



Deep Sea Digest

Winter 2005

A Blast From The Past...

By Todd Rushing, TGCC President

It's always interesting to look back at how things used to be done, and thanks to Dr. Dick Zingula, that's how we'll start this issue out. The logo that you see at the top of this issue is from the April 1969 issue of the Deep Sea Digest.

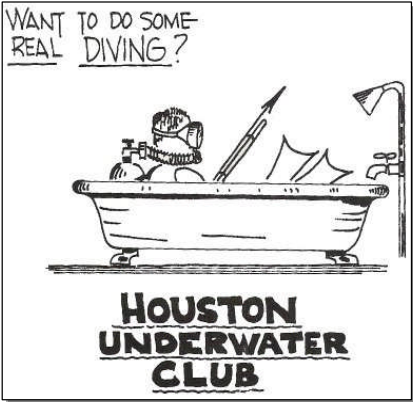
Thanks to a little modern technology (namely a scanner and some paint program work) it's been recreated here for you.

Here's how the April 1969 cover looked...

This particular issue, 14 pages in length, is a unique perspective of how far diving has progressed. Take the advertisement on the back cover for instance:

You'll notice three scuba

companies no longer in existence- Healthways, Voit Swimaster, and Poseidon. Another note is the use of five digit telephone numbers. *Hard to imagine Houston, TX with only five digit phone numbers!*



Inside the DSD, April 1969...

HUPS Shootout

A Return to Cozumel

Last meeting we announced that HUPS was going to return to Cozumel in 2005 for our annual Shootout. Because of the superb job done by Scuba Club in 2003, we decided to go back there with our group.

Unless something changes, here are the details that we have so far from Island Dreams:
 Dates: July 16-23, 2005 (Saturday – Saturday)
 Airfare: about \$350 round trip from Houston on Continental Airlines
 Accommodations: 7-nights, meals & taxes included - waiting for final confirmation but it will probably be less than \$840 per person
 Diving: 5 days of 2-tank boat dives and unlimited shore diving
 We passed around a list in October and had 26 people sign up saying they would be interested in making the trip. This is great. I'm sure that we can handle this many or more.



CLUB BRIEFS...

BAY AREA DIVERS: BAD just celebrated their 30th Anniversary with dinner and music at Monument Inn in Pasadena. Approximately 35 people attended and door prizes were awarded to the attendees. The new slate of officers is schedule to be elected during the November general meeting, as well as the Diver of the Year. In December, BAD is planning a steam train trip from Austin to Burnett. BAD meets the last Wed. of the month at the Clear Lake Park Community Building, 5001 NASA Rd 1, at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome. Special speakers and door prizes awarded.

<http://www.bayreadivers.org>

Houston Underwater Club: December saw the clubs annual Christmas party. In November, HUC participated with BAD in the First Annual Paintball Challenge. Five people attended, but were later joined by other groups to bring the total to nine. Several games were played, but BADDies won't say who the winners were (Ha! Ha!). HUC meets usually the third Friday of the month at the Tracy Gee Community Center.

<http://www.hucscuba.org>

Houston Underwater Photographic Society (HUPS): HUPs held their annual Christmas party in December also. Also, HUPS was having their last photo contest of the year. Ken Kenezick gave a good presentation to the group on "Improving your photography" in November. Lot's of good things coming our of that we've heard! Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet Street (near Hillcroft), Houston, Texas. The doors open at 7:00PM and the program goes from 7:15 to about 9:00PM. <http://www.hups.org>

Lunarfins: Lunarfins had their holiday party December 11th at Deena Taylor's home. Lunarfins meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Clear Lake Park Community Building 5001 NASA Rd 1, at 7:00 PM. <http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/Paradise/7049/Default.html>

Nubian Dive Club: The magazine "Essence" recently recognized Nubian Dive Club of Houston, for their 'strictly diving' trips. Read the article here:

http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1264/is_n12_v26/ai_18144475

The Wet Set (Beaumont): Welcome back to the Wet Set, who recently renewed their membership!

TrashFest Report

TrashFest 2004 proved to be a unique experience for the coordinators and participants alike. The early morning hours (after midnight October 1, 2004 through noon October 2, 2004) saw a cold front approach from the northwest bringing heavy rain (estimates of greater than 6 inches), extreme lightning, and even some pea size hail (mainly north of town). As a result, from approximately 4 AM when the heavy rain reached the downtown New Braunfels area, until 8 AM, the Comal River (which is fed from springs as well as the Dry Comal Creek) rose over 4 feet. At 8 AM, the water level was high enough that approximately 18 inches of water was flowing over the dam at the Tube Chute (at Prince Solms Park).

After some discussion with Nathan Pence, NBP&R Director, we came to the conclusion that there would be no way to: (1) risk putting any divers in the water, and (2) no way any diver would be able to see anything, since the water looked like chocolate milk. We made the decision to cut the admission price from \$15 to \$8 (to cover the cost of the meal and facilities) and to have the awards dinner and door prize giveaways, where we awarded over \$8000 worth of door prizes.



TrashFest Report (Cont'd)

Everyone we talked to said they had a great time despite not being able to 'get wet.' This was only the second time in TrashFest's 30 year history that we were unable to get into the water. The first was in 1975 when the water level was too low and this year when it was too high. Not a bad average for 30 years. Hopefully the weather will cooperate for us next year.



Texas Gulf Coast Council Scholarship Award

By Tom Burns

The Council selected Jake Lavine to receive a \$500 Scholarship Award. He is attending the University of Houston. Jake was very surprised and is very appreciative of this financial assistance with his college courses. He especially wants to thank our Council representative, Tom Burns, for encouraging the submittal of his application for this very nice award. Special thanks go to the Council committee that reviewed Jake's application and found it worthy.

The Council also gave a second scholarship, which went to Theresa Roberts's, child. Theresa is a member of H.U.C.

Congratulations to both of these very hard-working and deserving students.

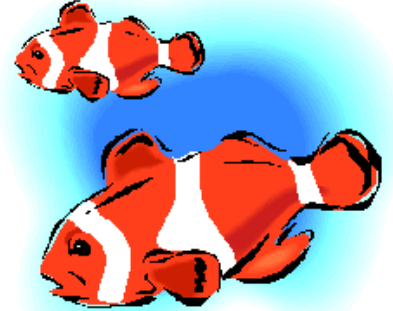


DARK WATER DIVE

By Aurin Tesoro

The following comes from Kathleen Brandt via e-mail.

"I am a mystery writer and a diver, so it's not surprising that I'd decide to combine the activities. I'm the author of an underwater investigation series, featuring police diver and underwater investigator, Hannah Sampson.



In addition to the mystery, my books have strong environmental themes, focusing on the degradation of reefs and the threat to ocean species. The most recent book is called **DARK WATER DIVE**. The first book is **SWIMMING WITH THE DEAD** (Oct. 2003). Both are available in bookstores or from www.amazon.com.

I'm writing to inquire about whether you would be interested in my doing a short article for your newsletter focusing on the books and about the research. Though I've been diving for almost twenty years, I had to do a lot of research about rescue and recovery and about underwater crime scene investigation. It's been a lot of fun. I've attended classes with rescue and recovery divers, accompanied a conservation team on a turtle-tagging expedition (my third book is about endangered sea turtles), learned to dive in a dry suit, and talked to divers who specialize in underwater crime scenes.



To find out more about me and my books, you can visit my website: www.ksbrandt.com I can be reached by email:

kbrandt@coloradocollege.edu

Thanks and Safe Diving!"

Is Mercury In Your Diet?

From The Ocean Conservancy

One in 12 American women has mercury levels above what is considered safe. As a result, more than 500,000 newborns and children are at risk for brain and neurological damage. Coal-fired power plants are the largest source of mercury emissions to the air in the United States. They account for 70 percent of mercury entering ocean food chains, affecting shark, king mackerel, tilefish, swordfish, grouper, halibut, amberjack, and Chilean sea bass. The good news is that we have the technology to largely eliminate these harmful emissions.

Facts:

- Mercury contamination in fish is common; it accounts for more than 75 percent of all fish consumption advisories (state and federal warnings against eating certain types of fish) in the United States.
- One in 12 American women has mercury levels above what is considered safe. As a result, more than 500,000 newborns and children are at risk for brain and neurological damage.
- Other symptoms of mercury poisoning in adults and children include loss of attention, poor fine motor functions, language and vision problems, and loss of memory.
- Cooking methods cannot reduce mercury levels in seafood. Mercury is bound to proteins in fish tissue, including muscle.
- Mercury contaminates the oceans from the air and from the land. The burning of fossil fuels releases mercury into the air, which then falls onto the oceans; runoff carries mercury-laden soils to the oceans.
- The Clean Air Act requires that power plants comply with “maximum achievable control technology” by 2007.



Visit the Ocean Conservancy on the net: <http://www.oceanconservancy.org>

NASA And NOAA Join Hands to Train Astronauts

From Project NEEMO

In an effort to prepare astronauts for long duration space flight, NASA has teamed up with NOAA for Project NEEMO, which houses astronauts as ‘aquanauts’ in an undersea laboratory. According to NOAA’s Aquarius website: “Aquarius is an underwater ocean laboratory located in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The laboratory is deployed three and half miles offshore, at a depth of 60 feet, next to spectacular coral reefs.

Scientists live in Aquarius during ten-day missions using saturation diving to study and explore our coastal ocean.

Aquarius is owned by NOAA and is operated by the National Undersea Research Center at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.”



The aquanauts get a welcome visit from their surface support team.

Facts about Aquarius:

Aquarius was built in Victoria, Texas, in 1986 by Victoria Machine Works (VMW). Underwater operations first began in the United States Virgin Islands, in St. Croix’s Salt River Canyon (now a national park and previously home to Hydrolab, the predecessor to Aquarius), in 1988. After 13 missions (and Hurricane Hugo), Aquarius was relocated to Wilmington, North Carolina where it was refurbished over an 18 month period by the National Undersea Research Center at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Aquarius remained in Wilmington until 1992 until it was deployed at its present location in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

On the Web: <http://www.uncw.edu/aquarius/>

WHAT IS NEEMO??? NASA/NOAA *Extreme Environment Mission Operations (NEEMO)* - As the nation embarks on a new era of ocean and space exploration, the NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations (NEEMO) program is forging a new partnership between NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NASA astronauts live and work in an undersea habitat as practice for long-duration space habitation, living in a volume similar to the living module of the International Space Station, conducting scientific research on the human body and coral reef environment. Their home is the only currently operational, offshore underwater laboratory in the world, Aquarius, owned by NOAA and operated by the NOAA Undersea Research Center (NURC) at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW).

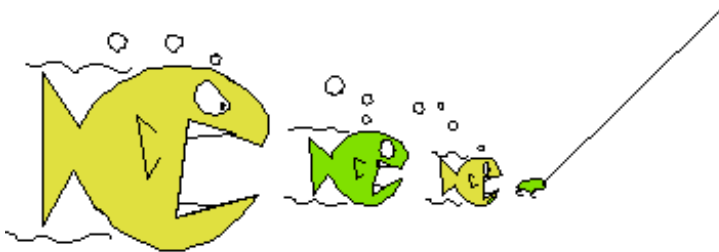
HELP!!! We need your nominations for DOY and Neptune Awards

It's that time of year folks... time for the TGCC Annual Awards Banquet. And that means that we need your nominations for Diver of the Year and we also need you to turn in your Neptune Awards points... We don't want to have one or two people showing off all the points do we??? We know that there are lots of you out there that have led events or trips, participated in events or trips or chaired an event. If it was sanctioned by the council, then you're eligible for Neptune Award Points. For your DOY nominations all we ask is that you keep it to a page or less and e-mail it to: info@tgccdiveclubs.org (if you include photo's they cannot be returned).



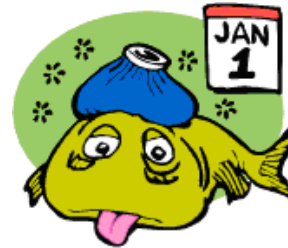
About the new look for Deep Sea Digest...

Since our current editor Sharon Kerr is moving to Jasper, Texas, she has asked for someone to take over the editor's position for her. As President, since I couldn't find a volunteer, I thought I would try my hand at working on it until a new volunteer could be located... As with any new person in a position, it's a trial and error proposition to put together the newsletter, and I thought I would try something different until too many folks complain about the content. Send any comments, good or bad, to info@tgccdiveclubs.org and I'll try to incorporate any suggestions that I can. Todd Rushing, TGCC President.



Which one are you???

TGCC Calendar for 2005



Happy New Year!!!

January

13 TGCC board meeting, Bayland Community Center

February

5 TGCC Banquet – Monument Inn

www.tgccdiveclubs.org

12 Lunar fins Banquet – Villa Capri

<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/Paradise/7049/Default.html>

March

10 TGCC board meeting, Bayland Community Center

April

25 – May 11 HUPS Irian Jaya trip www.hups.org

May

12 TGCC board meeting, Bayland Community Center

14-21

BAD Cocoview trip www.bayareadivers.org

June

4-5

SeaSpace 2005 www.seaspace.org

July

14

TGCC board meeting, Bayland Community Center

16-23

HUPS Cozumel Shootout – www.hups.org

August

September

8

TGCC board meeting, Bayland Community Center

October

1

Trashfest 2005 www.trashfest.org

4-7

DEMA 2005 – www.dema.org

22-29

BAD Cocoview trip www.bayareadivers.org

November

10

TGCC board meeting, Bayland Community Center

December

Editors Note: As of this writing, most clubs have not set their 2005 calendars.

TGCC OFFICERS – 2005

President: Todd Rushing (Interim)

1st Vice President: Tom Burns (Interim)

2nd Vice President: Miles King (Interim)

Secretary/Treasurer: Debbie Mensay (Interim)

Newsletter Editor: Currently Open (*Please volunteer!*)

We are looking for volunteers for Officer Positions. If you are interested in serving with the Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs, please send an e-mail to info@tgccdiveclubs.org. The only requirement is that you be a member of TGCC or a TGCC member club. **This is your Council, so let's keep it active!**

Recipes

These recipes are for those that are looking for fast, easy and simple meal ideas...

Tasty Tuna Casserole

¾ C Crushed potato chips
1 – 10 ½ Ounce can cream of mushroom soup
½ C milk

Butter
½ teaspoon salt
1 – 7 Ounce can of Tuna

Preheat oven to 350°. Butter a 1-1/2 quart baking dish. In a small bowl, mix soup, milk and salt. Place drained tuna in the bottom of the baking dish and cover with soup mix. Top with potato chips and sprinkle with cheddar cheese (optional). Bake for 25 minutes.

Taco Potato Pie

1 Lb Ground Beef
1 Small Onion Chopped
1 Pkg Taco Seasoning

½ C Picante Sauce
2 C Mashed Potatoes
Your Favorite Cheese

Preheat oven to 350°. Brown meat and onion; drain. Add taco seasoning and water per package directions; stir in picante sauce. Place ground beef in the bottom of casserole dish and cover with layers of mash potatoes and cheese, topping with cheese. Bake until cheese melts and dish is hot through and through.

Blend of the Bayou Seafood Casserole

1 – 8 oz pkg cream cheese
1 Lb Shrimp, peeled
1 Pt Crab meat
Grated cheese
1 T garlic salt

1 Stick Margarine/Butter
1 Onion, chopped
1 Bell Pepper, chopped
2 Ribs celery, chopped
2 T butter

1 Can mushroom soup
1 Can mushrooms, drained
¾ C rice, cooked
Cracker Crumbs

Melt cream cheese and stick margarine in microwave. Sautee shrimp, onion, pepper and celery in 2 T butter. Add to cream cheese mixture; stir in soup, mushrooms, seasonings, crab meat and rice. Mix well and place in 2 quart casserole dish, top with cheese and cracker crumbs. Bake at 350° for 20-30 minutes or until bubbly. Serves about 8 (or 1 if you're really, really hungry).

WE NEED YOUR ARTICLES!



If you have a club report, news article or calendar event to place into the Deep Sea Digest, please send it to

info@tgccdiveclubs.org or by snail mail to DSD EDITOR, P.O. Box 2434, Texas City, TX 77592-2434. If you wish to include a photo, please make it just one, so the issues don't get too large (photo's by snail mail can be returned by SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope).



Back to the basics....

Editors Note: We are looking for articles for the Deep Sea Digest. If you have an article of interest, please send it to txscubaman@yahoo.com . If the article comes from something you've found of interest on the World Wide Web, then please include the location of the article so that we can check reprinting rights. If you want to use snail mail (USPS) then send the article to Todd Rushing, P.O. Box 2434, Texas City, TX 77592-2434.

More great news coming to the Deep Sea Digest in the next issue....

Attachment: Diver of the Year Banquet Flyer



Photo courtesy of the Houston Chronicle

Happy Holidays and a Prosperous New Year to all of you!

Did You See This One???



Fox News is reporting that penguins in Antarctica are on the verge of starving due to a massive iceberg blocking the entrance to McMurdo bay where parents and offspring feed. This is the largest ever reported iceberg and is over 60 feet deep. It is also being called the largest ever floating object.

“A remnant of the largest iceberg ever recorded is blocking Antarctica's McMurdo Sound, threatening tens of thousands of penguin chicks with starvation and

cutting off a supply route for three science stations, a New Zealand official said Tuesday.

The iceberg, known as B15A, measures about 1,200 square miles, said Lou Sanson, chief executive of the government scientific agency Antarctica New Zealand.

He called it "the largest floating thing on the planet right now" and said U.S. researchers estimate it contains enough water to supply Egypt's Nile River complex for 80 years.

It is so big it has blocked wind and water currents that break up ice floes in McMurdo Sound during the Antarctic summer, which begins later this month.

The U.S. McMurdo Station and New Zealand's Scott Base are located on the sound. Italy's Terra Nova base is nearby.



The iceberg is in the path of four ships due to arrive in Antarctica in a month with fuel and food for the three stations. Scientists are looking into solutions, including breaking an 80-mile path through the ice.

While the situation is a growing concern, the bases are not immediately in danger of running out of supplies, Sanson said.”

A VIEW FROM SPACE.... The Red Sea



Mirear Island Coral Reefs from the Landsat satellite. Image credit: NASA

See the story at:

<http://www.rednova.com/news/display/?id=111374#>



TGCC Annual Awards Banquet

Saturday, February 5, 2005

Monument Inn

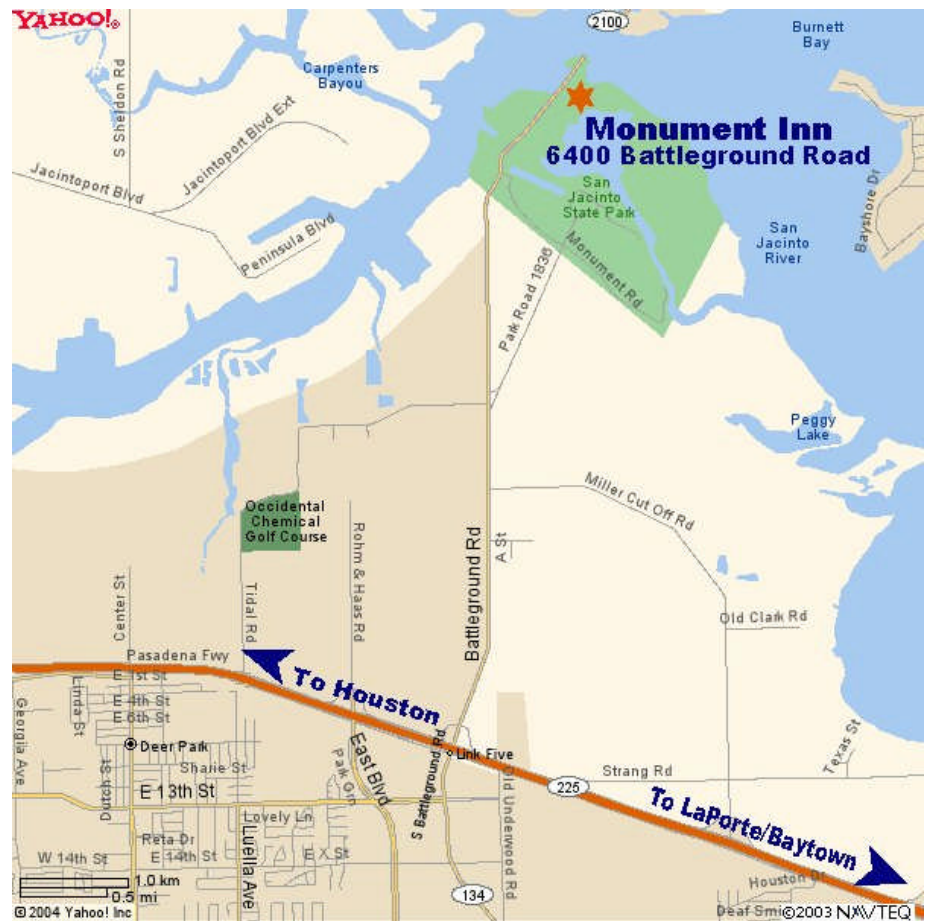
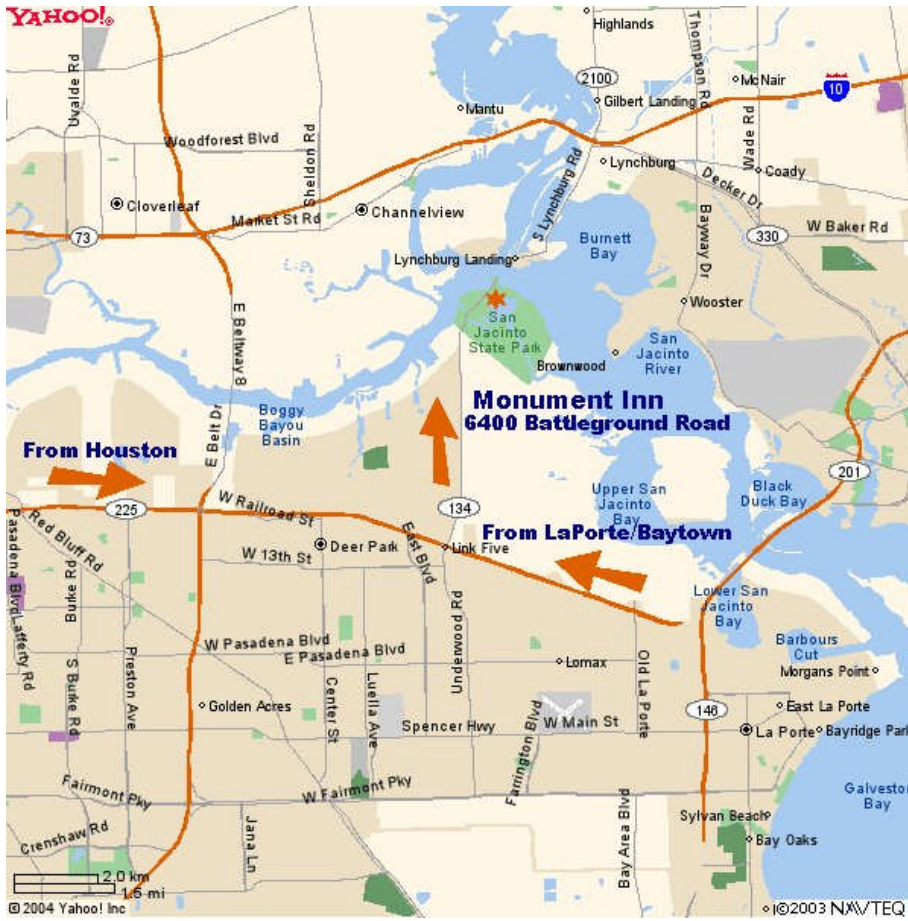
Battleground Road N. of Hwy 225
Pasadena, Texas

Cash Bar Available 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Dinner Served At 7:00 PM

***Come Help Us Recognize Our
Member Clubs Divers of the
Year as well as our Own
TGCC Diver of the Year!***

For tickets, e-mail info@tgccdiveclubs.org



Phuket Thailand Update

SITUATION IN PHUKET

As the Indian Ocean Region slowly stabilizes it appears that Thailand, thanks to a more developed infrastructure, is able to recover from the disaster faster than places such as Sumatra and Sri Lanka, which have the highest numbers of casualties. But in Thailand too there are countless human tragedies, people who lost their loved ones, their homes and their businesses. Still, everyone speaks of pulling together, rebuilding and surviving.

Phuket, though hard hit on her west-coast beaches, is in better shape than Kao Lak and Pi-Pi islands and the clean-up is well underway. Patong Beach celebrated New Year's Eve in subdued fashion with a memorial service near the beach. In Phuket and Kao Lak, emergency relief aid is now in place with no immediate need for further shipments. In spite of the overwhelming events, people realize they have to pick up the pieces and get their lives and businesses back on track.

Those who call this callous fail to see that last thing Phuket needs right now is an economic meltdown caused by tourists staying away as a result of inaccurate news coverage. Thousands of ordinary Thais are employed in the resorts that are now damaged and closed. Mass cancellations would destroy what is left of the island's fragile economy. If you are booked for a Thailand holiday, please do not cancel.

There are many exaggerated news stories about the situation in Phuket Reports about disease, contamination, water and food shortages and even "widespread looting" are totally incorrect. TV footage of the horrific events of 26 December is repeated over and over but meanwhile a lot has happened that is not shown on TV. Everyone is working hard to return to some sort of normalcy and tourists are beginning to reappear on the beaches. Oddly, the beaches look like they did 20 years ago: white clean sand and calm seas.

Mr Watchara Apornsiri, Director of the Royal Phuket Irrigation Project and a Phuket native declared that the sea water at Phuket's beaches is clean, uncontaminated and safe for swimming.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We have received hundreds of messages of support and we are touched by everyone's concern. Many of you have expressed a wish to contribute money but worry that their contribution will simply be absorbed into machinery of some mega aid agency. People want to be certain their donation reaches those who really need it.

There are several reputable organizations in Phuket setting up relief funds. One such organization is the Rotary Club of Patong Beach. The fund aims to supply immediate as well as long-term financial aid (e.g. scholarships) for children who lost their parents in the

tsunami. You can make a donation on-line at www.rotarypatong.org <<http://www.rotarypatong.org/>>.

Similar accounts are being set up by other clubs and individuals. More details as we learn them. No matter which fund you support, make sure you supply your details so you can be kept informed about what was done with your kind donation.

Toys for the Kids Update

From Jimmy Atkinson

2004 Winners

MV Manthiri- 10 day - David Johnson Chicago, Ill
MV Wildcat- 7 day- Don Barrett Waco, TX
BIBR- 1wk- Stephen Cole- New Braunfels, TX
AKR- 1wk- Dick Zingula- Houston, TX
Sueno Del Mar- 1wk- Gar Sanders- Albuquerque, NM
Cochran Dive Computer- Laura Partain- Allen, TX
Utila Lodge- 1wk- Sonny Cooke- Port O'Connor TX
Laguna Beach Resort- 1wk- Sonny Gaither- DeSoto, TX
BCD- Sharon Kerr- Spring, TX
Fantasy Island- 1wk- Brad Wright- Phoenix, Arizona
MV Wildcat- 1wk- Robert Hall- San Francisco, CA

Four countries, eight years, and 10,000 children and I still get misty eyed sometime by the things that I see when we deliver toys, school and medical supplies.

Thanks to each and everyone that purchased raffle Tickets, donated items, or supported us in some way.

We do make a difference. - A few children at a time.

I hope you all may someday be there to see for yourself the children when they get their gifts. It is a very humbling experience.

I have already started on 2005.

Raffle tickets are available and donations are being accepted at the warehouse.

Jimmy Atkinson- The Toy Man

The Whale Sharks of Holbox

From Mary Peachin

Here's a excerpt from Mary's latest novel...

Entering the water directly in a whale shark's path, I peered into its approaching mouth. A few feet away, its eyes appeared to check me out (that might have been anthropomorphic). The surface boiled. As many as sixty whale sharks moved slowly, mouths agape, in the plankton rich waters. Some fed in circles, giving us a

second or even a third encounter, close up views of attached remoras dining on parasites. Schools of sardines, a frenetic bait ball breaking the surface, gobbled anything escaping the gaping mouth. Cobia, playing the roles of pilot fish, kept pace with the shark's strong stroke (to read entire article go to <http://www.peachin.com>)

Commission on Ocean Policy

From Sharon Kerr

SEAS the DAY!!!! The Gulf and our oceans need your support!!!

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, which was appointed by President Bush in 2001, recently released its final report to the President and Congress. The Commission recommended practical, cost-effective solutions to achieve healthy oceans. Now is the time to contact President Bush and ask him to act on the Commission's recommendations, before he presents his response to the Commission's report on December 20, 2004.

Our Gulf and oceans are at a critical crossroads. Overfishing, pollution, destruction of wetlands, and poorly planned coastal development have negatively impacted our marine environments for far too long. While the health of the Gulf and our oceans remain threatened, we can reverse their decline by following the Commission's recommendations.

The Commission recommends that the President:

- *Reform the management of our marine fish populations to ensure that catch levels are determined by science-based conservation needs and that steps are taken to estimate and reduce bycatch.*
- *Create a New Oceans Council within the Office of the White House to coordinate the ocean stewardship responsibilities of government agencies.*
- *Promote ecosystem-based management of ocean resources, coasts, and their watersheds. They also recommend limiting coastal development in fragile areas.*
- *Conserve and restore coastal habitat, including funding restoration of Louisiana's coastal wetlands.*
- *Address coastal water pollution by increased funding of existing programs, greater coordination among agencies, and the promotion of innovative approaches.*

An electronic copy of the full report is available on the Commission website: www.oceancommission.gov.

Urge President Bush to act now to protect the Gulf and our oceans. Let the President know that he must become a champion for our oceans to protect, preserve, and restore the health of marine ecosystems. He needs to hear from you before he presents his response to the Commission's report on December 20, 2004. The time to act is NOW! Unfortunately, recent reports have indicated that the President may do little with the Commission's recommendations - he needs to hear from you!

Please take the time to fax a short letter to President Bush, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, encouraging their attention to our ailing oceans. Below is a sample letter; please feel free to use it or create your own. Please forward this email to your friends, family and colleagues.

Write to: President George W. Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, DC 20500
Fax: 202-456-2461

Sample Letter:

Dear Mr. President:

The Gulf of Mexico is a national treasure. With coral reefs, miles of seagrasses, and half of all the wetlands in the U.S., the Gulf is legendary for productive fisheries. From shrimp trawlers to recreational charter boats, fishing is a way of life in the Gulf. Commercial and recreational fishing are significant economic engines, generating \$800 million in commercial landings and \$5.6 billion in recreational expenditures each year. But our fisheries are in trouble: they've been over-harvested and mismanaged.

Our oceans are at a critical crossroads. The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, authorized by the Oceans Act of 2000 and appointed by you, recently released its final report. The Commission found that our marine resources are failing and require attention now. Our water quality has been degraded, fisheries depleted, recreational areas damaged, wetlands drained, our own health and security endangered, and the economic viability of our oceans and coasts compromised.

If we act now, we can prevent the collapse of our oceans and preserve the legacy of healthy oceans full of life. As your second term unfolds, I ask you to lead this nation, and the world, in protecting the environment that remains central to the economic and cultural identity of the Gulf and our nation.

I urge you to act now through administrative action and by proposing legislative changes to Congress to fully implement the Commission's recommendations.

Sincerely,
Your Name
Your Address

Copy to:
The Honorable James Connaughton / Chair, Council on Environmental Quality
The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, DC 20500
Fax: (202) 456-6546

Julie Morris / Chair, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
3018 North U.S. Highway 301, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619 Fax:
(813) 225-7015

Get more info on Tsunami victims at:



<http://www.sharks.org>

TGCC Board Meeting Dates for 2005:

January 13, March 10, May 12, July 14, September 8,
November 10th. All meeting times are 7:00 PM at
Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonett.
Guests are always welcome... Come on out!

**Deep Sea Digest
P.O. Box 2314
Bellaire, Texas 77402**

Recipient Address Goes Here

**Haven't Gotten Your TGCC Diver of
the Year Awards Banquet Tickets
Yet?**

If you need tickets to the TGCC Awards Banquet, and haven't been able to get one from your club representative, then drop a line to info@tgccdiveclubs.org and we'll e-mail you the form with the tickets on them. Remember: You will need to return the left portion of the stub with your payment for your reservation as space is limited.

We Need Your Help!!!

All of our officer positions were not filled for 2005, so please help keep the council active by volunteering today! We only meet 6 times a year, and meetings are fun!



Deep Sea Digest

Winter 2005 Edition

[http:// www.tgccdiveclubs.org](http://www.tgccdiveclubs.org)