

The Rebel Yell

2003 DIVING REBEL BOARD

www.divingrebels.org

Scott Jones, President

817-447-1267

president@divingrebels.org

George Bartulevicz, VPresident

817-860-8312

vicepresident@divingrebels.org

Dave Burluson, Act. Director

817-467-6335

davtex45@divingrebels.org

Keith Weber, Treasurer

817-581-9010

treasurer@divingrebels.org

Steve Ogden, Secretary

972-542-4988

secretary@divingrebels.org

Randall Paden, Sr. Bd Member

972-262-4894

senior@divingrebels.org

Ronnie Jones, Jr. Board

Member

817-297-1927

junior@divingrebels.org

Appointed Positions

Doug Sheppard, Historian

Webmaster

817-881-5499

dugshep@flash.net

Robert Dove, Editor

817-297-1467

rdove01@charter.net

Linda Magnuson, Co-Editor

Co-Historian

817-540-2950

lmagnuson@attbi.com

April 18th & 19th

Tyler State Park

It is time again for our annual trek out to Tyler State Park. Join us April 18 and 19 for camping in the piney woods of east Texas and diving in the 64-acre lake. There will be a meal share Saturday lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast. I have reservations for 8 campsites with water and electricity @ \$14/night. 2 tents or 1 camper and 1 tent per site. If you plan to attend and did not sign for a campsite (or if you did and need to cancel) please contact us at the below number.

Anita and Eli (817)265-6454

Pets: Pets must be on a six-foot leash at all times. Owners must bring a current paper shot record, the tags will not be sufficient. 🐕

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| APRIL 2 nd - | Membership Meeting @ J. Gilligan's in Arlington |
| APRIL 5 th - | Adopt-a-Highway Trash pick up |
| APRIL 18 th -19 th - | Tyler State Park |
| MAY 7 th - | Membership Meeting |
| MAY 24 th -26 th - | Memorial Day outing - plans pending |
| JUNE 4 th - | Membership Meeting |
| JULY 2 nd - | Membership Meeting |
| AUGUST 6 th - | Membership Meeting |

April Celebrations BIRTHDAYS

Eli DeLeon - April 6th
Chris Hoffman - April 15th
Linda Magnuson - April 23rd
Ginger Hoffman - April 27th

ANNIVERSARIES

Robert and Kathy Dove - April 4th 1980
Eli DeLeon and Anita Nichols - April 25th



The Tiger Sharks Dive Club

will be having an Easter Egg Hunt. It will be held on April 26th at 2:00 at the Scuba Park at PK. The prices are as follows for a dive club member (just show a card) the price is \$35 and a non dive club member is \$40. This includes admission to the park. We will be giving away up to \$800 in prizes. Hope some of you can join us.

Lets all try to support other clubs events. 🐾

Miscellaneous Info:

We are currently updating all telephone and address info in order to issue a new club roster. Please advise **Robert Dove** of any changes over the past two years.

Board of Director's Meeting

April 17th @7:00 pm
Golden Corral on Hwy 360

Adopt-a-Highway Trash Pick-up

April 5th 10:00 am

Meet in front of Discount Electronics @ Collins & Pioneer, it takes about 1 hour, lunch afterwards.

WANTED: AT LEAST 15 DIVERS LOOKING FOR A GREAT TIME.

The Rebels will be going to Balmorhea over Memorial Day weekend if 15 or more divers sign up. The plan: leave Arlington around 10pm and arrive in Balmorhea around 5am. This will allow 2 full days of diving and returning on Monday in time for a full recharge. The cost for camping, food and transportation in a luxury 15 passenger van with lots of extras will be around \$65 a person. This is important: we must have a \$45 deposit by the April meeting. Once we get to 15 people, the money is non-refundable and the balance will be collected at the May meeting. Practice up on your buoyancy and your checkers for the under water checker tournament. Other under water activities are planned to tune-up your diving skills! Send your money to Keith Weber and call Stephen Herman 817.478.2768 if you have any questions. Itinerary will be provided for those that sign up, the more the merrier. Oh yea, for those that don't know this is altitude diving, Balmorhea is at 3205 feet. 🐾

Rare dolphin dies in China

BBC News

The only white dolphin in captivity has died in central China. It is believed that Qi Qi - which was a member of the world's most endangered species of dolphin - died of old age. The dolphin, which was 24 or 25 years old, had a life span that was "the equivalent of a 70-year-old man" according to an official at the Hydrobiology Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The death could complicate efforts by China to save one of the world's rarest animals.

Qi Qi was caught in 1980 by a fisherman in the Yangtze River, the main habitat for the species which is unique to China. Chinese scientists had hoped to use the animal in an artificial breeding programme to boost the species' chances of survival. The dolphin is one of just four freshwater dolphin species. It is estimated there are fewer than 100 of white dolphins remaining in the Yangtze River.

Scientists fear the dolphins may become extinct in two decades, after having populated the river for 25 million years. River traffic, pollution and development are said to be the main problems facing the dolphins. The exact cause of Qi Qi's death will be investigated at the Hydrobiology Institute in Wuhan, Hubei Province, where he spent more than 22 years, mostly swimming alone in a 300-square-metre (3,230-square-foot) pool. An official told the Associated Press news agency that the dolphin had suffered from diabetes and stomach problems as he approached the end of his natural life span. "Qi Qi was the equivalent of a 70-year-old man. He did quite well to live so long," she said. 🐬

Weird New Squid Discovered

Deep-sea submersibles have spotted and filmed a new type of squid in the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans.

"We have never seen anything like it," says cephalopod biologist Michael Vecchione, of the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., and an author of a report, "Worldwide Observations of Remarkable Deep-Sea Squids," that appears in the December 21 issue of the journal *Science*. "It just shows how little we know about life-forms in the deep sea."

Squid are usually characterized by eight long arms and two modified shorter arms called tentacles.

The newly discovered squid has ten indistinguishable appendages which all appear the same length and which radiate from the main axis of the body like spokes on a bicycle wheel. All of the appendages have a sharp bend, like an elbow, from which the rest of the arm hangs straight down.

Other particularly "weird" features are the two enormous fins that stick out from a comparatively tiny body. The two fins are like elephant ears that flap as the creature floats around.

"It's a very weird-looking thing—really big fins, really long arms and this tiny little body in between," says Vecchione.

Although no specimens have been captured, Vecchione suspects that the creature belongs to the recently identified squid family *Magnapinnidae*, which means "big fins." Only juveniles belonging to this family have been seen before and they had "wormy extensions at the tips of their arms" and had a vague resemblance to the new squid, Vecchione says.

The new squid could be an adult member of the species but researchers can't say for certain until they have caught a specimen.

Size estimates of the squid range from 1.5 to 7 meters (5 to 23 feet). But Vecchione says it is not surprising that such a large creature has not washed up on a beach. The squid live in very deep water and their bodies are very fragile and would probably be eaten long before reaching the surface.

The squid has been spotted eight times: once in 1988, twice in 1992, once in 1998, three times in 2000, and once in 2001. Some videotaped encounters last up to ten minutes.

The squid were spotted at depths ranging from 6,300 feet (1,940 meters) to 15,500 feet (4,735 meters).

"They must be fairly common for people to bump into them all over the world," says Vecchione.

"New species are a dime a dozen in the deep sea," says Vecchione, "and I suspect there are a lot of very weird things down there." 🐙

DIVING REBELS, INC.
517 NW JANIE LANE
BURLESON, TX. 76028

