

# The Rebel Yell

A Newsletter for the Diving Rebels - One of the Oldest Scuba Clubs in Texas - Established 1958  
September 2009

## 2009 DIVING REBEL BOARD

Keith Weber, President  
Mark Estill, Vice President  
Selena Woodward, Treasurer  
Ellen Fourton, Secretary  
George Bartulevicz, Activities Director  
Johnathan Bowman, Sr. Board Member  
Mark Stonebridge, Jr. Board Member

## Appointed Positions

Danny Bouska, Webmaster/Newsletter  
Linda Magnuson, Historian

To contact one of the Club's officers,  
please visit our website at:

[WWW.DIVINGREBELS.ORG](http://WWW.DIVINGREBELS.ORG)

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

[info@divingrebels.org](mailto:info@divingrebels.org)



## MEMBERSHIP MEETING Wednesday – September 2, 2009

Meeting Time  
**6:30pm Social**  
**7:15pm Meeting**

## What's Inside?

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## September Meeting Program

Diving Rebel Annual Chinese Auction  
See page 5 for more details!

## Upcoming Events Calendar

Sept	2	Monthly Membership Meeting & Chinese Auction
Sept	5-7	Texas Clipper
Oct	7	Monthly Membership Meeting
Oct	24-25	Underwater Pumpkin Carving and Dive Clear Springs Scuba Park
Nov	4	Monthly Membership Meeting
Nov	7-8	Annual Chili Cook Off – Joe Pool Lake
Dec	2	Monthly Membership Meeting
Dec	12	Christmas Party

## President's Report

Hey Rebels,

I am really struggling with calling us the Diving Rebels. I have not seen many of us diving this year. I am especially frustrated that out of our current 63 members on the roster that I can't fill 8 spots to get the best prices for diving and economies of scale for communal costs. It makes me wonder why I belong to a club that offers no advantage than if I booked and traveled alone. To further compound the issue is that I could do it cheaper alone, but have spent many hours organizing and trying to recruit divers for the trip.

So, here's my challenge to the Club. **Put your regulator where your mouth is.** If you are not willing to dive and breath underwater, why are you a member? In past articles I have described how we better our skills, how we mature as divers, how the benefits of diving in lakes and low visibility gives one comfort and expertise in situations that are out of the ordinary in visibility conditions that are more favorable. The Club subsidizes the events. I am confounded as why more divers are not capturing the opportunities offered.

Here's my attitude, and I believe when I first stated it we lost members, but nonetheless, it comes to bear in the current circumstances and has been revised from 5 or 6 years ago when first expressed. I like diving, I love this Club, and if it comes down to it and I am the only diver, thank you for contribution to my diving. Wish you would have been there to share it!

Leads me into my other incredibility - serving on the Board. Ask current Board members what it is like. It is not difficult. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed., so only 1 other night a month. I will admit each job takes some work outside of that. There are minutes to prepare, budgets and variances to maintain, inventories to keep, websites to update, speakers to book – and all other kinds of stuff. But that is what makes us who we are, a vibrant, diving, socializing, doing-things, Club!

At this point, I am usually proposing a slate, even as Treasurer, I liked being prepared for the next year a little earlier than necessary. As management, that is succession planning. Unfortunately, this year as of the September meeting, I only have Kelly, a relatively new member and ineligible for nomination or election, that has expressed interest. Rest assured she gets her pick of spots as any position that goes vacant from November elections can be appointed. I say we ask her what she wants and anything else is fair game for you to volunteer your services. We need you, the Club needs you.

Not to gloat, but I have been to Cozumel, MX and Destin, FL, this year outside attending all of all the Club sanctioned outings. I know other members have been to Cozumel multiple times. Others have been to South Padre, the Bahamas and other exotic destinations. My point is that if you are blowing bubbles, you are definitely a candidate for the Board. We need divers first, the board function is secondary. So whether you have been to 3 outings or 3 meetings, doesn't really matter to me at this point – I think we have too few to fill the open slots. I expect the guaranteed positions are Mark Stonebridge as Senior Board Member and Keith Weber as President. Want to join us and Kelly, just let me know – I will try to make it as painless as possible – truly, ask any current board member.

Looking out for our future,  
Your President,  
Keith

## August 15-16, 2009 Virtual Dive at Lake Murray

Well, you all missed a good time diving at Lake Murray. The visibility was 30 ft and there were absolutely no boats. There were huge bass, catfish and turtles galore. They had to be swatted away they were so thick. There were worries about making it back alive.

Oh, if it were only true. As you may remember, we did not have an August outing due to unfortunate circumstances with many of the divers not being able to attend the event.

Next time, maybe the dream will come true, good vis and no boats.

## All ye Rebels

Does the club owe you a shirt for joining this year? (we know if we do) But, perhaps we are out of your size? Well, here's your chance to get a color of your choice.

At the September meeting we will be taking pre-orders for women's and odd colors to include with our inventory order that is the Club sanctioned blue and men's styles. I plan to have the order placed and hopefully shipping by our Sep 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to arrive for the October membership meeting.

Given an expected order of about 60 t-shirts, I hereby propose the budget amendment necessary to purchase the shirts. We had \$500 budgeted in May and this will be closer to \$800 by gut feel resulting in a \$300 "gut feel" amendment. Of course some of that will be pre-purchase, so the revenue line will also have more than expected by a "gut feel" of \$100.

Diving Rebel wear is cool, fashionable and can save you fines. Get your color and style today.



### Birthdays

Sept	5	Jill Bouska
Sept	9	Carlos Juarez
Sept	15	Etsen Barentine
Sept	19	Johnathan Bowman

### Anniversaries

Sept	1	Nick & Paula Boyett
Sept	6	Sherry Hammond & Kevin Campbell



## A Rebel Welcome to New Members Joining in August 2009

Johnny Griffin – Arlington Texas  
PADI Adv. Open Water

Say "Hi" to Johnny and give a Rebel  
Welcome to our newest members!

## Don't forget Diving Rebels Caps and T-Shirts On sale at any monthly meeting!



Aquatic Blue



NAVY & NATURAL



BLACK



NAVY

Merchandise sold to Diving Rebels Members Only

## **Pumpkin Carving – Clear Springs Scuba Park October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

Come on out to CSSP and do some diving and carve up a pumpkin. The contest has been dominated by Doug and George the last few years so we need a contender that can break the Spike's (some number like Spike IV) rule of the carved vegetable. So bring your orange potential winner and cut it up with us.

Club furnished hamburgers and brats and most of the fixings will be furnished for lunch. It is planned for 11:30 am with the pumpkin carving dive expected about 2 – 2:30. Judging will be about 4pm. Overnighters can enjoy any leftovers, but may want to plan a snack at least.

Prizes will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places. We have a decent budget so the prizes should be pretty good.

For anyone really interested in diving, some of us will try to beat the classes and dive soon after opening – hopefully about 8:30 or 9am – knowing us, more like 9 or 9:15. Diving after the judging will also be available to suck up any air left in that tank.

Depending on participation and the desire of the majority, a campsite decorating contest may also be added to the agenda.

George is the coordinator, [activities@divingrebels.org](mailto:activities@divingrebels.org) so if you have questions or suggestions, he would be the one to see.

Come on out, let's have some fun,  
Keith

## **October Speaker October 7, 2009**

Want to hear about diving Destin Florida? Keith will be giving a short video clip and discussing his recent dive trip there. Photos are courtesy of Elizabeth Ribble of the Reef Riders – so you know they will be much better than Keith could take. There were some definite firsts on this trip so come out, hopefully be intrigued and get excited about our wonderful USA coastal waters.

## **Utila Honduras – April 10 -17, 2010**

A few spaces remain available for the trip to Utila Honduras, April 10-17 2010. During a four week period from the middle of March to the middle of April is prime Whale Shark season in Utila which brings Whale Shark researchers from all over the world to the island. The resort limits the number of room's available providing space to these researchers. The researchers staying at the resort provide an additional bonus because in the evenings the researchers give talks on Whale Sharks research making this not only a fun filled week, but also a very educational week.

For more information: <http://divingrebels.org/utila.htm> or contact Danny at 817-542-2962



## What is the CHINESE AUCTION?

Well it's time for the circus to come to town! By that it means the annual Diving Rebels Chinese Auction. This is not only the biggest Rebels fundraiser but also one of the most entertaining meetings the Rebels have.

The way this works is that we have a live auction for donated gifts. What makes it special is that the items being auctioned are wrapped and unknown to the audience. What is being auctioned might be a dive computer, an old wet suit, spare fins, boxes of Girl scout cookies or just about anything else. After you win an item by high bid, you have the choice of either keeping the item, or forcing a trade for whatever item was won before yours. The kicker is that you have to decide to trade or not to trade before you unwrap your item. The previous bid winner may have won the bid for a dive knife that you want. So you trade off your wrapped item for the dive knife not knowing what you traded away. This means that you at least get the dive knife, but what did you give up for it???? Maybe it is an old smelly wet suit; maybe it is a new dive computer. As trades can only go back to one previous round, the bid winner before you will unwrap whatever you swapped him. He cannot have it taken away nor can he force a swap for any other previously auctioned items.

Your item, whether you swap or not, may be taken from you by the next winning bidder. You also must unwrap and disclose you item to the group. If all of this does not make sense, don't worry it will be explained again at the meeting.

What we ask you to bring is some item of value wrapped in a nondescript wrapping, newspaper or paper bags are quite acceptable. Think about things you can talk your employer into donating, things you got two of for Christmas. How many people really need two paper shredders, twelve boxes of thin mint cookies or three electric cheese straighteners?

Keith again will dive Lake Arlington at the December Christmas Party if \$1000 is raised during the auction, but a couple of twist have been added. One twist is if over \$1000 is raised during the auction, the first buddy spot will be auctioned during free bidding; afterwards, divers wishing to dive with Keith will pay the initial dive auction amount to participate. The second twist, to get out of diving, you can pay that same amount - 1 diver "election" and 1 "waiver" allowed. No double jeopardy will apply, therefore, someone could not pay for Doug 3 times and Doug have to pay 3 times to stay out. Once selected and the waiver paid, you are off limits.

If you want to win a bid bring some \$\$\$\$ , as the competition sometimes becomes quite fierce, and the banter hilarious and the items worth the effort.



## **Diving News from Around the World**

### **Barrier Reef damage may put \$38b hole in tourism**

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/global-warming/reef-harm-would-put-38b-hole-in-tourism-20090809-ee8s.html>

The bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef caused by climate change would not only destroy one of the world's greatest natural wonders but would cost Australia \$37.7 billion over the next century and devastate tourism, a study has found.

### **Spreading Lionfish Invasion Threatens Bahamas**

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=111695369>

In 1992, Hurricane Andrew smashed an aquarium tank in Florida. About a half-dozen spiny, venomous lionfish washed into the Atlantic Ocean, spawning an invasion that could kill off local industry along with the native fish. Lionfish are native to the Indian and Pacific oceans. But in the past few years, they've spread up the Eastern seaboard and throughout the Caribbean. The Bahamas have been hit the hardest.

### **Healthiest Coral Reef in the US?**

<http://www.news.scubatravel.co.uk/2009/08/healthiest-us-coral-reef-is-in-gulf-of.html>

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is among the healthiest coral reef ecosystems in the US Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico, according to a new NOAA report.

### **Warming Ocean Contributes to Global Warming**

<http://www.news.scubatravel.co.uk/2009/08/warming-ocean-contributes-to-global.html>

The warming arctic ocean is already releasing methane gas: contributing to further global warming much sooner than expected.

### **Freak wave hot spots identified**

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/8188550.stm>

Variations in ocean depth and strong currents increase the chances of freak waves occurring, a study shows.

### **Ocean coral offers pain therapy**

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8183039.stm>

A compound harvested from soft coral off the coast of Taiwan could provide a new treatment for pain from intractable nerve damage, experts say.

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