

LABUE NEWS

Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers



PHOTO OF THE QUARTER

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4
OCTOBER—DECEMBER 2018



Photographer: Symphorosa Williams
Location: Cocos Islands
Camera: Canon G16 in Fantasea Housing

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◇ NABS Bahamas Dive Summit - November 3 -10th
- ◇ Be the Match Run/Walk -December 1st
- ◇ LABUE Holiday Dinner & Quarterly Membership Meeting- December 9th
- ◇ 2019 Discover SCUBA - TBD
- ◇ LABUE Yap-Micronesia Dive Adventure - May 26 - June 2, 2019

Join our LABUE Meetup Group at www.Meetup.com/LABUEDIVERS/ providing an easy way to stay up to date on all of our upcoming events and dive activities.

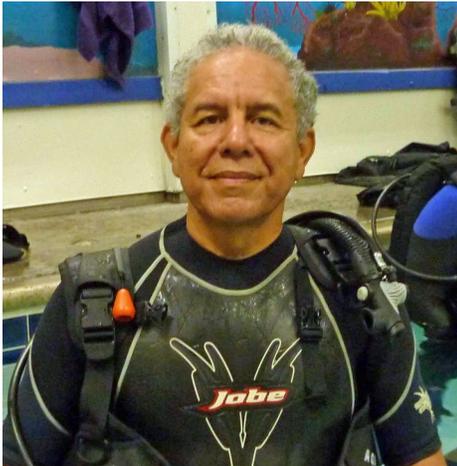
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Dedicated to Expanding the Knowledge and Enjoyment of Scuba Diving among African Americans

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY: RICHARD RICE



It's been nearly eight years since our good friend and long time LABUE member Charles Heath died following a long battle with leukemia. It's been nine months since past LABUE President Bob Simmons lost his battle with leukemia.

In honor of Charles and Bob, LABUE members, family and friends are invited to join us on the LABUE team for the 2018 Be The Match Walk and Run fundraising event supporting Be the Match bone marrow registry helping patients with life-threatening blood cancers. They also provide financial grants to patients with uninsured treatment costs and support continued marrow transplant research. This is the seventh year that LABUE has participated in this worthwhile event taking place this year on Saturday, December 1st at Marina Green: 386 E. Shoreline Drive, Long Beach, CA 90802. The event consists of a 5k run or walk, a 1k, and a short distance Tot Trot for children.

Many African-Americans with leukemia, lymphoma, sickle cell, and other blood diseases are unable to have life-saving stem cell or bone marrow transplants because of a critical shortage of Black donors. Bone marrow transplants are often the only treatment for these blood-related cancers. Of the 8 million people who have registered as potential donors with the National Marrow Donor Program, just

600,000 (7%) are Black. This severely limits a Black person's chance of being matched with a donor for transplant. This can be the difference between survival and death. Because bone marrow compatibility is closely linked with race, that means blacks have a much smaller pool of potential donors. Blacks also tend to have rarer genetic tissue types than whites, making it even more difficult to find compatible donors. Be The Match is making a difference by promoting public awareness and raising money to fight these deadly diseases.

As we close out 2018, you won't want to miss our annual LABUE Holiday Dinner taking place on December 9th at Brownstone Bistro in Los Angeles. Join us for the fun, fellowship, entertainment, and Holiday Festivities. Be sure to order your tickets early for this event before we sell out.

Registration is still open for our exciting 2019 Warm Water Dive Vacation to Micronesia and the island of Yap, from May 26 through June 2nd, 2019. We will be staying at the highly rated Manta Ray Bay Resort. The



all-inclusive trip pricing includes accommodations for 7 nights, breakfasts and dinners, dive package featuring 5 days of 3 tank dives, unlimited shore dives, and round-trip airfare from Manila, Philippines to Yap. Double occupancy prices start at \$1200pp for non-divers and \$2250pp for divers. If you are interested in joining us, contact LABUE Trip Coordinator, DonCosta Seawell at doncosta1@msn.com.

Your LABUE Board of Directors has an ambitious agenda for 2018 and, with your help, will continue with our effort to institute changes necessary to ensure LABUE's future. We encourage you to support your dedicated LABUE Officers and Board of Directors in meeting the challenges of 2018 with your active participation in LABUE. If you are interested in lending your labor, experience, or organizational skills to LABUE on any of our tasks or 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 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.



JOIN "TEAM LABUE" FOR THE BE THE MATCH WALK/RUN DECEMBER 1, 2018

LABUE members, family and friends are invited to join us on the LABUE team for the 2018 Be The Match Walk and Run fundraising event supporting Be the Match bone marrow registry helping patients with life-threatening blood cancers like leukemia, lymphoma, and sickle cell. They also provide financial grants to patients with uninsured treatment costs and support continued marrow transplant research. This is the seventh year that LABUE has participated in this worthwhile event. LABUE became involved after losing one of our long time club members, Charles Heath in 2010 due to leukemia. This year's event will take place starting at 7:30am on Saturday, December 1, 2018, at Marina Green: 386 E. Shoreline Drive, Long Beach, CA 90802. The event consists of a 5k, a 1k, and a short distance Tot Trot.

To register for the event, go to the

Be The Match website, bethematch-walkrun.org. Select "Long Beach, December 1, 2018", then "Register", then select "I want to join a team" and look for LABUE. As part of the event, LABUE will be raising money and encouraging donors supporting the Be The Match bone marrow registry uniting communities nationwide to help patients with these diseases. Come out, have fun, and help LABUE support Be the Match.



DIVER NEWS

New and Renewing Members:

Vernon Beard
Sharlene Johnson
~ ~ ~

Have any diver news? Know anyone who has obtained new certification? Email us at info@labue.org

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO RENEW YOUR 2018 LABUE MEMBERSHIP

It's not too late to renew your 2018 LABUE membership. Just complete the attached 2018 LABUE Membership Application and forward it to LABUE, PO Box 90069, LA 90009, along with your annual dues of \$30 (\$45 for Family Memberships). You may also renew on PayPal at paypal_membership@labue.org.



MEMBER'S CORNER: A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

BY: STEPHEN SCRUGGS

Tennessee is a fisherman's paradise thanks to the Tennessee Valley Authority's system of dams that generate electricity for much of the east coast. As these dams supply electricity, they also push cold oxygenated tail-waters creating some of the best trout habitats in the country. The handsome fish in the attached photo is a nine-pound, twenty-eight inch Brown Trout caught at the South Holston River Lodge in Bristol, Tennessee below the Holston Dam. It's the largest fish caught on the river this year and it's also the largest trout I've ever caught on a fly rod. I'm very proud of this fish which is why you're reading a fly-fishing article in the LABUE newsletter.

Before I became a SCUBA diver, I fell in love with fly fishing. Sixty years before I became a fly fisherman, I was a young man digging fat, juicy worms to fill an old coffee can to fish with my father. I used a bamboo pole that cost one dollar and a piece of cork for a float. I remember this as the time my father began teaching me to be a man.

"I am haunted by the waters."

Fishing is a simple sport. People ask why one would complicate such simplicity with the complexities of fly fishing? My reply has always been, why complicate riding a tricycle with a bicycle? Why complicate checkers with chess? It's a natural progression of growth through the complexities of life. Temptation to a wary trout is not something



as simple as a worm on a hook. Temptation for a trout includes the complex interaction of thousands of insects hovering above and below the surface of a stream that provides life for the fish. Deceiving a trout into believing an artificial fly will provide its life's sustenance is the simplest definition of fly fishing.

As a child my father provided me with everything I needed, but the greatest gift he ever gave me was a love for fishing. The greatest gift I've ever given myself is the realization that fishing is not just a worm on a hook. Sixty years ago, I fished with a bamboo pole and today I'm fishing with a bamboo flyrod. Now I swim with the fish and look up at the little boy with the bamboo pole. He's smiling. The circle is complete.

"Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world's great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs. I am haunted by the waters."

Norman Maclean,
A River Runs Through It

MEET US ON MEETUP

Keep up with LABUE dive events and activities throughout the 2018 on Meetup. By joining our Meetup Group, you will be automatically kept up to date on the latest scheduled LABUE activities and events including beach dives, boat dives, dive vacations, membership meetings, community events, and social events. Meetup is also an excellent tool for meeting and hooking up with new dive buddies. Join LABUE's Meetup Community. Don't be left out, join us today on Meetup. All you need to do is go to www.meetup.com/LABUEDIVERS/ to join.



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.

TAKE A BREAK AND VISIT LABUE ON FACEBOOK

LABUE's Facebook page provides an exciting source of amazing dive related videos, beautiful photos, dive destination reviews, informative articles, dive equipment evaluations, and helpful SCUBA diving tips. For a peek into the underwater world of SCUBA, take a look at LABUE on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LABUEDIVERS. Check it out, you won't be disappointed.





**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SCUBA DIVERS
28th ANNUAL DIVE SUMMIT
Grand Lucayan Resort Freeport, Grand Bahamas**

November 3-10, 2018



We are excited to welcome you to a “close to home” experience for the *2018 NABS Annual Dive Summit*. We are going to have a great experience, and we hope that you are recruiting, friends, family, and colleagues to join us on this trip. Grand Bahama Island is the fourth largest island and second most popular tourist destination in the Bahamas. Located less than 70 miles from the coast of Florida, the island is 539 square miles in size and features long stretches of secluded beachfront. Freeport is the main city on Grand Bahama, an island in the northwest Bahamas off the Florida coast. It's best known for the oceanfront Lucaya district, with beaches, resorts and shopping. Nearby, Deadman's Reef is popular for snorkeling, and the surrounding offshore waters host a variety of dive sites. Up the coast, Lucayan National Park features extensive underwater caves, plus kayaking and nature trails.

While the divers are at “play” underwater, there are plenty of activities for non-divers as well. Some of the Island’s settlements such as Pinder’s Point, Russell Town, Smith’s Point, and William’s Town are named after the former families who founded them. Today, these settlements serve as cultural hot spots. There are three distinct destinations of Grand Bahama Island – East End, Freeport/Lucaya, and West End – each offering its own unique experience. There are three national parks, and on the south side miles of beautiful beaches.

Our *Grand Lucayan Resort Freeport* package includes 7 Nights’ Accommodations, Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner daily, Complimentary Wi-Fi, Gratuities and Taxes. The dive package includes five days of 2-tank am diving, and 4 days 1 tank afternoon dives. There will be an optional night dive and an optional shark dive (at additional cost).

Diver packages start at \$1856.00 and Non-Diver packages start at \$1213.00 per person. Summit registration is \$385.00.

Please contact Summit Chairperson Ruthie Browning at rbrowningw@aol.com for more information or you can download the complete Summit Registration Package at <http://files.constantcontact.com/fe8b8d8c001/8cafc85a-a7e5-43eb-8add-01837c68838d.pdf>

LABUE Lending Library: Dive Videos, Dive Education & Travel Guides

LABUE members are invited to take advantage of our **LABUE Lending Library** including DVDs, Dive Education publications, and dive destination travel guides. Planning a dive vacation? Why spend money on an expensive dive travel video or travel guide when you can borrow one from the **LABUE Lending Library**? LABUE members are invited to and encouraged to submit a list of those dive DVDs and Travel Guides you may own and wouldn't mind sharing with your fellow members. We will include them on our list of available materials.

Our current **DVD Lending Library** includes a variety of educational and informative topics featuring:

- ***Underwater Navigation (PADI)***
- ***Wreck Diving (PADI)***
- ***Night Diving (PADI)***
- ***Dry Suit Diving (PADI)***
- ***Choosing and Using Dive Computers (Hammerhead Video)***
- ***Truk Lagoon (Dive Travel Video)***
- ***Palau (Sam's Tour)***
- ***Lost Ships of Rome (Secrets of the Dead)***
- ***Slave Ship Mutiny (PBS)***
- ***The Guerrero Project***
- ***Diving Cozumel Mexico (Divescape Productions)***
- ***Dive Bonaire (Nutaag Media)***
- ***White Wash (Trespass Productions)***
- ***Spirit of the Blue-The UW World of Osprey and the Ribbon Reefs, Australia (Stuart Ireland Films)***

Dive Education & Dive Travel Guides available in the LABUE Lending Library include:

- ***Complete Guide to Diving & Snorkeling Aruba, Bonaire, & Curacao***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Baja California***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Fiji***
- ***Underwater Indonesia***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Cozumel***
- ***Hawaii Below***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Guide to Curacao***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Belize (Lonely Planet)***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Cayman Islands***
- ***Diving the British Virgin Islands***
- ***Diving Guide to the Balearic Islands, Spain***
- ***Diving & Snorkeling Honduras' Bay Islands***
- ***Fiji: Welcome to Our Islands***
- ***Lost Below (David Finnern)***
- ***Passage Through Deep Waters (David Finnern)***
- ***Best Dives of the Caribbean (Joyce & Jon Huber)***
- ***Diving and Snorkeling Guide to the Hawaiian Islands (Doug Wallin)***
- ***Scuba Equipment Care & Maintenance (Farley/Royer)***

If you are interested in borrowing any of the materials in **LABUE's Lending Library** or sharing dive DVDs or related educational materials that you may own with other LABUE members, contact us at labue@sbcglobal.net.

LOS ANGELES BLACK UNDERWATER EXPLORERS SCUBA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PURPOSE: In agreement with and support of LABUE's Mission to *Expand the Knowledge and Enjoyment of SCUBA Diving* in our community, LABUE awards **Open Water I SCUBA Certification** Scholarships. The SCUBA certification scholarships (**Robert L Simmons, Charles Heath, and Artie Williams Memorial Scholarships**) are named for long time club members who exemplified consistent dedication and support of LABUE, and love of the sport of SCUBA Diving.

AWARD: Open Water I SCUBA Certification – Up to two (3) Open Water I SCUBA Certification Scholarships may be awarded each year in the form of reimbursement of costs, up to \$400, for successful completion of a recognized Open Water I SCUBA certification course offered by any qualified dive shop or SCUBA instructor. The scholarships also include a one year LABUE membership.

ELIGIBILITY: Those eligible to apply for the **Open Water I Certification** scholarships include paid LABUE Members who are not SCUBA certified; and family members of paid LABUE Members (including spouses, children, parents, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts and uncles). Members of the general public who have completed any recent or past LABUE Discover Scuba Program are also eligible.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS: Applicants for the **Open Water I Certification** Scholarships must have completed their Open Water I certification during the same calendar year in which the Scholarship is awarded and they must demonstrate their efforts to support LABUE's mission and club, programs, events, and activities as evidenced by any of the following:

- Active attendance and participation in LABUE meetings, programs, events, and activities
- Active participation as a member of a LABUE committee
- Contribution of articles, photos, graphics, and other information to the LABUE News newsletter, LABUE website, LABUE Facebook page, or other media used by LABUE.
- Preparation of research paper or school project on topics related to SCUBA diving or other related marine topics including biology, marine ecology, marine technology; or historical topics related to diving such as WWII wreck dive sites or the search for sunken slave ships.
- Participation in or completion of LABUE special projects or tasks as determined by the LABUE Board of Directors.

SELECTION: Applications for the Open Water I SCUBA Certification Scholarships shall be submitted by November 1st of each year. The LABUE Board of Directors will work with those interested to develop the application and specify proposed activities and tasks to be completed by the applicant. Review of Award Eligibility, compliance with Award Requirements for each **Open Water I SCUBA Certification** scholarship applicant, and award selection will be made by the LABUE Board of Directors before the date of the December LABUE General Membership Meeting each year.



LABUE's 2019 YAP Micronesia Dive Adventure

May 26, 2019 through June 2, 2019



The Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers (LABUE) is pleased to announce our 2019 Warm Water Dive Vacation to Micronesia and the island of Yap, from May 26 through June 2nd, 2019. Yap is the westernmost state of the four states that make up the Federated States of Micronesia, located in the southeastern Pacific Ocean

We will be staying at the highly rated ***Manta Ray Bay Resort***. The all-inclusive trip pricing includes accommodations for 7 nights, breakfasts and dinners, dive package featuring 5 days of 3 tank dives, unlimited shore dives, and round-trip airfare from Manila, Philippines to Yap. Double occupancy prices start at \$1200pp for non-divers and \$2350pp for divers. Single supplement pricing is available upon request. Land based tours, spa services, deep sea fishing, and kayaking are optional.

Diving in Yap is all about, crystal clear waters, and a wide variety of dive sites, great coral, Manta Rays, Sharks, and other great marine life. If you are looking for a dive destination that is not invaded by tourists, where the rich local culture still comes first, and diving is the main attraction, join LABUE on this trip of a lifetime. Check out DonCosta Seawell's Yap trip report in the April 2018 issue of the *LABUE News* and take a look at the Manta Ray Bay Resort website www.mantaray.com for more information on Yap.

We are now accepting \$500 deposits for our 2019 Yap Dive Adventure. If you are interested in joining us contact LABUE Trip Coordinator, DonCosta Seawell at doncosta1@msn.com.



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 Quarter" 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 dew-
ing@proskauer.com.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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(323) 299-3798

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(909) 593-1877

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Stacy Wade
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Steve Scruggs
(310) 795-0851

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Joe Windolph
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Debora Ewing - Editor
(310) 284-4556
Sharlene Johnson -
Production Manager
Staff Writers -
Steve Scruggs
Dangil Jones



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.

Contact Us:

PO Box 90069, Los Angeles, CA 90009

Phone/Fax: (323) 299-3798

Email: info@labue.org

Web Site: www.labue.org



CHECK OUT THE LABUE STORE



Our hats and polo shirts are beautifully embroidered!



Makes a great gift!!



Above long and short sleeve t-shirts have the same front/back design layout!

~ ~ ~

Look great on the boat or beach with official LABUE apparel including T-shirts, Polo Shirts, and Baseball Caps.

T-shirts and Baseball Caps are in stock and are available in most sizes at \$20 each, Polo Shirts are \$30. Check out the LABUE Store at www.labue.org to place your order, or you may purchase items at the monthly membership meeting.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For the Year 2018

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: _____

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: _____



National Association of Black Scuba Divers Membership Application

To insure that your application is accurately processed, please complete each section and print all information.

- New Member
 Renewal

Section I: Contact Information (Renewal Members check here if this is a new address.)

First Name:		Last Name:		NABS ID:
Address:				Apt. No.:
City:	State:	Zip:	Country:	
Home Phone:	Work Phone:		Ext.:	
E-mail Address:				
Your NABS Correspondence Preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> USPS Mailing <small>Note: If you do not indicate your preference Email is the default.</small>				
Profession:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting/Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Advertising/Marketing/Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	
<input type="checkbox"/> Business/Customer Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Info Sys/Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

Section II: Dive Information (Non-Diver)

Current Certification Level: <input type="checkbox"/> OW <input type="checkbox"/> AOW <input type="checkbox"/> MSD <input type="checkbox"/> DM <input type="checkbox"/> INSTR	Certifying Agency: <input type="checkbox"/> PADI <input type="checkbox"/> NAUI <input type="checkbox"/> SSI <input type="checkbox"/> YMCA <input type="checkbox"/> PDIC <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	C-Card Number:
Type of Diver: <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Technical	Number of Dives Logged: <input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-99 <input type="checkbox"/> 100+	* Dive Insurance Carrier: <input type="checkbox"/> DAN <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Expiration Date: ____/____/____
* NABS recommends that all divers carry dive insurance.		

Section III: Club Information

Club Name:	Position Held:
If you don't belong to a local club, can we send your information to a club in your area: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Section IV: Membership Dues (Dues cover a period from January 1 through December 31.)

<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 Full Membership (Certified Divers Only)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600 Lifetime Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Non-diver Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750 Lifetime Family Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> \$65 Family Membership*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ NABS Youth Educational Summit Donation
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Student membership (full time students only)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ Science & Education Committee Donation

* Please list below each family member to be covered under this application. Please note all correspondence will be directed to the name listed on the top of this application. Only certified divers are given voting rights. Divers 18 -22 must hold individual not family membership.

Name(s)	Relationship	Diver?	If diver, Certification Level/Agency	NABS ID

Relationship: SP=Spouse, CH=Child

I, _____, will support and promote the objectives of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers.

_____/_____/_____
Signature

Select Payment Method: () Check or Cash () PayPal () e-commerce

Make Checks Payable to NABS

Submit Application:

NABS

Or Mail To: **ATTN: Chris Searles**
3380 Bramblevine Cir
Lithonia, GA 30038

Via E-mail To:
Membership@nabsdivers.org