



# NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

## December, 2010

**January 26th, 2011 - General Meeting**

Social starts at 7pm - Meeting at 7:30pm

**Mario's Flying Pizza & Italian Restaurant**  
**618 West NASA Rd. 1, Webster, TX**

**Speaker of the Month — Volunturism, Diving and making a difference.**

Jim Rosborough and Kevin King will share their experiences in volunturism on projects doing marine research with Earthwatch, [www.earthwatch.org](http://www.earthwatch.org), over the past 15 years. Jim has volunteered on projects in Belize, Aruba, Jamaica, Barbados, Exuma Cays, Puerto Rico, Bonaire, San Salvador, Hawaii, Thailand and St. John. Earthwatch current research expeditions in Belize, the Seychelles and Australia will be reviewed. Jim led trips to Belize in 2009, 2010 and will be dive master in 2011 on a project in Belize in May, which Kevin is leading. Kevin is a geologist and has been diving around the world for over 25 years. He participated in last year's trip to Belize.

### The BAD Calendar

#### January

- 4 BAD BOD Meeting
- BAD General Membership Meeting—Jim Rosborough
- 26
- 29 TGCC Banquet

#### February

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- BAD General Membership Meeting—Jimmy Atkinson
- 23

#### March

- 1 BAD BOD Meeting
- 30 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### April

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### May

- 3 BAD BOD Meeting
- 25 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### June

- 7 BAD BOD Meeting
- 29 BAD General Membership Meeting

#### July

- 5 BAD BOD Meeting
- 27 BAD General Membership Meeting

**WEBSITE:** [www.bayareadivers.org](http://www.bayareadivers.org)

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



### December

Jim Rosborough	2	Jake Beckham	19
Jose Garcia	5	Mike White	20
James E. Alexander	6	Steven Giesler	22
Mahoney Richards	7	Christopher Chung	26
O.J. Strickland	10	Doug Hinton	26
Mei-Hwa Ferguson	11	Robert Glenn	27
Lisa White	15	Paige Motschman	29

### COME VISIT and DIVE WITH YOUR FRIENDS and NEIGHBORS

Bay Area Divers meet at Mario's 618 W NASA Rd 1, Webster, TX 77598 at 7:30 pm the last Wednesday of each month (except December).

**GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

**B.A.D. Board of Directors** meeting at **Don Julio's Mexican Restaurant & Cantina**, 2900 East NASA Parkway, Seabrook, TX 77586. Which is between Kirby Blvd. and Hwy 146. on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. **All members are welcome.**

Deadline for article submission for next month is **January 9th, 2011** E-Mail [caladyfish@yahoo.com](mailto:caladyfish@yahoo.com)

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: *Christie Zamora Emerson*

It has truly been a great year with lots of bubbles and bliss. We had some great diving and even better friendships made. It was wonderful to see so many members at the Anniversary Dinner. We had some really tasty seafood, lively conversation, and fun winning door prizes. Thank you to all of you who have participated and volunteered this year to make it all possible. We spent a good deal of our Market proceeds on some really good door prizes that we gave away at the dinner. Also, thanks are in order to **Maximum Scuba** and **Captain Waldo** to donating some fabulous prizes. The Annual Participation Drawing was held as well at the dinner with \$150 gift certificates from Maximum Scuba that we bought with our 50/50 proceeds that went to **Pete Hunter**, **Mei-Hwa Ferguson** and **Rick Decker**. So, it pays to participate! The attendees of the dinner voted on **Diver of the Year**, with nominees: Mei-Hwa Ferguson, David Romano, JimMcConville, Jim Delane, and Randy Widaman.

**Congratulations to Randy as the 2010 Bay Area Diver of the Year!**

At our November meeting we elected Board of Directors for 2011. The new board members are: Treasurer, **Jim McConville**; Secretary, **Cindy Romano**; Membership Coordinator, **Seldon Crump**,

and Members at Large, David Romano and Christie Emerson. We are still looking for nominations for president and vice president.

Please send in your suggestions for events, activities and speakers to make this year even better than the last.

**An update**—With the new year approaching, I am ecstatic to announce that Ja Van Pruett has volunteered to fill in as Vice President until someone comes forward to hold the office. The Vice President is in charge of scheduling speakers for our monthly meetings, so if you have ideas for Ja Van, her email is [caladyfish@yahoo.com](mailto:caladyfish@yahoo.com). Yea, Ja Van!

W e a r e s o g l a d !

## BAD now can do PayPal

We're up and running on the web site and can now accept PayPal payments for memberships...

Check it out here: <http://bayareadivers.org/membership.html>

**Many Thanks** goes to **Mei-Hwa Ferguson**, **Shelby Dill** and **Jim McConville**

## Thank you

**At our last General Meeting:  
Wednesday - November 29th, 2010**

**Our ELECTION MEETING**

**Thank you for coming and voting.**

## BAD BOARD (BOD) MEETING

**Meetings ARE OPEN TO All**, so come on out and join us for our next meeting **TUESDAY, January 4th, 2011** at 7:00 PM at **Don Julio's Mexican Restaurant & Cantina**, 2900 East NASA Parkway, Seabrook, TX 77586. Which is between Kirby Blvd. and Hwy 146. Everyone is encouraged to attend as we appreciate **everyone's participation and your input**. Come earlier if you would like to eat and visit with some of us prior to the meeting.

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors		
President	Christine Zamora	<a href="mailto:crazamora@earthlink.net">crazamora@earthlink.net</a>
V. President	Rick Decker	<a href="mailto:Richard.L.Decker@uscg.mil">Richard.L.Decker@uscg.mil</a>
Secretary	Sandee Roquemore	<a href="mailto:Moreroqus@aol.com">Moreroqus@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Shelby Dill	<a href="mailto:SHELBY.DILL@yahoo.com">SHELBY.DILL@yahoo.com</a>
Editor	Ja Van Pruett	<a href="mailto:caladyfish@yahoo.com">caladyfish@yahoo.com</a>
Membership	Mei-Hwa Ferguson	<a href="mailto:mwferguson12@sbcglobal.net">mwferguson12@sbcglobal.net</a>
Board	Neil Lowrey	<a href="mailto:neillowrey@yahoo.com">neillowrey@yahoo.com</a>
Board	David Romano	<a href="mailto:dromano@skynethouston.com">dromano@skynethouston.com</a>
Webmaster:	Jim McConville	<a href="mailto:mconvillej1@asme.org">mconvillej1@asme.org</a>
Sales:	Christine Zamora	<a href="mailto:crazamora@earthlink.net">crazamora@earthlink.net</a>

**WEBSITE:** [www.bayareadivers.org](http://www.bayareadivers.org)

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# New Member



**New Member - Kellee Ash, Wayne Ayer, Daniel Bosley, Frank Dando, Mozelle Dwire, Mark & Cathy Erminger, Mickey Evans, Sherwood Hamilton, Kevin & Susan King, Kirk Leissner, Sean Maxwell, Jennifer Pellenich, Abe Tamayo, Catherine Thomas, John Thomas, Davilyn & Shawn Ward, Fawaz Yousufuddin, and Patrick Zamagne**

## Member of the Month

# November

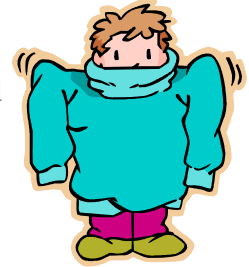


**Seldon Crump**

**Seldon Crump** is not only a new member of BAD, but, she was member of the month for September 2009 and she is the new Membership Chairman for 2011. Seldon Crump started diving in 1990, while living in Costa Rica. She became a dive master and worked for a resort in Drake Bay for over three years. Now back in the area, Seldon and her husband have been members of BAD since January 2010. She started diving 20 years ago because her father was a diver and she currently lives in Alvin.

## CLUB LOGO MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

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

- New Items - Tee-Shirts .....\$12 ea
- Bumper Stickers.....\$ 1 ea or 3 for \$2.00

(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, by e-mail **Christi Zamora Emerson:**  
[crazamora@earthlink.net](mailto:crazamora@earthlink.net).

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

# You should have been there!!!



**Congradulations!**

**COOKS**

**New Member**

**Party**

Thanks to all of the volunteers!

Great Job and an extra **THANK YOU!**

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# You should have been there!!!



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# Could starfish inspire new cure for inflammation?

By Rebecca Morelle Science reporter, BBC News  
*Sent in by Jim Ward*

Lurking in the seas of Scotland is an unlikely candidate for a medical breakthrough.



Rebecca Morelle goes searching for starfish with the Scottish Association for Marine Science's Dr David Hughes

But scientists believe the starfish could hold the key to finding a new treatment for inflammatory conditions such as asthma, hay fever and arthritis. The species they are interested in is the spiny starfish (*Marthasterias glacialis*), and in particular the slimy goo that covers its body. The team says that chemicals in this coating could inspire new medicines.

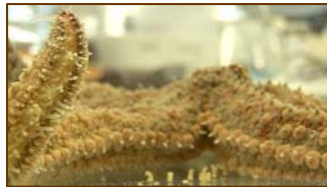
While most man-made structures that are placed in the water rapidly get caked with a mixture of marine life, starfish manage to keep their surface clear.

Dr Charlie Bavington, from GlycoMar, a marine biotechnology company based at the Scottish Association for Marine Science in Oban, explained: "Starfish live in the sea, and are bathed in a solution of bacteria, larvae, viruses and all sorts of things that are looking for somewhere to live.

"But starfish are better than Teflon: they have a very efficient anti-fouling surface that prevents things from sticking." And it is this non-stick property that has grabbed medical scientists' attention, particularly in the field of inflammation.

## Sticky problem

Inflammation is the body's natural response to an injury or infection, but inflammatory conditions are caused when the immune system begins to rage out of control.



White blood cells, which normally flow easily through our blood vessels, begin to build up and stick to the blood vessel wall, and this can cause tissue damage.

Dr Charlie Bavington shows how starfish slime is produced. The idea is that a treatment based on starfish slime could effectively coat our blood vessels in the same way the goo covers the marine creature, and prevent this problem.

Dr Bavington said: "It is a very similar situation to something sticking to a starfish in the sea.

"These cells have to stick from a flowing medium to a blood vessel wall, so we thought we could learn something from how starfish prevent this so we could find a way to prevent this in humans."

While many inflammatory conditions can be effectively treated, for example with steroids, these drugs can often cause unwanted side effects.

We are learning all the time from nature about how to find new medicines"

To read more: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-11931039>



November

Heather Motschman	1
Bobby Tyler	1
Sylvia Resch	3
Max Beckham	4
Rafe Zamora	4
Justin Williams	4
Kim Saldrivar	5
Joel Beckham	6

Cindy Romano	9
Dennis Camp	13
Steven Crump	13
Samantha Jenkins	18
David Romano	20
Blaine Newlin	28
Shon Corrier	30

## Editors Contest Winners 2010

**Articles Award**—For the **most articles** turned in for Publication as well as being Printed: The winner receives a **\$25.00 Gift Certificate to Restaurant of their choice.**

**1st Place Jim Ward — 29 articles**

**2nd Place Ja Van Pruett — 21 articles**

**3rd Place Jim Delane — 19 articles**

**Activity Award**—For having your name or picture in newsletter the most: The winner receives his **Membership for 2010** paid for by Club.

**1st Place Mei-Hwa Fergusons — 20 times**

**2nd Place Christine Zamora — 18 times**

**3rd Place Jim Delane — 13 times**

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## "Eat'em" stratagem for lionfish invasion in Florida



Reuters – A lionfish is pictured in the waters near Miami Florida, in this undated photograph released on December ...  
By Pascal Fletcher  
Pascal Fletcher –  
Wed Dec 29,  
1:48 pm ET

Sent in by Neil Lowery

MIAMI (Reuters) – Florida marine conservationists have come up with a simple recipe for fighting the invading lionfish that is gobbling up local reef life -- eat them.

The Key Largo-based REEF conservation organization has just released "The Lionfish Cookbook," a collection of 45 recipes which is the group's latest strategy to counter an invasion of the non-native reddish brown-striped fish in Florida waters.

"It's absolutely good eating -- a delicacy. It's delicately flavored white meat, very buttery," Lad Akins, director of special projects for Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF), told Reuters. He authored the cookbook along with a professional chef, Tricia Ferguson.

Red lionfish, a prickly predator armed with flaring venomous spines like a lion's mane that give them their name, are native to the South Pacific, Indian Ocean and Red Sea.

With few natural predators, they have been rapidly expanding in Caribbean and Atlantic waters, voraciously preying on local fish, shrimp and crab populations across the region and in Florida, which has world-famous coral reefs.

Some scientists are now listing the invasive lionfish species among the top 15 threats to global biodiversity.

While REEF has organized local fishing "derbies" to hunt the lionfish, including handling tips and tasting sessions, Akins said making humans the invading species' top predator was the best way to fight back against the threat it posed.

"Fishermen and divers realize it's a danger to our native marine life, through its predation. But there really aren't government funds to provide bounties or removal programs. So creating a demand for the fish, a market for the fish, is in effect a de facto bounty," he told Reuters.

U.S. government researchers believe the red lionfish was introduced into Florida waters during Hurricane Andrew in 1992 when an aquarium broke and at least six fish spilled into Miami's Biscayne Bay.

## "CARIBBEAN'S NEW DELICACY"

The front section of the cookbook, which calls the lionfish "The Caribbean's New Delicacy," gives useful tips on collecting, handling and preparing the colorful species, as well as providing expert background on its ecological impact.

Akins says the fish, which lives among coral, can be netted, speared or caught by rod and reel, but he recommends handling them with puncture-proof gloves to avoid a painful prick from the mantle of venomous spines.

"The venom is only in the spines. Cooking the fish would denature the venom, even if you left the spines on. It's simple enough just to cut the spines off," he said.

Akins said he hoped the cookbook could help create a commercial market for lionfish that would speed their eradication. But he wasn't sure whether the brightly colored invader would appear on the menus of Miami Beach eateries.

"It certainly is on the menu in many other countries -- the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, Dominican Republic, Mexico," he said, adding that orders for the recipe book, which can be purchased online at [www.reef.org](http://www.reef.org), were coming in fast.

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20101229/sc\\_nm/us\\_usa\\_florida\\_lionfish](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20101229/sc_nm/us_usa_florida_lionfish)

**Follow-up story: First Larval Lionfish Collected in Atlantic** From: "Kelly Drinnen" <[Kelly.Drinnen@noaa.gov](mailto:Kelly.Drinnen@noaa.gov)>  
Date: Wed, 29 Dec 2010 09:06:46 -0600

\*First Larval Lionfish Collected in the Atlantic. \*The first recorded sample of a larval lionfish (/Pterois volitans/) in the Atlantic has been verified. The specimen was collected ~40 nautical miles east of Cancun, Mexico in April 2010. It was identified by biologists from El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), Mexico. The specimen was verified to be a lionfish in late October via genetic analysis by scientists from Duke University and NOAA, along with an intern from the University of North Carolina. The larva measured 7 mm (total length) and was collected using Neuston nets aboard the NOAA Ship /Gordon Gunter/<<http://www.moc.noaa.gov/gu/>> as part of the Spring Gulf of Mexico/Mexican Caribbean Ichthyoplankton cruise. The cruise was conducted in collaboration with NOAA Fisheries, the University of Miami, the Mexican Instituto Nacional de Pesca (INAPESCA), and ECOSUR.

**NOTE: I asked Neil if he had eaten any Lionfish & this was he reply** "No...but when I was in Cozumel last month the DM let me spear a few. They were too small to clean, but were eliminated. 4 days of diving we killed around 20 lionfish. They said they were good to eat and they gave some to the guy that operated the beach club where we did our surface intervals.

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# Trips and Activities

## Rebecca Jacobs Trips

# FLOWER GARDENS

March 5 – 6 Flower Gardens  
March 16 – 20 Cozumel  
April 9 – 10 Flower Gardens  
April 27 – May 1 Cozumel  
May 7 – 8 Flower Gardens  
May 22 – 29 Cozumel

### Australia in 2012

Australia's Great Barrier Reef!

Contact Rebecca Jacobs

Email: [rebecca@wwdive.com](mailto:rebecca@wwdive.com)

281.540.1616

Please visit our web site for details and photos: <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov>



2011

**J a n u a r y — A l l M o n t h**  
Hammerhead sharks and spotted eagle rays school around the banks.

**1-20 Draft Management Plan Available for Comment**  
The new [Draft Management Plan](#) (DMP), released October 22, 2010, is a major revision to the sanctuary's original management plan of 1991. The DMP is available for [public comment](#) for a period of 90 days. All comments must be received by January 20, 2011. For more information, please visit the linked pages from this posting or email [fgbmanagementplan@noaa.gov](mailto:fgbmanagementplan@noaa.gov)

**17 Martin Luther King Holiday** — Sanctuary offices closed.

**20 Final Day for Public Comments on Draft Management Plan**

All public comments on the [Draft Management Plan](#) must be received electronically or postmarked by this date. For information on how to submit comments, please visit our [Get Involved](#) page or email [fgbmanagementplan@noaa.gov](mailto:fgbmanagementplan@noaa.gov)

## Next Scuba Classes

Jan. 13 EAN (Enriched Air Nitrox)  
Jan. 15 Open Water  
Jan. 22 Science of Diving  
Jan. 24 Open Water  
Jan. 28 Scuba Rangers  
Feb. 1 Advanced OPEN WATER

Mon—Fri 10 — 7 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 — 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 12 — 6:00 p.m.

*\*All dates and times are subject to change\*  
Please contact the store for more information*

### The FLOWER GARDENS –

Capt Waldo



Act Now! Many of these trips will sell out quickly! ACT NOW and receive a \$25 Gift Certificate from Captain Waldo's Aquatic Emporium. Offer ends soon, so ACT NOW!

Contact me for details.....or use this link > <http://www.spreexpeditions.com/Default.asp?ds=Captain+Waldo>

Capt Waldo Aka Dennis Camp  
[Denis@captianwaldos.com](mailto:Denis@captianwaldos.com)

## Scuba Classes with Bill Jones

Email [Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net](mailto:Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net) for details.

The next beginner scuba class will be May 13, 2011

*You are welcome to join us to just party or try out your Scuba gear.*

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## **Belize Marine Research and Jungle Tour**



Join our team for five-days of research diving on Tom Owen's Caye in the Sapodilla Cayes in southern Belize; plus three days exploring at a jungle lodge. Coral surveys will be conducted using the Reefcheck protocol [www.reefcheck.org](http://www.reefcheck.org), plus potential of diving in spawning aggregates with whale sharks, and spiny lobster, commercial fish and conch surveys. Typically we will do two research dives a day plus shore diving and night diving. Our host will be Reef Conservation International [www.reefci.com](http://www.reefci.com) who have seven years of research experience on the Cayes.

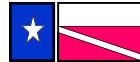
We fly to Punta Gorda via Belize City on Friday, 5/13, and spend three days at Cotton Tree Lodge [www.cottontreelodge.com](http://www.cottontreelodge.com). Day trip choices include wading a river into a cave, Maya ruins, limestone caves, waterfalls, organic chocolate farm, Garafuna village and drumming tour, kayak up the Moho River, and more. Monday we boat to the Cayes for 5 days of diving. Friday we boat back to Punta Gorda and depart on Saturday 5/21 for Houston. We strongly suggest you go to our host's web sites to explore these rich adventures.

Cost is \$1650 for the 8-day ground package including local transportation, accommodations, all meals, tours, and unlimited diving. Airfare is for your account and is currently \$650 (use ff miles?) to Belize City and \$235 for the connection to Punta Gorda.

A \$670 deposit is required to hold your place; balance is due March 11th. Cancellation policy: Deposits are not refundable. Cancellation before April 13<sup>th</sup> loose deposit only. Cancel after April 13<sup>th</sup> no refund. Cancellation by Reef Conservation Intl., 100% refund of Reef CI portion except in cases of natural disaster and force majeure.

A PADI Medical Form indicating your fitness for diving (self reporting) and diving insurance is

## **W. W. DIVING COMPANY**



### Store Hours

Monday-Friday 10am-7pm  
Saturday 9am-6pm  
thru Nov., 2010

### ALL LEVELS OF SCUBA TRAINING

Basic Snorkeling thru Advanced Technical  
Deep Water Aerobics  
Indoor Heated Pool on Premise

### Equipment from most major manufacture

Computers ♦ Tanks ♦ Dry Suits ♦ BCD's  
Regulators ♦ Wet Suits ♦ Spear fishing  
Apparel ♦ Photography ♦ Jewelry

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### WORLDWIDE TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

Groups ♦ Individual ♦ Clubs

1307 First Street Humble, TX 77338  
Tel: (281) 540-1616 Fax: (281) 446-8861

Email: [rebecca@wwdive.com](mailto:rebecca@wwdive.com)

Website: [www.wwdive.com](http://www.wwdive.com)

## **Belize (cont)**

required. ReefCI has a PADI instructor and some advanced courses offered free.

Trip leader is Kevin King who participated in last year's project. Dive master is Jim Rosborough, BAD and HUC member, NAUI instructor, 46 years of diving experience, and Field Representative for Earthwatch (20 research projects). This is a Jim's fifth research project on the Sapodilla Cayes and he is a certified ReefCheck leader. Kevin and Jim are leading this trip as individuals.

If you are interested contact Kevin at 713-206-8072 cell, PO Box 7968, Houston, TX 77270-7968; [kcking99@gmail.com](mailto:kcking99@gmail.com). Jim at: 713-552-0104, 281-685-5339 cell, 2929 Buffalo Speedway #1408, Houston 77098; [njrosborough@me.com](mailto:njrosborough@me.com).

## **BAD now can do PayPal**

We're up and running on the web site and can now accept PayPal payments for memberships...

Check it out here: <http://bayareadivers.org/membership.html>

**Many Thanks goes to Mei-Haw Ferguson, Shelby Dill and Jim McConville**

**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!*

# New BAD Officers



**President-Stand-In**  
**Christine Zamora**



**V. P-Stand-In**  
**& Editor**  
**Ja Van Pruett**



**Treasurer & Webmaster**  
**Jim McConville**



**Secretary**  
**Cindy Romano**



**Membership Chairman**  
**Seldon Crump**



**Board Member**  
**Neil Lowery**



**Board Member**  
**David Romano**

# Diver of the Year



# Randy Widaman

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