

The Rebel Yell

A Newsletter for the Diving Rebels - One of the Oldest Scuba Clubs in Texas - Established 1958

July 2011

2011 DIVING REBEL BOARD

Danny Bouska,	President
Mark Estill,	Vice President
Kelly Barentine,	Treasurer
Rita Simpson,	Secretary
Tina Caron,	Activities Director
Sherry Hammond,	Sr. Board Member
Marcus Greenberg,	Jr. Board Member
Danny Barentine,	Jr. Board Member

Appointed Positions

Ellen Fourton,	Newsletter Editor
Danny Bouska,	Webmaster
Connie Mitchell,	Historian

To contact a member of the Board, please visit our website at:

WWW.DIVINGREBELS.ORG

or send an email with your question(s) and/or comments to:

info@divingrebels.org



We are on the web in multiple locations:
Click on an image to go to the site!

Mobile Users



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

Humperdinks in Arlington
700 Six Flags Dr.
Arlington, TX 76011

Wednesday – July 6, 2011

6:30pm Social

7:15pm Meeting Begins

July Fashion Fireworks

What's Inside?

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Upcoming Events Calendar

- July 16-17 Athens Scuba Park
- Aug 3 Membership Meeting – John Richerson Diving in the Philippines
- Aug 20-21 Blue Lagoon
- Sept 7 Membership Meeting - Chinese Auction
- Sept 3-4 South Padre Island Rig and Wreck Diving
- Oct 5 Membership Meeting – Board Nominations

President's Report

Hello,

Wow, if you didn't make the Mid Year Outing at Clear Springs Scuba Park, you missed a great time. There were approximately 40 people present and the majority of those dove at least once. Check out the article elsewhere in this newsletter for more on the fun from this past weekend.

The number of people attending outings and monthly membership meetings has been outstanding this year and is due in part to the continued growth the Diving Rebels has had over the last couple of years. Our current membership is at 85 members which may be an all time record; although, growth is good, with growth come growing pains.

Earlier this year, the Club outgrew the meeting room on the east side of J Gilligan's and working with the owner, in April, we moved to the bar area of J Gilligan's. Though the room was larger, after a recent meeting with the owner of J Gilligan's to discuss the meeting room arrangements, we all agreed that the room does not fully suit the needs of the Club as a meeting location.

In an effort to find a location which better serves the needs of the Club, on June 15th, the Monthly Board of Directors Meeting was held at Humperdink's, 700 Six Flags Drive in Arlington where the Board of Directors, several past Board Members and several randomly invited members, toured the meeting facility.

After touring the meeting room and everyone in attendance providing feedback, the decision was made to move the Diving Rebels Scuba Club Monthly Membership Meetings to Humperdink's beginning with the July 6, 2011 meeting. Meeting times will not change and we will continue to start gathering at 6:30pm, with the meeting beginning at 7:15pm.

The positive points for moving our meeting location:

1. Centrally located in the Metroplex at I30 and Highway 360
2. Maximum space to comfortably seat 100 or more
3. Meeting Room can be completely closed off from the restaurant and there is no carry-over noise
4. Meeting Room use fee waived
5. No requirement for minimum orders or that everyone purchase something
6. Totally non-smoking environment. There are two outdoor smoking areas, one in the front of the building and one outside the meeting room.
7. Extensive menu from which to order
8. Wireless sound system
9. Large screen projection TV with laptop connection for presentations
10. Wi-Fi available
11. Restrooms right outside the meeting room doors
12. Dedicated area for board meetings

Change is always difficult; however, there was 100% agreement among the board and invited guest that the move to a new location will be a positive step forward for the Diving Rebels as we continue to grow into the largest and most active scuba club in the Metroplex.

See you on July 6th at: Humperdink's
700 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

Danny

NEW MEETING LOCATION: HUMPERDINKS IN ARLINGTON
(See President's Report, Pg 2)



BIRTHDAYS

- 7/3 George Bartulevicz
- 7/4 Jeff Larson
- 7/12 Steve Shipe
- 7/15 John Richerson
- 7/24 Deborah Larson
- 7/25 Bill Davidson
- 7/25 Jim Kirchoff

ANNIVERSARIES

- 7/2 Deborah & Jeff Larson

Did we miss your special date? If so, it's not in our database. Contact Mark Estill to update your info!

July Fashion Fireworks!

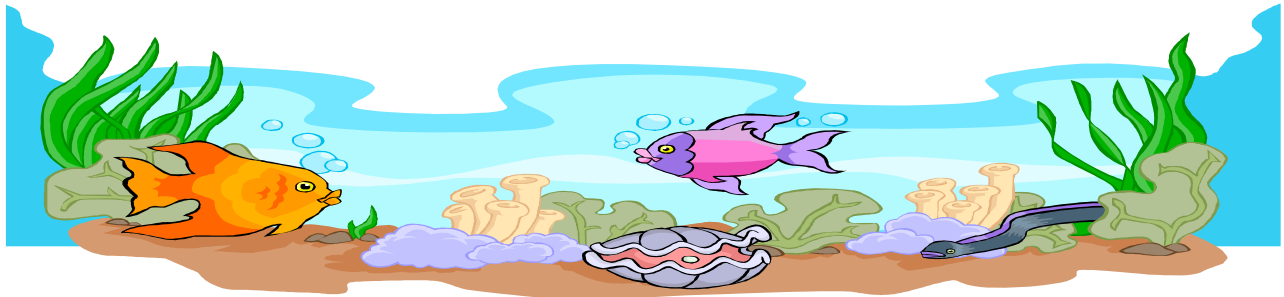
We are GEARing up for the July Fashion Fireworks! That's right! You can purchase Summer GEAR, Winter GEAR, T-Shirts, Tank Tops, Aprons, Hats, and Yoga pants, yes . . . Yoga pants. Become the latest fashion statement with your new Rebel Gear.

The Fashion Fireworks explode at the July meeting so be there....!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR A YEAR OF DIVING AND FUN!

July 16-17 Athens Scuba Park, Gena Natho Coordinator
Aug 6-7 Scientific Diver Course, Aquarena Spring, Register w/ Danny Bouska
Aug 20-21 Blue Lagoon, Kelly Barentine Coordinator
Sept 3-4 S. Padre Island, Rig and Wreck Diving, Connie Mitchell Coordinator
Sept 7 Membership Meeting AND Chinese Auction
Sept 23-25 Lake Travis – Windy Point, Need Coordinator
Oct 22-23 Blue Lagoon – Underwater Pumpkin Carving, Need Coordinator
Nov 12 Chili Cook Off
Dec 10 Christmas Party, Lake Arlington Rec Room
June 9, 2012 South Pacific Islands of FIJI



Regarding Outings and Activities.....from Tina Caron, Activities Director

- Athens Scuba Park, July 16-17. Gena Natho is our outing coordinator - see the full article in this edition of the newsletter for outing details.
- Scientific Diver Course at Aquarena Springs, August 6-7. Danny Bouska is the outing coordinator. The cost for this outing is \$230 pp, not including any travel expenses or rooming and meals. The deadline to register is July 6th. Please contact Danny Bouska for registration or further outing information.
- Blue Lagoon, August 20-21. Kelly Barentine is the outing coordinator. We are looking for meal coordinators for this outing, so please see Kelly if you are interested in helping out!
- South Padre Island, September 3-5. Connie Mitchell is coordinating this trip. She will be able to provide local hotel information and dive pricing. You will book your own hotel and coordinate your own travel to SPI, but she will secure spots on the dives for you.
- Windy Point at Lake Travis, September 24-25. We need a coordinator for this outing! Please see Tina Caron if you are willing and able to help coordinate - this outing was a huge success last year, and we hope for a repeat this time around, but we need someone to help make that happen!
- Blue Lagoon, October 22-23. Again, we will be seeking an outing coordinator for this weekend. Please see Tina Caron if you would like to assist! This is another fun outing, with warm water, good visibility, and plenty of things to see while you are underwater. A traditional activity at the October outing is Underwater Pumpkin Carving, and this is also a great location to conduct a Navigation Challenge!

ATHENS SCUBA PARK – JULY OUTING

Coordinator: Gena Natho

The Diving Rebels July outing will be at Athens Scuba Park, July 16-17. Gena Natho has graciously offered to coordinate this outing. We have arranged Dock #3 as the home base for the Diving Rebels during the outing. There are lots of trees and shade in that area to hang out under, and plenty of room for camping as well. The dock #3 entry point will put us close to Calvin's new wreck, "The Jet". At dusk, we can suit up and do a night dive. Calvin has rigged up lights on his new wreck, just for this. Along with this new jet, Athens is chock full of various wrecks and objects to find and explore! To see photos of the different wrecks, the link is <http://athensscubapark.com/gallery.asp>

Athens is great during the summer because you really don't need a wetsuit, with water temps usually in the high 80's. You could comfortably dive at Athens Scuba Park in shorts and a T-Shirt if you don't want to wear a wetsuit. This is sure to be a bonus with our recent air temps being at or above 100 degrees!

We are in need of meal coordinator volunteers for this outing! On Saturday, everyone will be on their own for lunch. Saturday evening we will grill hamburgers and hotdogs, or there are several options for restaurants in town, such as Ochoas Mexican, Braums, or pizza delivery. If you volunteer to coordinate a meal, you can choose one of these options, or come up with your own meal plan....this one can be as simple or complex as you want. The pizza place will even deliver to the park – it doesn't get much easier than that! Sunday morning breakfast can also be a simple continental breakfast, something in town, or something more elaborate if you like. Please let Gena or Tina know at the membership meeting if you are interested in helping with meals for this outing.

If anyone wants to bring an RV, they do have hookups. If you would like to use a camper, we would recommend calling the park and making reservations to secure a space.

For more information about the park, visit <http://athensscubapark.com/> or call them directly at 903-675-5762. Please see below for park fees and shop hours.

John Richerson will arrive at Athens during the day on Friday and hang our banner to stake a place close to dock #3. If anyone has any additional questions, you can feel free to email Gena at gnatho@flash.net. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at Athens in mid-July!

Park Hrs: W-Th 10a-5p; F 10a - Su 6p

Dive Shop Hrs: W-F 10a-5p; S/S 8a-6p

Daily Fees: All Ages

Diver entry \$15 (must have C-card)

Non-Diver Entry \$5 (watcher, swimmer, snorkeler)

Camping \$5

Night Diving \$5

Electricity \$20

Air Fills \$5

Camping / Night diving - Fri & Sat evening only. Entry after 6 PM must be confirmed by Dive Shop. No late entry after 10pm

Last Call to Register for the Scientific Diver Course August 6-7
Aquarena Spring, San Marcos Texas
10 Spaces Filled, 6 Remaining

The Diving for Science authorization course was developed to protect and preserve the unique and special aquatic environment. Aquarena's Diving for Science program is a great way for divers to get to dive in the cleanest and clearest water in Texas and at the same time get to become involved in one of the largest habitat restoration projects in the country.

Once the course is completed individuals have the opportunity to participate in the many educational, research and conservation projects that occur throughout the year. The Scientific Diving Program helps assure that all diving operations in Spring Lake are procedurally safe as well as environmentally sensitive. Once certified, divers have limitless opportunities to participate in our Volunteer Diving Program.

The course is held over two days: Saturday & Sunday. The two day course focuses on The Edwards Aquifer, the Habitat, Endangered Species, Archaeology, State & Federal Regulations governing Spring Lake and advanced diving techniques to ensure protection of this critical habitat.

The cost of the course is \$230. A registration form will be available at the July meeting or can be downloaded from the Club's website. Check the main page under "Join Us For A Great Time & Great Diving" for the link. The course fee must be paid by or at the July Membership Meeting.

For more information or questions, contact Danny Bouska at 817-381-5051 or email scientific.diver@divingrebels.org

Diving Rebels 2011 Crawfish Boil

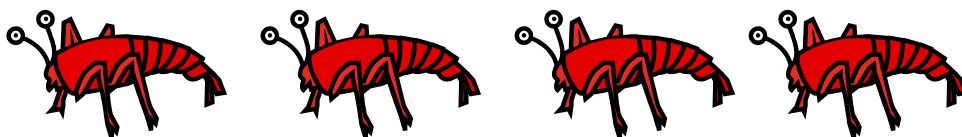
By Rita Simpson, Secretary

A huge success! The first annual Diving Rebels Crawfish Boil was held on June 5 at the Arlington VFW Post 8561. The weather was almost perfect for our outdoor event. Warm sunshine coupled with a nice breeze kept everyone fairly comfortable. Rum punch was a welcome addition to the day and helped cool off the palates. Boiled crawfish, sausage, potatoes, corn, shrimp, and ribs were served to a hungry bunch of divers and guests.

A big Thank You goes out to Steve Ogden for rounding up several great Raffle and Silent Auction items. Also to our members for donating new and gently-used items for the fundraising event. After everything was "said and done," the club put \$405.61 in the coffers!!! This money goes a long way to bring speakers to meetings and have events for the club.

Certainly no one went home hungry! A good number of mud bugs were hauled off in Ziplocs for the next day. And some of them ended up in a gumbo for our mid-year outing at CSSP!

A good time was had by all, and for you folks who missed it . . . well, there's always next year!



Diving Rebels Outing to South Padre Island
Rig and Wreck Diving with American Diving Sept 3-5
Coordinator: Connie Mitchell

Just a reminder that we have a dive trip coming IN BLUE WATER (well, maybe you already dove Flower Gardens...) to South Padre Island, on Labor Day Weekend.

We will dive the Oil Rig "Little Sara" on Saturday (9/3) and "The Texas Clipper" on Sunday (9/4). I have 8 confirmed divers with hotel rooms booked. If your name was on the sign-up list and you don't have a confirmation please get in touch with me. We only need 16 to have the whole boat for Diving Rebels. We have all booked on-line for hotels because that was much cheaper than anything I could find as a group.

Some of us are going down on Friday night (9/2), some of us want to car-pool, but we have to be at the boat (American Diving Shop) on Saturday by 6:30am. I have waivers for everyone to sign, so please see me to confirm diving and get a room booked.

Dive Shop Information:

American Diving
Wreck Diving Specialist
Sea Ranch Marina, South Padre Island
www.divesouthpadre.com ("contact us" has map info)
info@divesouthpadre.com
Ph 956-761-2030 Fax 956-761-6039

Hotel Information:

Padre South Hotel (oldest hotel on the beach, pool, hot tub, beach access)
online (Cheaptickets or Orbitz)
1500 Gulf Blvd, South Padre Island
Ph 956-761-4951

For more information contact Connie Mitchell

817-829-2195
officemomma_2000@yahoo.com

FYI: TrashFest October 1, 2011 (Not a Rebel Outing)

TrashFest is the oldest underwater cleanup campaign in the United States bringing together scuba divers from Texas and beyond to improve the quality of the Comal River in New Braunfels. This is not a planned Rebel Outing but of course, we always encourage diving! *For more information, please visit www.trashfest.net.*



Ordinary Members, Extraordinary Experiences-Gena Natho

by Kelly Barentine, Treasurer

They say you should never judge a book by its cover and that saying certainly applies to our long term member Gena Natho. In talking to her, I grew more amazed over all she has accomplished in the world of diving.

Gena began diving in January 1983 where she was certified at Don Brod's Scuba Park on Lake Travis. Unfortunately his scuba park is no longer there but they called it Wreck Alley now and you can only get there by boat. She decided to get her certification because she planned to go on a trip with her friend Cheryl Hamel to Grand Cayman Island, and since her friend was a diver she did not want to be left behind on shore. She does not remember much about her certification except that she was cold. Once she made that first dive in the Cayman's she was hooked. She found the small worms underwater fascinating and it gave her a sense of pride knowing she got to see things that at one time only Jacques Cousteau could see.

Her Open Water training was only the beginning and it evolved naturally, as opportunities were presented to her she stepped up and took advantage of them. After her Open Water certification in January of 1983 she did her Advanced O.W. in April. From there she just took all the specialties that she could and got her Dive Master in May 1984, Master Certification in December, Assistant Instructor in March 1985, Open Water Instructor May 1997, Master Scuba Diver Trainer in December 1997 and Enriched Air Instructor in August 1999. In 2001-2002 she was a very busy lady getting her TDI/SDI Instructor certification; Cave Diver, Gas Blender, Rebreather and Deco Diver certifications. She also did an Underwater Archeology certification with Joel Shiner in Spring Lake at Aquarena Springs in 1983. It may be hard to believe but none of her certifications were deliberate, she just found herself moving from learning experience to another by surrounding herself with friends who dive.

In all her diving not only has she gotten to know the area lakes in Texas and Oklahoma she has also developed a love to help others while getting their certifications. She has always had a good time getting together with others and her difficult times during her certification kept her humble and willing to share her experiences.

All of her experiences in diving helped her keep her wits about her while assisting a friend with her advanced class; it gave her one of her more frightening experiences. While at 120' below a busy boat channel the instructor lost her sense of direction and got turned around. They did not want to surface or bring the class up with all the boats flying across the water so Gena took the time to take in her surroundings and was able to lead the class back to the boat without having to surface. While it does not sound that dangerous it is important to remember that those students relied on them to keep them safe and any instructor knows that teaching a class alone is frightening.

With all her training she has managed to be able to make some exciting dive trips, it has not been all work and no play. Gena remembers a dive to the Turks & Caicos they noticed the dive group was being circled by Grey Reef Sharks. The divers began going up to the boat one by one and Gena found herself along with the Dive Master enjoying the sight of the sharks gliding through the water until they noticed that the circling began to grow tighter and tighter as well as more aggressive. Finally one shark broke out of the formation and charged her; it was at that point they decided they need to get back into the boat.

She has also gotten to experience the excitement of diving in the cenotes at the Yucatán with Alec Ranke of Southern Scuba. She tells that the clarity of the water cannot be surpassed and the stalactite/stalagmite formations are a beauty that is indescribable. To complete the experience she was able to trek through the jungle complete with a Sherpa to cart the gear for them.

As Gena dives to relax, for her there is nothing better than, “getting neutral and kicking back.” She always carries lift bags with her so that he can go on an underwater scavenger hunt, she likes to treasure hunt mainly in Lake Travis and San Marcos. The San Marcos River has provided her with quite an extensive collection of arrowheads. Although at Lake Travis, her search actually produced some monetary booty in the form of a roll of money, \$25 to be exact.

Gena joined the Diving Rebels in 1985 through former member Paige Nelson who use to organize the annual San Marcos River clean-up. She would help him put together the slide show presentation of the event before there were laptops and self-made video productions. She found that she enjoyed the camaraderie, organized dives and variety of activities that the club offered.

Gena’s love of the hunt is not limited to underwater activities; she enjoys searching for fossils on dry land as well as being a part of the Dallas Paleontology Club a while back. She has been active in her community by volunteering for the City of Euless Fire and Police department, including helping in the jail. Right now she is trying her hand at storm chasing with her boyfriend John Richerson who is also a diver and club member. Gena’s main passion is helping others and to show them how to have a fun dive. She is willing to help a person overcome a fear such as mask removal and showing them how fun diving can be.

I encourage you to introduce yourself to Gena the next time you see her at a meeting and listen to some of the experiences she has to share. I can guarantee you I will never look at her the same way again and have been inspired to continue with my own diving education and overcome what holds me back. I can assure you that I would not hesitate in the slightest to ask for her help, I know that I will be in more than capable hands.



2008



2011

**\$\$\$ SAVE THE DATE \$\$\$
CHINESE AUCTION SEPT. 7**

The Chinese Auction on Wednesday, September 7 is a Diving Rebels long-standing FUNdraiser. Can we top the 2010 amount raised: \$1,836?? Surely we can...

Look for a refresher on guidelines, trading, etc. in the August newsletter.

Diving Rebels Mid-Year Party – A Great Event

by Ellen Fourton, Editor

It bears repeating: what a great event!!! If you missed the 2011 Diving Rebels Annual Mid-Year Party then you missed a very fun time. The Diving Rebels set up base camp in the grove of trees on the East side of Clear Springs Scuba Park. A few Rebels arrived Friday afternoon and lay claim to a covered shelter and shaded area. From this location, the Rebels had a covered area, space for tarps and easy access in and out of the water.

Diving started Friday and continued Saturday. Tarps and gear were all over the place. Several drying lines were up. At any given time there were multiple teams of Rebels entering and exiting the water. At one time I counted almost 40 people and there may have been more. We had one guest – Jessie – who drove up from San Antonio to dive with us! We had the newly certified divers and the very experienced divers in attendance. We also had a good mix of new members and not-so-new members.

The viz at CSSP was about average – 8-10 feet. Depending on your dive, you might have seen the fish nurseries in the hydrilla or you might have your ear nipped by a perch. If you were near the wall, you may have seen the partially scooped out lake bottom with fish nests and some very protective perch (thank goodness they don't get really big). Some Rebels investigated the shark and the boats. I understand other Rebels visited the airplane and tested the emergency exits. If one stayed at about 18ft, the water temp was very pleasant – 80 degrees, below 18ft it was 72 degrees. It was reported that there was another thermocline at 28ft.

CSSP is a very easy place to dive and well set-up for new divers. With the buoys identifying the platforms, boats, shark, airplane, etc., a diver can test navigational skills. But a new diver can also follow the lines connecting the platforms and easily navigate to the wall. And, if a diver chooses to follow the shoreline he/she may have a very pleasant dive.

Around 4pm Danny Bouska fired up his gigantic charcoal grill and started cooking the chicken, hamburgers and hotdogs. Dinner was served around 6pm. The board and membership brought sides, salads, desserts, snacks, appetizers, fruit, crawfish gumbo, rice, cold tea, cold water and even popsicles. We truly had a feast and no one left hungry.

While the food was heating up the new Jr. Board Member, Danny Barentine, was busy selling raffle tickets. There were many great prizes and a shiny new yellow tank was the grand prize. After dinner Danny slowly and torturously proffered the ticket bucket to members who would blindly pull a ticket and read the number. Diving Rebel clothing items and scuba accessories were raffled first. Finally, the grand prize ticket was pulled and Sarah Fite won the tank. Congratulations Sarah!

Members stayed Saturday until the late evening and some camped Saturday night, finally departing on Sunday after getting in one last dive. (Thanks to those of you that left Sunday who picked up, tore down, and rescued orphan gear before you departed.)

The 2011 Mid-Year was very successful in bringing members together for diving, fellowship and a fabulous meal. For those of you who didn't make it: we missed you and we hope to see you diving soon. Thanks to all the Board and non-Board members who worked to make this a memorable June outing.

The Diving Rebels Scuba Club



**Invites You
To Join Us**

June 9 – June 16 or 23 2012

On a Trip to the South Pacific Islands of FIJI

June 9 – June 16, Beqa Lagoon Resort, Beqa Island Fiji
June 16 - 23, VoliVoli Beach Resort, Viti Levu Fiji



There are two spaces available at the published prices. After these two spaces are gone, the posted prices may no longer be available.

Life's an adventure; don't miss out, SIGN UP today!

**More information available on the Club's Website
www.divingrebels.org**

Or by emailing

fiji2012@divingrebels.org

