



UNDERCURRENTS

Newsletter of the Bluegrass Dive Club / www.bluegrassdiveclub.com

October 2015

Volume 45, Number 10

October's Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, October 13th
Time: 7:30-PM (business)
 Social at 7
Location: The Racquet Club
 3900 Crosby Rd.
Program: Feb Dominica Trip

President's Message

By Tracey Combs



Happy Fall Fellow Divers. I hope that you have enjoyed your summer and spent a lot of time underwater. There is a large group going to Honduras in October. I can't wait to see the video and pictures from the trip.

The Trip Committee is working hard to get some additional dives on the books. Check out the upcoming trip page for the new additions. If you have a suggestion or a bucket list location, please share your ideas. We are always interested in suggestions. Contact Doug Geddes or one of the committee members.

Bluegrass Dive Club is on Facebook. We hope you visit and like our page. Feel free to share your pictures and videos. Don't be shy!! Our elections will be held in November at the regular meeting. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 13 at 7:30 pm at the Racquet Club. Guests are always welcome. I hope to see you there!! 🍷



The Editor's Notes

By Bart Bertetto



The club action and pics this month come from Noel Hall, Jimmy Hollander & Dan Miller who recently spent a few days at "Isla Guadalupe Mexico housed in a shark tank. They enjoyed sunny skies and 72 degrees of "get your lead out" water temps. Check out the action. The rest of us lucky ones are gearing up for Roatan in a few days. We'll be back for the Oct meeting and give ya a full report. Cheers 🍷

2015 BGDC Officer's

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

Vice President's Report

By Corrine Mulberry



Program: October's Program will feature last year's dive trip to Dominica. The Club loved this location and is hoping to return; don't miss out on seeing the diving highlights. Program courtesy of Gordon Green and Doug Geddes – Thanks Guys!

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

New Members: A hearty "Welcome" to **Tim Osborne** and **Bill & Donna Ringo**. **Tim** recently joined the club and is joining the HUGE group heading to Roatan, Honduras for diving, adventure and relaxation. **Tim** lives in Louisville and is Advanced Open Water certified. We look forward to hearing about the trip upon your return. Safe Diving! **Bill and Donna** are also from Louisville, are related to John Philips (I know, I know....we welcomed them anyway!), and ready to do some more diving. **Bill** is an occupational health consultant and runs a family business with his wife and daughter (also divers, as well as grandson.) **Bill** has Full Cave and Navigation Specialty certifications and has been diving since 1961. He most frequently dives FL springs, Bonaire and Caye Caulker. He's looking for more dive trips to places such as Palau, Fiji, and the Great Lakes. Welcome to the Bluegrass Dive Club **Tim Osborne** and **Bill & Donna Ringo**!

We briefly introduced **Jolene Bertetto** in a previous newsletter and appreciate her sharing some additional information about herself for the newsletter. **Jolene** has been living in San Francisco for the past 5 years, but her love for diving started in LaGrange,

KY when she took her open water certification at the Falling Rock quarry. Mentored by her diving partner in crime, **Bart Bertetto**, she has been lucky to explore the Great Barrier Reef off of Cairns, Australia and the kelp forests of Monterey, CA. **Jolene** has been working for non-profits and government agencies, most recently working in the Conservation Department for a Bay Area water district, helping people to save water during California's 4th year of drought. **Jolene** loves diving because it combines her passion for the environment with her love of adventure. She is looking forward to meeting everyone in the Bluegrass Dive Club and feasting her eyes on the underwater sights in Roatan. Oh, and hanging at the bar afterwards!

Nominations for BGDG Officers (2016): Last Call. The slate of Nominees will be presented to the Board on October 27th; members will vote for officers during the regular November meeting.

Elected positions include:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Trip Director
- Safety Information Director
- Newsletter Editor
- Webmaster

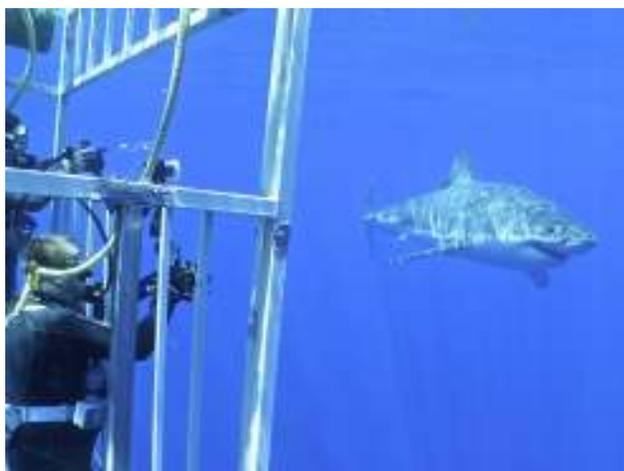
We are particularly recruiting for someone to fill the Webmaster position! After many years of dedicated service, **Mike McCann** really (REALLY) wants to turn over the reins. If you have web experience and would like to contribute to the Club (as well as earn Dive Bucks that you can apply towards trips!!), please let us know!! We can fill you in on details about the position and what the Board does.

All elected positions are open to nominations. Nominees for elected positions must be in good standing (dues paid), have been a member for at least one full year and be at least 21 years of age. Please contact the Nominations Committee: **Charlie Denham** charlesdenham@hotmail.com, **Tamara Williams** tamaraw@twc.com, **Brian Elkin**

belkins@linkbelt.com or Corrine Mulberry mulberryc1@gmail.com (859-913-0892) to nominate someone, to nominate yourself or to learn more about Board positions.

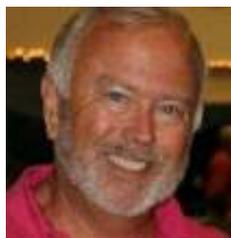
Carpooling from Louisville?: We have several Louisville-based members who attend the BGDC meetings in Lexington including (off the top of my head) Richard & Karen Rabek, Brian Rabek, Hank Blumenthal, Noel Hall, Bart & Sandra Bertetto, Tim Osborne, and Bill & Donna Ringo. For possible carpooling opportunities, pick up a BGDC Directory from President Tracey Combs for contact information. Just a thought.

2016 Local Diving: Lucky us! Adam Kidd is willing to coordinate a local dive trip for the Club for 2016. Yay. Thank you Adam. No dates or locations are set yet. If you have ideas or suggestions, please contact Adam. 🚩



Trip Director's Report

By Doug Geddes



ROATAN 2015

By the time you are reading this 30 of your fellow club members will be heading to or in Roatan. Please keep us in your prayers as we make this journey. This should be an awesome trip. Stories and pictures to come...Wish you were with us

PHILIPPINES 2016

We have 11 persons signed up and looking for more, but hey with 11 this will be a great trip with great friends. If you would like to join us, go to the website and check it out. This is my favorite dive locations as far as critters and resorts are concerned. We would love for you to join us.

BONAIRE 2016

The Bonaire trip for March 13 – 20, 2016, has been set up online and we are now waiting on people to actually sign up. This is spring break for UK so you will need to lock in your air soon, but the prices have been very good. This trip should be on our website soon, so you can sign up but we have several room types available, so you won't miss out until it is on our website. We have 8 people at the moment that have shown an interest or bought airfare. So this is a viable trip.

ST. LUCIA 2016

St. Lucia date has been changed to June 11–18, 2016. Hope this doesn't mess anyone up. This will be a very nice trip for those that are wanting more than just a dive location. The beautiful mountain views are some of the best in the world. The diving is also very similar to most Caribbean type of diving that we have done before. The resort looks awesome and can be found on the website now. We have booked rooms and we are ready for people to sign up.

GRAND CAYMAN PIRATE FEST 2016

The club has scheduled a trip for November 12 – 19, 2016 to coincide with Pirate Fest in Grand Cayman. We will stay at Compass Point once again. This should be a great time along with great diving. Trip should be on the website now, so go make your reservation soon. 🚩



From the Treasurer

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](#). 🚩

From The Secretary

By Mike Sullivan



Tuesday, September 8, 2015 General Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER 7:43 PM
 - a. There are 19 members present.
- II. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS:
 - a. TREASURER MILLER
 - i. Dan reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of 8/31/15.
 - ii. Thirty people are going to Roatan and have paid in full.
 - iii. The Philippines trip has 11 people that have paid a deposit.
 - iv. A check for \$500 has been paid to Buddy Dive in Bonaire to hold a block of rooms.
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT MULBERRY
 - i. Corrine welcomed new member Bill Ringo.
 - ii. The door prize drawings were won by Adam Kidd, Rick Stephen, and Mike McCann.
 - iii. Corrine reminded everyone of the upcoming election of Club officers and to encourage members to contact the nomination

- iv. committee if interested in running for a position.
- v. The program this month is on the Club's Spring, and Summer Socials.
- c. SECRETARY SULLIVAN
 - i. No Comments.
- d. TRIP DIRECTOR GEDDES
 - i. The Roatan trip in October has 30 people signed-up.
 - ii. The Philippines trip has 11 people signed-up.
 - iii. Payments for the Philippines trip are 9/15, and final payment on 11/15.
 - iv. Bonaire is a Club trip and will be 13-20 March 2016.
 - v. The St. Lucia trip 4-11 June 2016 and the current airfare is about \$741.
 - vi. The Grand Cayman trip is planned for 12-19 November 2016.
 - vii. Anyone interested in diving the Great Lakes should contact Ralph Covington to set a date.
 - viii. The Club is planning a trip to Grenada for February 2017.
- e. WEBMASTER McCANN
 - i. The Bonaire trip will be posted soon.
- f. NEWSLETTER EDITOR BERTETTO
 - i. Bart was absent
- g. SAFETY INFORMATION DIRECTOR STEPHAN
 - i. Article this month is on Dive Planning.

ADJOURNMENT 8:48 PM

**Tuesday, September 29, 2015
Board of Directors meeting**

- I. CALL TO ORDER COMBS
 - a. Meeting began at 7:48 PM

- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA SULLIVAN
- III. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS:
 - a. TREASURER COMBS FOR MILLER
 - i. Treasurer's Report as of September 29, 2015.
 - ii. Roatan completely paid and 30 people on the trip.
 - iii. Pig Roast costs were below budget.
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT MULBERRY
 - i. October program – Dominica – Doug/Gordon
 - ii. November – Club Elections
 - iii. December – Club Christmas Party
 - iv. January program – Great White Shark Dive
 - v. New member, Donna Ringo.
 - c. SECRETARY SULLIVAN
 - i. No comments.
 - d. TRIP DIRECTOR GEDDES
 - i. Philippines has 10 people having paid the trip deposit.
 - ii. St. Lucia trip dates are being changed to 11-18 Jun 2016. Trip deposit of \$250 pp is due now and full price is due 2/15/16.
 - iii. Bonaire trip deposit \$200. Final payment due 1/1/2016.
 - iv. Grand Cayman final payment due 8/15/16.
 - v. Local diving trips, locations TBD.
 - e. SAFETY INFORMATION DIRECTOR STEPHAN
 - i. Article on Packing for Air Travel .
 - f. NEWSLETTER EDITOR BERTETTO

- i. Articles due no later than Friday.
 - g. WEBMASTER McCANN
 - i. Tax Status deferred.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS COMBS
 - a. A BluRay player will be purchased by Corrine for around \$50.
 - b. Biographies for the Board nominees will be published in the November Newsletter.
- V. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00 🚩



...cold lifeless eyes... doll's eyes



Safety Corner

By Rick Stephan



Remember, safe diving is fun!

Note: BGDC is in the middle of another busy diving year. While the Roatan trip is already in progress (depending on when this newsletter distributes), we still have a big trip coming up in January, plus several more just announced by the dive committee. With all this great diving on tap, we should have all our gear tuned and tested, but we need to be aware of how to travel with our gear so it arrives intact, safe for our use.

This month's article is from scuba-diving-smiles.com and gives us a primer on packing gear. It is important to determine first what you need, so get all the info on potential weather – temps, rain, etc. - and water conditions. Then you can plan on types of clothing, which wetsuit to bring, and so forth.

If your travel is international, make sure you research what electrical power and plugs are at your destination, and if there are any other specific requirements.

Another important tip: know in advance any weight restrictions on your luggage by airlines, and balance accordingly. Understand that damp gear may increase your weight by a few ounces, so give yourself some leeway to avoid expensive overweight charges on the way back.

Remember, safe diving (by arriving with your gear intact) is fun!

Packing Scuba Gear for Flying: Tips on How to Travel With Your Dive Equipment

You can almost feel the sun on your face. You're ready to go. Just one more thing.

Packing scuba gear for flying to that eagerly anticipated scuba diving vacation.

So what's the best way to travel with your scuba gear?

Ok, let's face it, no matter what way you do it, it's a chore (IMHO). Especially if you like to travel light like me. But it has to be done. Just try and think of the money you'll be saving on renting.

Not to mention the comfort level of diving with you own stuff. So how to travel with that dive equipment?

Scuba Gear Bags

Your first consideration is what you are going to use for packing your scuba gear for flying. Gear bags are generally big, can be expensive and are popular. There are an amazing number to choose from.

Many gear bags are in pretty, bright colors. You can't miss them. When I see one of them on a conveyor belt (or the pull cart, depending on the island!) at the airport, to me it screams "open me up, I have a lot of expensive gear inside."

For your gear bag, I would suggest buying a plain, non-descript bag. No need to advertise what's inside.

Many, if not most, scuba gear bags these days come in plain, unmarked (or very small label) black bags.

Now, I have no idea if the theft rate is any higher with a brightly colored scuba bag than with other bags. I haven't been able to find any statistics on the issue. I just feel more comfortable with a plain bag. It's a personal choice.

What we use when packing our scuba gear for flying is a big, black non-descript rolling duffel bag (it has now fallen apart. We need a new one.). The wheels are key since all that gear can get heavy.



And you'll only look like you over-packed, not like you have hundreds of dollars worth of equipment with you. The bag is big enough for packing all our scuba gear for flying in the one bag.

We fit our masks, fins, wetsuits, BC's and a lot of other stuff in the bag with no problem.

Scuba Diving Regulators

While our regulators could easily fit in this bag, we usually pack them in our carry-on luggage. I don't like the idea of the regulator being thrown around, or worse, getting lost.

We pad the regulator with clothes and have never had a problem. Of course, remember it's in there before you throw that bag up in the overhead compartment.

You can also buy a padded bag made especially for regulators if that makes you more comfortable.

A couple of times we did check our regulators in the big bag. We wrapped them in our skins/clothes and put them in the middle of the bag so they would have some cushion. It worked out fine but I'm more comfortable carrying it with me. My suggestion is to do the same.

Scuba Diving Computer

Besides being your best friend on a dive trip, your dive computer is probably expensive too. This should always go on in your carry-on. This is one thing you don't want thrown around.

Our computer has a plastic covering around it. We usually just put it in a thick sock to cushion it and prevent scratches. I know, very high tech. But very economical and it works fine.

We also travel with the battery out of the computer. This way if there is a problem with the battery it doesn't ruin the computer. Plus there is no way the computer can turn on accidentally and waste the battery.

Scuba Diving Mask

Scuba diving masks come with a hard protective case which you can use when

packing your scuba gear for flying. I don't find it to be absolutely necessary, though.

Masks are durable and can take a lot of beating. Sometimes if we need the room we'll wrap the mask in our diveskin, wetsuit, or other piece of clothing to prevent scratches. We've been traveled with our first masks for over 15 years and they stayed in good shape.

BC's

BC's take up a lot of room when you are packing scuba gear for flying. There is not much you can do with them. Just make sure all the air is out before packing it. We then fold the sides fairly tightly so it as small as possible.

We put the BC's in the bag first when traveling with this piece of dive equipment. It helps to cushion the other equipment.

If you have the funds, you could also purchase a travel BC which is made for flying. They are typically lighter and take up less room than your standard BC.

Scuba Diving Fins

If you have a dive bag, your fins should be able to fit comfortably without bending. We tend to put them along the sides of our bag. We also fill the feet with smaller items (socks, etc.) to save room.

If we are only taking our mask, fins and snorkel, then we typically only use carry-on bags. In this case, I can fit my fins in my carry-on size suitcase if I bend the tips a little. I put them across the luggage with the feet at the opposite ends.

I was a little leery of doing this at first but it was fine. The tips bounce right back. But use your own judgment here, your fins may react differently.

I'm still using my original fins from 15 year ago and they are fine. Maybe a little discolored and scratched (not from the packing) but performance is still fine.

Scuba Diving Accessories

All the other things you may want when packing your scuba gear for flying should

easily fit in the nooks and crannies of your gear bag. We add our slates, tank bangers, flashlights, defogger, etc. with no problem.

There you have it. Our method of packing scuba gear for flying. We hope it helps you. When it seems like a chore, just think of all the fun ahead of you. It's bound to put a smile on your face.

So start packing your scuba gear for flying, get on the plane and go! 🚩



Bluegrass Dive Club 2015 Calendar

October

3-10 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

Dive Committee Members

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