delane; Elva & Forrest DeVore; George & Sarah Erchinger; **Patty Gaubatz; Rowe Henry;** Roger & Pam Hoestenbach; Jim & Tory Jenkins; Al Kinnard; Steven, Katherine, Michele, Stephanie & Steven Morrison: Dick & Christina Osborne: Frank & Sylvia Resch; Ed & Mahoney Richards; Sandee & Shelby Roquemore; Jim Rosborough; Daniel, Debra & Tayna Sanders; **Butch & Verna Shannon**; Nanette Skelly & Jake, Joel, Mike & Max Beckham; Bob Stabe; Harold & Loree Strege; Kip Stubbs;

January's Member of the Month

Victoria & Patrice Sutherland; Jim Ward;

Randy & Robbie Widaman



David Pichler

January's member of the month was **David Pichler** from League City. David has been diving for 22 years and he first became interested in it while taking diving as a college class. He works for Chevron/Phillips and his favorite place to dive is Turks and Caicos.

New Diver Participation Incentive Contest

It's a new year with new fun activities for Bay Area Divers. Starting this January, B.A.D. will be giving participation tickets to members for events throughout the year. With the proceeds from the 50/50 raffles at the meetings, B.A.D will award the winner of the participation raffle a gift certificate to Maximum Scuba with a minimum balance of \$300 at the Anniversary Dinner in November. Depending on the success of the 50/50 raffles, this amount could significantly increase. The more you participate, the better your odds of winning.

In order to get a ticket put in the drawing, members can do a number of things:

- 1. Become a new member or renew membership.
- 2. Attend a monthly meeting, board of directors meeting or Texas Gulf Coast Counsel meeting.
- 3. Attend a club sponsored event or outing.
- 4. Bring a guest.
- 5. Volunteer to bring food or door prizes.
- 6. Submit an article or picture for the newsletter
- 7. Submit an article or picture for the website.

Advertise with BAD

Any <u>Member of the Bay Area Dive Club</u> 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

We Put the FUN In FUNdraiser!

Started July 2008, we will be having new 50/50 Raffle at meetings.

It's easy to play and you can win cash.

Simply buy a ticket for a dollar or 6 for five dollars,

And at the end of the meeting, the winner gets half the pot!

Jim Delaine was January Winner

Losing ones mask underwater is the most common fear

From a Dive Instructor named Frank

Losing ones mask underwater is the most common fear, and the one most easily over come. Before I started diving, I had the same fear of opening my eyes under water. It was heightened by the fact that I wore contacts at the time (THANK GOD FOR LASICK). But, I had to get over it, and then especially when I started teaching class because, as you can well imagine, I have to demonstrate the techniques thus exposing me to my fears. So, here it goes. You have to promise to try the method and not laugh at me until you give it a whirl.

For one thing, the obvious is to start by opening your eyes in as controlled a setting as you can...in shallow water that you can stand up in. You'll soon find that it is not that big of a deal.

Another very effective method *restrain your laughter* the next time you take a shower, take your mask in with you. While you are in the shower, put the mask on when you are ready, flood it by pulling back on the top of your mask. Once it is flooded....open your eyes, and you will be amazed how much this will work to build your confidence of being able to not only clear your mask without fear, but also to get you used to having your eyes open under water.

Okay, salt water stings, you say. True, but only for a few seconds. When you open your eyes in salt water, it takes a few seconds for the salinity of your eye to balance with the salinity of the water. So, in shallow water, flood your mask, and open your eyes do this a few times.

All of these techniques serve one primary function: To teach your body, and your natural instincts, that you ARE capable of doing what you don't think you can do. It is really true that the human body is an amazing thing, and you can adjust to a great many things by the power of your will to do so. The next time you get afraid of any skill, whether it be clearing your mask, sucking in water, or whatever, just remember that you can train your body to accept this as normal, and that you have the ability to move on and fix it. You do. Just think about the guys that walk over a bed of nails, or who "swallow" fire, or any number of crazy stunts we do with our body.

Frank, from San Antonio, TX Never Hold Your Breath Dive Often, Dive Safe A good diver is ALWAYS learning

Coral Reinterpreted Jewelry Collection Set to Launch

Jewelry Pieces Will Be Auctioned Online To Benefit Increased Coral Protection

NEW YORK, Feb. 19 /PRNewswire/ -- Beginning February 26, 2009, designers will be offering coral alternatives that are perfect gifts for those that love the ocean. To help raise awareness of the threats corals face and the need for immediate action to protect

these vulnerable marine animals, renowned designers Hannah Garrison of AZU, Frank Gehry, Kimberly McDonald, Melissa Joy Manning, Jennifer Meyer, Monique Pean, Paloma Picasso, Jean Schlumberger and Vena Cava's Sophie Buhai and Lisa Mayock have united with SeaWeb's Too Precious to Wear campaign to launch a one-of-a-kind jewelry collection titled Coral Reinterpreted.

Each designer has created or donated a single piece of wearable art that evokes the feel of the ocean without harming living animals, such as corals. Pieces from the collection will be worn by models at David Peck's Untitled 11:11 show 'Into the Woods,' as well as by key influencer Olivia Chantecaille during New York Fashion Week.

The pieces will be auctioned online to benefit increased protection of precious corals. Bids may be placed online from February 26 to April 30, 2009 via www.tooprecioustowear.org.

Too Precious to Wear is a SeaWeb campaign made possible with support from The Tiffany & Co. Foundation, Kingfisher Foundation, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and The Ocean Foundation. www.tooprecioustowear.org

Success for Gulf Sea Turtles

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council yesterday supported action that Oceana had proposed to protect threatened sea turtles when they voted to take immediate action to protect sea turtles from the bottom longline sector of the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery. Specifically, the council initiated an emergency rule prohibiting longline gear in waters shallower than 50 fathoms for a six month period to protect sea turtles while the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) develops a long-term solution.

COCONUT CRABS

Sent in by Fred Swerdlin

The **coconut crab**, *Birgus latro*, is the largest land-living <u>arthropod</u> in the world. It is a highly <u>apomorphic hermit crab</u> and is known for its ability to crack coconuts with its strong pincers in order



to eat the contents. It is the only species of the genus Birgus.

It is also called the **robber crab** or **palm thief**, because some coconut crabs are rumored to steal shiny items such as pots and silverware from houses and tents. Another name is "terrestrial hermit crab", due to the use of shells by the young animals; however, there are other terrestrial hermit crabs which do not get rid of the shell even as adults. These - typically in the closely related genus <u>Coenobita</u> - are the animals usually called "terrestrial hermit crab"; given the close relationship between <u>Coenobita</u> and <u>Birgus</u> the term would generally refer to any member of the <u>Coenobitidae</u>.

The coconut crab also has a range of local names. For example *ayuyu* on <u>Guam</u>, and *unga* or *kaveu* in the <u>Cook Islands</u>. On Guam, it is sometimes referred to as a "<u>taotaomo'na</u> coconut crab" because of the traditional belief that ancestral spirits can return in the form of animals such as the ayuyu (coconut crab).

It's not really a crab, first off. It's like a really, really big hermit crab, which isn't really a crab either. Hermit crabs are always outgrowing their shells and looking for new ones. Coconut crabs are so big; they've given up looking for shells that will fit. Actually, a football helmet would be just about the right size.

The coconut crab has gills but they are modified to function as lungs. It spawns in the ocean and the young pass through their larval stage there. During the postlarval stage, the young inhabit abandoned shells.

They eat coconuts for a living! How would you like to be on an island and come across a crab that is more than 3 feet from head to tail and weighs up to 40 pounds, with a pair of large pincers strong enough to open coconuts! They can climb trees too, but they only eat coconuts that have already fallen to the ground. Coconut crab meat has been considered a local delicacy.



To quote a line from a movie, "You got a pot"

She said spawning

Filed by: Peter Etnoyer

I'm really enjoying <u>The Oyster's Garter</u> these days. Miriam Goldstein keeps me updated with important nature stories like "<u>When sponges ruled the Earth</u>" 635 million years ago in the Early Cambrian epoch, just before the Cambrian explosion.



Since more than 90% of modern

sponges <u>resemble</u> those ancient sponges, perhaps there's something to be said for a <u>simple life</u> of filtering seawater and <u>spawning</u>.

Heh heh. She said spawning. I like Miriam's tricks. Her word clicks through to a spawning Xestospongia. Nice. The image is a classic I've never seen before. Awesome. Candy mint for you, MG. Your poetry is inspiration.

Xestospongia muta is a big time spawner on <u>Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary</u> (FGBNMS) at the upper edge of the twilight zone (~130') in the Gulf of Mexico. This video below is courtesy FGB Diver, from September of 2006. It shows female, them male colonies spawning. FGBNMS staff regularly monitor annual spawning events. This is the deepest recorded spawning activity on the Flower Garden Banks to date.

I remember this dive rather vividly. We swam in scuba gear away from the boat as far as possible before catching our breath, then descended along the flank of the bank to ~120 feet to a scene resembling a forest fire, underwater. The "smoke" on the horizon was actually sponge spawn. We'd swam into a deep water love scene.

FGB Diver and I just thought we would share this fond memory of deep spawning event in a spongorific display of link love to the Oyster's Garter.

I remember this dive rather vividly. We swam in scuba gear away from the boat as far as possible before catching our breath, then descended along the flank of the bank to ~120 feet to a scene resembling a forest fire, underwater. The "smoke" on the horizon was actually sponge spawn. We'd swam into a deep water love scene.

FGB Diver and I just thought we would share this fond memory of deep spawning event in a spongorific display of link love to the Oyster's Garter.

To read and see more go to - www.SharkBreak.com

Rebecca Jacobs Trips

2009

Cozumel Mar 18-22

Cozumel Apr 22-26

Cozumel May 24-31

Cozumel June 24-28

Little Cayman June 27 July 4

Cozumel July 18-25

Cozumel Sept 9-13

Cozumel Oct 21-25

Curacao Nov 21-28

2010

Lembeh Straits, Indonesia Kasawari Resort w/ Bali extension Oct

Flower Gardens

Feb 23/Mar 1

Mar 12/13

Apr 11/12

May 16/17

July 2/3

Aug 8/9

Aug 20/21

Sept 19/20

Contact Rebecca Jacobs Email: rebecca@wwdive.com 281.540.1616

The FLOWER GARDENS –

TECH TRIP to Brine Seep – Full



Act Now! Many of these trips will sell out quickly! ACT NOW and receive a \$25 Gift Certificate from Captain Waldo's Aquatic Emporium. Offer ends soon, so ACT NOW!

Contact me for details....or use this link> http:// www.spreeexpeditions.com/Default.asp? ds=Captain+Waldo

FLOWER GARDENS

January thru April 2009

Schooling hammerhead sharks may be seen in the sanctuary during the latter portion of the month.



Please visit our web site for details and photos: http://flowergarden.noaa.gov. There is a link from the home

Feb. 7 Super Sci-Tech Saturday at University of Houston Clear Lake — Webster, TX. Sanctuary staff conduct Reef Rendezvous presentations and hands on activities for girls interested in science. For more information, contact Kelly Drinnen. http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/news events/ calendar.html

March 19-21 National Science Teachers Association New Conference Orleans. Sanctuary education staff are collaborating with educators and scientists from other NOAA offices to present a Coral Reef Symposium for middle school science teachers. This NOAA team will also offer several other workshop sessions on ocean literacy, educational resources on corals, coral bleaching, ocean acidification and watersheds. For more information, contact Kelly Drinnen. http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/news events/ calendar.html

6th Annual Capt. Randy's **Roatan Vacation** Roatan, Honduras



October 17-24, 2009

Join Capt. Randy at CocoView Dive Resort



8 Days, 7 Nights - \$1749/\$1799 pp, dbl occ., tax incl. Includes: Air Fare (Houston to Roatan Round trip) **Ground Transportation, Hotel Accommodations**

3 Meals per day - 2 Boat trips Per Day (2 Tanks per boat trip) Unlimited shore Diving (Reefs, Wreck and 2 Walls) -All Taxes.

NOTE: Due to fluctuations in airfare, prices are subject to change until booked and Paid in full by ALL

Make checks payable to: Randy Widaman and mail to 2208 Mimosa Court, League City, Texas 77573. Email: cap10randy@comcast.net home phone is 281-338-8808 and cell phone is 832-264-8047.

COZUMEL pp, dbl occ., tax incl.

8th Annual Vacation & Dive Trip

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

Tickets will be on Sale in the Spring of 2009 Tickets always "Sell-Out" in Advance

July 27 2009 5 Days, 4 Nights approximately \$749

We arrive early enough on Monday to get weighted-out and dive. We leave late enough on Friday to make 2 dives Thursday morning.

July 27 2009 for 8 Days, 7 Nights approximately \$999 pp, dbl occ., tax inc

We arrive early enough on Monday to get weighted-out and dive. We leave late enough on Monday to make 2 dives Sunday morning.

Package Price Includes:

Air Fare, Ground Transportation, **Hotel Accommodations**

ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK—Soft Drinks. Beer, Wine, Mixed Drinks, Umbrella Drinks, Specialty Drinks, Shots

All Taxes, Exit Fees, and Gratuities **Including Mexican Government Taxes, US International**

Departure & Arrival Taxes, 9/11 Security Fee, **US Immigration Fees.**

US Animal/Plant Health Inspection Fees.

One PADI Specialty Diving Certification

(some restrictions & fees apply)

Group Diving Deal with PADI Gold Palm Dive Center (DIVING NOT INCLUDED)

> Group Parking Discount at **Bush Intercontinental Airport** Signed Liability Releases Required

Contact Bill Jones: Mr.BillJones@comcast.net

Email Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net for details.

Saturday, April 11, 2009: Open Water Class 8:00a-6:30pm Lecture Chapter 1 & 2 Clear Lake/Nasa area

Sunday, April 12, 2009 8:00a-3:30 Knowledge Reviews & Tests Chapters 3, 4, & 5 and the Final Ex Clear Lake/Nasa area

Saturday, April 25, 2009 9:00a-5:00p Open Water Certification Dives 1,2, & 3 at Blue Lagoon in Huntsville

Sunday, April 26, 2009 9:00a-3:30p Open Water Certification Dive 4 at Blue Lagoon in Huntsville

EMail me now if you want to do Advanced Classes, Nitrox EANx, Rescue, Refreshers, and Specialties. You can do those at

Blue Lagoon 2, Site 2 on April 25 & 26, 2009. You are welcome to join us to just party or try out your Scuba gear.

M. W. DIVING



Store Hours

Monday-Friday 10am-7pm Saturday 9am-6pm January thru end of August open 7 days a week

ALL LEVELS OF SCUBA TRAINING

Basic Snorkeling thru Advanced Technical Deep Water Aerobics Indoor Heated Pool on Premise

Equipment from most major manufacture

Computers ♦ Tanks ♦ Dry Suits ♦ BCD's Regulators ♦ Wet Suits ♦ Spear fishing Apparel ♦ Photography ♦ Jewelry Dive Accessories of all kinds

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

Groups ♦ Individual ♦ Clubs

1307 First Street Humble, TX 77338 Tel: (281) 540-1616 Fax: (281) 446-8861

Email: rebecca@wwdive.com Website: www.wwdive.com

Need to get away but don't have time to fly South?

Then join the Fling in the Flower Gardens and possibly see some Hammerhead Sharks. It's the schooling season for these majestic beasts and a great opportunity to start the new dive year. The weather forecast for this weekend is for calm seas. This is a Sat/Sun trip is the prefect way spend Valentines with the fish you love.

There are also spaces still available on the Feb. 28 -March 1st Sat/Sun trip for your second chance to see the Hammerhead sharks on their annual Migration.

Or if you are looking for sun and sand then join us in the Dive Capital of the western Caribbean, COZUMEL. Mark Parker will be your stalwart leader on this dive expedition. (Dive-Dive-Dive). Your trip will include Round Trip Air fare, Entry and Exit taxes, 5 days and 4 nights Hotel Accommodations, Breakfast in Cozumel, 3 days of 2-tank Boat diving, unlimited Shore diving, and Lots and Lots of Fun.

Contact the store for more details and to sign up for any of these wonderful trips at 281-5401616 or via

e-mail at rebecca@wwdive.com.

Visit: www.wwdive.com

Bay Area Divers
P.O. Box 58404
Houston, TX 77258

Catch us on the web at:

Www.bayareadivers.org



CLUB LOGO MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

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.



*Prices slightly higher for XX & XXX sizes

New Items - Tee-Shirts\$12 ea Bumper Stickers......\$1 ea or 3 for \$2.00

(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, by e-mail **Christi Zamora**: crazamora@earthlink.net.

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

Deadline for article submission for next month is: March 8th, 2009 E-Mail aladyfish@verizon.net



This document was created with Win2PDF available at http://www.win2pdf.com. The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only. This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.