

LABUE NEWS

Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers



VOLUME 15, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2010

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Photographer: Robert Simmons
Camera: Nikonas V, 20mm lens
Medium: Film
Location: Barbados in 1997
Subject: Donna Wilson inside the Wreck

LABUE TRIP 2011: GRAND CAYMAN, EAST END

BY SHARLENE JOHNSON

LABUE has chosen to go to the Grand Cayman Islands, East End for the 2011 warm water trip. On November 9, 2010, during the General Membership Meeting, we will be having a guest speaker from the tourism board give a presentation on this beautiful destination. Whether you intend on joining the Club for next year's trip, or you just love beautiful places, this presentation is one you won't want to miss.

Our December 14, 2010, meeting is also just around the corner. We will again be playing the "Steal-a-Gift" game, which has always been great fun. Clear your calendar now and check this spot out in the December newsletter for more details.

Inside this issue:

Feature Article: LABUE Dive/Camp Weekend	2
President's Message	2
Holiday Announcement	3
Member's Corner: Seafood Boil Recipe	4
Bylaws Announcement	5
Diver News	5
Upcoming Events	6
Map & Directions To Meeting Location	6
Membership App.	7

Dedicated to Expanding the Knowledge and Enjoyment of Scuba Diving among African Americans

LABUE DIVE/CAMP WEEKEND

BY: RANDY TILLERY

The LABUE Dive/Camp weekend at Leo Carrillo State Beach was a fun filled weekend thanks to all the participants, fellow campers and people that just showed up. The weather could not have been better, a warm southern California 88 degrees. The campgrounds, campsites and rest-rooms were clean and the abundance of trees provided plenty of shade. I arrived early Friday afternoon only to discover that Charles Heath beat me there. Richard Rice and Ron Reed came soon afterwards. Dangil Jones, Sharlen Campbell and their significant others were also some Friday arrivals. DonCosta, Doralyn and Starletta DuPois showed up in a huge RV. How nice. By sundown, a number of people had arrived and all of the sites were occupied by nightfall. As usual, we started laughing and joking and cutting up around the campfire. This went on until wee hours of the night. It was all good.

Bright and early Saturday morning, the sun was shining, the birds were chirping and the mighty LABUE dive



club began emerging from their respective tents. Not really. Everybody was tired and slow getting out of their tents. Aside from that, the warm sun and tree-covered campgrounds were very serene and crisp to wake up to. It wasn't until 11 o'clock did we make our way out to the beach for our dive. The water temperature was 68 degrees and visibility ranged from 10 to 20 ft. Richard, DonCosta, Sharlen and I

kicked our way out and dove through a kelp bed approximately 75 yards from the beach. We saw plenty of lobsters and crabs. Our deepest point was around 40 feet and our bottom time was about 45 to 50 minutes. It was a safe, relaxing and comfortable dive. That's how we like to do it.



For the rest of the day, people spent time riding their bikes, walking around the park and sitting on the beach. By Saturday afternoon, The Linares' showed up. Pam, Johnnie, Joe and Juanita, and a bunch of other people showed up and started

Continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICHARD RICE



Recreational clubs like LABUE have an obligation to introduce and sustain their sport in our community by supporting programs dedicated to young people. 4 Seasons Ski Club, various

tennis clubs, and golf organizations have been involved in such programs for many years. Without active youth programs, participation in these sports would surely decline and even disappear in our communities, as current participants grow older and become less active. Over the past 14 years, it has been a challenge for LABUE to create and sustain an effective Youth SCUBA program. Although our Bylaws provide for a Youth Committee to introduce and promote the sport of scuba diving among young people in our community, our results have been mixed. At various times in the past, we have had youth involved in LABUE and adult members interested in this leading this effort. We have been involved in swimming programs, as well as successfully encouraging young members become certified divers. While all of us recognize the importance of introducing young

people to these activities at an early age in order to sustain this sport in our community, we also recognize that it takes LABUE Members who are extremely dedicated and willing to lead this effort on our behalf. In addition, from a practical standpoint, there are liability concerns associated with getting youth involved in scuba certification programs. LABUE Members can encourage young people to get certified; however, unless their parents or other family members are certified divers, what member would be willing to accept responsibility for them as a dive buddy? Furthermore, how many parents are going to trust their child's life with an adult dive buddy that is not a relative or trusted friend during an ocean dive? How can LABUE develop an effective youth program that will generate future divers and avoid the challenges we have faced in the past? I think there are a number of

Continued on page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 2

ways we can accomplish this.

For many years our Discover Scuba Program has introduced both adults and young people to scuba diving. After participants learn about scuba during a brief classroom session, they have the opportunity to try out scuba equipment on a shallow dive under the close supervision of a dive instructor. They experience what it is like to breathe underwater, providing a preview of the underwater world available only thru scuba diving. Discover



Scuba has been the first step and the inspiration for many to pursue dive certification and our continued support of this program could be an important part of our Youth Program.

Our participation in community events such as the Compton Air Fair provides another effective platform to spur interest in scuba diving and inspire young people to pursue the

sport in the future. The main focus of this annual event has been to inspire youth within the South Central Los Angeles Area to pursue careers in aviation and other rewarding professions, and to showcase recreational organizations in the Los Angeles area such as LABUE. LABUE volunteers staffing this event over the last 3 years can attest to the interest and excitement generated in the young people visiting our display.

LABUE's involvement as an advocate of NOAA's Aquarius program is another example of ways that LABUE can inspire youth and introduce them to scuba diving without assuming the responsibilities of youth dive training programs. This program brings the science of ocean conservation and the underwater world to schoolchildren during live internet broadcasts allowing them to communicate directly with diverscientists living in an underwater sea laboratory. NOAA has specifically targeted African-American and Latino students as recipients of this cutting edge program.

LABUE has the opportunity to pro-

vide a valuable introduction to scuba and inspiration to a new generation of Youth considering options for recreational sports. If it is impractical to develop and maintain actual scuba certification and dive programs for young people, perhaps it is worthwhile to consider programs designed to introduce, educate, and inspire them to consider scuba as an option when they are older.

LABUE Member Joe Windolph is currently researching additional ways that LABUE can participate in programs to get young people involved in the sport.

We are currently exploring possible LABUE participation in educational programs sponsored by the California African-American History Museum, Natural History Museum, public libraries, the Boy Scouts, and others. If you have any ideas or know of any existing programs that we might consider, feel free to share them with Joe or me.

Give me a call or send me an email (labue@sbcglobal.net) to share your thoughts on how to make **LABUE** a better dive club and to let me know how you can help us in these efforts.

"LABUE's involvement as an advocate of NOAA's Aquarius program is another example of ways that labue can inspire youth and introduce them to scuba diving..."

LABUE HOLIDAY DINNER SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 4TH

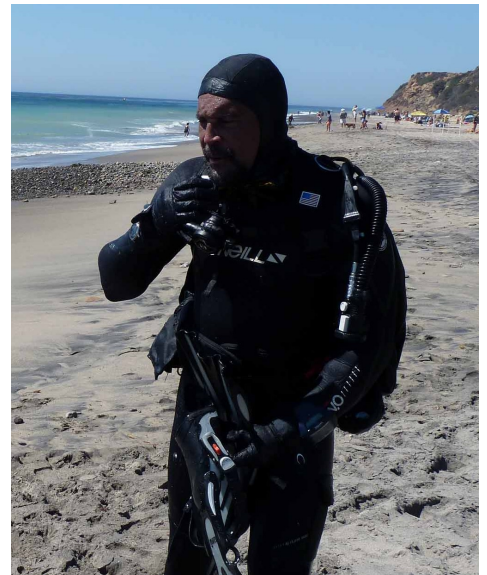
Please SAVE THE DATE! December 4, 2010, LABUE will host a holiday dinner at Truxton's American Bistro, 8611 Truxton Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90045, (310) 417-8789. It promises to be a fun night of fellowship and holiday cheer. Tickets are \$30 per person with no host bar. Tickets are now available for purchase. All tickets must be purchased in advance; there will be no tickets available at the door. Contact any Debora Ewing, Richard Rice, Denise Barker or DonCosta Seawell for tickets. The menu includes a choice of prime rib, salmon or chicken as the

main course. The program promises to be exciting. There will be fabulous door prizes award throughout the evening.



BOAT DIVING?

"If you decide to sign up for a boat dive and you want a LABUE dive buddy, please contact DonCosta Seawell at 909-593-1877 or doncosta1@msn.com with your trip details and he will convey that information to the club so that anyone who desires to join you will be aware."



DIVE/CAMP WEEKEND

Continued from page 2

cooking. Steaks, ribs, chicken, sausages, hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, beans, pork and my specialty, "Low Country Boil" were all served up in a majestic feast. Talk about a potluck, we had it going on. Afterwards, a number of us walked over to the Barnacle Busters Dive Club campsite. We were able to catch up with 10 of their members who had congregated on the beach. As the sun went down, we all walked and talked back to our campsites. They were a pleasant group who we will hopefully see again.

Once back around the campfire which was kept roaring by James Wiley, Ron Reed led the campfire discussions by talking over the rest of us. We all had fun.

On Sunday by 12 noon, we were all packed up but not ready to go. But we did. We very much look forward to seeing you all on our next dive/camp weekend. You know how we enjoy each other's company so, let's make next year's outing ever bigger. Same LABUE time, same LABUE channel.

MEMBER'S CORNER:

Low Country Seafood Boil Recipe

BY: RANDY TILLERY



6-8 whole crabs or broken into pieces
 1 pound shrimp
 1 dozen clams
 1 pound andouille or kielbasa sausage
 1 dozen crawfish
 4 ears corn (halved)
 6-8 red potatoes (depending on size, halved)
 Old Bay seasoning
 Zaterain Crab & Shrimp Boil pouch

Heat a large stock pot of water to a boil. Add 1 pouch of Zaterain's Crab & Shrimp Boil mix to the pot. Add potatoes and corn to boiling water for 20 minutes or until tender. Then, add crabs, crawfish and sausage to pot, return to boil for 5-7 minutes. Add shrimp to pot, return to boil for 5 minutes. Drain water, sprinkle Old Bay seasoning to taste over everything.



Leo Carrillo



BYLAWS REVISION

BY: ROBERT SIMMONS

Every so often the LABUE Bylaws need to be revised to keep them current and in line with emerging technology. Since the current bylaws have not been revised for several years, the Board has reviewed the bylaws and decided that changes are necessary. To keep the membership informed and involved in the process, the proposed bylaws are attached to this newsletter for review by interested parties. The following is offered as a summary of the major changes being proposed:

2010 LABUE BYLAWS REVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Article 3C (Sister Clubs)** - Article added to formalize LABUE's relationship with other dive clubs that will become "Sister Clubs" for the mutual benefit of both clubs.
- **Article 4 (Officers)** – Revised Article to make it easier for members to become eligible for LABUE Board Member positions by relaxing qualification requirements and providing the Board with some discretion in declaring long time LABUE members to be eligible for Board positions. This Article also revises LABUE Officer Descriptions to be more generic; allowing the flexibility to assign specific LABUE operational functions and tasks to LABUE Committees or other qualified members.
- **Article 5A (Reprimand/Replacement of Board Members)** – Revised Article to clarify procedures in place for reprimand or replacement of LABUE Board Members.
- **Article 6 (Committees)** – Revised Article to clarify LABUE fundraising and budgeting activities, renamed Fundraising Committee to Ways and Means Committee. Clarify description of Publicity and Internet Committee to include only internet related tasks and activities, renamed to Internet Committee. Expand Technical Dive Committee activities to include adventure and dive specialty activities, renamed Adventure/Specialty/Technical Dive Committee. Expand LABUE Committees to include:
 - Dive Trip Planning Committee
 - Newsletter Committee
 - Program Committee
- **Article 9 (Board Meetings)** – Revised Article to allow, under certain circumstances with prior approval, the option of participation in Board meetings via telephone conference call, video teleconferencing, or other electronic means; This article also provides that LABUE members may request from any LABUE Board Member that an item be considered to be included in a Board meeting agenda.
- **Article 11 (Voting)** – Revised Article to allow absentee voting by members in LABUE elections using secure and confidential electronic technologies.
- **Article 13 (Liability Waivers)** – Revise Article to require divers participating in multi-day LABUE Dive Vacations to have dive insurance such as that offered by Divers Alert Network or equivalent.
- **Article 15 (Policies for Activities)** – Revise Article to prohibit selling, promoting, or marketing of non-LABUE merchandise, events, or services at LABUE meetings or events without prior approval of the Board.

All members are invited to provide input and otherwise participate in a discussion of these proposed revisions at the November General Meeting. Following this meeting, the Board will consider all the input received and then decide which of the proposed changes to incorporate into the club bylaws.

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 11

DIVER NEWS

LABUE has no new member or Certification announcements this month. Know of any? Please notify Debora Ewing at dewing@proskauer.com

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These past members are missing in action. If you know of their whereabouts, please inform Tina Houston, Membership Chair, at (213) 359-2131.

### HAVE YOU SEEN US?

1. Andrew Cornelius
2. Daryl Davies
3. Hillary Davillier
4. Fred Davis
5. Brett Garland
6. Shimoda Fife
7. Lisa Davis
8. Miko Dieudonne
9. Carla Dixon
10. Barry Donalson

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LABUE HOLIDAY DINNER DOOR PRIZE SPECIAL OFFER

LABUE is currently accepting donations of items and services to be offered as door prizes for our Holiday Party scheduled on December 4, 2010 at Truxton's American Bistro.

If you have an item that you wish to donate or provide a service that our members would enjoy, please let us know at labue@sbcglobal.net. As an added incentive, LABUE is offering a free full-page advertisement in an upcoming edition of the LABUE News for any donation accepted as a door prize.

GET INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT!
DONATE AND GET A FREE AD.

NEWSLETTER ADS

LABUE is offering newsletter ads for nominal prices. The price structure is as follows:

- \$15 for a quarter page ad (per month);
- \$20 for a half page ad (per month);
- \$30 for a full page ad (per month).

If you're interested in purchasing an ad, please contact Debora Ewing at (310) 284-4556.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Reminder: Please e-mail your photos for the "Photo of the Month" contest. You just may see your photo on the cover of an upcoming edition of the LABUE News! Please e-mail photos for consideration to dewing@proskauer.com as soon as possible!

UPCOMING EVENTS 2010

November 3 - 7 -- NABS Trip to Costa Rica

November 7 -- Afternoon Beach Dive - El Matador - 1:00 PM

November 9 -- LABUE's Meeting of the General Membership - 7:00 PM

November 23 -- LABUE's Board Meeting - 6:00 PM

December 4 -- Truxton's American Bistro in Westchester - 6:00 PM

December 14 -- LABUE's Meeting of the General Membership - 7:00 PM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Richard Rice
(323) 299-3798

Vice President
Tina Houston
(213) 359-2131

Treasurer
Denise Barker
(562) 423-4974

Secretary
Debora Ewing
(310) 284-4556

Robert Simmons
(323) 292-8960

Sharlene Johnson
(310) 833-0494

DonCosta Seawell
(909) 593-1877

COMMITTEES

Membership
Tina Houston (Interim)
(213) 359-2131

Ways & Means
Debora Ewing
(310) 284-4556

Beach Dive
Debora Ewing
(310) 284-4556

Boat Dive
DonCosta Seawell
(909) 593-1877

Dive Training & Safety
George Linares (Interim)

Dive Events &
Trip Planning
Tina Houston (Interim)
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Internet
Francois Desamours
(310) 412-8128

Program
Sharlene Johnson
(310) 833-0494

Technical Dive Committee
Open

Youth Committee
Open

Newsletter Staff:
Richard Rice - Publisher
Debora Ewing - Editor
(310) 284-4556
Sharlene Johnson -
Production Manager
Staff Writers -
Steve Scruggs
Dangil Jones

Meetings

The LABUE meetings are held the second Tuesday of every Month at 7:00 PM in the Times Mirror Room at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles.

Directions

The Natural History Museum is located in Exposition Park, at 900 Exposition Boulevard between Vermont Avenue and Figueroa Street.

Due to Metro line work on Exposition Blvd., and museum construction on the Exposition side of the Museum, the Museum offers some helpful tips for driving to minimize your inconvenience:

From the 110 (Harbor) Freeway, take the Martin Luther King Boulevard exit and head west towards Vermont Avenue. Turn right (north) on Menlo Avenue. Make a left into Exposition Park Lot 3.

Please visit the Museum website for more information at www.nhm.org.



Contact Us:

PO Box 90069, Los Angeles, CA 90009

Phone/Fax: (323) 299-3798

Email: info@labue.org

Web Site: www.labue.org

HOW ARE WE DOING? We would love to hear your comments, critiques or suggestions. Please e-mail Debora Ewing at the following e-mail address and your voice will be heard: dewing@proskauer.com

P.O. BOX 90069, LOS ANGELES, CA 90009
(323) 299-3798 (Phone and Fax)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For the Year _____

General Information:

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____
Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____
Referred By: _____
Emergency Contact Name: _____

Certification Information:

Year First Certified: _____ No. of Dives _____ Date of Last Dive: _____ o Warm Water o Beach o Boat

Agency Certification

Diving Preferences: o Beach Dives o Boat Dives o Warm Water Dives

Amount: \$30.00 o Individual Membership o New o Renewal

\$45.00 o Family Membership o New o Renewal

\$300.00 o Lifetime Individual

\$450.00 o Lifetime Family

Please make checks payable to: "Los Angeles Black Underwater Employers" or "LABUE"

WAIVER

I _____, hereby apply for membership in the Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers (LABUE) and agree to abide by all club rules, I acknowledge that I will be voluntarily participating in LABUE events with full knowledge of the potential dangers of scuba diving and diving related activities. In consideration of your acceptance of this application and my membership in LABUE, I agree to assume all risks of bodily injury, death or property damage, arising out of or in connection with my participation in LABUE activities. I also agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless LABUE and their members and officers from any liability arising out of or in connection with my participation in LABUE activities. I further agree that this release and indemnification is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws of the State of California. I have carefully read this release and fully understand its contents. I sign this release of my own free will and with full knowledge of its significance.

Signature: _____ Date: _____