



Established 1958

# DIVING REBELS SCUBA SCOOP

February 2020

Volume: 2020, Issue 2

## FEBURARY NOTES

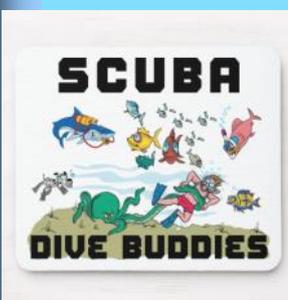
### Maintenance

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These could be your bubbles.  
Come join us.



**"Baby it's cold outside"....**we were just hearing lines like that and **"Frosty the Snowman"** so it's a little weird to be thinking about diving, (Caribbean divers can ignore that) but it is time to be thinking about your gear. We know regulators should be overhauled annually, so think back and if President Obama was in office the last time you had it looked at, you may be pushing your luck. Be sure this is done by someone certified for your regulator. Some require special calibrations and tools to do the job right.

#### **Other things you should check:**

**Tank:** See if it is in need of a VIP and check the date of the last hydrostatic testing. Better to get it done now than find out when you need it.

#### **Buoyancy Compensating Device:**

This gets overlooked a lot but can get you in trouble as fast as a bad regulator. I recommend bringing it to a dive professional, but regardless of who does it, be sure to clean and service the Inflator valve, inspect the oral inflator hose for cracks in the rubber and the low pressure hose for issues like a leaking Schrader valve. Clean or replace anything with corrosion and then lubricate with some silicone gel. If you have an internal bladder, remove it where you can inspect it. Be sure it's not getting brittle or worn. I like to wash mine out with mouth wash occasionally, to clean out any residual salt and to kill the bacteria.

**Dive Computer:** Battery once year, not a bad idea to have a shop give it the once over. Do a Google search with you computer model and words like *"recall"*, *"dangerous"* or *"cause of death"*.

**Compass:** On land, give it a few spins

and see if it sticks or has any issues moving as well as it should. We tend to look at these only under water and that can lead to seeing the same stuff over and over and over...

**Mask and Fin straps:** Do a thorough cleaning of your mask glass, it's had a year's worth of ewe! in it and a good cleaning might improve your visibility. Check the straps for telltale cracking. Roll the straps out of the accustomed spot for long storage. When they break, it is usually right in the tight bend.

**Wet suit:** For goodness sake wash it! Otherwise your cat's litter box may not be the strongest smell come summer.

**Weights:** They are just weights, leave them alone.

**This is also a good time to mark.** Review your gear, if any is getting a little too long in the tooth, now would be a great time to replace or upgrade it. A number of shops have sales this time of year. Used gear is great to buy if it's just weights. They are still just weights, but regulators or BCs be ware. You may be buying some one else's AWH (accident waiting to happen). Get it checked out or overhauled and consider that part of the cost.

**Lastly:** Store your gear appropriately, not near gasoline, or other chemicals and avoid overly hot or cold locations. Except for your weights, they are still just weights.

## Restaurant of the Month—Café Bella Invite to All

Please join the Rebels as we meet on Friday, February 21 at 7pm for dinner at a family-owned Italian restaurant. The food at Café Bella is very good, there is plenty of parking, AND the restaurant is **BYOB**.

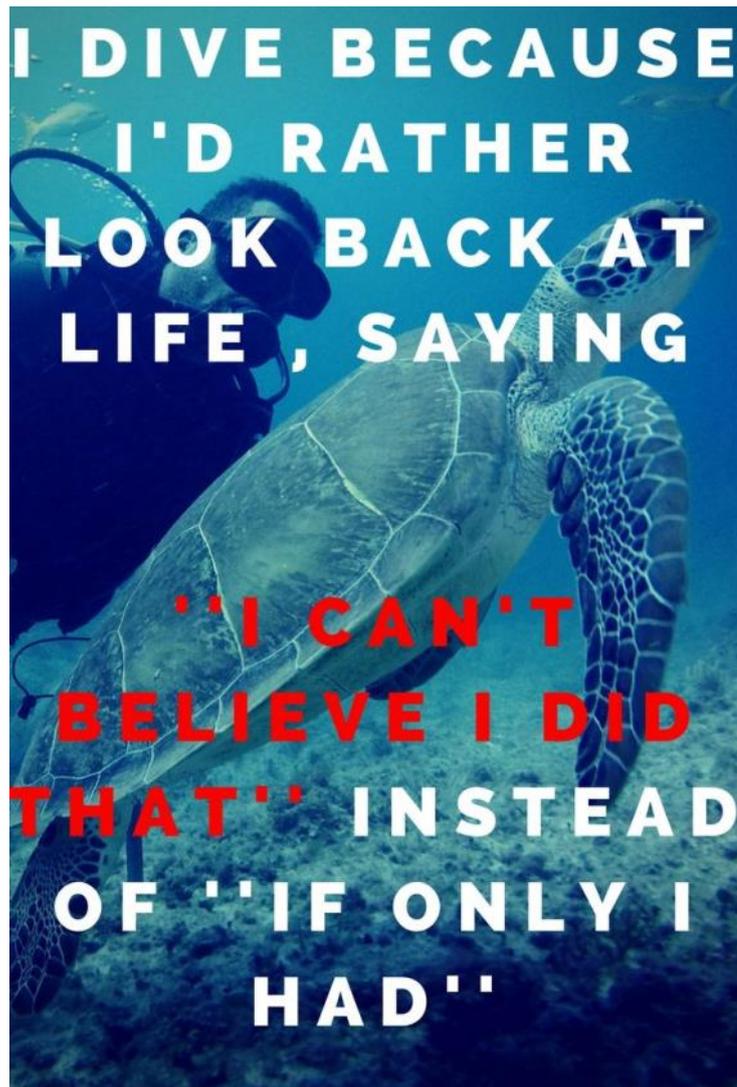
Entrees include pasta dishes, brick oven pizza, and chicken, seafood, veal and beef specialties. Café Bella was named by Fort Worth Magazine as “Best of Fort Worth 2019.”

Check out their menu at [cafebellaftw.com](http://cafebellaftw.com).

### **Café Bella**

3548 S. Hills Drive (Westcliff Shopping Center)  
Fort Worth 76109  
817-922-9500

## WHY I DIVE!



## 10 Fascinating Dolphin Facts That Will Make You Love Them Even More

***Did you grow up loving Flipper? Dolphins are truly lovable, but they are far more than just fun creatures of the sea.***

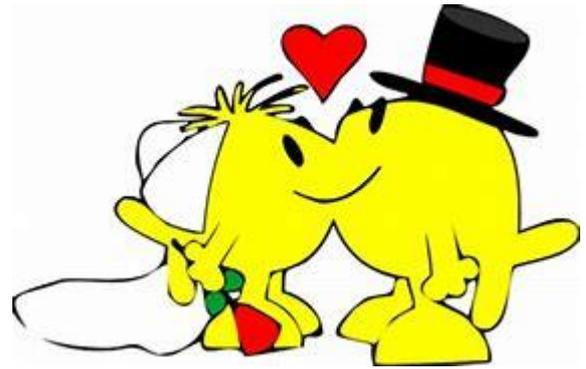
- 1.** Nearly 40 species of dolphins swim the waters of the world. Most live in shallow areas of tropical and temperate oceans, and five species live in rivers.
- 2.** Dolphins are carnivores. Fish, squid and crustaceans are included in their list of prey. A 260-pound dolphin eats about 33 pounds of fish a day.
- 3.** Known for their playful behavior, dolphins are highly intelligent. They are as smart as apes, and the evolution of their larger brains is surprisingly similar to humans.
- 4.** Dolphins are part of the family of whales that includes orcas and pilot whales. Killer whales are actually dolphins.
- 5.** Dolphins are very social, living in groups that hunt and even play together. Large pods of dolphins can have 1,000 members or more.
- 6.** Depending on the species, gestation takes nine to 17 months. After birth, dolphins are surprisingly maternal. They have been observed nestling and cuddling their young.
- 7.** dolphin calf nurses for up to two years. Calves stay with the mothers anywhere from three to eight years.
- 8.** Dolphins have acute eyesight both in and out of the water. They hear frequencies 10 times the upper limit of adult humans. Their sense of touch is well-developed, but they have no sense of smell.
- 9.** Dolphins have few natural enemies. Humans are their main threat. Pollution, fishing and hunting mean some dolphin species have an uncertain future. In 2006, the Yangtze River dolphin was named functionally extinct.
- 10.** Because dolphins are mammals, they need to come to the surface of the water to breathe. Unlike land mammals that breathe and eat through their mouths, dolphins have separate holes for each task. Dolphins eat through their mouths and breathe through their blowholes. This prevents the dolphin from sucking up water into the lungs when hunting, reducing the risk of drowning.



Article by PADI at PADI.com



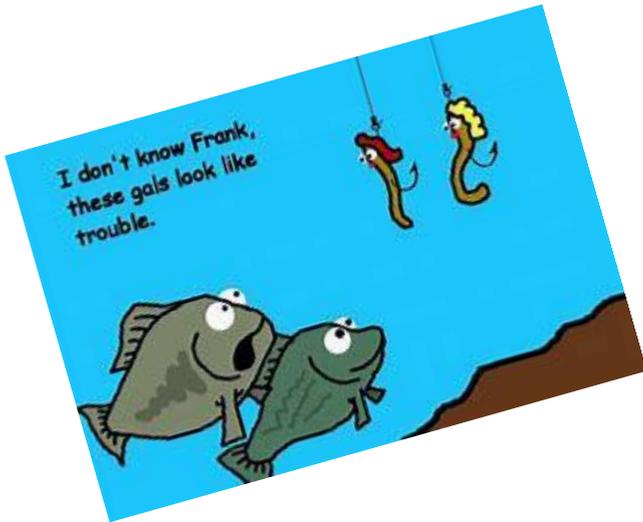
**Happy Wedding Anniversary!**



**Reppond Ashley February 21**  
**Dorothy Bartz February 26**  
**Robyn Doege February 26**

**Kelly and Danny Barentine February 22**

**SCOOP DIVE HUMOR**



*"You must be new to diving, because 'freediving' doesn't mean that all the dive equipment is free."*

**Are they singing or waiting for a diver to greet?  
Selena Woodward**

