



# NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

## March, 2012

**March 28th, 2012 - General Meeting**

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

Mario's Flying Pizza & Italian Restaurant

618 West NASA Rd. 1, Webster, TX

**Speaker of the Month — PJ Campagna** to hear about her trip to see the nesting leatherbacks, babies hatching in RAJA AMPAT ISLANDS

**This should be very interesting and informative MEETING!**

### The BAD Calendar

#### March

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 24 Equipment check @ 288 Lake
- 24 Ocean Discovery Days--FREE day of family & education!*
- 28 BAD General Membership Meeting -- PJ- Leatherback Turtles

#### April

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- BAD Bring a Friend Night to Membership Meeting --TBA
- 25 Mammoth Lake Dive
- 28 Mammoth Lake Dive

#### May

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 5 *Cinco de Mayo Party @ ?*
- 12 Mammoth Lake Dive
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting --
- 26-28 Clear Springs Dive & Camp Out

#### June

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- Lake Travis (Windy Point) Dive & Camp Out
- 23-24 BAD General Membership Meeting --
- 27 TBA

WEBSITE: [www.bayareadivers.org](http://www.bayareadivers.org)

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



### March

Melissa Hale	2	Steve Skipworth	18
Will Foster	3	Denise Trammell	21
Susan King	5	Robbie Brewington	21
Shelby Roquemore	8	Shelia Barron	22
Jill Russell	11	Andrew Rigolo	23
Courtney Fisher	12	Cindy Newman	27
Sandee Roquemore	12	Matt Zajac	28
Kim Tyler	13	Courtney Tyler	31
Bill Wright	15	George Young	31



### COME VISIT and DIVE WITH YOUR FRIENDS and NEIGHBORS

Bay Area Divers meet at Mario's 618 W NASA Rd 1, Webster, TX 77598 at 7:00 pm the last Wednesday of each month (except November & December).

**GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

Deadline for article submission for next month is: **April 8th, 2012** E-Mail [caladyfish@yahoo.com](mailto:caladyfish@yahoo.com)

# Mark your calendar



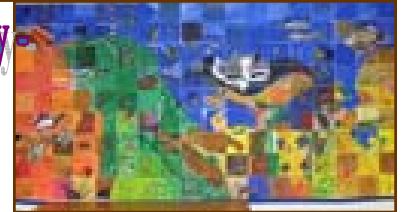
May	Cinco de Mayo Party @ ?
May 12th	Mammoth Lake Dive
May 26th – 28th	Clear Springs Dive & Camp Out
June 23rd – 24th	Lake Travis (Windy Point) Dive & Camp Out- Cindy Romano
July 14th – 15th	Annual Blue Lagoon Dive & Camp Out-Sites 3,4 & 5- Contact Ja Van Pruett
August 11th	Mammoth Lake Dive
Sept. 8th & 9th	Lake Travis Clean Up & Camp Out
October 6th	Trash Fest
October 13th	Divers Market
November 3rd	Anniversary Party

# Extra! Calendar Event

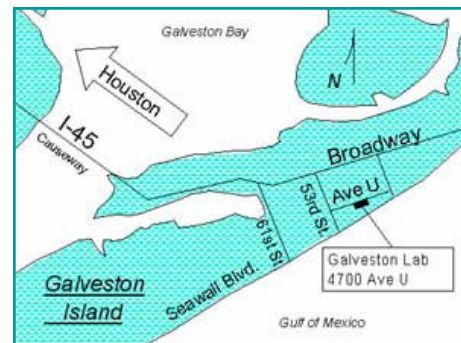
## Ocean Discovery Day

**March 24**

9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
4700 Avenue U  
Galveston, TX



Join us for a **FREE** day of discovery and exploration. Learn more about NOAA's activities in the community. Meet NOAA scientists, visit the sea turtles, and more! For more information, contact [Shelley.DuPuy@noaa.gov](mailto:Shelley.DuPuy@noaa.gov)



### Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

President	Doreen Wells	<a href="mailto:president@bayareadivers.org">president@bayareadivers.org</a>
V. President	Ja Van Pruett	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@bayareadivers.org">vicepresident@bayareadivers.org</a>
Secretary	Cindy Romano	<a href="mailto:secretary@bayareadivers.org">secretary@bayareadivers.org</a>
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Board	David Romano	<a href="mailto:boardmember2@bayareadivers.org">boardmember2@bayareadivers.org</a>

Webmaster Jim McConville [webmaster@bayareadivers.org](mailto:webmaster@bayareadivers.org)

**WEBSITE:** [www.bayareadivers.org](http://www.bayareadivers.org)

**Facebook:** Bayareadivers - Group

**Twitter:** BayAreaDivers

## Bay Area Divers

In Association with Save Our Leatherback Turtles Organization

**\$\$ Club Fund Raising Project \$\$**

**"Turning Energy into Income"**

**[www.BayAreaDivers.IgniteInc.biz](http://www.BayAreaDivers.IgniteInc.biz)**

For more information contact Dennis Camp  
Phone 281.703.6492 Email: [dcamp@hibexintl.com](mailto:dcamp@hibexintl.com)

# BAD BOARD (BOD) MEETING

Meetings ARE OPEN TO All, so come on out and join us for our next meeting **TUESDAY April 3rd 2011** at 7:00 PM at **La Brisa**, 501 North Wesley Drive (behind Sudie's at exit 28 on I45) League City, TX . 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.

# New Members



New Members— Michael Figaro & his sister Annette Frerich

Renewals—Dennis Camp, Steve & Seldon Crump, Rick Decker & Shelby Dill, Rodney (PeeWee) Dwire, and Ja Van Pruett; Susan Mauk, David Pichler, David, Cindy & Trent Romano, Lisa White,

## Member of the Month February



Ryan Clare

### Remember Renew your membership

Due to the proposed changes to the bylaws that passed at the January meeting the rate has gone up. Started in March rate will be \$20.00 for Individual & \$30.00 for Family



Ryan Clare was certified with his Open Water in 2011. Ryan and his wife Amanda joined BAD at the 2011 Divers Market. He has dove at Mammoth Lake. One lucky man, new member, 2nd month in a row to win member of the month, what a **WELCOME!**

# THANK YOU!

Wednesday - Feb. 29, 2012

At the last General Meeting:

## EMILY FORD

**I hope you did not miss meeting**

From (TMMSN) Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network gave a presentation on what to do when you find a stranded marine mammal on the beach.

All are welcome to visit them for Ocean Discovery Day.

Deadline for article submission for next month is: **April 8th, 2012** E-Mail [caladyfish@yahoo.com](mailto:caladyfish@yahoo.com)

# The 'Titanic' and 'Avatar' director went solo on the historic

**The 'Titanic' and 'Avatar' director went solo on the historic, dangerous journey**

The Deepsea Challenger submersible begins its first 2.5-mile (4-km) test dive off the coast of Papua New Guinea. The sub is the centerpiece of Deepsea Challenge, a joint scientific project by explorer and filmmaker James Cameron, the National Geographic Society and Rolex to conduct deep-ocean research. snbc.com staff and news service reports updated 3/26/2012 12:16:49 AM ET



**HONOLULU** — Director James Cameron reached the Earth's deepest point and returned, in a seven-hour solo journey to explore a place only two men have gone before.

"Just arrived at the ocean's deepest pt. Hitting bottom never felt so good. Can't wait to share what I'm seeing w/ you," [tweeted the director](#) of "Titanic" and "Avatar," from his state-of-the-art diving vessel Deepsea Challenger, when he reached his target.

Cameron used a specially designed submarine to descend nearly seven miles to the bottom of the Mariana Trench, an area 200 miles southwest of the Pacific island of Guam.

He began the dive Monday at approximately 5:15 a.m. local time (early Sunday afternoon on the U.S. East Coast), according to Stephanie Montgomery of the National Geographic Society, where Cameron is an explorer-in-residence. National Geographic set up [a website documenting the dive challenge](#).



Filmmaker and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence James Cameron emerges from the Deepsea Challenger submersible after his successful solo dive to the Mariana Trench, the deepest part of the ocean, Monday March 26.

"RELEASE, RELEASE, RELEASE!" were the last words Cameron uttered before beginning the dive, according to a Twitter post from the expedition.

Cameron touched the bottom after a 2-hour-and-36-minute descent, then studied the ocean floor for several hours before making his 70-minute ascent back to the surface, according to [National Geographic's own report](#).

Billionaire Paul Allen had been following the dive action from a helicopter while monitoring Cameron's communications via special under water radio [technology](#). Allen kept followers updated via [his Twitter feed](#). "Sub now deeper than everest at 32160 speed 2.0 knots not long to seabed now," wrote Allen, shortly before Cameron touched the bottom.



James Cameron, inside the Deepsea Challenger submersible, is lowered into the water for testing off the coast of Australia. As

Cameron's Deepsea Challenger emerged, at 12 noon local time (10 p.m. Eastern Time), [Allen wrote](#) "#deepseachallenge has surfaced, now for recovery..." A short while later, [he reported](#), "Saw James Cameron Emerge from #Deepseachallenge sub and wave back at us as we flew over in the Octopus Helo...safe and sound!"

Allen posted several pictures of the capsule in the water, and then one showing [the capsule being hauled onto its support ship](#). The scale of the trench is hard to grasp — it's 120 times larger than the Grand Canyon and more than a mile deeper than Mount Everest is tall (hence Allen's "Everest" remark). Once Cameron reached the bottom aboard his 12-ton, lime-green sub, he planned to collect samples for biologists and geologists to study.

There's considerable wiggle room built in, however, as the submarine Cameron helped design has the capability to support life for a 56-hour dive. The first and only time anyone dove to these depths was in 1960. Swiss engineer Jacques Piccard and U.S. Navy Capt. Don Walsh took nearly five hours to reach the bottom and stayed just 20 minutes. They didn't have much to report on what they saw there, however, because their submarine kicked up so much sand from the ocean floor they couldn't see much.

One of the risks of a dive so deep is extreme water pressure. At 6.8 miles below the surface, the pressure is the equivalent of three [SUVs](#) sitting on your toe.

**James Cameron** describes his exploration while standing in front of the Deepsea Challenger vessel. Cameron told The Associated Press in an [interview](#) after a 5.1 mile-deep practice run near Papua New Guinea earlier this month that the pressure "is in the back of your mind." The submarine would implode in an instant if it leaked, he said. But while he was a little apprehensive beforehand, he wasn't scared or nervous while underwater. "When you are actually on the dive you have to trust the engineering was done right," he said. The latest dive site, which is at the deepest point in the Mariana Trench, is named Challenger Deep after the British naval vessel HMS Challenger that used sound to first measure its depth.



The film director has been an oceanography enthusiast since childhood and has made 72 deep-sea submersible dives. Thirty-three of those dives have been to the wreckage of the Titanic, the subject of his 1997 hit film.

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# World's Best Wrecks

By Nick Lucey

Sent in By Jim McConville

## Part IV—next month--March


### BVIs

Wreck diving in the British Virgin Islands is defined by a single wreck, the Royal Mail Steamer (RMS) Rhone, by far the islands' most popular site and one of the most famous wrecks in the world, immortalized by the 1977 movie *The Deep*. While you're not likely to encounter a wet-T-shirt-clad Jacqueline Bisset on the scattered remains of the 310-foot steamer, you will find one of the most gorgeous sponge- and coral-encrusted wrecks around. Split into three major sections ranging in depth from 20 to 80 feet, you'll need at least two tanks to soak in the best of the best. We know you'll be star-struck, but don't overlook the BVIs' other great wrecks, including the Chikuzen, a 246-foot refrigerator vessel that sits on the sandy plateau between Tortola and Anegada. It was intentionally set ablaze off St. Maarten in the early '80s and drifted almost 100 miles—still on fire—until it sank in 80 feet of water. It's had more than 25 years to cool down, but it's red hot with marine life—including schools of jacks, grouper, barracuda and sharks—since it's pretty much the only underwater structure for miles and miles.


### California

The sinking of the 366-foot Canadian destroyer HMCS Yukon to create an artificial reef in 2000—the West Coast's biggest—may have shined new light on the Golden State's wreck offerings, but local divers have been enjoying dozens of submerged boats for decades. Not too far from the Yukon is the S-37, a 219-foot steel submarine that saw some action in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Her infamously cramped quarters and leaking engine made her despised by her crew. She was ultimately depth-charged by her foes and, as a final insult, used for aerial target practice in 1945, sinking in 30 feet of water off Imperial Beach. The 306-foot destroyer escort John C. Butler sits off San Clemente Island in 60 to 80 feet of water, another war veteran that fought in famed battles including those in Palau, Peleliu, Leyte Gulf, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Another interesting dive is the 100-foot El Rey, which harvested kelp off Southern California and logged more than 800,000 miles. Near Lompoc, in what is generally considered to be the worst peacetime disaster in U.S. Naval history, seven destroyers wrecked on the rocky reefs at Point Pedernales. The Delphy, Chauncey II, Fuller, Woodbury III, S.P. Lee, Nicholas and the Young are all 314-foot steel destroyers lying in depths above 40 feet with visibility ranging from nil to 50 feet.

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Please visit our web site for details and photos: <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov>.




**March**

All Month  
Hammerhead sharks and spotted eagle rays school around the banks.



**24 Ocean Discovery Day — Galveston**  
9 a.m.-3 p.m. 4700 Avenue U

Join us for a **FREE** day of discovery and exploration. Learn more about NOAA's Activities in the community. Meet NOAA scientists, visit the sea turtles, and more! For more information, contact [Shelley. Du Puy@noaa.gov](mailto:Shelley.DuPuy@noaa.gov)



**30 Flower Garden Banks NMS Presentation**  
—Rockport 6:30-8 p.m.

Part of the Grand Opening Celebration for the new Aquarium Education Center at the [Aquarium at Rockport Harbor](#). For more information, contact [Kelly.Drinnen@noaa.gov](mailto:Kelly.Drinnen@noaa.gov)




Photo: Rockport Aquarium

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Subject: Eco-Art Educator - Galveston, TX  
From: "Kelly Drinnen" <[kelly.drinnen@noaa.gov](mailto:kelly.drinnen@noaa.gov)>  
Date: Fri, 23 Mar 2012 18:07:18 -0500  
**Eco-Art Educator - Galveston, TX**

Part-Time Hourly Position for Immediate Hire  
(Potential)

We are looking for a part-time Eco-Art Educator. If you know of any one with a Bachelor's of Science or Fine Arts this is a perfect position for them to begin their career in environmental and arts education. Or if they have experience in this field Artist Boat is a place where they can grow and further develop their skill set. We are also less than one year away from have a place of preserved land to interpret for people.

Please pass on this job description to people you think are looking for work. We greatly appreciate this as we have a full kayak adventure season a head of us at Artist Boat.

**Bay Area Divers**  
**P.O. Box 58404**  
**Houston, TX 77258**  
**409-622-3022**  
**409-6BA-D022**



*Catch us on the web at:*

**WWW.BAYAREADIVERS.ORG**  
**FACEBOOK: BAYAREADIVERS - GROUP**  
**TWITTER: BAYAREADIVERS**

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

## **2012 TGCC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) may award three Michael Szewczyk College scholarships (1 @ \$1,000 and 2 @ \$500) during 2012. Named in memory of TGCC's long time supporter, Michael Szewczyk, this award's purpose is to support the members who support the dive clubs in the Texas Gulf Coast area. The award will be paid by TGCC directly to the college towards tuition.

### **Eligibility Rules:**

1. Scholarship applicant must be a college undergraduate or graduate student attending college in 2012, or a high school senior that has been or will be accepted to college in 2012.
2. The applicant, the parent(s) (biological or through formal adoption), or the grandparent(s) of the applicant, must be an individual member of TGCC or a member of a TGCC member club with dues current in 2012.
3. Application (see other side) must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to **June 30, 2012. TGCC will review all completed applications on July 8, 2012.**
4. Applicant shall have the high school/college furnish a transcript of grades, courses and class standing.

### **Scholarship General Guidelines:**

1. Scholarship decisions of TGCC are final.
2. Scholarship winner is expected to keep TGCC abreast with his/her progress in college.
3. TGCC reserves the right to not award a prize depending upon the number of entries and qualifications of the applicants.
4. A personal interview with members of the TGCC Scholarship Committee may be required prior to awarding this scholarship.
5. Confirmation may be by e-mail. Make sure phone and e-mail data provided is current.
6. TGCC is offering this scholarship as a reward to TGCC members, TGCC member and associate clubs or the children of these members to thank them for supporting TGCC's efforts in promoting safe sport diving. The committee will take into consideration the applicant or applicant's parents involvement in TGCC and member clubs and/or the diving community in general throughout the year.

**Applications must be mailed to:** <http://www.tgccdiving.org/forms/TGCC%20Scholarship%20Application.pdf>

**TGCC Donations Committee**, c/o Frank Burek, 8448 Grand Lake Estates Drive, Montgomery, TX 77316