

Badger Buddy Line

The Official Newsletter of the Badger State Dive Club

P.O. Box 210046, Milwaukee, WI 53221

www.badgerstatediveclub.org

[email:info@badgerstatediveclub.org](mailto:info@badgerstatediveclub.org)

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Next Club Meeting Tuesday, March 25th

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, **March 25th at 7:30pm at Edwardo's Natural Pizza**, Hwy 100 & Bluemound, Milwaukee. More information available on the Club 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 2/26/08 Meeting:

Tom Ash, Dan Booton, Steve Busalacchi, Kevin Cokain, Jim Driver, Lee Hintz, Dick & Mary Klug, Rich Laiacona, Bob Lijewski, Aaron & Stephanie Lilly, Frank Martin, Jim Noel, Ben Prokash, Bill Rozga, Tom Silman, Tim Sulik, and Guest s: Mike Bernard and Bill Roehrs.

Excused: Dan Beck, Matt Boswell, Deb Gramza and Mike Stupak.

MEETING NOTES

by Lee Hintz

- ◆ The **February 26th** meeting was called to order by President Rich Laiacona, at exactly 7:30 pm, with 18 members and 2 guests in attendance.
- ◆ Treasurer's Report from **Ben Prokash**:
Checking Account Balance: \$82.22
Certificate of Deposit Balance: \$13,636.20
- ◆ The Club meets in the private upstairs meeting room of **Edwardo's Natural Pizza, Hwy 100 & Bluemound Road, Milwaukee**. Food and beverage options are available to the Club, and at a cost to members and guests who choose to eat food at the Club meeting, of \$5 per person. Those who choose not to eat will receive beer, ice tea and soda as in the past, at no cost. The Club pays the balance due.
- ◆ **New 2008 Club Roster is available to members.**

Web sites of Interest to Divers

- For Muck Divers and Bottle Collectors: <http://mrbottles.com>
- Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association: <http://wuaa.org>
- Waukesha County Divers Association: <http://divewisconsin.com>
- Local Divers Discussion Forum: <http://wiscuba.com/yabbse/>
- Ghost Ships Festival: <http://ghostships.org>

New Business

- ◆ The first of a number of dive related prizes, donated by our friends at **Deep Blue**, was given away at the February Club meeting. The lucky winner of a back pack was **Dan Booton**. A drawing for another prize will be held at the March Club meeting.
- ◆ **The newest member of the Club**, voted in at the February Club meeting is:

Michael Bernard

3026 N. Newhall St.

Milwaukee, WI 53211

414-529-3483

scubamike25@yahoo.com

Mike is an Instructor, Tri-Mix certified, w/over 200 dives.
Welcome to the Club Mike!

Past Dives

- ◆ **Kevin Cokain, Matt Boswell and Tim Dake** did the 2/2/08 winter charter with the **Len Der** and had an enjoyable dive on the **Prinz Wilhelm**.
- ◆ The 2nd **Pool Dive** of 2008 was on Friday, **February 22nd** at **Muskego High School**. A small group of members and friends tried out their gear in the comfortable 80-degree water. We parked behind the pool and entered using door 21. Locker rooms and showers were available. Thanks to **Steve Busalacchi** for arranging these annual winter outings! Come on out for the final Pool dive of the year on **Friday, March 28th!**

- ◆ **Jim Driver** reported on a Caribbean cruise that he went on and was able to dive in **Aruba** and **St. Thomas**.
- ◆ **Rich and Lee Laiacona** had the trip-of-a-lifetime, for ten days, on a 80' catamaran in the **British Virgin Islands**. Swimming, snorkeling and diving were an every day experience as they sailed around the 35 islands. **Rich** did a two-tank dive on the wreck of the **RMS Rhone** and thoroughly enjoyed it. They also visited the **Baths of Virgin Gorda**, one of the world's most beautiful beaches. **Rich** almost had another life experience when he was chased back to the boat by a reef shark! He also encountered barracuda, sting ray and lobster. We are all very jealous of our esteemed President! (You earned it!)

Future Dives

- ◆ **Muskego High School Pool** on **Friday night March 28th**, from **7:00 to 9:00 pm**. Enter from door 21 at the rear of the building and save some steps. **Thanks Steve!**
- ◆ **Guest and future member, Bill Roehrs** is going to **Belize** and hopes to dive the famous **Blue Hole**.
- ◆ **Aaron and Stephanie Lilly** are planning a summer trip to dive in **Lake Superior**. Anyone interested in joining them should contact them.
- ◆ **Jim Driver** is looking into setting up a weekend trip to **Lake Wazee** in **Black River Falls** for the Club.
- ◆ **Lee Hintz** will be setting up a picnic dive at Firemen's Park at **Elkhart Lake** on **Saturday July 12th**.

Past Social

- ◆ **Our World Underwater – Feb. 15-17, Rosemont, IL**
Bob Lijewski attended at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. Hundreds of exhibitors, seminars, workshops were there, and film festivals were held on Fri. & Sat. nites. www.ourworldunderwater.com
- ◆ **Ghost Ships Festival – March 7-8, Milwaukee, WI**
The **9th annual** festival was held at the **Wyndham Hotel & Convention Center** (formerly Sheraton Four Points), across from the airport The **Club** had **advance tickets** available for **\$20**, with a donation going to the Club Treasury for each ticket that we sold. The **Civil War** took center stage on Friday night at 7:30 pm. Underwater archaeologists from **NUMA** shared their 15-year search for the **Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley**. **Bill Rozga** and **Lee Hintz** attended a presentation on Saturday: **Documentation and Survey Methods for Shipwreck Sites** put on by the **Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association**. Other show attendees were: **Ben Prokash, Aaron and Stephanie Lilly, Mike Stupak, Kevin Cokain and Bob Lijewski**.

(Aren't you sorry you didn't go this year? See pictures of famous swimsuit models **Rabecca Lee, Ben Prokash, Aaron Lilly** and **Mike Stupak**, at the **Deep Blue** exhibit, at right:)

