

LABUE NEWS

Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers



VOLUME 15, ISSUE 10
OCTOBER 2010

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Photographer: Doralynn Seawell
Camera: Olympus C5060
Medium: Digital
Location: Puerto Galero, Phillippines
Subject: Boats in the Bay

LABUE Members Get Creative For Halloween

BY SHARLENE JOHNSON

On October 12, 2010, during the General Membership Meeting, LABUE will be hosting it's second Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Last year four teams squared off with bags of mysterious items, blank pumpkins, and their imagination to see who could come up with the most outrageous pumpkin. Bob Simmons, Pam McField, and Richard Rice won the day with a googlie eyed, smoking pumpkin with a wicker nose and ears. The pumpkins were so imaginative and our members had so much fun we've decided to do it again. Join us and team up for a chance to walk away with a one of a kind LABUE prize ribbon. Check out page four for photos of last year's entrants.

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

LABUE HEADS FOR GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND - EAST END IN 2011

The newly formed LABUE Trip Planning Committee and the LABUE Board have selected the Cayman Islands as the destination for LABUE's 2011 warm water dive vacation April 30 - May 7, 2011. LABUE will be staying at The Reef Resort, which is located on Grand Cayman's East End. The Reef Resort is an ideal dive location featuring 1600 feet of pristine white sand beach, 152 oceanfront suites, two pools, and two restaurants. It also includes a gym, spa, and a centrally located oceanside beach bar.

Between dives, The Reef offers some of the world's finest snorkeling directly from the beach. LABUE members last enjoyed the spectacular diving at Grand Cayman during our 2006 warm water trip to the Sunset House dive resort. Caymans East End offers new dive opportunities and distinctly different dive sites from our 2006 trip. The September issue of the *California Diving News*

included a feature article on the world class diving available at the Grand Cayman's East End and recommended the Reef Resort.



The cost for this trip will start at \$1,067.00 per person double occupancy for divers and \$563.00 for non-divers including room, daily continental breakfasts, airport transfers, LABUE registration fee, hotel fees & gratuities, and taxes. Diving will feature 5 days of 2-tank boat dives with Tortuga Divers, which is located next door to The Reef. They offer dive

equipment valet service and convenient secure lockers for your dive gear. Their on-site water sports company also offers kayak tours, paddle boarding, power snorkeling, and other exciting activities.

The East End location is a short distance from the world famous Stingray City, Rum Point, QEII Botanic Park, and several of the best restaurants on the island. Deposits are now being accepted for what is sure to be another exciting LABUE Dive Vacation. For registration, deposit information or questions, please contact Tina Houston at (213) 359-2131.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICHARD RICE



After closing out the summer with our LABUE Dive-Camp Weekend, we find ourselves entering the last quarter of 2010. Fall dive activities are here! As we work on signing up po-

tential divers for Discover Scuba II on October 30th, some LABUE members are preparing to head for the NABS Summit in tropical Costa Rica next month. At last month's general membership meeting we enjoyed another informative and highly entertaining Lobster workshop by James "lobster wisperer" Wiley. Lobster season opens on October 2nd and our Boat Dive Committee is currently working on scheduling a November "Dive with the LABUE Board" event so that you can practice your lobster catching skills.

As announced during our September meeting, the destination selected for our 2011 LABUE Dive Vacation is Grand Cayman Island – East End, October 30 – May 7. Thanks to all LABUE members who suggested trip destinations for consideration and who participated in the LABUE Dive Vacation Survey, providing important feedback to the Dive Trip Planning

Committee to better meet member's trip expectations and budgets. This trip is open for signups and deposits are now being accepted.

We are currently behind schedule in our club elections which should be scheduled for November 2010. Long time member James Wiley has agreed to Chair the LABUE election nominating committee. He will be responsible for developing a list of qualified candidates who are willing to run for any of the LABUE Officer or At-Large Board Members. We are encouraging qualified members seriously consider running for one of the officer or at-large board positions. If you are a paid LABUE member as of July 2010 and have two or more years active involvement in any LABUE Committee, you are eligible to run for these positions. Your direct involvement and participation as a Officer or Board Member is the best way to ensure that LABUE

Continued on page 3

3R's – ROCKS, RIPS AND REEFS

Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation is offering Rocks, Rips and Reefs (3R's) for 2010. 3R's is an entire series of *FREE* courses taught by LA County Scuba Instructors and designed to safely introduce divers to popular, local dive sites. The course includes a short educational seminar covering safe beach diving skills, certain aspects of the local marine environment, and other valuable site-specific information. Each seminar is followed by an in-water demonstration and practice session that includes a skin diving tour of the actual dive site. Topics and skills covered in the course include:

- Choosing appropriate entry and exit points, and safe entry and exit skills
- Identifying, anticipating and navigating hidden obstacles in the surf zone
- How to use the ocean's natural wave motion to your advantage
- How to plan your dive by reading the ocean's surface and using tide tables
- How to find interesting sea-life at each location

A folding beach chair is recommended for the seminar. Full skin gear is required for participants who wish to join the in-water demonstration and practice session.

3R's is scheduled October 9 at Nicholas Canyon. All courses begin at 8am. For more information you can call (323) 726-2155 or email [ap-
ply@lacountyscuba.com](mailto:apply@lacountyscuba.com). Their website is www.lacountyscuba.com.

DIVER NEWS

New members:

Julie Tseng, Nick Ex

Discover Scuba I:

Josh Windolph, Adrian Williams

Training, Awards & Certifications:

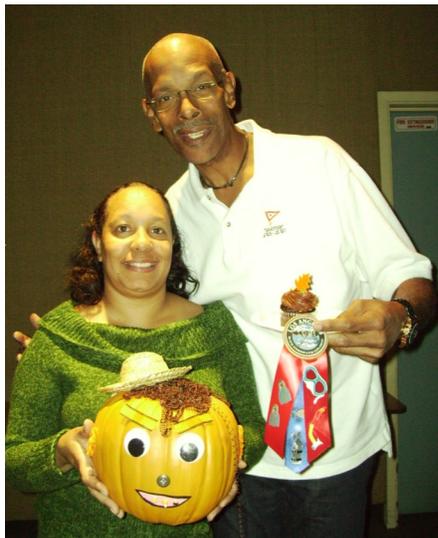
Steve Scruggs, PADI Distinct Specialty Certification for DWP underwater archeology training and DWP certificate and award as "DWP Advocate".

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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. Jay Morgan
2. Gary Chism
3. Charles Clemons
4. Robin Baulding
5. Jonathan Black
6. Jonathan Bowers
7. Maxanna Brooks
8. Nicole Drewery
9. John Canton
10. Genaro Capetillo



2009 General Meeting Pumpkin Decorating Contest:  
Top - 1st Place, Directly Above - 2nd Place,  
Top Right - 3rd Place, Right - 4th Place

## BOAT DIVING?

"If you decide to sign up for a boat dive and you want a LABUE dive buddy, please contact DonCosta Sea-  
well at 909-593-1877 or don-  
costa1@msn.com with your trip de-  
tails and he will convey that informa-  
tion to the club so that anyone who  
desires to join you will be aware."

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS REVISIONS

Since the beginning of this year, the LABUE Bylaws Committee has been hard at work drafting some important changes to the LABUE By-laws. The Committee, led by Bob Simmons and including Denise Barker, Steve Scruggs, Pat Williams, Debora Ewing, and Sharlene Johnson, has created a draft that will be forwarded to the membership for review. The proposed changes will be discussed at the November General Membership Meeting and members may submit their comments prior to Board approval. The revisions address some critical club organizational issues and are intended to encourage greater member participation and involvement in running and expanding LABUE.



## 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) as soon as possible!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2010

- October 9 -- LA County's 3R's - Nicholas Canyon - 8:00 AM
- October 12 -- LABUE's Meeting of the General Membership - 7:00 PM
- October 26 -- Board Meeting - 6:00 PM
- October 30 -- Discover Scuba - Pacific Wilderness - 9:00 AM
- November 3 - 7 -- NABS Trip to Costa Rica
- November 7 -- Afternoon Beach Dive - El Matador - Time TBA
- December 4 -- Truxton's American Bistro in Westchester - 6:00 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)  
(213) 359-2131

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.

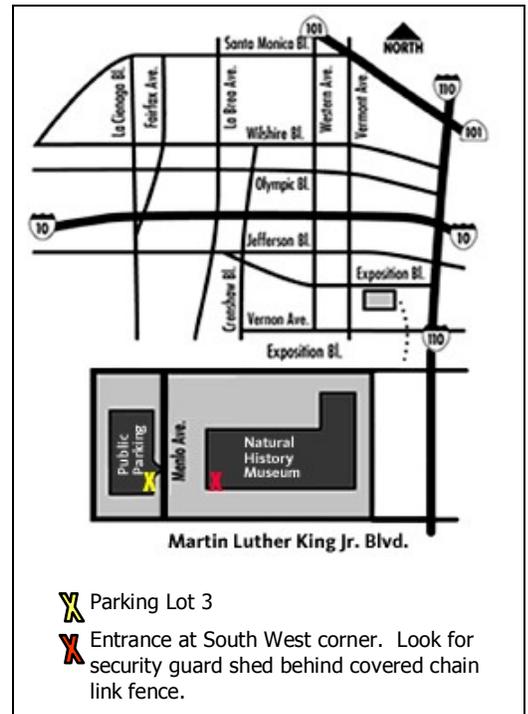
## Directions

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



**X** Parking Lot 3

**X** Entrance at South West corner. Look for security guard shed behind covered chain link fence.

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

## 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)



Scuba diving is something to be shared and the  
**Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers**  
would like to introduce you to ...

## DISCOVER SCUBA



This DISCOVER SCUBA Program is designed to *briefly* introduce individuals to a new world and to help prepare non-divers for a dive training certification program. Certified divers will be available to answer questions and provide support throughout the entire Program. Featured components are:

- Introduction to the world of *SCUBA* and equipment review
  - Pool session with certified divers (optional)
  - dive shop tour

**WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010 @ 9:00 A.M. until Noon**

**WHERE: PACIFIC WILDERNESS 1719 So Pacific Ave.; San Pedro 90731 (310) 833 2422**

**COST: \$15.00 per person**

Call 661 729 6626 to sign-up



PO BOX 90069, LOS ANGELES, CA 90009  
(310) 337-1541  
(310) 337-1542 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

## Certification Information:

Year First Certified: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Dives \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Last Dive: \_\_\_\_\_  Warm Water  Beach  Boat  
**Agency Certification**

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

Diving Preferences:  Beach Dives  Boat Dives  Warm Water Dives  
Amount: \$ 30.00  Individual Membership  New  Renewal  
\$ 45.00  Family Membership  New  Renewal  
\$ 300.00  Lifetime Individual  
\$ 450.00  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 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, defend 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 with full knowledge of its significance.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_