

Badger Buddy Line

The Official Newsletter of the Badger State Dive Club

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Next Club Meeting Tuesday, December 18th

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, **December 18th at 7:30pm at Edwardo's Natural Pizza**, Hwy 100 & Bluemound, Milwaukee. **Note: the meeting this month is on the third Tuesday because of Christmas.** 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 11/27/07 meeting:

Tom Ash, Steve Busalacchi, Kevin Cokain, Tim Dake, Jim Driver, Lee Hintz, Dick & Mary Klug, Rich Laiacona, Bob Lijewski, Aaron & Stephanie Lilly, Jim Noel,

Ben Prokash, Mike Stupak, Jeff & Betsy Weiss, Mike Wolf and Guest s: Jim Barokowski, Dave Kyles, and Bill Roehrs. Excused: Dan Beck, Dan Booton, Debbie Gramza, Sam Lukowicz, and Tom Silman.

MEETING NOTES

by Lee Hintz

- ◆ President **Rich Laiacona** called the **November 27th** meeting, to order, at exactly **7:30 pm**, with 18 members and 3 guests in attendance.
- ◆ The minutes of the **October 30th** meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.
- ◆ Treasurer's Report from **Ben Prokash**:
Checking Account Balance: \$470.11
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

- ◆ **Deep Blue Dive Stores of Milwaukee and Franklin** are under the new ownership of **Rich Henry and Larry Gamble**. There was a very nice article about **Larry** in the Business section of the **Journal/Sentinel**, on **Nov. 26th**. They have been very supportive of our Club by offering our Club brochures at both stores, and in each new student's class packet! **Thanks Rich & Larry!**

New Business

- ◆ **Dan Booton** recently had surgery on his knee and will be laid up for a few months. (That is why we haven't seen him much in recent months). **Dan, Leslie and Alex** said to say hi to everybody. **Get well soon Dan!**
- ◆ **Ned and Adrienne Pritchard** say hello to everyone and thanks for keeping them up-to-date on the goings-on in the Club, via the newsletter. They enjoy reading it each month. **Ned** has promised to send us a DVD of their recent **Shark Dive**, to **show at an upcoming meeting!**
- ◆ Long-time member **Dick Dowdell** has some dive gear to give to a good home: Men's black XL Posidon Unisuit drysuit, w/hose, and Women's red/black wetsuit 2-piece farmer john. Call Dick at: 414-640-7072
- ◆ **Bob Lijewski** presented an opportunity to our Club to become members and supporters 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**.
- ◆ **Lee Hintz** made a motion to continue our annual support of **DAN (Divers Alert Network)**, with a Bronze level contribution of \$100. After discussion and further endorsement from **Betsy Weiss** and fellow "bent" diver, **Mike Wolf**, the motion passed.
- ◆ Annual ballots were collected from the P.O. Box, email, and from members present, and counted by Sgt. At Arms **Steve Busalacchi**. The **incumbent officers** were all **reelected for 2008**, and **Diver of the Year for 2007** is **Bob Lijewski**. **Bob** will be presented a handsome plaque at the Club Christmas Party, for his many efforts on behalf of the Club. **Congratulations Bob!**

Past Dives

- ◆ **Cozumel, Mexico – Dick & Mary Klug and Lee & Jean Hintz** recently returned from a week at the **Palace Resort**. **Dick** reported that the dives were very enjoyable with less current than normal, and that the **Aqua Safari** dive operation was accommodating and easy-going. **Lee** took some underwater pictures and reported that the 92' deep drift dive on **Palancar** was mucho swift.
- ◆ **Kevin Cokain** reported on a 2-tank dive with the **Molly V** to the **Milwaukee** and the **St. Albans**. He reported visibility of 40-50' on the **Albans** and 10' on the **Milw**.
- ◆ **Tim Dake** reported on a two-tank charter to the **Milwaukee** with fellow new member **Tim Sulik**, also with the **Molly V**. He reported outstanding visibility of around 100', with 51 degrees on the bottom, and flat seas! (**Take that Kevin!**)
- ◆ **Mike Wolf** reported that he and **Debra** had recently returned from another trip to **Ireland**, and they thoroughly enjoyed it. He also said that his boat had been put into storage for the winter, but that he was looking forward to using it for many **Club dives in 2008** on **Green Lake, Big Cedar Lake, Rock Lake**, and locally on **Okauchee, Pine and Nagawicka**. **Thanks Mikie!**

Future Dives

- ◆ **Steve Busalacchi** is waiting for a response on renting the **Muskego High School Pool** again, on **Friday nights in January – March**. Watch for dates & times on the Web site and in the next newsletter. **Thanks Steve!**
- ◆ **Ice Dive and Party**, held in late January or early February, at the **Lannon Quarry Beach House** in **Menomonee Park** in **Lannon**. **Mike Wolf** is coordinating this dive and will set the date, and reserve the Beach House soon. Watch the Web site and newsletter for future details. **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. **Kev** will try again next year. He noted that **Pirates Cove** is offering Ice Diving certification for around \$250. He recommended interested members to contact them. Also, there was discussion regarding the Club's Ice Diving equipment, and its condition. A motion was made by **Kevin**, and approved, that the Club provide **Mike** with up to \$100 to repair or replace ice diving equipment, as he saw fit.

Future Social

- ◆ **Christmas Party, Golden Mast** on **Okauchee Lake, Saturday, December 1st, 6:00 pm, cocktails, 7:00 pm dinner**. Join us for the great food and fun, with the **Diver of the Year Award** winner presentation. We will order from the special menu choices, and have separate checks. **Call Mary Klug** to be included, **414-327-9042**.

- ◆ **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.

