

NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

March 2007

**March 28 - Social starts at 7pm -
Meeting at 7:30pm**

**Hope to see you there!
Guest Speaker to be announced**

The BAD Calendar

March, 2007

- 6 BAD BOD Meeting
- 28 BAD General Membership Meeting
- 31-4/1 SEASPACE 2007

April, 2007

- 1 SEASPACE 2007
- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

May, 2007

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 26 Armand Bayou Moonlight Cruise
- 30 BAD General Membership Meeting

June, 2007

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

July, 2007

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

***Have an event you want
to lead, contact the Board
for more details***



Richard Abel	06
Michelle Tetley	06
Justin Parrott	16
Bill Clayton	17
Gloria Pechacek	18
RobbieWidaman	21
William Fink Max	28
George Young	31

COME VISIT and DIVE WITH YOUR FRIENDS and NEIGHBORS

Bay Area Divers meet at Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Road 1 at 7:30 pm the last Wednesday of each month (except December).

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

The B.A.D. Board of Directors meet at Ryan's Steakhouse on Bay Area Blvd. on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Randy Widaman



Well fellow BADDies time is drawing near for Seaspace 2007 this March 31 – April 1.

We are still looking for some more volunteers to work the booth both Saturday and Sunday. Get with Valerie vlyons@nasa.gov or 440-667-6862. She is setting up a schedule for the booth. I will be helping with the setting up Friday and in and out on Sat. and Sun. If you missed the last general meeting you missed a good presentation by Jim Delane our Vice President. I strongly encourage each and everyone of you to help out in bringing in new members and guests to the general meetings. As always each club member is also welcome to come to our board meetings held on the first Tuesday of the month at Ryan's Steak house on Bay Area Blvd. and Hwy. 3 starting at 7pm. Come early and have dinner with us. I want to thank Polly for setting up our 2007 Armand Bayou cruise this April. She sold out spaces on the first night of selling spots but if you still might want to go get with Polly and ask her to put you on a wait list. Our newest dive spot is coming along. Mammoth Lake in Lake Jackson is filling up and a lot of the artifacts placed on the bottom are now under water. Go to www.hydrosportsscuba.com to see more.

Well folks it's time for me to say "Take Care" and "Come up Slowly Blowing Bubbles"

See you at our next general meeting this March 28th and Seaspace.

Members & Guests

Now is the time to renew you membership.



Guests & New Members —
Jack Chambers, Chris & Tanya Chung,
Chay & Suzette Drab,
Valerie Lyons, Tiffany Suraco,
Chiquita Taylor

Look out Hawaii, Here I come. SOME BODY GOT TO DO IT!

By Jim Carmin

I will be surrounded by SHARKS. But on the serious side we know I LOVE SHARKS AND DIVING WITH THEM!!!! And yes I will love living on a tropical Island but I do hope you will all have a chance to visit me. Just think all you have to do is get the plane ticket and you have a free place to stay while your there. If you're up for it you can come join me and will DIVE with the SHARKS!!!! Or we can just try surfing and go to a Luau. Here is my address in Hawaii I will be there around the middle of March. My phone number will be the same but if you don't have it I will give it to you again in the e-mail with my

Address.
Jim Carmin
94-207 Waipahu Street
Apt: 188
Waipahu, HI 96797

2007 Officers

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

President	Randy Widaman	cap10randy@houston.rr.com
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Bartender: Polly Swerdlin pfollyred@yahoo.com

Sales: Verna Shannon butch@pdq.net

WEBSITE: www.bayareadivers.org



Any Member of the Bay Area Dive Club can run an add for as long as you would like.

**Business Card size would be \$10.00 a month
Double Business card size would be \$20.00 a month.**

Please contact Editor: aladyfish@verizon.net

Deadline for article submission for next month is:

April 8th, 2007 E-Mail aladyfish@verizon.net

What is It?

I need you to tell me what it is, English and Latin name. where it comes from. Please email me aladyfish@verizon.net with your answers. The winner will have their name and information in the newsletter next month.



Thank you in advance for your participation.
Your editor, Ja Van Pruett

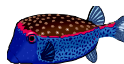
SNAPPER A LA CARIBBEAN

½ Cup Grape Seed Oil Juice of 1 lime
½ Small red onion, finely diced
¼ Cup cilantro leaves
2 Garlic cloves, minced ½ tsp.
Minced jalapeno ½ tsp.
Minced small red chile ½ tsp.
Dried oregano ½ tsp
Kosher salt 6 (1 ½ lb.) red snapper filets
1 Cup semolina flour for dredging
¼ Cup Grape seed oil (for pan)

Combine the oil, lime juice, onion, cilantro, garlic, jalapeno, red chile, oregano and salt in a blender. Process until mixed, but not pureed. Place the fish in a non-reactive shallow dish and cover with half of the chile mixture. Marinate 30 minutes to one hour. Remove the fish from the marinade and wipe dry with paper towels. Dredge in the flour until lightly coated on both sides. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-heat. Add the fish and cook until browned on both sides, about 3 minutes per side. Transfer to a serving dish and top with remaining chile mixture.

BAD AFTER MEETING GATHERING

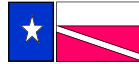
How about we gather at **Boondoggles** in Seabrook for snacks and more socializing??? It is located on NASA Rd. 1, near highway 146. Plan to have even more fun and socializing. [See you there!](#)



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W. W. DIVING COMPANY



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Website: www.wwdive.com

CoCoView Resort Trip October 20-27, 2007



By Captain Randy

Come join me, Captain Randy Widaman and 13 other guest to CoCoView Resort on beautiful Roatan, Bay Island Honduras October 20-27, 2007. The trip includes round trip airfare from Houston IAH airport, transfers to and from the resort, 7 nights lodging and 6 days of diving, welcome drink, 3 meals a day, a BBQ picnic on the cay weather permitting, 2 boat trips per day with each boat trip having 2 dives each, unlimited beach diving day or night. We have 6 Ocean Front A/C rooms and 1 Cabana A/C room reserved. Not included in the price is Roatans departure tax of \$32.32, tips, your bar tab, land tours, and gifts for the folks back home. We will soon have a flyer out on the BAD web page www.bayareadivers.org so check it out under "events". For further info call **Randy Widaman 281-338-8808 home/fax or 832-264-8047 cell.** My email address is cap10randy@houston.rr.com You can also check out Coco View's web page at www.cocoviewresort.com I have been to a lot of places diving and I honesty have to say this is the best, so come join me for a fun filled week of great diving and relaxation.

Sub to seek 'secrets of the Gulf' off Galveston

March 1, 2007, 5:11PM

By HARVEY RICE

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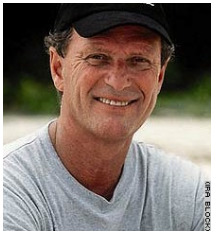
Sent in by Jim Ward

GALVESTON — A U.S. Navy submarine that can roll on wheels across the ocean floor will leave port here Friday on an expedition to search the deep for evidence of ancient human habitation.



The Navy's only nuclear-power research vessel, the NR-1, will carry scientists looking for signs that early humans may have lived on a coast that 19,000 years ago extended 100 miles farther into the Gulf of Mexico than it does today.

If scientists on the expedition, dubbed "secrets of the Gulf," find evidence that humans roamed those ancient shores, it would push back the earliest known date of prehistoric human habitation in North America by about 8,000-10,000 years, said Dwight Coleman, the expedition's chief scientist.



Robert Ballard, the scientist who discovered the wreckage of the Titanic and the German battleship Bismarck, will direct the search from a telecommunications center lined with 50-inch plasma monitors at the Institute for Exploration at the Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut.

He's currently president of the Institute for Exploration at Connecticut's Mystic Aquarium where he is working to turn the ocean floor into a archaeological museum of human history.

Ballard, along with scientists at five other locations, will monitor instruments giving temperature, depth, water salinity and other data along with images from the submarine broadcast via satellite in real time and be able to give directions to the two scientists on board.

Ballard will have 16 communications lines allowing him to speak directly with scientists on board the submarine and its support ship, the 238-foot Carolyn Chouest, crammed with scientific equipment and hi-tech communications gear.

Live Web casts from the expedition hosted by Ballard was broadcasted by Immersion Presents on March 4-9 at 11 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. at www.OceansLIVE.org and www.immersionpresents.org.

The 24 scientists on board the vessels will be using sonar to map an ancient coast line that would have roughly followed the present coral reefs that make up the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, under the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

"Nobody's ever found anything from 20,000 years ago offshore, but that's because nobody has ever looked," said anthropologist David Robinson, a member of the expedition from the University of Connecticut.

Robinson said that even if the expedition failed to find evidence of human habitation, it would lay the groundwork for doing so by determining the location of the ancient coast the prehistoric beds of Texas rivers like the Sabine and Trinity.

Ballard said the best place for human settlement is where a river meets the sea, places covered by the sea after the last ice age and until now in waters too deep to explore.

The Flower Garden Banks are coral reefs lush with wildlife on top of salt domes that have pushed up from the sea beds. The salt would have been above water and sought by humans and animals alike, making it a prime location for hunting, Ballard said.

If they get lucky, the scientists might spot a trash heap used by ancient humans or the remains of a salt mine, he said. The expedition also will help map the undersea territory of the United States, he said.

"We have better maps of Mars than we do of submerged America," said Ballard, who noted that 50 percent of U.S. territory is underwater.

The Okeanos Explorer will explore the oceans 10 months a year, beaming a constant stream of information to the Inner Space Center, a command center under construction at the Institute for Exploration in Kingston, R.I.

The Inner Space Center will be to undersea exploration what the NASA Space Center in Houston is to outer space exploration, Ballard said.

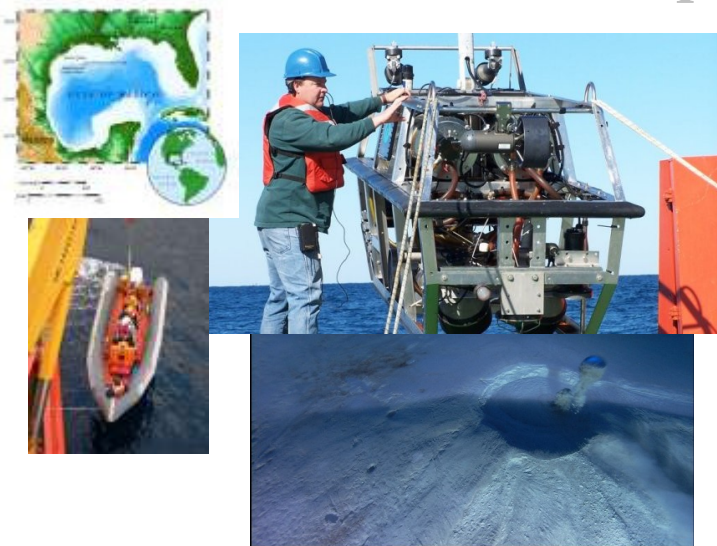
The expedition cost of about \$300,000 is shared by NOAA, the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the Institute for Exploration, Immersion Presents and the

University of Rhode Island, Ballard said. The U.S. Navy is using the expedition as a training mission, NR-1 Cpt. Enrique Panlilio said

."Instead of, 'Houston, we've got a problem,' it will be, 'Kingston, we've got a problem,' " he said.

Ballard also said. "Follow your passion. Chase your passion whatever it is. If you don't do what you love you'll never get where you want to be."

Pictures from the deep



Is it Blackbeard's sh? Archaeological booty says aye

POSTED: 9:24 a.m. EST, March 3, 2007

Sent in by Jim Ward



RALEIGHT, N.Carolina (AP) -- A shipwreck off the North Carolina coast believed to be that of notorious pirate Blackbeard could be fully excavated in three years, officials working on the project said.

"That's really our target," Steve Claggett, the state archaeologist, said Friday while discussing 10 years of research that has been conducted since the shipwreck was found just off Atlantic Beach.

Archaeologists and historians planned Friday to review 10 years of research on the shipwreck. It is the oldest 4

shipwreck discovered off the North Carolina coast The ship ran aground in 1718, and some researchers believe it was a French slave ship Blackbeard captured in 1717 and renamed Queen Anne's Revenge.

Several officials said historical data and coral-covered artifacts recovered from the site -- including 25 cannons, which experts said was an uncommonly large number to find on a ship in the region in the early 18th century -- remove any doubt the wreckage belonged to Blackbeard. Three university professors, including two from East Carolina University, have challenged the findings. But officials working on the excavation said Friday that the more they find, the stronger their case becomes.

"Historians have really looked at it thoroughly and don't feel that there's any possibility anything else is in there that was not recorded," said Mark Wilde-Ramsing, director of the Queen Anne's Revenge Project. "And the artifacts continue to support it." Wilde-Ramsing said a coin weight recovered last fall bearing a likeness of Britain's Queen Anne and a King George cup, both dated before the shipwreck, further bolster their position.

So far, only 15 percent of shipwreck recovered East Carolina has recovered and is studying about 15 percent of the items, which include jewelry, dishes and thousands of other artifacts. The items are being preserved and eventually more will become available for the public to view, Claggett said. To viewed shipwreck artifacts including at a permanent exhibit at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort and at a maritime museum in Paris, project officials said.

Researchers shared some of their findings Friday at the North Carolina Museum of History. They said studying the artifacts will provide insight into the era's naval technology, slave trade and pirate life.

Blackbeard, whose real name was widely believed to be Edward Teach or Edward Thatch, settled in Bath and received a governor's pardon. Some experts believe he grew bored with land life and returned to piracy.

He was killed by volunteers from the Royal Navy in November 1718 -- five months after the ship thought to be Queen Anne's Revenge sank.

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Local Divers Involved in Liveaboard Fire

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Maldives Indonesia.

Maldives is often called “The Promise of Eden”. That promise was temporarily interrupted for passengers on the liveaboard “Guilia” when it caught fire, exploded, and sank about 7:30p on February 19, 2007. There were no casualties but the passenger list included four divers from Bay Area Houston’s own LUNARFINS dive club. Divers had only been aboard for nine hours of the planned trip and had only done one checkout dive.



Anchored in sixty feet of water near the Kaafu atoll in Gulhee harbor, passengers were evacuated to other vessels as the flames spread. Crews from nearby fishing boats helped in the attempt to put out the fire, but the “Guilia” was totally destroyed. Divers from “Guilia” staff dove the wreck the following morning and reported that nothing would be salvageable.

The “Guilia” was a luxurious, diver-friendly live-aboard. It was appointed and laid out fabulously and staffed with a knowledgeable and competent crew and divemasters.

One Lunarfins’ member had just laid down in his cabin when the explosion occurred. Passengers below deck safely made their way to the main deck in total darkness in spite of the chaos. Passengers on-board lost personal items including cash, credit cards, passports, clothes, and scuba gear.

In the aftermath, “Italian Seafari Adventures” owners and their agents provided emergency clothing, passenger medications, meals, lodging, temporary passports, and spending money. They provided airline arrangements for those wishing to return home. They also brought in personnel from the U.S. Counsel in Sri Lanka to issue temporary passports and facilitated the very prompt support from the Male Police to develop the police reports for use to make claims on trip and homeowner’s insurance policies.

Some passengers elected to stay at five-star resorts in the Maldives for the rest of their vacation. The LUNARFINS on board have already booked the same vacation adventure with “Italian Seafari Adventures” for next year.

The Maldives was part of the area that 87 resorts were closed because of damage caused by a Tsunami on December 28, 2004.

TRIPS

6th Annual Bill Jones COZUMEL Vacations

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May or August 2007 for 5 Days, 4 Nights

approx. \$599 pp, dbl occ, tax incl **for less than \$120 per day!**

We arrive early enough on Monday to get weighted-out and dive. We leave late enough on Friday to make 2 dives Thursday morning.

OR

May or August 2007 for 8 Days, 7 Nights

approx. \$799 pp, dbl occ, tax incl **for less than \$100 per day!**

We arrive early enough on Monday to get weighted-out and dive. We leave late enough on Monday to make 2 dives Sunday morning.

staying at the fabulous Hotel Cozumel & Resort

For Detailed Information, Contact Bill Jones:

Bjones@houston.rr.com

"Join Us!"

For details contact go to: **www.captainwaldos.com**

April 22nd thru 28th	Cozumel
June 17th thru 24th	Cayman Brac
July 1st thru 7th	Cozumel
August 9th thru 10th	Flower Gardens
September 2nd thru 9th	Little Cayman
September 22nd thru 23rd	Flower Gardens
October 21st thru 27th	Cozumel
November 18th thru 24th	Curacao, NA



Why Be B.A.D.?

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Bay Area Houston: Have you ever thought about joining a dive club but just didn't do it? **SEA SPACE** is the perfect venue to make that commitment, right now! **BAY AREA DIVERS** is the finest and friendliest dive club on the gulf coast. The club is BAD. If you don't know the 2007 version of Bay Area Divers, you don't know BAD.

You can't possibly be worried about the tiny \$15 annual dues, can you? BAD has diving, education, and social activities every month. Not just one, but multiple activities for your selection and enjoyment each month. If you attend only one activity per year, you will have gotten your annual dues back in value. That's the BAD promise. When you meet new and friendly people interested in the same hobby that you are interested in, it only serves to move you further along in your hobby. You will become a better diver. What is that worth to you?

BAD offers discounted scuba training and dive vacations. For example, there are no lower-priced first-class vacations from Houston to Cozumel available anywhere than the one you can buy as a BAD member. How about 5 days and 4 nights, airfare, ground transportation, hotel, tips, taxes, and all you can eat and drink for \$599! Wow, that's less than \$120 per day! We will even throw in a free Specialty Certification while you are on the trip. Can you imagine taking discounted scuba classes with your friends and people you know and trust with the emphasis on fun throughout the class? You may as well plan on moving up the certification ladder when you become a BAD member.



BAD has the largest Scuba Flea Market in Texas every October and BAD members are admitted free, of course. BAD members have special discounts to Randy's famous annual Coco View Vacation, Bill's special secret Jamaican Vacation Package, and Beverly's Canoe Adventure on the Guadalupe River from New Braunsfels. There are BAD campouts, picnics, dinners, and so much more. BAD maintains a

huge video library and how about our newsletter, in color! BAD gives away more door prizes than any other Scuba club in Texas. BAD has monthly group special deals on dive gear found nowhere else.

BAD supports ecological, safety, and charitable organizations such as Marine Mammal Stranding Network, Comal River Clean-ups, Medical Supply donations, DAN Research, and Sea Space. BAD supports those things that make Scuba Diving the great hobby that it is.

What is your excuse now? **Join BAD today.** You don't have to live in Bay Area Houston to become a member. You just have to make the commitment. **Do it right now!**



Scuba "Bank Job" Update

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Tacoma Washington. In a bank robbery that seems like a bad episode of SEA HUNT, Charles Everett Coma, 38, was caught by Olympia police after robbing a bank, crashing his car through a gate, and then running with a tank and BCD on his back with his arms full of scuba gear.

At gunpoint, Coma **relieved** Olympia's branch of KEY BANK of \$6,000 back on April 15, 2004. He fled the scene wearing a wetsuit under his clothes. Coma tossed the BCD into the water at Puget Sound, but a police officer tackled him before he was able to make the "shore entry". Officers fished the BCD out of the water and found the stolen money stuffed inside. A rifle used in the robbery was found in the wrecked getaway car.

Under "supervised release" since that robbery, Coma was sentenced to 16 years in prison on January 12, 2007 in a Tacoma District Court. A two-time loser, Coma was previously convicted of robbing another bank in 2000.

Divers taking scuba classes from me should be aware that the purpose of certification is not intended to aid in your successful attempts at evading pursuing police officers.

Bay Area Divers
P.O. Box 58404
Houston, TX 77258

Catch us on the web at:

Www.bayareadivers.org

Dive Smart!
Dive Safe!
Dive Happy!



CLUB LOGO MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Hi, I'm Verna the "Shirt Lady". Are you thinking about replacing your Club Shirt, or are you a New Member and would like to have a "BAD" Logo shirt to wear just for fun? I am happy to report that I can help you with all of your "BAD" Fashion Needs. There are lots of styles, colors and sizes to choose from. I can get them made fast and you'll be ready to go in no time.

BAD Patches \$ 5 ea
Short Sleeve Polo Shirt \$19 ea
Zippered Sweat Shirt \$22 ea
Short Sleeve Button Down Dress Shirt . . \$27 ea
Long Sleeve Button Down Dress Shirt . . \$29 ea

*Prices slightly higher for XX & XXX sizes

Something New - Tee-Shirts \$12 ea

(The Tee's have an Angel Fish Photo on the Front and the BAD Dive Flag on the Back)
See me about the possibility of putting your favorite photo on the front. Available in all sizes

I also have catalogs with of lots of other items you can purchase. Another item that we have available is "BAD" Logo patches. You can sew these on a jacket or bag that you already have.

If you are interested in any of these items, see me at the next club meeting or you can contact me, Verna Shannon at 281 334-7370, or e-mail me at butch@pdq.net

Display your club logo with pride; it's **GOOD TO BE "BAD"**.

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