



NEWS FROM The "Get Wet" Club

January, 2011

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 voluntarism on projects doing marine research with Earthwatch, 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.

Come out and visit with friends, make new ones

The BAD Calendar

January

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

February

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

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

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



January

Ralph Castillo	1
Rodney (PeeWee) Dwire	2
Davida Hinton	3
Paul Herring	14
Melanie Ferguson	15
Wendy Parrish	15
Hunter Hutchinson	17
Kelly Dando	17
Lori Traweek	17
Mary Lowrey	20
Doreen Wells	24
Max Tinsley	28
Kim Zimmerman	30



**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!

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 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.

Bay Area Divers Officers & Directors

President	Doreen Wells	president@bayareadivers.org
V. President	Ja Van Pruett	vicepresident@bayareadivers.org
Secretary	Cindy Romano	secretary@bayareadivers.org
Treasurer	Jim McConville	treasurer@bayareadivers.org
Editor	Ja Van Pruett	caladyfish@yahoo.com
Membership	Seldon Crump	membership@bayareadivers.org
Board	Christine Emerson	boardmember1@bayareadivers.org
Board	David Romano	boardmember2@bayareadivers.org

Webmaster Jim McConville mcconvillej1@asme.org

WEBSITE: www.bayareadivers.org

New Member



New Members - **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**

Time to re-new your membership.



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, February 1st, 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.

5 ocean discoveries you should know about



The diversity of marine life and the structure of the ocean food web were at the heart of some of the top discoveries of 2010.

2010 was a big year for ocean science. Here are my (and your) picks for the most important advances of the year. There's one for each of the greatest threats facing the ocean (pollution, overfishing, and the two arms of climate change – warming and acidification), plus an overall winner. Enjoy!

1. First Census of Marine Life completed

October 2010 marked the end of a decade-long, international effort to catalogue the diversity of life in the ocean. The work of some 2,700 scientists from 80 nations resulted in thousands of new species being described, upping the total number of known marine species to almost 250,000.

2. Dramatic phytoplankton decline linked to warming seas

Pioneering work combining over a century of low-tech observations with modern modeling and mapping resulted in a dramatic (if somewhat controversial) finding – evidence of a 40% decline in phytoplankton (the microscopic marine plants that generate half of the oxygen on Earth) since 1950, strongly linked to rising ocean temperatures.

3. Ocean acidification is happening NOW

Over the course of the past 200 years, the ocean has absorbed nearly a third of carbon dioxide emissions, resulting in a 30% increase in ocean acidity – a phenomenon known as ocean acidification. Acidic water conditions impair the ability of animals like oysters and corals to extract the calcium carbonate they need to build their skeletons or shells.

4. We are NOT fishing down the food chain (or Why we need a new indicator of fisheries sustainability)

For years, prevailing wisdom has held that we are “fishing down the food chain” – over-harvesting the top-level predators, then moving on to fish lower and lower on the chain. But a new research showing that catches of fish (and other marine life) at all levels of the food chain have generally increased since the 1970s has upended this theory, leaving scientists and managers fishing for a new measure of ecosystem health (sorry, subscriptions needed for both articles).

5. There's plastic in the Atlantic, too

Scientists have long known that plastic debris accumulates in parts of the northern Pacific Ocean bounded by circular ocean currents, or gyres; these regions have been called The Great Pacific Garbage Patches. This year, scientists from Sea Education Association and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution confirmed what many have suspected for years: that there is a similar accumulation of plastic debris in the Atlantic Ocean.

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.

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

Divers: 1811 wreck of Perry ship discovered off RI

Jan 7, 9:00 PM EST

By MICHELLE R. SMITH
Associated Press

Sent in by Tammi Jo Thompson

AP Photo/Tom Packer



PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) -

- A team of divers say they've discovered the remains of the USS Revenge, a ship commanded by U.S. Navy hero Oliver Hazard Perry and wrecked off Rhode Island in 1811.

Perry is known for defeating the British in the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie off the shores of Ohio, Michigan and Ontario in the War of 1812 and for the line "We have met the enemy and they are ours." His battle flag bore the phrase "Don't give up the ship," and to this day is a symbol of the Navy.

The divers, Charles Buffum, a brewery owner from Stonington, Conn., and Craig Harger, a carbon dioxide salesman from Colchester, Conn., say the wreck changed the course of history because Perry likely would not have been sent to Lake Erie otherwise. Sunday is the 200th anniversary of the wreck.

The divers, Charles Buffum, a brewery owner from Stonington, Conn., and Craig Harger, a carbon dioxide salesman from Colchester, Conn., say the wreck changed the course of history because Perry likely would not have been sent to Lake Erie otherwise. Sunday is the 200th anniversary of the wreck.

"I always thought to myself we ought to go out and have a look and just see if there's anything left," Buffum said. The two, along with a third man, Mike Fournier, set out to find it with the aid of a metal detector. After several dives, they came across a cannon, then another. "It was just thrilling," Harger said.

They made their first discovery in August 2005, and kept it secret as they continued to explore the area and make additional discoveries. Since then, they have found four more 42-inch-long cannons, an anchor, canister shot, and other metal objects that they say they're 99 percent sure were from the Revenge.

They say they are concerned now that they are going public that other divers might try to remove objects from the site, which is a violation of the law. Many of the objects they found are in only 15 feet of water, although the area is difficult to dive because of currents, they said.

As for whether the wreck of the Revenge changed the course of history, David Skaggs, a professor emeritus of history at Bowling Green State University, said Perry

might not put it that way. Skaggs has written two books on Perry, "A Signal Victory," about the Lake Erie campaign, which he co-authored, and a biography, "Oliver Hazard Perry: Honor, Courage, and Patriotism in the Early U.S. Navy."

"It is certainly an interesting new find on the eve of the bicentennial of the War of 1812," Skaggs said.

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary has 3 open seats

Special to The Daily News Published January 10, 2011

Sent in by Tammi Jo Thompson

GALVESTON — The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is seeking applicants for three seats on its advisory council, which ensures public participation in sanctuary management and provides advice to the sanctuary superintendent. [Applications are due Feb. 4.](#)

The sanctuary is accepting applications for a recreational diving seat, an oil and gas production seat and a commercial fishing seat.

Candidates are selected based on their expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they're applying, community and professional affiliations, and knowledge regarding the protection and management of marine resources. Council members serve three-year Terms.

"Sanctuary advisory councils have proven to be an invaluable source of advice and input from local communities regarding the management of our national marine sanctuaries, America's ocean treasures," George P. Schmahl, sanctuary superintendent, said.

The sanctuary advisory council for Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary was established in 2005.

The volunteer council's 16 voting members and five nonvoting members represent a variety of local user groups, the general public, and state and federal governmental jurisdiction.

To receive an application or for information, contact Jennifer Morgan by e-mail at jennifer.morgan@noaa.gov, or by phone, 409-621-5151, Ext. 103, or by mail at NOAA-Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, 4700 Ave. U, Bldg. 216, Galveston, TX 77551.

Cayman Islands sinking US ship to create reef

AP – In this photo released by the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, divers watch the sinking of the USS ...



By DAVID McFADDEN,
Associated Press David
Mcfadden, Associated Press – Thu Jan 6, 9:35 am ET

Sent in by Neil Lowery

KINGSTON, Jamaica – A decommissioned U.S. Navy ship was scuttled Wednesday in the clear Caribbean waters of the Cayman Islands, where officials say the sunken vessel will attract fish and tourists.

The USS Kittiwake, a 1945-vintage submarine rescue ship, rests on a sandy bottom off Grand Cayman's [Seven Mile Beach](#). The 47-foot-tall (14-meter) ship is at a depth of 62 feet (19 meters), so the top deck is close to the Caribbean Sea's surface, making it easily accessible for snorkelers and divers.

*Photo courtesy of
Cayman Islands
Department of Tourism*



Crews carefully flooded the rusty hulk so the 2,200-ton (1,995 metric ton) ship would settle upright. Holes were punched in the hull and large pumps gradually piped sea water into the ship, which was compartmentalized into three sections.

As it began to sink in a cascade of bubbles, the Kittiwake leaned a bit to its starboard side. But divers reported it landed upright on its keel.

"It was just perfect execution, nice and even. She landed exactly where she was supposed to," project manager Nancy Easterbrook said during a phone interview from a nearby boat on Seven Mile Beach.

The Kittiwake's scuttling raised mixed emotions in Jon Glatstein, who was a sailor on the vessel from 1984 to 1986. He traveled to this wealthy British Caribbean territory to watch his old ship sink beneath the waves.

"This is the first time I've seen the ship in 25 years, and 7

she's in pretty rough shape. But she's been serving divers all her life and now she's going to continue doing just that.

That's got to be a whole lot better than getting melted down for razor blades," said Glatstein, now an IT manager in Miami.

The ship, which assisted U.S. submarine operations around the globe for decades, was anchored in recent years among the rusting vessels of the James River Reserve Fleet, commonly known as the "Ghost Fleet," in Fort Eustis, Virginia. It was towed to the Cayman Islands last month.

About 40 boats carrying locals and tourists circled around the ship to watch it sink. Several parasailers enjoyed a birds-eye view under clear skies.

Officials had hoped to sink the ship Tuesday, but windy weather and choppy seas forced a postponement. Divers will attach mooring lines to the ship on the seafloor Thursday, and the scuttled Kittiwake should be open to the public on Friday, according to Easterbrook.

Premier McKeeva Bush said the operation "represents the single most significant occurrence in a decade for Cayman's dive industry."

Besides being a lure for tourists, the Kittiwake will be an artificial reef that can shelter fish and crustaceans in waters known for excellent visibility and abundant sea life.

The Kittiwake joins the MV Captain Keith Tibbetts, a Russian frigate sunk off the coast of Cayman Brac in 1996 that is now decorated with a thick coating of sponges and corals.

Sharks: New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

America's Most In-fested Places

Sent in by Ja Van Pruett

While many people fear sharks, the actual instances of shark attacks are relatively very rare. In fact, in most places, you are far more likely to be struck by lightning than to be attacked by a shark. However, if you want to improve your chances, you could always take a trip to New Smyrna Beach.



An entire generation of Americans was semi-traumatized by watching Jaws at a young age, resulting in a deep-seated fear of sharks. In reality, shark attacks are extremely rare when compared to the number of people that venture into the waters. But incidents do occur from time to time, and according to the International Shark Attack File, New Smyrna Beach in Volusia County, Florida is our shark attack capital, with 219 documented attacks since 1882.

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

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

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

Next Scuba Classes

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*

Scuba Classes with Bill Jones

Email Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net for details.

May 6—Next Beginner Open Water Scuba Class
May 14 & 15: Scuba Classes at Blue Lagoon

Everyone is welcome to join us to try out your scuba gear, just socialize, BYO-BBQ & Pit, BYOB, picnic, camp out, swim, scuba dive, earn a Specialty certification, or whatever at Blue Lagoon 2, Site 2! Interact with the group as little or as much as you wish, stay the weekend or for 5 minutes. I will also be teaching Open Water, Advanced, Rescue, Master Scuba Diver, DiveMaster, & Specialty certification classes. Discounted books available now and from me at the dive site.

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

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, 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 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. 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 13th loose deposit only. Cancel after April 13th 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

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

Email: rebecca@wwdive.com

Website: 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. Jim at: 713-552-0104, 281-685-5339 cell, 2929 Buffalo Speedway #1408, Houston 77098; 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

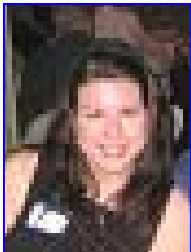
Houston, TX 77258

Catch us on the web at:

WWW.BAYAREADIVERS.ORG

Dive Smart!
Dive Safe!
Dive Happy!

New BAD Officers



**President-Stand-In
Doreen Wells**



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



**Treasurer & Webmaster
Jim McConville**



**Secretary
Cindy Romano**



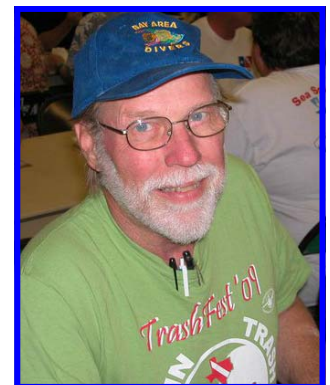
**Membership Chairman
Seldon Crump**



**Board Member
Christine Emerson**



**Board Member
David Romano**



Diver of the Year **Randy Widaman**