

Badger Buddy Line

The Official Newsletter of the Badger State Dive Club

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Next Club Meeting Tuesday, December 30th

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, **Dec. 30th at 7:30pm at Edwardo's Natural Pizza**, Hwy 100 & Bluemound, Milwaukee. More information available on the Club website: www.badgerstatediveclub.org. **Yes, if you were at the last meeting, there is a meeting in December each year!**

Club Officers for 2009

President – **Rich Laiacona**

Vice President – **Ben Prokash**

Treasurer – **Jonathan Taylor**

Dive Coordinator – **Bob Lijewski**

Secretary – **Carol Morales**

Newsletter/Web site Editor – **Lee Hintz**

Sgt.-at-Arms – **Mike Stupak**

Honorary Board – **Dick Klug**

Honorary Board – **Tom Ash**

Honorary Board – **Mike Wolf**

Members in attendance at 11/25/08 Meeting:

Jim Driver, Rich Laiacona, Carol Morales, Ben Prokash, Mike Stupak, Jonathan Taylor, and Diane Wakeland. Guests Mary Ann Christopher, Dan & Jane Limback, and Les Ratliff. Excused: Steve Busalacchi, Lee Hintz, Dick & Mary Klug, and Mike Wolf.

MEETING NOTES

by Lee Hintz

- ◆ The **November 25th** meeting was called to order by President **Rich Laiacona**, at exactly 7:30 pm, with 7 members and 4 guests in attendance.
- ◆ Treasurer's current month's Report from **Ben Prokash** was as follows:

Checking Account Balance: \$405.95

Certificate of Deposit Balance: \$11,672.19

- ◆ 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, at a cost to members and guests who choose to eat at the Club meeting, of \$5 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.

Old Business

- ◆ **A new, but very good friend is gone.** It is with great regret that we announce the closing of the two **Deep Blue** Dive stores. They have been a benefactor and supporter of our Club, including talking to new divers about the importance of joining a dive club, handing out our Club brochures at their stores and events, donating many prizes to be given away at our Club meetings, and showing a video in their stores that featured our Club activities. Thanks to **Rich** and **Larry** for their efforts and first-class operation. You have a lot to be proud of and you will be missed! Many of your alumni will keep your name alive.
- ◆ **Bob Lijewski** has the deposit money taken for the first order of the **Club clothing** that was available through **Deep Blue**. We will be actively seeking a new source for this merchandise. An order list was distributed to the members with the last newsletter. Submit your orders to the P.O. Box, or bring to a meeting. **Thanks Bob** for your efforts! **Watch for details coming soon.**
- ◆ **Diane Wakeland** confirmed the reservations for the annual Club **Christmas Party**, being held again at the **Golden Mast** restaurant on **Okauchee Lake**, on **December 13th**. A total of 21 members and guests have signed up to date. Please drop in for a drink at 6:00 pm or afterwards, if you can't make the dinner at 7:00pm.

New Business

- ◆ **Club Officers for 2009.** Ballots were collected and counted at the **November** meeting. Winners are listed in this newsletter and also will be announced at the Club Christmas Party on December 13th. New members **Mike Stupak, Carol Morales** and **Jon (J.T.) Taylor** have been elected to the positions of **Sgt. at Arms, Secretary** and **Treasurer** respectively. **Ben Prokash** will move to the **Vice President** position and **Tom Ash** will move to the **Honorary Board Member** position. Many thanks to **Steve Busalacchi** and **Dan Booton** for serving in their positions for the last two years. **Rich Laiacona** will continue as **President**, **Bob Lijewski** as **Dive Coordinator**, and **Lee Hintz** will continue being **Editor** of the **Newsletter** and **Web site**. Thanks to all who have volunteered to help the Club. We look **for more of the new members** to step up and serve their Club in the future. You too can **help determine the activities and direction** of this dive club. **Thanks again!**

Dive Related Links

- For Muck Divers and Bottle Collectors: <http://mrbottles.com>
- Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association: <http://wuaa.org>
- Search Online Milwaukee Public Library's Great Lake Marine Collection, formerly known as Herman Runge Collection Online (10,00 ship file), set up by **Brendon Bailod**: www.ship-wreck.com/shipwreck/runge/

Local Divers Discussion Forum: <http://wiscuba.com/yabbse/>

Past Dives

- ◆ **Mike Wolf** reported that his boat has been put away for the winter and will be available for Club dives again in the spring. **Thanks Mike** for your **support of the Club!**
- ◆ **Jim Driver** reported on his dive on the **Prinz Wilhelm**.
- ◆ **Guest Les Ratcliff** talked about his dive on the **Dredge**.
- ◆ **Guest Mary Ann Christopher** reported on her dive trip to the **Red Sea**, as well as touring the **Nile River** and **Egypt**. As many know, the **Red Sea** is the ultimate destination for beauty and colorful coral and fish life and for many it is the **dive trip of a lifetime**. Thanks to **Mary Ann** for sharing her photos and narrative with us!
- ◆ **Lee & Jean Hintz, Mary & Dick Klug and Mary & Phil Ulery** just returned from a trip to **Riviera Maya and Cancun, Mexico** in November. They stayed at the **Aventura Spa Palace** in **Puerta Aventuras** for week one, and the **Sun Palace** in **Cancun**, for week two. Dick and Lee did their diving with the good folks at **Dive Aventuras**, and **AquaWorld** in **Cancun**. They have an underwater video and underwater slide show for the December Club meeting. (Featuring the abundant fish life, in the national underwater park near **Isla Mujeres**).

Future Dives

- ◆ **Steve Busalacchi** is contacting the club that runs the pool at **Muskego High School**, to set up **Pool Nights** in **January – March** again. Watch for emails of the dates & times. **Thanks Steve!**
- ◆ **Mike Wolf** has volunteered to set up the **Annual Ice Dive and Party** in early **February**. A Food Committee will be set up. Volunteers to help with cutting the hole, tending lines and hauling gear are also needed. Watch for details at upcoming meetings & in emails. **Thanks Mike!**
- ◆ **Len Der Winter Lake Michigan** charters – contact **Capt. Jerry Guyer** at **Pirates Cove** – **414-482-1430**.

Future Social

- ◆ **BSDC Christmas Party** – **Saturday December 13th, 6:00pm**, **Weisgerber's Golden Mast, Okauchee Lake** Stop by and have a drink if you can't stay for dinner.

- ◆ **Saturday, January 10th**, the Club visits the **Titanic Exhibition** at the **Milwaukee Public Museum, IMAX & Planetarium**. Email **Bob Lijewski** if you want to join us and get advance tickets: **scubadad50@yahoo.com**.

Good Divng!



Lee, Jean, Dick, Mary, Phil & Mary – Riviera Maya



Lee in school of grunts in Cancun



Dick eyeing up a Moray eel in Cancun