



DILLO DIVER

WWW.SCUBADILLO.ORG

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September 2009

A Word From Your President

September Birthdays:

Cat Colvin	09/03
Allan Sanders	09/06
Sandy Lannan	09/09
Kent Johnson	09/11
Gary Gibbs	09/13
Daniel Barrentine	09/15
Mary May	09/16
Chris Warren	09/23
Mike Dunst	09/27
Flora Douet	09/28

New Members:

- Danny Barentine
- Kelly Barentine
- Daniel Barentine

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Kevin Rusch—2009 Scubadillo President

Well it looks like September is finally here. The beginning of Fall, a new football season, for the kids a brand new school year and for the Dillo's... well we've got lots of fun too. This month we have the big Lake Ouachita dive on Labor Day Weekend from the 4th to the 7th. On the 12th we also have our Annual Boat Float at Lake Lewisville. Hope you join us for these fun events.

I'd also like to give special thanks to our August club meeting guest speaker, Tracy Hamilton from Adventure Scuba for his presentation on Adaptive Scuba.

As always to keep up to date with all the Scubadillo current dive and social events check out our website @ www.scubadillo.org

Have fun, stay safe and let's go diving!

Kevin

5th Annual Boat Float

Saturday, September 12th

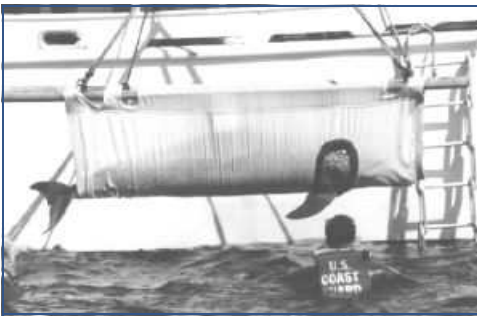


The 5th Annual Boat Float is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th at Pier 121, Lake Lewisville. The four hour barge excursion leaves the dock at 10:30am SHARP! Be at the marina ready to board at 10:15am. Lunch and water will be provided by the club. Small ice chests are permitted, but space is limited. Only the first 50 passengers will be allowed to board. The cost is \$10 for SCUBADILLO Club members and \$20 for guests. Signups will be conducted at the September 3rd meeting. For complete details, including maps and directions, navigate over to : http://www.scubadillo.org/2009/boatfloat/init_info.html

Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network

DID YOU KNOW?...

The TMMSN is THE ONLY Stranding Network in the State of Texas and receives no state funding and receives only limited institutional support in the form of grants that are not always guaranteed. TMMSN RELIES on the donations of time and funds from generous supporters. There is no other team in the State of Texas with the authority, experience, and ability necessary to care for the marine mammals of the Texas Gulf Coast.



What is TMMSN? The Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network (TMMSN) is a non-profit organization created in 1980 to further the understanding and conservation of marine mammals through rescue and rehabilitation, research and education. The TMMSN consists of seven regions along the Texas coast and Louisiana, which provide a coordinated response to all marine mammal strandings.

What is a marine mammal stranding? Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act Section 409.3:

"A stranded animal occurs when the animal comes ashore alive under abnormal conditions, is injured close to shore, or washes ashore dead, whether individually or in a group."

A supportive and informed public is vital to the success of the stranding

network. Without your help, strandings may go unreported, and animals that could be saved may die. Financial support is also imperative to the TMMSN's growth. As a non-profit organization, the TMMSN receives no budgeted state or federal funding, existing on contributions from individuals and corporations.

Noah



The Texas Stranding Newsletter was created to inform the members and volunteers of the TMMSN about current developments. Membership with the TMMSN is renewable annually and consists of a yearly subscription to the Texas Stranding Newsletter. Also, members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter anytime.

Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and TMMSN Responsibility—

The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972 began the history of stranding networks. Authority over marine mammals was given to the U.S. government whereby the taking of parts from carcasses was only by authorized individuals and the

animals were protected from being captured or harassed.

In 1977, the Marine Mammal Commission met to discuss the business of marine mammal strandings and recommended a National Stranding Alert Network. In the late 1980's, NMFS established the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) in response to concerns about marine mammals washing ashore. In 1992, amendments to the MMPA were made and NMFS was designated as the lead agency for the MMHSRP.



Through a Formal Stranding Agreement from NMFS, the TMMSN has the authority and responsibility to respond to marine mammal strandings along the entire Texas coast, and more recently TMMSN has acquired authority to respond to marine mammal strandings in Cameron County, Louisiana.

Please help the marine mammals of Texas by donating to the TMMSN. Your contribution is tax deductible and will aid in the conservation of marine mammals.

DILLO DIVING REPORT

by David Prichard—'Dillo Sgt At Arms

The weather couldn't have been better for the Scubadillo's Fun and Educational Dive Day on August 15 at Clear Springs Scuba Park near Terrell. With warm temperatures, clear skies with a glass surface and good water visibility, the 'Dillos started the day off in the morning with two dives associated with the PADI Digital Underwater Photographer specialty course. Eleven participants in the course chased the lake's fish around for photos when they weren't shooting each other.



The Scubadillo "tent city" was again perched up on top of the hill on the west side of the lake with the club's banners displayed in both directions. Just before noon, Sonny Gaither and Steve Partain (the 'Dillo's own camp-out Top Chefs) fired up the grill and got the hot dogs cooking for lunch (plus what everybody else brought for the grill).

After a relaxing lunch, it was time for participants to navigate the club's "treasure challenge" for prizes. Each buddy team had to descend down a buoy line to a starting marker and then swim a series of compass courses to collect a series (in order) of random letters on markers that would earn each diver a raffle ticket. The divers had to be wary of bogus markers that attempted to throw them off course. The raffle tickets were then turned in for some great scuba

equipment prizes with everyone coming away a winner.

Coming up during the Labor Day weekend, the Scubadillos will be heading east to Arkansas for the annual Lake Ouachita boat trip. The 'Dillos will be gathering at the Spillway Marina to cast off on the party barge to hit some of the lake's top dive sites. An abundance of quartz crystals, fish, clear water and even freshwater jellyfish are some of the underwater attractions on this annual adventure. The dive coordinators for this trip are Philip Douet and Elizabeth McNair.

A pair of PADI Project AWARE underwater clean-up opportunities await club divers on September 19 in two locations in Texas. The City of San Marcos will be sponsoring a clean-up event for divers and non-divers on the San Marcos River. Participants will gather at 8 AM at the San Marcos Plaza Park with parking at 401 E. Hopkins. Breakfast and lunch will be served by the city and \$10 raffle tickets will be available for a wide variety of scuba gear that includes BCDs, regulator, masks, fins, snorkels and more. All proceeds will go to the Project AWARE foundation and Aquarena Springs. Contact Lesley Rankin at Surface Interval Scuba (817-652-3483) for additional information.

Also on September 19, International Scuba will be heading up a PADI Project AWARE clean-up dive at Hell's Gate on Possum Kingdom Lake. Divers will meet at Scenic Cove at 10 AM for a dive briefing. After signing waivers, divers will then board boats (donated by local divers) to go out to the Hell's Gate cove where boaters usually gather on weekends to party (and lose things overboard). For more information,

go to www.internationalscuba.com/hellsgate.htm or call either the Carrollton or Garland stores.

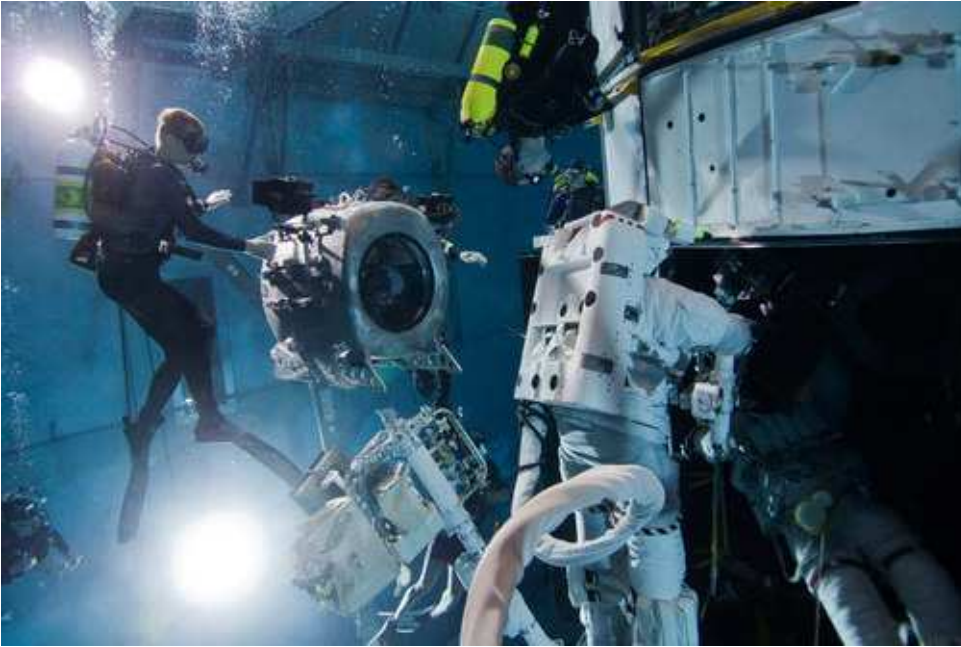
Another annual clean-up event will take place October 3rd on the Comal River. The annual TrashFest event will begin with registration (\$10 per diver or \$60 per 8-person team) at the Comal County Fairgrounds from 8-10 AM, and the trash weigh-in and collection will be at Prince Solms Park in New Braunfels, TX. A BBQ dinner will follow the event with awards and door prizes. For more information, go to <http://www.tgccdiving.org/trashfest/index.html>.



The Scubadillos will hold their annual Octoberfest and Pumpkin Carving Contest at Tyler State Park on the weekend of October 9-11 at the Lakeview campgrounds in the park. Feasts, fun and prizes await participants at this annual 'Dillo event at one of the state's prettiest parks. While it can be a day-trip from Dallas, many club members camp out in the park during the weekend amid the typically nice Fall weather. Henry and Judy Aschner will be the event coordinators for the club.

Other events for November and December are still in discussion for destinations like Mammoth Lake or Balmorhea Springs.

Filming Hubble Repair Practice, Underwater



While the Hubble repair eventually took place in space, the microgravity environment of a pool is where astronauts practiced repairs and IMAX scored some footage for the upcoming film [Hubble 3D](#).

This 3D underwater housing is rated to shoot in depths up to 125 feet of seawater. But despite having hundreds of pounds of camera equipment tucked inside (the mini submarine is loaded with the gargantuan [Solido camera](#)), the complete waterproof package is neutrally buoyant. In other words, when completely submerged, you could balance the entire load on one finger.

A different, more compact 3D camera shot additional Hubble footage in space (the [3D-30](#)). What's the biggest difficulty of shooting in zero G according to IMAX engineers? Focus shifts. [Photo credit: NASA]



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, September 3rd—This month's guest speaker will be Sandra Arreguin, Director of Sales for Cozumel's Casa Del Mar Hotel and Alex Vina, General Manager of Del Mar Aquatics Dive Shop. They will be speaking about Cozumel diving, whale shark encounters, etc.

"Meet, Greet and Eat" Social Hour starts at 6:30 pm. The meeting begins promptly at 7:30 pm.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, October 1st**.

5th Annual Boat Float

Saturday, September 12th at Pier 121, Lake Lewisville. 10:15am
The four hour boat excursion leaves the dock at 10:30am SHARP! So be at the marina ready to board at 10:15am.

Lunch and water will be provided by the club. Small ice

Upcoming Events

September 4th-7th Labor Day Weekend at Lake Ouachita, Arkansas.

September 12th—Boat Float

September 19th—San Marcos River Cleanup

October 3rd—Comal River Trashure Hunt

October 9th-11th—Pumpkin Dive at Tyler State Park

See our website for up to date details on each event!

You can also join us on Facebook...look for Waldo Scubadillo.

2009 Scubadillo Officers

President.....Kevin Rusch
Vice President.....Mike Krieger
Treasurer.....Shannon Roys
Secretary.....Ann Keller
Sgt. At Arms.....David Prichard
Dir. Of Club Affairs.....Gary Gibbs
Social Director.....Sylvia Evelyn
Newsletter Editor.....Angela Krieger

2009 Board of Directors

All above officers and
Henry Aschner
Judy Aschner
Philippe Douet
Sonny Gaither
Patrick Lynch



We're on the web!
www.scubadillo.org