

The Rebel Yell

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

March 2009

2009 DIVING REBEL BOARD

Keith Weber, President

Mark Estill, Vice President

Selena Woodward, Treasurer

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George Bartulevicz, Activities Director

Johnathan Bowman, Sr. Board Member

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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

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

info@divingrebels.org



MEMBERSHIP MEETING Wednesday – March 4, 2009

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

What's Inside?

- Pg 2 President's Reports,
- Pg 3 Cozumel Mexico Trip Information
Birthdays and Anniversaries,
A Welcome to Our New Members,
Diving Rebel Caps and T-shirts,
- Pg 4 Diving News from Around the World

March Meeting Program

There will not be a formal meeting program this month. This meeting will discuss the annual budget and other Club items.

Upcoming Events Calendar

| | |
|------------|----------------------------|
| Mar 4 | Monthly Membership Meeting |
| Apr 1 | Monthly Membership Meeting |
| Apr 25-26 | Tyler State Park |
| May 6 | Monthly Membership Meeting |
| June 3 | Monthly Membership Meeting |
| June 19-24 | Cozumel Mexico Trip |
| July 1 | Monthly Membership Meeting |

President's Report

Hello Divers of the Rebel nature,

I feel somewhat behind as January's President's Report was in the February's newsletter. In the interest of being in sync with the newsletter publishing date, I am going to have 2 columns this month. This commentary is a follow up to Jan meeting items.

We have grown quickly in the last couple of years and I thought it might be good to take a minute and go over some of our normal meeting practices. Some of you may not know about the 50/50 raffle. We sell raffle tickets at each meeting and the first winner drawn gets a choice of 50 percent of the night's ticket sales or the door prize purchased by the Club for the meeting. We also encourage wearing Diving Rebel branded merchandise, or rather we discourage not wearing it by collecting a fine which is currently 50 cents.

If you missed the February meeting, the report by Danny on his statistical analysis of our membership was very interesting. I was fascinated by the distribution of skill levels within the Club. With 80% recreational and 20% professional, there are ample teachers and we have a good mix overall as within that 20% and 80% there are various levels of expertise as noted by his current certification stats. These have not been reported or analyzed heretofore, but no doubt will become important yardsticks going forward. Below is what Danny reported verbally in our Feb meeting and an email to me. As the 2009 membership renewals closes this month, we will try to have updated stats soon.

According to Danny's breakdown, as of January 11th, the Club has 64 members. Membership is 80% recreational divers (Jr Open Water thru Master Diver) and 20% professional (Divemaster and above)

Certification percentages of the club are:

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 5% | Non Diver |
| 5% | JR Open Water |
| 1% | JR Adv Open Water |
| 25% | Open Water |
| 33% | Adv Open Water |
| 6% | Rescue |
| 5% | Master Diver |
| 9% | Divemaster |
| 1% | Assist Instructor |
| 10% | Instructor or higher |

Quite impressive if you ask me! Let's mix it up even more this year.

Diver by nature,
Keith

March 2009

Salutations all,

As we roll into March, spring is in the air a little early. Diving in wonderful places is on the mind. And that is lucky for us because that is what we do.

We have the Feb outing that has just passed with the publishing of this note, but is yet to come in the writing of it. I am highly looking forward to it – cooking as I type. March will bring a place that few of us have frequented, Canyon Lake. Of course there are some that would like to do the Science Diver training at Aquarena Springs a couple of weeks before (the 14th, 15th I think). I encourage you to do that as a personal accomplishment and expand our statistics as a Club, but unfortunately it will not be a club outing.

In keeping with the theme, we have speakers upcoming that will help educate us on how and where to dive. April is tentatively Bart Jennings with Surface Interval on diving gases. Then in May we have Dave Prichard, a Scubadillo, with a presentation on diving in the USA that impressed me at their Feb meeting. I am actively working on the other months so stay tuned for more to come.

Let's get wet and do our common sport – dive. Just tell me when and where.

Always ready,
Keith

The Diving Rebels Scuba Club



Invites you to join us

June 19 – 24, 2009

Cozumel Mexico
"The Island of the Swallows"



El Cid
L A C E I B A
cozumel • mexico



Check out the website at
www.divingrebels.org/trips/cozumel.htm
for more info!

or
Contact Danny @
webmaster@divingrebels.org



Birthdays



| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Vicky Engle | Mar 3 |
| Bart Jennings | Mar 13 |
| Debbie Leyden | Mar 28 |
| Marc Gowdy | Mar 30 |



A Rebel Welcome to New Members
Joining in
January and February 2009

JANUARY

Danny, Kelly and Etson Barentine
David Blake
Patricia Dougherty
Carlos Juarez
Michael Moody
Tyler Tidwell.
Bart Jennings

FEBRUARY

William 'BJ' Lasik
Lynda Oller

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

Diving News From Around the World

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Explore the oceans in Google Earth

<http://www.news.scubatravel.co.uk/2009/02/explore-oceans-in-google-earth.html>>

Google has launched Ocean in Google Earth, a new feature that lets you explore underwater in 3D and browse ocean-related content. Virtual travelers to Hawaii, for example, can examine underwater volcanoes, see videos about the marine life of the region, read about nearby shipwrecks and contribute photos and videos of favorite surf spots.

Lost Divers "Ignored Instructions"

Two American divers who went missing for seven hours on the Great Barrier Reef ignored instructions, dive boat operator Mike Ball said. The pair - a man and a woman believed to be in their 40s - failed to surface at the end of an hour-long dive on Ribbon Reef Number 10, off the coast of Lizard Island, at about 10am. They were plucked from the water after being found floating eight nautical miles north of the dive site.

5 New Pygmy Seahorse Species Found

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2009/02/photogalleries/new-seahorse-sea-life-found/>>

The Walea pygmy seahorse is one of five species named in a flurry of recent seahorse discoveries from coral reefs in the Red Sea and Indonesia. All five are less than an inch tall (2.5 centimeters) and are among the tiniest known vertebrates. It was thanks to the keen eyes of underwater photographers and divers that these secretive specimens came to light. The seahorses are the first to be discovered in five years. The Walea seahorse is named after an island in central Sulawesi, Indonesia - the only place it has so far been found.

Taiwan coral reefs "turn black" with disease <http://www.enn.com/ecosystems/article/39259>>

Coral reefs off the southeast coast of Taiwan have turned black with disease possibly due to sewage discharge, threatening fragile undersea ecosystems and tourism, a study has claimed.

Coastal fish farms pollute the Sea

<http://www.news.scubatravel.co.uk/2009/02/when-fish-farms-are-built-along-coast.html>>

Marine aquaculture can have some nasty side effects, especially when the pens are set near sensitive coastal environments. All those fish penned up together consume massive amounts of commercial feed, some of which drifts off uneaten in the currents. And the crowded fish, naturally, defecate and urinate by the tens of thousands, creating yet another unpleasant waste stream. New research shows "the icky stuff from the pens will travel farther, and in higher concentrations, than had been generally assumed".

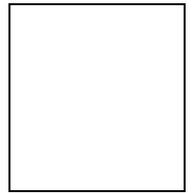
Iron on its Route to the Sea-Floor: A New Path http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=114136>

Iron dust, the rarest nutrient for most marine life, can be washed down by rivers or blown out to sea or--a surprising new study finds--float up from the sea floor in the material spewed from hydrothermal vents. The discovery connects life at the surface to events occurring at extreme depths and pressures. The two worlds were long assumed to have little interaction. Iron trapped in this way does not rust. The metal's purity has practical value. Aquatic organisms metabolize pure iron much more easily than its rusted form. How much captured iron floats into surface waters remains unknown. But any that does would nourish ocean life more efficiently than the oxidized iron from regular sources.

Ocean Survey Finds Identical Species at each Pole <http://www.news.scubatravel.co.uk/2009/02/ocean-survey-finds-identical-species-at.html>>

Hundreds of species live in both polar seas, despite an 11,000-kilometer distance in between. So finds the census of Marine Life. Among many other findings, the scientists also documented evidence of cold water loving species shifting towards both poles to escape rising ocean temperatures.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

