

The Rebel Yell

A Newsletter for the Diving Rebels - One of the Oldest Scuba Clubs in Texas - Established 1958

February 2011

2011 DIVING REBEL BOARD

Danny Bouska,	President
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Kelly Barentine,	Treasurer
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Appointed Positions

Ellen Fourton,	Newsletter Editor
Danny Bouska,	Webmaster
(To be appointed),	Historian

To contact a member of the Board, please visit our website at:

WWW.DIVINGREBELS.ORG

or send an email with your question(s) and/or comments to:

info@divingrebels.org



We are on the web in multiple locations:
Click on an image to go to the site!

Mobile Users



MEMBERSHIP MEETING Wednesday – February 2, 2011

Meeting Time
6:30pm Social
7:15pm Meeting

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February Meeting Program

Danny Bouska will present a video and picture presentation of his and Jill's recent trip thru one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World, the Panama Canal.

Upcoming Events Calendar

Feb	2	Monthly Membership Meeting
Feb	25-26	Texas Dive Show – Irving Convention Center
Mar	2	Monthly Membership Meeting
Mar	12-13	Arctic Dive/Wine & Cheese Outing NEW DATE
Apr	6	Monthly Membership Meeting
Apr	TBA	Tyler State Park
May	4	Monthly Membership Meeting
Dec	10	Christmas Party, Lake Arlington Rec Room

President's Report

Fellow Rebels,

I hated to miss the January meeting, but Jill and I were in Florida for a special cruise on the Disney Wonder. We had the opportunity to experience a journey through one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World, the Panama Canal. In 1534, Charles I of Spain ordered the first survey of a proposed canal route through the Isthmus of Panama. More than three centuries passed before the first construction was started. The French labored 20 years, beginning in 1880, but disease and financial problems defeated them.

In 1903, Panama and the United States signed a treaty by which the United States undertook to construct an inter-oceanic ship canal across the Isthmus of Panama. The following year, the United States purchased from the French Canal Company its rights and properties for \$40 million and began construction. The monumental project was completed in ten years at a cost of about \$387 million. Since 1903 the United States has invested about \$3 billion in the Canal enterprise, approximately two-thirds of which has been recovered.

This canal has stood the test of time and has served tens of thousands of ships since opening in 1914 much like the Diving Rebels have stood the test of time and has served its members since 1958. Much like the canal which opens its gates to a wide variety of ships, the Diving Rebels Scuba Club opens its doors to all levels of divers, makes new divers as well as experienced divers feel welcome and provides a venue for education, camaraderie and diving for the membership.

Those who organized the club in 1958 built a strong foundation on which the club has grown, but without you, the members of today, the club cannot be successful; therefore, if you haven't renewed your membership, please remember to do so you won't have to repay the initiation fee in March.

We have many venues with which to spread the word about the Diving Rebels such as our websites and newsletter, but the best venue is word of mouth. I challenge you to talk to your diving friends about the club and help a strong organization become even stronger by inviting and bringing at least one guest to a meeting and/or an outing in 2011.

Danny

Texas Dive Show – February 25-26

The Texas Dive Show will be in Irving, Texas Feb 25 & 26, 2011 at the new Irving Convention Center.

As a Holiday gift the organizers would like to offer you a free ticket to the Dive Show, a saving of \$15.00.

All you need to do is visit <http://www.texasdiveshow.com> and register for a free ticket. **This is a limited time offer so register for a free ticket as soon as possible!**

In the next week they will be posting the schedule of speakers including Sea Shepherd (aka Whale Wars)

The Diving Rebels plan to meet for dinner Saturday evening, after the Texas Dive Show closes. More information on the event will be available at the February Meeting.



What to Expect at Upcoming Events/Outings!

February 25-26

Texas Dive Show at the Irving Convention Center in Los Colinas

March 12-13 **NEW DATE**

Arctic Dive and Wine and Cheese Festival at Lake Murray near Ardmore Oklahoma. Dive if you dare, but come out and enjoy great food, bring your favorite wine and cheese to enter into the contest for the best or bring your worst wine and cheese to enter into the contest for the worst! Either way, this outing is a lot of fun!

April TBA

Tyler State Park is always a fun outing. This shallow lake warms up quickly and offers descent visibility, lots of fish and turtles.

May – December 2011

Let the board know where you want to go diving. Coordinate an outing or two or coordinate meals. Become active in YOUR DIVE CLUB!

Wine and Cheese Extravaganza Marietta's Landing, Lake Murray, OK March 12-13 **NEW DATE**

The Wine and Cheese / Arctic Dive outing at Lake Murray has been pushed back from the traditional last weekend of February to the second weekend of March, the 12th and 13th. This was necessary since the Texas Dive Show is the last weekend of February.

We looked at either moving the outing a week earlier, but the state park would not consent to opening two weeks earlier than its normal opening the first weekend in March. The park has traditionally opened one week early to accommodate our event. The first weekend in March turned out to be problematic since a men's event that weekend had left no cabins available. So we pretty much had no choice but to schedule it for the second March weekend.

We will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Outing Coordinators: Gina Natho, Elizabeth Neumann and Steve Ogden



Birthdays



2/3	RJ Madison
2/4	Paula Boyett
2/5	Marcus Greenberg
2/19	Jeanne Mason-Howerton
2/20	Scott Playle
2/20	Mark Estill
2/28	Kevin Campbell

Anniversaries

2/12	Bonny & Alan Knappenberger
2/22	Kelly & Danny Barentine
2/29	Rita & Jim Simpson

Did we miss your special date? If so, it's not in our database. Contact Mark Estill to update your info!

A Rebel Welcome to New Members Joining in January 2011

Clay Hensley – PADI AOW
Greg Hensley–PADI AOW
Alan Redman– NAUI OW

Say "Hi" to Clay, Greg and Alan and give a Rebel Welcome to our newest members!

Don't forget Diving Rebels Caps and T-Shirts On sale at any monthly meeting!



Aquatic Blue
NATURAL



NAVY &



BLACK



NAVY

Merchandise sold to Diving Rebels Members Only

SAN MARCOS RIVER OUTING

The Rebels were well represented at the January outing that kicked off with a gathering of 15 divers and several support persons at the Aquarena Springs Drive bridge where it spans the headwaters of the San Marcos River. Subsequent to some very cold temperatures during the latter portion of the week, the weather that day was very conducive to a January dive with bright sunlight and temperatures in the mid-60s. After completion of shuttling cars to the exit location at Rio Vista Park, all divers, equipped with trash-collection bags, began their fresh-water drift dive threading their way through the undulating riverine vegetation.



Rebels Preparing to Dive



Rebels discussing dive strategy



Entry Point

The divers began exiting the river after about 45 minutes until, as usual, Steve Ogden (Oggie) brought up the rear, finishing over an hour and a half after he entered the river last among the participants. Connie performed what may be the first snorkel traverse of the river as part of the Rebel's underwater cleanup. In contrast to some previous years when it was a teeth-chattering experience getting out of the water and dashing for a towel and dry clothes, with the mild weather, divers could leisurely transition from wet to dry.

Everyone hauled their trash caches to the covered pavilion to take accounting of the quantity and the uniqueness of one's haul. In keeping with tradition, Oggie once again was deemed to have collected the most trash, bringing up two fairly full bags of underwater recoveries. The participants laid out on the table what each considered to be the most unique or unusual item recovered and this included, glasses, shoes, keys, a large traffic cone and a current driver's license. But the winning item as acknowledged unanimously was the 2008 Crocket High School class ring with the owner's name engraved inside that was snared by Danny Barrentine, shortly after he began his dive. The plan is to contact this fellow and make arrangements to return the ring to him. Hopefully, we will have news of a positive outcome from Danny at the February club meeting.

Seventeen Rebels and guests convened at Palmer's Restaurant for a wonderful dinner and stimulating conversation. Had it been just a little warmer, we might have been tempted to eat in the courtyard under the live oak trees. Most participants bunked at the local Motel 6 that night. Then five of us met at Herbert's Taco Hut at bit before 9 AM for our traditional breakfast fare there, while the rest of the Rebels chose to be a bit lazy and sleep in that morning.

The relatively early breakfast was necessitated because Oggie was joining Gene Moren, a soon-to-be Rebel member, for a volunteer dive at the Aquarena Center's (formerly Aquarena Springs) Spring Lake. Gene also participated in the river cleanup. Johnny and Connie joined Gene and Oggie at the Center to get a bit of an orientation as well as a sense of the beautiful uniqueness of this area.

Gene and Oggie were assigned a task to remove coontail vegetation in the area of Kettleman's Spring just past the underwater archeology investigation site. We removed large quantities of the coontail vegetation and pushed it to the surface where it would be picked up later by the vegetation harvester the Center uses to collect such material. The intent of the vegetation removal is to enable a more clear view of the spring area by passengers of the glass-bottom boats that tour the lake. A few pictures taken by Gene during our dive are featured below. This was the first time in the 14 years he has been a volunteer diver there that Oggie has had another (almost) Rebel

join him on a dive. Hopefully, we can schedule some additional Rebel divers to take the scientific diver training class and have more Rebels involved in the volunteer diving program at Aquarena Center.



Patrolling Largemouth Bass



Underwater vegetation, including coontail



Bass investigating floating coontail



Oggie displaying an upset baby snapping turtle



Spotted gar lounging just below the surface



A shy red-eared slider turtle



Oggie looking for coontail to remove



Sunfish guarding a spring area



A tilapia sitting on the lake bottom

Jean-Michel Cousteau
at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Winspear Opera House
Wednesday, February 23, 2011 8:00PM

Jean-Michel Cousteau was just 7 years old when his father, Jacques, first "threw him overboard" wearing Jacques's new invention, called SCUBA, on his back. He has been investigating the world's oceans ever since. Much of his life has been spent aboard the famous research vessels Calypso and Alcyone. He has produced more than 80 films, receiving Emmy, Peabody and Cable Ace Awards for his work. He is a tireless advocate of the world's ocean environments, reaching millions of people around the globe through his Ocean Futures Society and producing countless TV specials, articles, books and multimedia programs for schools. Winspear Opera House is located in the AT&T Performing Arts Center in Dallas. For more information and tickets go to <http://tickets.attpac.org/single/EventDetail.aspx?p=7885>

Are yellow-loving sharks colour-blind?

Environment Life, *Wendy Zukerman, Asia-Pacific reporter*

A new study suggests sharks may be colour-blind - despite decades-old evidence that they are attracted to yellow.

According to US navy reports from the 1970s, "a standard yellow life vest occupied by a child dummy was repeatedly attacked at the surface by blue sharks, *Prionace glauca*. Strikes on a red infant flotation device were few, while a similar black flotation device suffered only two strikes."

The finding prompted the "yum, yum, yellow" slogan, which eventually attracted the attention of TV's MythBusters. Their tests found "plausible" evidence that the US navy's advice is sound.

But Nathan Scott Hart at the University of Western Australia in Crawley and colleagues have now found that sharks possess only one type of cone cell - the cells within the eye responsible for colour vision - and are unlikely to be able to perceive a multicolour world.

The team examined the retinas of 17 shark species from Queensland and Western Australia. Ten had no cone cells at all, and the remaining seven each possessed only a single type, sensitive to just one colour: green.

So why their apparent attraction to yellow? Hart told Australian broadcaster ABC that it was unlikely to be a preference for the colour as such. Sharks "were probably attracted to [yellow] because it would have had a very high contrast against the surrounding water".

According to the BBC, knowing that sharks may be attracted to contrast against the background, rather than colour, "could help to prevent shark attacks on humans and assist in the development of fishing gear that may reduce the number of sharks that are caught accidentally in long-line fisheries".

The results are also surprising from an evolutionary perspective. Sharks are elasmobranchs - the oldest living relatives of the first jawed vertebrates - so you might expect them to have relatively primitive vision. But some species of closely related rays are thought to possess the multiple cone cell types characteristic of colour vision.

However, evolutionarily more recent marine mammals including whales, dolphins and seals appear to be as colour-blind as sharks: they also possess a single, green-sensitive cone type.

"Sharks and marine mammals may have arrived at the same visual design by convergent evolution," writes Hart in his paper, published in *Naturwissenschaften*.



Monochrome attack (Image: Masa hioda/SplashdownDirect/Rex Features)

