

Badger Buddy Line

The Official Newsletter of the Badger State Dive Club

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Volume 43, Issue 12

DECEMBER 2007

Next Club Meeting Tuesday, January 29th

The Badger State Dive Club invites all certified divers, students currently enrolled in classes, and all those interested in the sport of skin and scuba diving, to join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, **January 29th at 7:30 pm, at Edwardo's Natural Pizza**, Hwy 100 & Bluemound, Milwaukee. More information and directions are available on the Club's website: www.badgerstatediveclub.org.

Club Officers for 2008

President – **Rich Laiacona**

Vice President – **Tom Ash**

Treasurer – **Ben Prokash**

Dive Coordinator – **Bob Lijewski**

Secretary – **Lee Hintz**

Sgt.-at-Arms – **Steve Busalacchi**

Honorary Board – **Dick Klug**

Honorary Board – **Dan Booton**

Honorary Board – **Mike Wolf**

Members in attendance at 12/18/07 meeting:

Steve Busalacchi, Dan Booton, Kevin Cokain, Tim Dake, Jim Driver, Lee Hintz, Rich Laiacona, Aaron Lilly, Frank Martin, Ben Prokash, Mike Stupak, and Guests: Mike Bernard, Betsy McBride and Bill Roehrs. Excused: Tom Ash, Dan Beck, Debbie Gramza, Bob Lijewski, Dick & Mary Klug and Mike Wolf.

MEETING NOTES

by Lee Hintz

- ◆ President **Rich Laiacona** called the **December 18th** meeting, to order, at exactly **7:30 pm**, with 11 members and 3 guests in attendance.
- ◆ The minutes of the **November 27th** meeting were approved as published in the newsletter, with one correction: **Dan Booton's** reported injury was to his foot, not his knee.
- ◆ Treasurer's Report from **Ben Prokash**:
Checking Account Balance: \$375.74
Certificate of Deposit Balance: \$13,473.14
- ◆ The Club meets in the private upstairs room of **Edwardo's Natural Pizza**. Food and beverage options are available to the Club, and at a cost to members who choose to eat food at the Club meeting, of \$3 per person. Those who choose not to eat will receive beer and soda as in the past, at no cost. The Club pays the balance due.

Old Business

- ◆ New member **Aaron Lilly** was the lucky recipient of the drysuit that long-time member **Dick Dowdell** had to give to a good home. He still has a Women's red/black wetsuit 2-piece farmer john. Call Dick at: 414-640-7072
- ◆ **Bob Lijewski** dropped off a couple copies of the December newsletter of the **Wisconsin Underwater Archeological Association**. Dues are only \$20 per year and members are needed to survey and do field work on historical shipwrecks in **Door County** and locally, such as the **fireboat project** and the site of the **Volunteer**, which lies inside the South Shore breakwall. You can find out more at: www.wuaa.org and apply for membership online, or contact **Bob** at 414-422-9452.

New Business

- ◆ **Deep Blue Dive Stores of Milwaukee and Franklin** donated a number of prizes to give out to our members at upcoming meetings. We will begin drawing the first winning name from the members present at the January meeting. They also presented our Club **Diver of the Year, Bob Lijewski** with a \$200 pair of fins, to go with his handsome engraved plaque. **Congratulations Bob!** Runners –up in the balloting, **Kevin Cokain** and **Rich Laiacona**, were presented with gift certificates that they will be able to use at the two **Deep Blue** stores. **Thanks to Rich Henry & Larry Gamble at Deep Blue!**
- ◆ **Lee Hintz** made a motion to continue our annual support of the **Ghost Ships Festival (March 7-8)**, with an ad in their festival booklet, which is given to all who attend. After discussion, **Rich Laiacona** offered to redesign the ad for this year. **Kevin Cokain** suggested contacting **GLSRF** to see if we can purchase and resell tickets to our members. The motion passed.
- ◆ A **Board of Directors Meeting** has been scheduled for **Thursday, January 10th**, at 6:30 pm, at **Edwardo's Pizza**. The Board will hear a presentation from Treasurer **Ben Prokash** and will discuss proposals for the **2008 Budget**, and future **fund raising projects**. Raising Club dues, and the charge for pizza at the club meetings, will also be discussed. Member input should be sent to any Board member.
- ◆ The \$100 donation to **DAN**, approved at the last meeting, will be sent out in January, after 2008 dues are collected.

Past Dives

- ◆ **Cozumel, Mexico** – **Lee Hintz** reported on the dives recently done with dive buddy **Dick Klug**. He also passed around a recent **Scuba Diving** magazine with a feature article on the **Mexican Riviera Maya** reefs and **cenotes** diving in that area. **Dive Aventuras** is the dive shop of choice in that area www.diveaventuras.com.
- ◆ **Kevin Cokain** and **Tim Dake** both reported on charters that did not happen, due to the bad weather conditions.

Future Dives

- ◆ **Steve Busalacchi** is waiting for exact schedule for our pool nights at the **Muskego High School Pool**. They will be **Friday nights** in **January, February and March**. Watch for dates, times & door # on the Club's Web site and in a future email announcement. **Thanks Steve!**
- ◆ The annual **Ice Dive and Party**, will probably be held on the first weekend of **February**, at the **Lake Nagawicka Beach House**. **Mike Wolf** is coordinating this dive and will set the date, and reserve the Beach House soon. Watch the Web site and email for future details. He is attempting to do the dive in conjunction with the **Underwater Connection** shop in **Delafield**. **Kevin Cokain** had hoped to set up an Ice Diving training class through **Deep Blue**, but time did not permit the necessary work to recruit enough divers for this year. **Thanks Kev!**
- ◆ Guest **Mike Bernard** is employed by the **Underwater Connection** shop in **Hales Corners** and is also an instructor. He has offered to work with us in setting up some trips for us to **Bonne Terre Mine** near **St. Louis**, and a weekend trip to **Lake Wazee** in **Black River Falls**. Watch for future details on these additional diving opportunities with the Club. **Thanks Mike!**

Past Social

- ◆ The annual Club **Christmas Party** was held at Weissgerber's **Golden Mast** on **Okauchee Lake** on Saturday, December 1st. Yes, that was the night of the storm of the century! Of the 22 people registered for the party, 12 managed to make it there alive. As usual, the dinner was wonderful and all enjoyed the company and great conversation. **Bob Lijewski** was presented the **Diver of the Year** award and the \$200 set of fins from **Deep Blue**. Thanks to **Mary Klug** for arranging the event again and to **Dick** for getting the plaque engraved!

Future Social

- ◆ **Fish Fry on Friday, January 18th**, at **6:30 pm**. **Dan Booton** is coordinating this get together and will announce the location soon. It will probably be in the New Berlin or Hales Corners area. Watch for an email announcement in the coming weeks. **Thanks Dan!**

- ◆ **Our World Underwater** – **Feb. 15-17, Rosemont, IL**
The 38th Annual show will be held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. Hundreds of exhibitors, seminars, workshops are there, and film festivals will be held on Fri. & Sat. nites. www.ourworldunderwater.com
- ◆ **Ghost Ships Festival** – **March 7-8, Milwaukee, WI**
The 9th annual festival will be held at the Wyndham Hotel & Convention Center (formerly Sheraton Four Points), across from the airport. The 2-day event features exhibits, workshops and presentations on Great Lakes Diving.



Happy New Year!