

2011 NABS Club Of The Year

LABUE NEWS

Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers

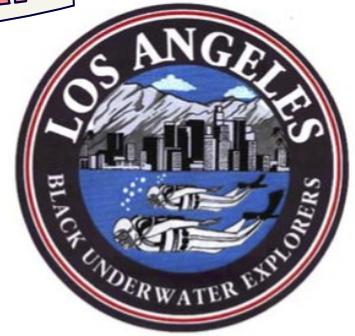


PHOTO OF THE MONTH

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2014



Photographer: Kathleen Rice
Camera: Samsung Galaxy 5
Location: Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta
Subject: Spider Crab

BE THE MATCH WALK+RUN

Join us on Tuesday, November 11th for a special presentation on the upcoming Be The Match Walk+Run event to be held at Shoreline Aquatic Park in Long Beach on November 22nd. Be The Match® helps match volunteer marrow donors with patients who have blood cancers, like leukemia, lymphoma, and sickle cell disease. Learn more about this wonderful organization, catch up with old friends, meet new members, and enjoy some tasty meeting refreshments and friendly member fellowship. Get the latest updates on upcoming beach and boat dive, the LABUE Elections, and Holiday Dinner. We hope to see you at this important meeting.

Inside this issue:

Feature Article: Be the Match	2
President's Message	2
Diver's News: Discover Scuba II	3
LABUE Tech Cap is here!	4
2014 Photo Contest	6
Member's Corner: Aquatic Thrusters!!	6
Map & Directions To Meeting Location	7
Membership Application	8

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

Be The Match Walk+Run: Help LABUE Save Lives!

BY DENIS BARKER

LABUE members and friends are invited to join Team LABUE for the **Be the Match Walk+Run** to be held at Shoreline Aquatic Park in Long Beach on Saturday, November 22nd. As a team, we're helping Be The Match® raise critical funds to help match volunteer marrow donors with patients who have blood cancers, like leukemia, lymphoma, and sickle cell disease. And **YOU** can help by joining our team or supporting our fundraising efforts with a contribution! Every four minutes someone is diagnosed with blood cancer. 100% of the proceeds add new potential marrow donors to the registry, help patients struggling with uninsured costs, and fund research advances. Every dollar makes a difference! **Be The Match Walk+Run** is making your involvement and fundraising efforts easy. To

register for the event, go to the **Be The Match** website, ***bethematch-walkrun.org*** and select the "location" tab under register. Then select "Long Beach, November 22, 2014". Go to "Get started" and then "I want to join a team" and look for



LABUE. Once you join the LABUE 2014 Team, you will have access to email templates, where all you need to do is add email address from your

contact list and press send. The email is already written and all you need to do is send it to your friends and family to encourage them join our team, or to make a contribution to help you reach your fundraising goal. Get the word out about your participation in the **Be The Match Walk+Run!** There are many ways you can help Spread the Word about the LABUE 2014 Team, build awareness and help boost the funds you raise! Spread the word to your social networks with the tools such as:

Facebook: Facebook is the world's largest social network. Use this tool and reach people you might not through email.

Twitter: Tweet about your participation in the event on your Twitter profile. Be sure to include #hashtag,

Continued on page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY: RICHARD RICE



Still more to come in 2014. It's been a busy year for LABUE and you won't want to miss our activities for the remaining months of the year. LABUE members recently returned from an amazing dive vacation to Palau in Micronesia and participated in International Coastal Cleanup Day in September. We completed another successful Discover Scuba program last month, in addition to another very successful Dive-Camp Weekend at Leo Carrillo State Park in Malibu. Our 2014

Dive-Camp Weekend was most successful ever, enjoyed by more than forty LABUE members and friends. We filled our campsites, enjoyed some great diving on Saturday along with a fabulous pot luck dinner feast; and we relaxed with friendly conversation around the nighttime campfire. Many thanks to event organizer Randy Tillery.

Our dive activities for this month include a November 15th boat dive on the *Great Escape* dive boat to Catalina Island and Farnsworth Banks. The *Great Escape* charter has been a club favorite for many years now and the discounted price is only \$110. Check out our *Meetup* site for more information.

www.Meetup.com/LABUEDIVERS/

It's not too late to submit your photos in the categories of Sealife, Divers, and Surface for the *2014 LABUE Photo Contest*. Deadline for submitting your entries to Steve Scruggs (scruggs2424@bellsouth.com) is November 9th. Online voting will begin on November 16th for a chance to win valuable prizes, no matter what

your level of photographic expertise.

We are now mobilizing for the upcoming **Be the Match Walk+Run** to take place on November 22nd in Long Beach. For additional details, read LABUE event organizer, Denise Barker's, article in this issue. We invite all LABUE members and friends to join "Team LABUE" in supporting this worthwhile event with your participation or donations. Tickets are now on sale for our popular Holiday Dinner to be held at *Truxton's American Bistro* on Saturday December 6th. This event usually sells out quickly, so be sure to purchase your tickets early. As usual, our December 9th membership meeting at the Natural History Museum will include a holiday celebration with tasty refreshments, door prizes, and surprises.

We are already working on our schedule for 2015 and we anticipate a another full calendar of exciting events and activities starting with an Open Water I SCUBA Certification course to be conducted by George Linares in January and Avalon Harbor Cleanup in

Continued on page 3

President's Message

Continued from Page 2

February. Our trip planning committee will soon be formally announcing details on a fabulous 2015 *LABUE Warm Water Dive Vacation* that you won't want to miss. To keep up with these events and future events, join our LABUE *Meetup* group at www.Meetup.com/LABUEDIVERS/.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE. Nominations are now in for LABUE Officer and Board of Director positions. Cast your vote and help us maintain leadership dedicated to the continued success of LABUE. If you are interested in lending your labor, experience, or organizational skills to LABUE on any of our committees, your participation would be more than welcomed. If you would like to recommend an activity or event that would benefit the community, our members, or help fulfill our 2015 mission, please share your ideas it with me or one of the Board members. We value your recommendations. Give me a call or send me an email (labue@sbcglobal.net) to share your ideas and thoughts on how to make LABUE a better dive club and to let me know how you can help us in these efforts.

DISCOVER SCUBA II PHOTOS



Be The Match Walk+Run

Continued from page 2

#BTMWalkRun, so you can see who else is talking about the event. Tweet your fundraising status. Post your unique URL and encourage your Twitter followers to donate.

YouTube: Visit YouTube to find the Be The Match Walk+Run video, then use the YouTube Share feature below the video player to share with your social networks.

This is the fourth year that LABUE has participated in this worthwhile event in honor of one of our long time club members, Charles Heath, who died in 2010 from leukemia. Whether you become a team member or support us with a contribution, we thank you for being someone's cure. For more information on this event contact Denise Barker, ced-niseb@earthlink.net.



DIVER NEWS

Discover Scuba II Participants

Ed France
 Tabeliah Ali
 Tenani Ali
 Allen Olivers
 Starletta DuPois
 Ernest Kjessop
 Daisy Quintito
 Venz Garcia
 Al S. Martin Jr.

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Know of any member  
 Certification announcements?  
 Please notify Debora Ewing at  
[dewing@proskauer.com](mailto:dewing@proskauer.com)

## KEEP UP ON MEETUP

For the best way to keep up with LABUE throughout the year, join us on *Meetup*. By joining our *Meetup Group*, you will kept up to date on the latest scheduled LABUE activities and events including beach dives, boat dives, membership meetings, community events, and social events. All you need to do is go to [www.meetup.com/LABUEDIVERS/](http://www.meetup.com/LABUEDIVERS/) and join our group. Don't be left out, join us today on *Meetup*.



## 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 [don-costa1@msn.com](mailto:don-costa1@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.

## LABUE TROPICAL TECH CAP



Get the latest in LABUE apparel with this technologically advanced tropical cap designed with the outdoors in mind and constructed with fabric to help keep you cool and safe from harmful UV rays in the harsh tropical destinations enjoyed by LABUE members. This well designed cap features:

- 70% Cotton, 30% Nylon fabric that repels water and stains
- Mesh liner inside the hat promotes cooling and minimizes staining
- Terry cloth sweatband
- Elongated 3 ¾ inch visor for added sun protection
- Green undervisor reduces sun glare
- Protective neck cape with zippered pouch for storage
- Adjustable cord system with barrel lock to adjust sizing
- Metal spring clip attaches to shirt collar to prevent loss of hat in strong winds
- SPF 50+ UV Rating

**ONLY \$25.00**

**ORDER YOURS TODAY AT [LABUE@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:LABUE@SBCGLOBAL.NET)**

# 2014 NABS Summit



COME DIVE WITH US AT:

[WWW.LABUE.ORG](http://WWW.LABUE.ORG)

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LABUEDIVERS](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LABUEDIVERS)

[WWW.MEETUP.COM/LABUEDIVERS](http://WWW.MEETUP.COM/LABUEDIVERS)

# Dive Safely in Cozumel

## 2014 LABUE Photo Contest

BY STEVE SCRUGGS

Distant trips to faraway lands, expensive cameras, underwater housings and strobes are not requirements for entering and winning the 2014 LABUE Photo Contest. A point-and-shoot camera, a smart phone or a disposable camera from your local drug store qualifies you for the thrill of competition and the sharing a visual epiphany with your friends. There's nothing more fun than sharing photos with friends unless it's sharing photos with lots of friends for a chance to win prizes.

LABUE is still accepting entries to this year's photo contest and voting will begin on Sunday, November 16th. This year's categories are 'Sealife', 'Diver', and 'Surface' photographs. 'Sealife' incorporates all life native to underwater. 'Diver' shots are all photographs taken underwater where a diver or divers are the primary or secondary focus. 'Surface' photographs are all photographs taken above water. Photographers may submit up to three entries per category for the on-line voting. Because it is sometimes difficult to choose from among the many excellent pho-

tos submitted, members will be allowed to vote for their three favorite photos in each category. We will count the votes and the highest number of votes is first place, the next highest second place, and the next third place. We will award prize raffle tickets to the first, second and third place winners in each photo category. The number of tickets an individual receives will be based on how the individual placed. The person coming in first place will receive five raffle tickets, the person coming in second place will receive three raffle tickets, and the person coming in third place will receive one ticket. Some of the valuable raffle prizes available for the winners to choose from last year included a professional digital photo equipment backpack, LABUE apparel, Oceans coffee table book and a digital photo frame. All winning photographs will be displayed on the LABUE website and in a LABUE News feature article on the contest. In addition, everyone submitting at least one photograph for the contest will receive one ticket for a special prize raffle.

The LABUE Photo Contest is open to

members and non-members; however, photographs submitted by non-members must be taken at LABUE sponsored events, dive activities, or dive vacations. Photos submitted by members are not limited to those taken at LABUE events or activities. All photographs submitted must be in a JPEG photo format and may be edited, such as cropping and color correction with the use of digital photo editing programs; however, they may not be manipulated, such as by adding or deleting subject matter, or by digitally correcting specific flaws in photographs by the use of image healing tools using a photo editing program. Any photographs which do not fall within the guidelines presented will not be included in the voting.

Show off your photographic skills and a chance at winning some great prizes by submitting your best photos to LABUE Website Editor Stephen Scruggs (scruggs2424@bellsouth.net) before the November 9th midnight deadline for entries. Voting will begin on November 16th.



### **Member's Corner:**

BY: STEPHEN SCRUGGS

#### **SCUBA Xmas Gift Wish List – 'Aquatic Thruster**

This is the patented diver propulsion system currently used by the U.S. military for combat swimmer applications. Only available from 'Hammacher Schlemmer' for recreational use by U.S. citizens within U.S. territorial waters, its advanced design requires purchase approval from the U.S. Department of State. The system's twin 6"-diam. thrusters mount to the outside of a diver's lower thighs just above the knees while its power source and throttle setting secures around the waist. With a maximum underwater speed of 3.5 knots, the thrusters' brushless electric motors provide virtually silent yet powerful operation that relegates diving fins to controlling attitude and direction. Unlike other handheld propulsion systems, this one provides hands-free operation, one of the reasons the military prefers it for reconnaissance, search and rescue operations, and hull inspections—and why they are ideal for snorkeling. Its lithium-ion battery provides a range that exceeds two miles; an extra battery may be carried and "hot swapped" underwater to extend operation. The unit is compatible with commercial diving gear. Special conditions and guarantee limitations apply. Please call 1-800-227-3528 for details.

Only **\$31,500** each while supplies last.



## 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](mailto:dewing@proskauer.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2014

- November 9, 2014 -- Photo Contest Submission Deadline
- November 11, 2014 -- LABUE General Membership Meeting - 7:00 PM
- November 15, 2014 -- Boat Dive - *Great Escape*
- November 16, 2014 -- Photo Contest Voting Begins
- November 22, 2014 -- Be the Match Walk+Run
- December 6, 2014 -- LABUE Holiday Dinner
- December 9, 2014 -- LABUE General Membership Meeting - 7:00 PM

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President

Richard Rice  
(323) 299-3798

#### Vice President

Tina Houston  
(213) 359-2131

#### Treasurer

DonCosta Seawell  
(909) 593-1877

#### Secretary

Patricia Williams  
(619) 459-0944

#### Members at Large

Lamont Johnson  
(310) 387-8193

Steve Scruggs  
(310) 795-0851

Joe Windolph  
(818) 209-2504

### COMMITTEES

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

Ways & Means  
Debora Ewing  
(310) 284-4556

Beach Dive  
Joe Windolph  
(818) 209-2504

Boat Dive  
DonCosta Seawell  
(909) 593-1877

Dive Events & Trip Planning  
Tina Houston (Interim)  
(213) 359-2131

Dive Training & Safety  
George Linares (Interim)

Internet Administrator  
Francois Desamours  
(703) 463-6857

Website Editor  
Steve Scruggs  
(310) 795-0851

Program Committee  
Keenon Adamson

Technical Dive Committee  
Open

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

## Meetings

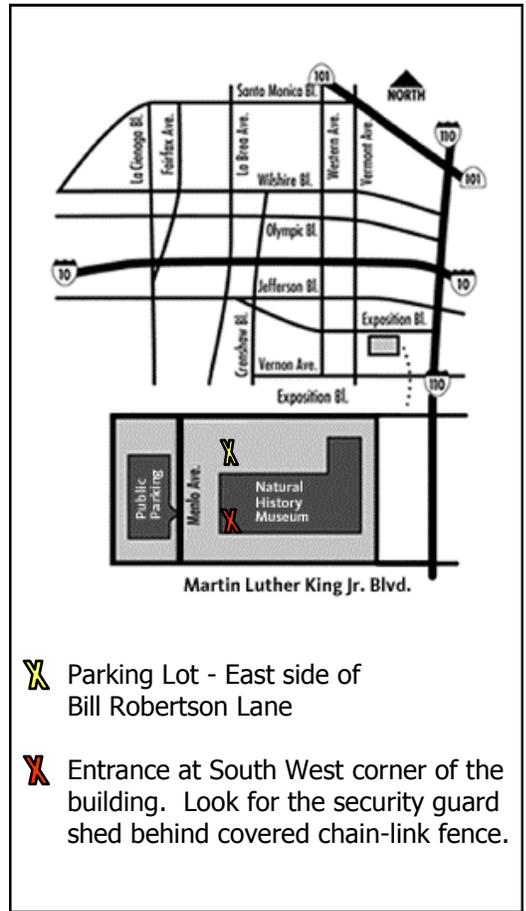
The LABUE meetings are held the second Tuesday of every Month at 7:00 PM in the Times Mirror Room at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles.

## Directions

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

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](http://www.nhm.org).



X Parking Lot - East side of Bill Robertson Lane

X Entrance at South West corner of the building. Look for the security guard shed behind covered chain-link fence.

## Contact Us:

PO Box 90069, Los Angeles, CA 90009  
Phone/Fax: (323) 299-3798  
Email: [info@labue.org](mailto:info@labue.org)  
Web Site: [www.labue.org](http://www.labue.org)

**In consideration to the many LABUE members who are unable to download large files on their computer, we will be limiting the number of photographs included in our newsletter. To accommodate our many excellent photographers, we will begin posting additional photographs on the LABUE website for your viewing pleasure.**

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: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name and Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Certification Information:

Year First Certified: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Dives: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Last Dive: \_\_\_\_\_ Warm Water  Beach  Boat

### Certification Agency(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

### Membership Category:

Amount: \$30.00  for Individual Membership  New  Renewal

\$45.00  for Family Membership  New  Renewal

\$300.00  for Lifetime Individual \$450.00  for Lifetime Family

Please make checks payable to: **“Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers” 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 risks 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 its members and officers from any and all 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: \_\_\_\_\_