



# UNDERCURRENTS

Newsletter of the Bluegrass Dive Club / [www.bluegrassdiveclub.com](http://www.bluegrassdiveclub.com)

July 2015

Volume 45, Number 7

## July's Club Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, 14th  
**Time:** 7:30-PM (business)  
Dinner/Social at 6:30  
**Location:** The Racquet Club  
3900 Crosby Rd.  
**Program:**

## President's Message

*By Tracey Combs*



Oh it is finally Summer! Keep an eye on your emails for information on future trips that will be coming your way soon! Remember if you have any trip ideas or suggestions to please contact someone on the dive trip committee. Also, don't forget about our Facebook page. Your pictures and trip information can be posted there for all to see.

We will be having a social at our July 14th regular meeting. We will be eating a little early, dinner is at 6:30, so bring a few dollars for hotdogs or hamburgers. Details on the annual Pig Roast will be posted soon, so watch your email for those details. I hope to see everyone at the regular meeting and Happy Independence Day. 🚩

## The Editor's Notes

*By Bart Bertetto*



Sorry again for the late newsletter. Got stuck in California with an old computer that died trying. Well we had a great trip to Costa Rica! Big thanks from all to Corrine for making it happen. There is something to say for the small group experience. We quickly became buddies and had a major fun time, divers and non-divers alike. The scuba was fantastic with lots of big creature encounters. I had a special free diving moment with a big ray that I'll never forget. Costa Rica pictures this issue from my new Nikon AW130 point and shoot camera (good to 100 ft depth). I really liked it and would recommend it to anyone who is looking for a small snorkel/dive camera with a lot of capability. It goes easily in and out of your BC pocket when your diving mood changes. Rig up a surgical tubing wrist lanyard so you'll never lose it. 🚩



*Arenal Volcano from the lodge.*

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## 2015 BGDC Officer's

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Tracey Combs, President	621-4066
Corrine Mulberry, Vice President	913-0892
Mike Sullivan, Secretary	266-4516
Dan Miller, Treasurer	948-5133
Doug Geddes, Trip Director	224-3197
Rick Stephan, Safety Info Dir.	223-3719
Mike McCann, Webmaster	255-3937
Bart Bertetto, Newsletter Editor	502-299-3656



*That's a Three Toe Sloth mind you*

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## Vice President's Report

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*By Corrine Mulberry*



### PROGRAMS:

**July 2015 Program:** We will repeat the success of last summer and have a **BGDC Social** at the July meeting. The Club is subsidizing part of the meal, so it will only cost \$3 for members.

**August 2015 Program:** Pics from the recent Costa Rica will be shown at the August Meeting.

If you have diving information that you would like to present at a Club meeting (past or potential dive trip, etc.), I would love to hear from you. Please contact me so that we can

put you on the calendar. 913-0892 or [mulberryc1@gmail.com](mailto:mulberryc1@gmail.com)

### Dale Hollow - July 18<sup>th</sup> 2015

The Dale Hollow Lake Dive/Eat/Relax/Play trip is "ON" for Saturday July 18, 2015! Reservation form and trip details are on our webpage. Please note however there are 2 updates not reflected on the trip website: (1) This is a Saturday only trip – no pontoon boat on Sunday and (2) we will not have the cook-out/pot luck on Saturday night – instead will we chow down at the Dale Hollow Lodge Restaurant in air conditioned luxury. Make your reservations now --- overnight accommodations at the campground, cabin or state park! The BGDC subsidizes this trip which reduces the cost to \$20.00 per person to be on the pontoon boat. ([mulberryc1@gmail.com](mailto:mulberryc1@gmail.com)) 🚩



*The gang- above and below*



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## Trip Director's Report

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By Doug Geddes



### Roatan

More rooms came available and we added two more people. If you have an interest, get back to me and I will check it out. We now have 26 persons. Check out the website for more details

### Philippines 2016

Spots still available, but we may be asked to release the extra rooms soon. If you are considering this trip, now is the time to commit. Air was still around \$1200 last time I heard. Cheap trip for two weeks of the best diving you will ever do. Go to the website to check it out. 🚩



*We were enthralled by the large schools of fish*



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## From the Treasurer

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By Dan Miller



### **2015 Membership Dues**

Student (High School or College ID) ..	\$10.00
Single & Family (1 diver) .....	30.00
Family (non divers).....	30.00
Family (2 or more divers) .....	40.00

**Renewal:** Please send payment to the address listed below, please make sure there is a correct indication of your mailing address, phone number and it is very important to indicate an email address.

**Contact / Mail to:** Bluegrass Dive Club c/o  
Dan Miller  
824 Gunpower Drive  
Lexington, KY 40509

**New Members:** Visit the website to fill out an on-line form or to access a Microsoft Word printable form. [CLICK HERE](#). 🚩



*I was totally amazed by the large octopuses that were out during the day. They would change color and texture in an instant. I got a little too close on this guy and he inked me before jetting off in a flash*



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## From The Secretary

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By Mike Sullivan



### BLUEGRASS DIVE CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

#### General Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER 7:36 PM
  - a. Everyone was welcomed and meeting called to order by Rick Stephan in Tracey's absence.
  - b. There were 16 members present.
- II. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS:
  - a. TREASURER MILLER
    - i. Dan reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of 5/31/15.
    - ii. Final payment is due for Roatan on 7/21/15.
    - iii. Payments for the Philippines are due 6/15, 9/15, and final payment on 11/15.
  - b. VICE PRESIDENT SULLIVAN (IN MULBERRY'S absence)
    - i. Mike indicated that the Dale Hollow trip is fast approaching for those interested in going and need to sign-up.
    - ii. The visitor for the evening was Alex Fassas who is a longtime member that is returning to an active status.
    - iii. The July program is the cookout. The time for the cookout will be announced in an email.
  - c. SECRETARY SULLIVAN
    - iv. The door prize drawing was won by Adam Kidd.
    - i. No announcements at this time.
  - d. TRIP DIRECTOR STEPHAN (IN GEDDES absence)
    - i. The Roatan trip in October has 26 people signed-up but one room is still available.
    - ii. Some Delta flights have changed to Roatan so each person needs to look often on their website.
    - iii. The Philippines trip has 12 people signed-up.
    - iv. Payments for the Philippines trip are 6/15, 9/15, and final payment on 11/15.
    - v. Members in attendance were asked if going with another group from Herrington Lake that Doug is affiliated with was possible and their were no negative comments.
  - e. WEBMASTER McCANN
    - i. Mike was absent but he is still interested in finding someone to become webmaster.
  - f. NEWSLETTER EDITOR BERTETTO
    - i. Bart was absent.
  - g. SAFETY INFORMATION DIRECTOR STEPHAN
    - i. Rick indicated the current article is about sun exposure and using the proper lotion and cover-up for skin protection to avoid skin cancers.

ADJOURNMENT 8:37 PM



*Probably the biggest turtle I've ever seen. This grand ol'dad paid us no mind*

**BLUEGRASS DIVE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Tuesday, June 30, 2015  
MEETING MINUTES**

- I. CALL TO ORDER COMBS
  - a. Meeting began at 7:45 PM
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA SULLIVAN
- III. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS:
  - a. TREASURER MILLER
    - i. Absent
    - ii. Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2015.
    - iii. \$1500 moved into Future Trips Fund.
    - iv. Rebate money for Costa Rica trip members. No additional money for Board members.
  - b. VICE PRESIDENT MULBERRY
    - i. Absent.
    - ii. There are 8 people signed-up for Dale Hollow. No pontoon boat for Sunday with only 3 people. No potluck for meals with so few people and only 3 for Sunday.
    - iii. T-shirts will be available for the Costa Rica trip at the July meeting.

- iv. A new design for T-shirts for the Roatan trip.
- v. Corrine is currently buying door prizes in the Keys.
- c. SECRETARY SULLIVAN
  - i. Deferred
- d. TRIP DIRECTOR GEDDES
  - i. Absent
- e. SAFETY INFORMATION DIRECTOR STEPHAN
  - i. Deferred
- f. NEWSLETTER EDITOR BERTETTO
  - i. Absent
- g. WEBMASTER McCANN
  - i. Deferred
- IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - TRIP COMMITTEE GEDDES
    - i. Absent
- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - a. Tax Status (501(c)7) McCANN
    - i. Deferred
  - b. July Meeting Burgers \$3/plate (@ 6:30 PM) COMBS
  - c. Webmaster position McCANN
    - i. We are still looking for someone to take over for Mike in the future with the website.
- VI. NEW BUSINESS COMBS
  - a. Pig Roast location is yet to be determined. Locations being considered.
  - b. July will be mid-year review for the Club budget.
- VII. ADJOURNMENT 8:24 PM



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## Safety Corner

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By Rick Stephan



*Remember, safe diving is fun!*

**Note:** This month's article is from KentuckyLake.com and is timely in preparation for our upcoming trip to Dale Hollow. Most of our dive trips involve hiring professional dive boats, that come with certified captains and the safety that is required on their boats. When you are enjoying freshwater lakes, you may find yourself to be captain. Common sense rules the waves here, but this article gives you some good points in remembering how to behave on the water.

*Pay attention to the end of the article, where waterway markings are discussed. They can save you some time and trouble if you are aware of their meaning. Always better to be safe than sorry!*

*The diver's flag should be prominently displayed on the boat when you have divers in the water. If the divers plan to explore farther than 50 feet of the boat, make sure they have a float with a diver's flag on it that they tow along.*

*Even this is no guarantee. I remember one dive at Dale Hollow where a boater came up to the flag and tried to pull it in their boat. When the rightfully frightened and angry diver surfaced, the boater stated that they were going to pick it up, obviously it had mistakenly fallen from someone's boat! So, follow the rules, and expect the unexpected, and stay safe.*

*Remember, safe diving is fun!*

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## Boating and Water Safety

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### Tips For A Safer Boating Experience

Always remember to follow safe boating procedures when you're out on the water.

### Water Skiing

To make your water skiing fun, safe, sensible and successful, practice these safe driving tips:

- Check steering and throttle controls for proper operation before towing skier.
- On take-offs, never accelerate until a definite signal is given by skier.
- When under way, keep attention ahead. The observer is to watch the skier.
- Never follow other boats. Always look before turning. Avoid shallow water.
- Promote safety by staying away from other boats, swimmers, fishermen and solid objects.
- Return to fallen skier immediately. Slow to idle as you approach skier, moving in on the driver's side.
- Shut off engine while skier climbs into or out of boat. Discourage skiers from boarding over transom.
- High speed landings cause injuries. When skiing into shore, reduce speed and parallel the landing area at a safe distance.
- Do not tow non-swimmers or weak swimmers unless they wear an approved and appropriate flotation device.

### Person Overboard

If someone falls overboard, follow these procedures:

- Toss a life-saving device even if the person can swim. A life ring is the preferred device. It can be thrown farther and is easier to hang on to. However, use whatever device is nearest. Time is essential.

- Slow the boat, keeping the person in view. Other persons onboard should act as look outs. At night, direct the best possible lights on the victim.
- Try to approach the person from downwind or into the waves. Always use common sense and good judgment. Consider existing condition and ability of the victim and what other help is available. If someone aboard is capable, have the person put on a life-saving device with a line attached to the boat and enter the water to assist the person.
- Always stop the motor when someone is going over the side, or coming aboard.
- Assist the person in boarding the boat. It is difficult to climb into a boat from the water. The person may be hurt or cold and may require help.

### **Passengers**

- Wearing a PFD is your only guarantee against drowning.
- Do not overload the boat.
- Avoid horseplay.
- Have Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) readily available for everyone.
- In small boats, remain seated.
- Trim boat by placing passengers and gear in balance.

### **Before Leaving...**

- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Check weather forecasts.
- Ventilate bilges before starting engine.
- Be sure your boat is basically equipped.

### **While Underway...**

- Know and obey the rules of the road.
- Post a lookout for bathers, fishermen, swimmers, debris.

- Reduce speed in harbors and in confined areas. Avoid excessive speed.
- Make no sharp turns at high speed.
- Watch your wake! You could be responsible for injury or damage caused by it.
- In rough water, stay low in the boat and cross waves at a slight angle.
- Keep red-buoys on your right when traveling upstream.
- Tying up to buoys or anchoring in channels is forbidden.
- Carry sufficient tools for minor repairs.

### **Fueling Tips**

- Stop smoking and extinguish all fires.
- Close all vents, doors, hatches.
- Ground the nozzle to tank opening.
- Portable tanks should be filled outside of boat.
- Ventilate engine compartment before starting.

### **Power Line Dangers**

- When sailing, especially in unfamiliar waters, keep a close watch for low-hanging power lines. A great danger of electrocution exists if the mast of your vessel contacts the power line or gets close enough for the electricity to arc to your mast.

### **Watch The Weather**

- Observe cloud formation for pending weather changes.
- Play safe and head for shore if the wind increases.

## Uniform Waterway Marking System



Kentucky and Tennessee use the uniform system of buoys and markers that are standard in the United States. These buoys and markers are placed for your assistance and safety. In addition to written messages on the buoys, there are a variety of colors, shapes and symbols which aid in the recognition of a particular buoy. Take a minute to study the diagram showing how the buoys may be used.

**A. Diver's Flag:** Must be used any time a diver is in the water. Boats must not come closer than 50 feet of the flag and must operate at a slow, no-wake speed within 200 feet.

**B. Alpha Flag:** Means a vessel is engaged in diving operations or is restricted in its ability to navigate. Boaters must use extreme caution and are advised to look for a diver's-down flag.

**C. Mooring Buoys:** Means an anchor buoy. This is the only buoy to which a boat may tie or secure to.

**D. Red Channel Marker Buoy:** Traveling upstream, you should pass to the left of this buoy as it marks the right side of the channel.

**E. Green (or black) Channel Marker Buoy:** Traveling upstream, you should pass to the right of this buoy as it marks the left side of the channel.

**F. Junction Buoy (RED OVER GREEN):** means two channels are coming together and you pass to the left of the buoy as you travel

upstream.

**G. Junction Buoy (GREEN OVER RED):** means two channels are coming together and you should pass to the right of the buoy as you travel upstream.

**H. Boats Keep Out Buoy:** Marks a swimming area, area near a dam, or any area where boats are not allowed.

**I. Danger Buoy:** Marks an obstruction, ferry cable, or any area where boats should not navigate or should use extreme caution.


**J. Information Buoy:** Used to relay information. Words printed in black (usually inside the border) tell place names, distances, directional arrows, availability of supplies, gasoline, etc.

**K. Control Buoy:** Marks a restricted area such as "slow no-wake," 5 MPH, no skiing or no fishing.

**L. Passing Daymark (RED):** A sign mounted on poles in the water or on the bank which is used in the same manner as a channel marker buoy. In this case it marks the right side of the channel as you travel upstream.

**M. Passing Daymark (GREEN):** A sign mounted on poles in the water or on the bank which is used in the same manner as a channel marker buoy. In this case it marks the left side of the channel as you travel upstream.

**N. Channel Crossing Daymark (RED):** A sign mounted on poles in the water or on the bank which means the channel is crossing from the right bank to the left bank as you travel upstream.

**O. Channel Crossing Daymark (GREEN):** A sign mounted on poles in the water or on the bank which means the channel is crossing from the left bank to the right bank as you travel upstream. 



# Bluegrass Dive Club 2015 Calendar



*Caught this eagle ray while freediving off the dive boat*



*Took a big breath and dropped along side him.*



*It was a wonderful 10 seconds to swim with such a beautiful creature*

## July

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
 18-19, Saturday Dale Hollow  
 28, Tuesday Board Meeting

## August

11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
 25, Tuesday Board Meeting

## September

8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
 29, Tuesday Board Meeting

## October

3-10 Saturday Roatan  
 13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
 27, Tuesday Board Meeting

## November

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
 24, Tuesday Board Meeting

## December

12, Saturday Club Christmas Party

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## Dive Committee Members

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Doug Geddes – Chairman	885-2215
Tracey Combs	621-4066
Ralph Covington	621-3862
Mike Sullivan	266-4516
Gordon Green	C@Meeting
Ed Sullivan	C@Meeting
John Geddes	223-7926
Corrine Mulberry	913-0892