



[www.bluegrassdiveclub.com](http://www.bluegrassdiveclub.com)

## March's Club Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, March 9th  
**Time:** 7:30-PM (business)  
 Social time to follow  
**Location:** The Racquet Club  
 3900 Crosby Rd.  
**Program:** Little Cayman Photo Review

## President's Message



As I write this, a group is getting ready to travel to Somerset to the Divers Den dive shop for the check-out dive.

Little Cayman is only a week away, and I have seasonal affective disorder from the lack of warm sun and blue sky.

Our next program will be a wrap-up of Little Cayman experiences.

If you have any images back from one-hour photo, bring them.

In addition to the regular meeting, be sure to mark March 27th for our Spindletop Banquet.

The North Carolina Dive Trip is taking place June 19th-21<sup>st</sup>. We still have a few openings. Send Kit a check for \$75.00 to hold your spot.

One thing I know from Bond Films is that we only live twice, once for us, once for our dreams.

Here's to our dreams of diving the oceans of the world with family and friends. □

*Mark*

## Check-out Dive

Looks like the checkout dive Saturday at Divers Den was a big hit. I think everyone enjoyed helping Doug try out his new Seadoo scooters. I know my girls did! □



Laine, Doug, Autumn Geddes & Dennis Johnson



Laine Geddes

*Staff Photos*

## 2004 BGDC Banquet

**Date:** Saturday, March 27th  
**Time:** 6:00-PM - Cocktails (cash bar)  
 7:00-PM - Dinner  
**Location:** Spindletop Club  
 3414 Iron Works Pike  
**Meal:** Beef Tenderloin Medallions with a Portobello Mushroom sauce and grilled Chicken Breast with Pesto Cream sauce on rice. Mixed Greens with Gorgonzola Cheese, Walnuts and a Balsamic Dressing. Seasoned Green Beans and Garlic Redskin Mashed Potatoes. And to finish your dining delight, Chocolate Cream Layer Pie.

**Cost:** \$ 24.00 per person, includes T&G (Payable at the banquet)  
**Program:** Special video and slide presentations and other "Special" awards. □

**Contact:** Kit Hudson 606 873-4974 or [kithuds@iglou.com](mailto:kithuds@iglou.com)

**Don't Miss It!**

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## Co-Vice President's Report

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By Dan Miller and Carol Call



### WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE AND THE RESULTS ARE IN!

The final weigh-in for the Dive Club Weight Loss Challenge was held during the club meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Seventeen members started on the quest to lose weight with a club goal of 500 lbs.

Prizes were based on greatest percentage of weight lost. Losing 11% of his body weight was Doug Geddes who finished in first place and received a \$50 gift certificate & free club dues in 2004. Rick Stephan was runner-up and received a \$25 gift certificate & free club dues. Yours truly (Dan) finished in third place, and I received 2004 club dues on the house.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

James & Lisa Hollander of Lexington joined at the February meeting. Although they weren't able to make it to our Little Cayman trip, they are going on the Cayman Aggressor the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November. James suggested a future trip to Turks & Caicos Islands to the Dive Trip Committee. □

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## Divemaster's Report

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By Doug Geddes



Truk / Yap 2005

If you waited to send in your deposit to go on this trip, you may have missed the boat. We are now only taking names for the waiting list. You do not have to make a deposit to put your name on the list. The EC decided at the last meeting to look into the possibility of cutting the Truk trip a few dives short and head on over to Yap for 4 days of diving. We are still working out the kinks, but we hope to have

the trip finalized as soon as we can work out the air travel. I will work on that one as soon as I get back from Little Cayman. If you would like information about the trip, go to our website and click on the links. Pricing for the trip will be made as we finalize the trip. A reminder from Kit, a \$350.00 payment will be due on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Any questions or concerns drop, me an e-mail. □



Kit Hudson and John Murray

Palau 2003

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## Safety Corner

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By Rick Stephan



*This month's column provides a dive story that is an example to avoid. While most of the BGDC divers play by the rules, we all have experienced dive trips with people who push the envelope. While the two divers in the story go way beyond the envelope, use the example to review your own diving practices. There are always temptations on a trip to get your "money's worth" by overdoing.*

*Apply the "Lessons for Life" to your diving profiles. Plan your dives within your skills and physical capabilities. Don't overweight yourself. Make sure your equipment is appropriate to your diving, it is all functional, and you are familiar with the controls. Control your descent as you would control your ascent. Get proper training before attempting advanced dive*



*profiles. Remember, safe diving is fun!*

### Too Fast To Live, Too Young To Die

Thrill-seeking divers push the bounds of training and common sense with disastrous results.

By: Michael Ange  
Cont. on page 3

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## Safety Corner Cont.

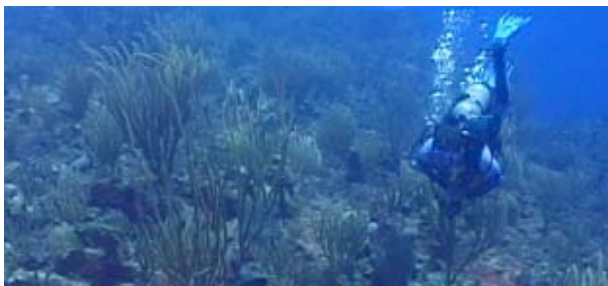
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Mark struggled upward kicking hard--his only goal to reach the warm tropical sunshine far above. His mind flashed to the simplicity of the plan. What had gone wrong? Through blurred vision, he glanced at his gauges, seeing his computer's depth readout flash through 300 feet and his SPG needle fall into the red zone below 500 psi. If he could just reach the wall, maybe he could stop his descent. That was his final thought as he inhaled against a dead regulator and darkness closed in.

### The Divers

Mark and Will were both in their early twenties. Self-confessed adrenaline junkies known for pushing the limits of adventure sports, they had recently been certified as Advanced Open Water divers. Mark and Will were eager to try deep diving, but before seeking training, they set off on a weeklong dive trip to the tropics.

Over margaritas one night, Mark listened to a team of tech divers discussing their dive to a wreck hanging on the edge of a deep wall at 200 feet. Mark immediately decided if those guys could do it, so could he. At the bar, he sketched out a plan to do a quick bounce dive on the wreck the following day. After a little arm-twisting, Will agreed to join Mark in his plan.



Your Editor

Photo by Doug Geddes

### The Dive

They quickly discovered that none of the island's responsible dive operators would take them out on such a foolish stunt. Undeterred, the divers rented a boat and hired Bill and Sarah, vacationing college students who agreed to skipper the boat.

At the approximate location of the wreck, the boat's depth finder confirmed the edge of the wall and a depth of thousands of feet on the seaward side. Mark and Will suited up in tropical BCs, rental regulators and single aluminum 80-cubic-foot tanks. The divers quickly reviewed their dive plan.

Mark figured the wreck would be easy to locate. In order to get down quickly, they would dump all of the air out of their BCs and wear extra weight. The pair would stop their descent with their power inflators. It would be a quick bounce dive. If either diver reached 1,500 psi or the bottom time exceeded six minutes, they would ascend immediately.

### The Accident

Mark and Will stepped off the swim platform and immediately began their descent. Dropping rapidly, the divers swam to within an arm's reach of the wall, scanning for the wreck and letting negative buoyancy carry them deeper.

Though he was descending more slowly than Mark, Will's dive computer couldn't keep up with the descent. Later, Will recalled that at 150 feet, he felt "short of breath" and "disconnected from my body."

The rapid descent had brought on a serious bout of nitrogen narcosis. His body was unable to acclimate to the increasing pressure and the growing load of nitrogen and carbon dioxide in his tissues. Making matters worse, his rental regulator was not designed for extreme depths and was struggling to deliver sufficient air. Will was bordering on panic. He was "over breathing" his regulator, demanding more air, and at a faster rate, than it was capable of providing.

Scared and confused, Will reached out to grab a passing coral head, cutting his hand but stopping his descent at 156 feet. He turned to signal Mark to abort the dive, only to find his buddy much deeper, still rapidly descending.

Cont. on page 4

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## Safety Corner Cont.

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Will faced several moments of indecision, complicated by narcosis.

Before he could do anything to save himself or Mark, he needed to establish neutral buoyancy. Will fumbled for the inflator button on his BC and squeezed hard.

Meanwhile, Mark sailed downward, searching for the outline of the wreck. He was soon past 200 feet, and the wreck was nowhere in sight. Realizing the dive was rapidly spinning out of control, he reached for his power inflator, but at his depth and rate of descent it was a losing battle. Mark's BC now required seven times as much air to inflate as it would on the surface, and the inflator simply couldn't keep pace with his rapid descent.

Panicked, Mark began to kick hard toward the surface, but strenuous exertion only added to the debilitating effects of narcosis and carbon dioxide buildup. It's likely that Mark suffered deepwater blackout and drowned.

Having arrested his descent by clinging to the wall, Will was able to inflate his BC. As he rapidly ascended, the fog of narcosis began to lift, and Will regained the presence of mind to slow his ascent at around 70 feet. He had enough air to complete a short safety stop at 15 feet, but surfaced with his computer showing a decompression violation.

In spite of his rapid ascent and omitted decompression, Will was lucky. He suffered no notable symptoms of decompression sickness. Mark's body was never found.



Carol Call Photo by Doug Geddes

## Lessons for Life

- Deep diving requires proper training, planning, topside support and gear.
- Divers need a larger gas supply, high-performance regulators and high-capacity BCs.
- Extra weight is dangerous on a deep dive. The compression of wetsuits and BCs compounds negative buoyancy. At about 200 feet, negative buoyancy is self-propagating.
- Rapid descents aggravate nitrogen narcosis. The maximum safe descent rate is 70 feet per minute. Pauses allow the body to compensate for the increasing pressure. □



Noel Hall, Charlie Denham and The Captain Staff Photo

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## 2004 Membership Dues

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2004 Membership Dues were due in January.

- Student (with student ID)..... \$10.00
- Single & Family (1 diver)..... 30.00
- Family (2 or more divers) ..... 40.00

**Renewal:** Please send payment to the address listed below. And 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 or Mail to:** Kit Hudson  
231 Stourbridge Rd.  
Versailles, KY 40383  
(606) 873-4974  
[kithuds@iglou.com](mailto:kithuds@iglou.com)

**New Members:** Fill out & mail enclosed form in the newsletter. □

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## 2004 North Carolina

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### Carolina Diving with Discovery Diving

Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> travel to Moorhead City, NC.

Sunday June 20<sup>th</sup> -Monday June 21<sup>st</sup> dive 2 tanks each day.

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> return or optional 3<sup>rd</sup> day of diving.

Cost 2 days of diving tank rental and weights included  
\$220

Each additional Day \$110

Lodging per night dbl. occupancy \$50 pp

Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday \$200 plus diving  
\$420

Additional day of diving \$160

So two days of diving and lodging will be \$420

Three days of diving and lodging \$580

Extras 100 cubic ft. tank \$5 more per tank.

Nitrox \$8 per tank addition

**We need a \$75 deposit by March Dive Club  
meeting**

**Only 6 dive spots available at this time!**

**3 are gone as of 2-11-04**

**Contact Kit Hudson**

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## From The Secretary

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*Meeting Minutes*

*By Robert Shepard*



We welcomed 1 guest to the club meeting in February.

Doug Geddes discussed the Little Cayman trip scheduled for this month. There will be 42 people going.

The Truk trip will now include a side trip to Yap. The trip is now filled; however, there is a standby list.

There will be a checkout dive trip to Somerset on Feb. 21. The Divers Den dive shop has invited the club to use their indoor pool between 12 and 2 p.m.

A trip is being planned to Morehead City, NC on June 19. The dive cost is \$220 and lodging is between \$30 and \$60/night. A \$75 deposit is required to signup for the trip.

The annual Spindletop Banquet will be held on March 27. The cost is \$24.

Mark showed slides of a dive trip to N.C. There are lots of wrecks there.

Treasurer's report from the EC on 2/24, we had an account balance of \$14,314.87 in both the unreserved and reserved funds. □

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## The Editor's Notes

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*By John Geddes*



Hey, it was "Hot" and the Beer was "Cold" and I was off duty, with no diving until the next day. Not bad for a beer in one hand and the camera in the other!

Starting this month, we shall include a little piece of history of how the club started. If you would like to add to this, I would like to hear from you to fill that spot every month. This could even be one of your favorite stories of a club dive, and I have heard a few... So I know there is plenty of material to fill volumes out there.

I would like to thank Doug for stepping up to the plate for the first one.

Also, any photos that you like to submit to the Editor (which does not become the property of the Editor), we will be glad to work in. Remember pages 6 and 7 are designed to print off to post, or if you have someone you would like to pass a membership form to. Phone numbers of the EC are on both for quick referrals.

Sorry, Charlie, your pics will be on a 5-minute delay. □



*Palau 2003*



*Photos by Kit Hudson*

# Bluegrass Dive Club 2004 Calendar

\* Post a hard copy in your favorite place.

## March

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
27, Saturday Banquet (Spindletop)  
30, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## April

13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
27, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## May

1, Saturday Club's Derby Party  
11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## June

8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
19-23, Sat-Wed North Carolina trip  
29, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## July

13, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
27, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## August

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
??, Saturday Club Pig Roast  
31, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## September

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
28, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## October

12, Tuesday Club Meeting  
26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## November

9, Tuesday Club Meeting/Dinner (Elections)  
30, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

## December

11, Saturday Club Christmas Party



Ralph Covington / Doug Geddes

Staff Photo

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## 2004 BGDC Officer's & Staff

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Mark Kidd, President	266-2276
Carol Call, Co-Vice President	253-3992
Dan Miller, Co-Vice President	948-5133
Bob Shepard, Secretary	263-0165
Kit Hudson, Treasurer	873-4974
Doug Geddes, Divemaster	224-3197
Rick Stephan, Safety Office	223-3719
Mike McCann, Webmaster	255-3937
John Geddes, <u>Undercurrents</u> Editor	223-7926



### Bluegrass Dive Club Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Family Members \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Divers in Family \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Level of Certification(check one):

- Basic Open Water
- Advanced Open Water
- Rescue Diver
- Divemaster
- Instructor

Membership Options (check one):

- Student (with student ID) .....\$10.00
- Single & Family (1 diver) .....30.00
- Family (2 or more divers).....40.00

Please fill out and mail to: Bluegrass Dive Club  
(With payment please) c/o Kit Hudson  
231 Stourbridge Rd.  
Versailles, KY 40383

Questions: Kit Hudson (859) 873-4974  
Email: [kithuds@iglou.com](mailto:kithuds@iglou.com)



Jim Hammes

Staff Photo

## Dive Club History

By Doug Geddes

The Bluegrass Divers Club, as it was called when our club first started, was brought about when the local dive shop, "Aqua Shop," was owned by Billy Forbes and Dan Conway. Billy Forbes and Buddy Knight decided to start a club for divers to get together for social and diving experiences. The first meeting was back in May 1971, and took place at St. Paul Catholic "Ava Maria building." The club moved several times during the next 10 years, and finally settled down and became associated with the downtown YMCA. The club changed its name to Bluegrass YMCA Dive Club. That association lasted about 10 years. Things changed again when most of the club members decided they wanted the option of alcoholic beverages at the meetings. They knew this wouldn't be allowed at the "Y", so they began looking for a different meeting place. It wasn't long before they found "The Greenleaf Inn," a hotel with a meeting room. It was voted on and the move was on. At this point the name was changed to just Bluegrass Dive Club. The club continued at that location until the year of 2000, at which time the hotel was sold and torn down. The club moved to its current location "The Racquet Club". The current location offers the members the ability to buy alcoholic drinks and serves food if so desired. If all goes well, the club should be there for a long time. ☐

Next time: Diving History of the Club  
(If you have a favorite remembrance or story or pics about the club and you would like to share it in this section of the newsletter, let the Editor know.)