

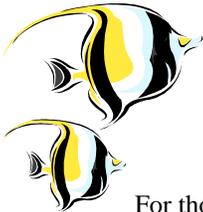
LABUE NEWS

Los Angeles Black Underwater Explorers

JUNE 2004

“1999 NABS Club of the Year”

Volume 9 Issue 6



LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!!!

For those too young to know what a Jook Joint is, ask your parents. For those old enough to know what a Jook Joint is, lock up your kids. LABUE's gonna let the good times roll when we turn back the clock to the 1920's when a two dollar bill would buy you a hot, sweaty night of fun in a broken down shack filled with hot blues and cold drinks in a cracked Mason jar. **The LABUE JOOK JOINT** is open for service!!!

We'll have live entertainment, vintage prizes, vintage decorations, cards, dominos and darts all designed to create an attitude to go along with the atmosphere. Inflation killed the two dollar bill but LABUE is resurrecting the jook joint for one hot sweaty night on July 17th. There ain't gonna be no half-steppin' at this jook joint. You gotta dress. Break out those high water pants and stingy brim hats you loved too much to throw away. Send those tight, low cut spaghetti strap dresses to the cleaners and get ready to jitterbug and boogie woogie from 7:00 til midnight with hot vittles served from 7:30 til 9:00. The shack is located at 3745 Don Felipe Drive (off Stocker, three blocks west of Crenshaw) where you can enter 'round back through the back door past the weeds.

Seventy years has raised the price to \$25.00 but that's only about \$0.35 per year and anything less would only get you back to the Disco era and who wants to go back there? We all have a jook joint connected to our past either through relatives, home towns or personal experiences 'cause unless you're a Native American or a recent immigrant, your family probably came from the South. This is how our ancestors partied and on July 17th, this is how LABUE's gonna party. Come on out and join us and let the good times roll!!!

ANY TIME IS THE RIGHT TIME!!!



President's Message

Normally at this time of year, LABUE members have just returned from the annual club trip to an exotic location in the Caribbean. While always a lot of fun, the Spring trip has also served as a tune-up for the upcoming prime dive season in Southern California. However, because we are traveling south of the Equator to Fiji this year, the seasons are reversed and our trip is not until late September. Whereas the Spring trip is usually the beginning of the most active dive period, this year's fall trip occurs near the end of that period. The problem which arises is that some of us do not dive as often as we should and might not realize that, by the time Fiji arrives, over 18 months will have passed since many of us 'got wet' in Utila. Not a good thing!!!

More than ever, it is important to schedule a few club dives to maintain your dive readiness and to put

yourself in the best possible position to have the dive trip of a lifetime in Fiji. It would not be fair to yourself, your dive buddy or to other divers on the trip if you arrived in Fiji in need of a dive tune up. While we are all willing to help, this trip is too expensive to have to spend time doing remedial dive activities simply because someone was not properly prepared. The other potential problem involves making sure that your gear has been recently checked and is in top condition. Your regulator and BC should have been recently serviced and your computer should have new batteries. We will have the entire resort to ourselves, including two dive boats. You don't want to be that person that no one wants on their boat because your dive skills are a bit rusty. Being fully prepared to dive in Fiji is not an option...it is a responsibility!!!

Bob Simmons

Father's Day Dive

For the past several years, Bettye Linares has coordinated LABUE's Father's Day dive and picnic at Diver's Cove in Laguna Beach. This beach dive activity is scheduled for June 20 and incorporates a couple of good dives along with a relaxing picnic with family and friends. Dominoes and other table games are 'in' on this afternoon. Non divers are welcomed to join in the water fun for snorkeling, swimming, surf riding and even body boarding. The fun begins with the first dive briefing at 8:00am. The second briefing will be held at approximately 10:00am. Picnicking on the grassy knolls at the immediately adjacent Heisler's Park starts at noon and continues until 4pm. This event is always well attended and is always a lot of fun. Participants are reminded to bring plenty of quarters for the metered parking. Contact Bettye for additional information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Robert Simmons (323) 292-8960	Vice President Donna Wilson (310) 337-1541
Treasurer Richard Rice (323) 299-3798	Secretary Debora Ewing (213) 229-5190
Denise Barker (562) 423-4974	George Linares (661) 941-1516
Steve Scruggs (310) 876-1260	

COMMITTEES

Membership Bettye Linares (661) 946-1516	Fundraising James Wiley (310) 477-2389
Beach Dive Debora Ewing (213) 229-5190	Boat Dive Steve Scruggs (310) 876-1260
Dive Training & Safety George Linares (661) 946-1516	Publicity & Internet Donna Wilson (310) 337-1541
Technical Dive Quinal Johnson	

Phone: (323) 292-8960
 Fax: (310) 337-1542
 Email: info@labue.org
 Web Site: www.labue.org

The Maturation Process by Bob Simmons

LABUE has been in existence for several years now. Just like anything else, as time passes, things change. In the earlier days, when most club members were relatively new to diving, everyone was generally satisfied with the same types of diving. However, now that a large number of members have significant experience, the club is faced with a new challenge: satisfying the needs of these more advanced divers, while at the same time maintaining the currently successful program which recognizes that new divers are being 'born' everyday.

In an effort to address that issue, the Technical Dive Committee will be referred to as the Adventure/Specialty/Technical (AdSpecTech) committee, effective immediately. While the Tech Dive Committee nominally continues to exist, the new name is more reflective of the types of activities which will be planned. The name may be formally changed when the bylaws are revised at some future date. The purpose of the AdSpecTech committee is to propose a variety of additional dive opportunities for qualified club members. Some of these dives will require advanced skills and beyond. Some of these dives will be specialty dives. Other dives may not require more than Open Water One skills but may be of an unusual nature. Most club members will be able to meet the recommended skill levels for at least 'some' of the activities.

Quinal Johnson (Dive Master) will serve as Chairperson of this committee. XL Washington (Instructor) has agreed to serve as co-chairman. George Linares (Instructor) will also be actively involved (along with other members) in developing skill level recommendations for each dive. All club dives will be coordinated between the Beach Dive, Boat Dive and AdSpecTech Committee chairs.

Oil Rig Boat Dive by Steve Scruggs

Dive Master Quinal Johnson, Chairman of LABUE's AdSpecTech Committee, is offering up its first activity to qualified club members. As explained above, AdSpecTech is an acronym for Adventure, Specialty, and Technical and encompasses dive activities that extend beyond the realm of the Beach and Boat Dive Committees to better serve the expanding needs of the club. On Saturday July 10th, nine lucky divers will be on the Sea Bass dive boat out of 22nd Street Landing in San Pedro for the club's first dive on one of the oil rigs off the coast.

The oil rigs are the remnants of huge platforms cut off at sixty feet below the surface in water exceeding seven hundred feet in depth. These platforms are encrusted with tons of colorful soft coral and marine growth which in turn attracts an abundant amount of sea life causing a feeding frenzy among large pelagic creatures cruising in from the open ocean in search of a meal.

This dive is being offered to club members by Reef Seekers Dive Shop in Beverly Hills for a special club price of only \$90 (regularly \$110). Space is limited so act fast to secure a spot.

Due to the extreme depths, unpredictable currents and unique circumstances involved in diving the oil rigs, only advanced divers will be considered for this dive. Contact me at 323-815-0099 if you have questions about this dive or your qualifications.

Calendar of Events

MARCH

- 06 Beach Dive
- 09 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 20 Catalina Boat Dive on the Island Time
- 23 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

APRIL

- 03 Discover Scuba
- 04 Beach Dive—La Jolla Shores (San Diego)
- 10 Easter Egg Hunt Boat Dive on the Bottom Scratcher
- 13 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 25 Rips, Rocks & Reefs
- 27 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

MAY

- 01 Beach Dive—Casino Point (Catalina Island)
- 05 Chamber Day and Chamber Evening
- 11 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 22 Scuba Show – Long Beach
- 25 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

JUNE

- 08 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 20 Beach Dive—Father's Day Dive at Diver's Cove (Laguna)
- 22 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

JULY

- 13 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 17 Summer Event—"Jook Joint"
- 27 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

AUGUST

- 01 Beach Dive—Deer Creek (Malibu)
- 01 Festival at Sea – Hawaiian Islands
- 10 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 24 06:30 PM – Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER

- 14 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 11 Club Charter—Great Escape Boat Dive
- 28 6:30 PM – Board Meeting
- 30 Club Trip to Fiji

OCTOBER

- 01 Beach Dive—Refugio Santa Barbara Campout Dive
- 12 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 26 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 06 Beach Dive—Shaw's Cove
- 09 7:00 PM – General Meeting
- 23 6:30 PM – Board Meeting

DECEMBER

- 05 Beach Dive—Redondo
- 11 Holiday Gala & Awards Banquet
- 14 7:00 PM – General Meeting

Next Meeting

The next regular General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8. George Linares, club instructor, will lead a discussion on two topics which are particularly relevant for diving in Southern California: surf entries and exits and limited visibility diving. Virtually all certification courses include one or two beach dive sessions. However, for many divers extra practice is needed, but rarely acquired. George (assisted by TA Debora Ewing) will review the basic concepts of entering and exiting thru surf as well as handling low visibility conditions.

The meeting will be held in the Times Mirror Conference Room at the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park on Exposition Blvd between Vermont and Figueroa. Parking is available in the Staff Parking lot immediately adjacent to the two large dinosaurs in front of the building. The meeting will begin at 7pm. Plan now to attend.

Tortola in 2005

The Board of Directors voted to have the club dive trip for 2005 on the island of Tortola a spectacular dive setting in the beautiful British Virgin Islands. The club will be housed at the Prospect Reef Hotel, a water front resort located near the main town.

The BVI's have long been regarded as one of the most alluring and attractive dive sites in the world. The reefs are vivid, there is a wide variety of fish life and, of course, the Wreck of the Rhone, probably the most famous wreck in the world is located in these waters.

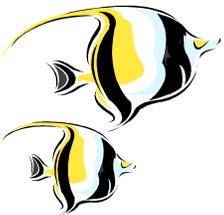
Final details are still being worked out and everyone will certainly be kept informed. However, it appears that the trip will be sometime in April 2005. Members are advised to prepare now to submit deposits within the next couple of months. LABUE trips are always fun and very popular. Tortola will continue the tradition...

Club Dues

As hard as it is to believe, June has arrived and some members still have not paid their annual renewal dues. Depending on the type of membership, the dues amount will vary. However, a typical member pays \$30 to continue to be in good standing. This dues is the cornerstone of LABUE maintaining financial viability. As time has passed, the make up of how LABUE spends its funds has changed. For instance, the cost of the newsletter has decreased dramatically. In its place, the club now pays monthly rental fees for our new meeting location. The good news is that the financial benefits to members in good standing far exceed the cost of renewing. The club offers many discounts, including boat dives, to those who are current with their dues. Bettye Linares, Membership Committee Chairperson, should be contacted for additional information. Renew today...we need you!!!



Los Angeles Black
Underwater Explorers
10736 Jefferson Blvd., #428
Culver City, CA 90230



Reminders:

- ** **General Membership Meeting—6/8/04**
- ** **Father's Day Dive—6/20/04**
- ** **Jook Joint—7/17/04**

**LOOKING FOR
A GOOD DEAL???**

You simply can't beat
our Satisfaction Guaranteed policy.
If you don't like it . . .
bring it back.
Simple as that.
When you shop with Reef Seekers,
you buy with confidence.

Diving the way it would be
if *YOU* owned a store

Also on the web at
www.reefseekers.com

8512 Wilshire Blvd.
Beverly Hills, Ca. 90211
(310) 552-4990
(310) Blocks West of LaCienega



STORE HOURS:
M - F, 10am - 7pm
Saturday, 10am - 6pm
Closed on Sunday



(310) 337-1541

www.dawnenter.com

5767 Uplander Way, #211
Culver City, CA 90230

If you are a small business or individual and could use the help of a virtual assistant (bookkeeping, database, secretarial, paralegal, desktop publishing, websites or web hosting) please contact us at the above number or register at our web site for more information.

Donna Wilson
LABUE Member and Club Sponsor

RLS & ASSOCIATES

**ROBERT L. SIMMONS
LABUE MEMBER**

FINANCIAL SERVICES

4082 S. CLOVERDALE AVE
LOS ANGELES
323-292-8960

**WHY DIVERS SHOP AT
PACIFIC
WILDERNESS**



**GUARANTEED
LOWEST PRICES**

BUY IT FROM US -
SEE IT FOR LESS -
WE'LL CREDIT 150%
OR REFUND 100% OF
THE PRICE DIFFERENCE.

**150% BEST PRICE
PROTECTION**

**UNBEATABLE
SELECTION**

"IT'S LIKE VISITING FIVE
DIVE SHOPS AT ONCE!" -
AND WE ONLY STOCK
THE BEST NAME BRANDS!

**UNSURPASSED
SERVICE**



- PURCHASES INCLUDE:**
- ASSEMBLY (IF NEEDED)
 - SAFETY CHECK
 - REGISTRATION
 - SERVICE REMINDER
 - 25% OFF ON REPAIRS
 - LOW PRICE GUARANTEE

**FINEST IN-HOUSE
REPAIR FACILITY**

WHY WOULD ANY DIVER WAIT
4, 6 OR EVEN 8 WEEKS TO GET A
TANK, REG., OR B.C. REPAIRED?

MOST REPAIRS IN 48 HOURS!

- REG. & B. C. REPAIRS
- HYDROS & TUMBLES
- O2 CLEANING
- DRY SUIT SEALS
- COMPUTER BATTERIES

**WE SERVICE WHAT WE SELL!
...& WE DO IT FOR LESS!**

**ALL LEVELS OF
DIVER EDUCATION**

WE OFFER SCUBA COURSES
TO SATISFY A VARIETY OF
SCHEDULES, CERTIFICATION
LEVELS AND BUDGETS AT
AN UNBEATABLE VALUE!

**FAST & EASY
FINANCING**

up to **ONE YEAR -
INTEREST FREE**



See store for Details
**ORANGE 360 SOUTH TUSTIN AVE.
(714) 997-5506**

**SAN PEDRO 1719 S. PACIFIC AVE.
(310) 833-2422**

WWW.PACIFICWILDERNESS.COM

Join us for live entertainment,
and a jitter-buggin'
Boogie Woogie Celebration!



LABUE'S JOOK JOINT

Voted #1
in Los Angeles
by the
Bubble Blowers
Association

GAMES * GROOVES * GRUB

Bid Whist! Tonk! Dominos! Darts!

**Tickets
on Sale Now
\$25**

Directions:

Enter through the back door....
Past the weeds... 'round back

**Daphne King
(805) 372-3068**

**Pam McField
(909) 984-7131**

**Debora Ewing
(213) 229-5190**

**Bettye Linares
(661) 946-1516**

**Melvin Wells
(323) 447-1763**

**Donna Wilson
(310) 337-1541**



The Joint Will Be Jumpin' Saturday, July 17, 2004

7:00 p.m. until Midnight
Grub—7:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

3745 Don Felipe Drive
(Stocker Avenue, Three Blocks west of Crenshaw)
Los Angeles, CA 90008

Vintage Twenties and Thirties Attire Encouraged