



UNDERCURRENTS

Newsletter of the Bluegrass Dive Club / www.bluegrassdiveclub.com

AUGUST 2025

Volume 55, Number 7

Club Meeting

Date: Tuesday, AUGUST 12

Time: 7:30-PM (business)
Social at 7:00

Location: Roosters

Program: Photos from Caymans Trip

President's Message

By Kathryn Bowers



I hope everyone is having a great summer, I know I have been! Yes it's been hot, really hot, but its summer in Kentucky, it's supposed to be hot.

I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday at Rooster's and again later this month at our annual club pig roast. We're going to be in a new location because two of our newer members have volunteered to host us at Lake Herrington at Kamp Kennedy Marina. I'm really excited about being over there. I've never been to Lake Herrington. I really think being at the marina and near the water will be a great venue for us.

We have quite a few new things to roll out for everyone. We are debuting a new web platform for advertising, booking and payment powered by We Travel.com. I have been

working with a representative from We Travel for the past several months and it seems like this might be a good fit for us. They are willing to honor our nonprofit status and are giving us their premium membership at no charge. I was Impressed with the free membership and all the functionality it will offer us and thought that would serve most of our needs, but the premium membership will give us some even stronger tools. You can look forward to seeing this new product on a liveaboard trip we are offering for August 2026.

We are still soliciting ideas for additional travel for next year or two. If you have anything on your bucket list, let us know. I love traveling with Alex, but I also like traveling with other people. I have always enjoyed my trips with the dive club. It's nice having shared experiences with people who love the same things you love. Depending on the trip cost and or location, we could possibly try and roll it out quickly for early 2026 or push it out an additional year. The simple fact is some trips require more planning and more personal budgeting. 🚩

The Editor's Notes

By John Geddes



Photographs in this issue were from Amy Hiett from the Grand Cayman trip.

If you any photograph that you would like to share, Just let me know. 🚩

Vice President Report

By Kris Harn



Hope to see you at the AUGUST meeting at Roosters on the 12TH.

If you have any requests on programs or door prizes you would like to see offered this year, let me know your ideas. 🚩

Trip Director Report

By Natasha Bowers



It looks like everyone that went to the Cayman Islands had a fabulous time. I can't wait to hear more about everyone's experiences. The club would like to announce it is heading to Turks and Caicos for a 7 day live aboard next year! More details to be announced at the next general meeting, but the dates for this trip will be August 22-29, 2026. 🚩



Secretary's Report

By Amy Hiatt



Meeting Summary

The July Board meeting focused heavily on evaluating the WeTravel trip planning software, with a detailed presentation covering its trip booking, payment processing, and supplier network capabilities. The board discussed potential adoption of the platform to streamline trip creation, participant management, and payment processing, while weighing fee structures and integration with club operations. Other topics included updates from the Grand Cayman trip, planning for future destinations like Indonesia, Turks and Caicos, and Komodo Island, as well as confirming the pig roast event for August 26th at Camp Kennedy on Lake Harrington.

Key Highlights

WeTravel presentation demonstrated features such as customizable trip pages, payment processing, supplier network tools, and membership dues tracking.

Confirmed upcoming Cozumel, and Turks and Caicos trip plans with payment schedules and deadlines.

Reviewed Grand Cayman trip experiences and gathered participant media for the August 12th meeting at Roosters.

Approved pig roast event for August 26th at Camp Kennedy on Lake Herrington.

Explored potential trips for 2026 and 2027, including Indonesia, Turks and Caicos, and Komodo Island.

Secretary's Report Cont.

Planning Ahead

Committee to search for a new dive travel partner or wholesaler to replace UDT. Decision passed to adopt WeTravel for club trip management.

Continue promoting upcoming trips and collecting media from recent trips for the newsletter and presentations.

Voted and approved Turks and Caicos trip 2026. 🚩

From the Treasurer

By Dan Miller



Student with ID, New Diver, First Year **\$10.00**

2025 Membership Renewal **\$20.00**

Student with ID
Single & Family (1 diver)
Family (non divers)
Family (2 or more divers)

Renewal: Please send payment to the address listed below, please make sure there is a correct indication of your mailing address, phone number and it is very important to indicate an email address.

Contact / Mail to: Bluegrass Dive Club c/o
Dan Miller 824 Gunpower Drive
Lexington, KY 40509

New Members: Visit the website to fill out an on-line form or to access a Microsoft Word printable form. [CLICK HERE](#). 🚩

Webmaster

By Alex Fassas



[Tales from the Watery Web](#)

Plans Don't Always Materialize

I am pretty sure that one possible definition of the human condition is that we discuss or announce many ideas and plans that often do not become a reality. I absolutely know this is and has happened in my personal life. Upon some reflection, I also see much the same thing within the Bluegrass Dive Club.

The club has tried to put together a trip to dive the Blue Heron Bridge in West Palm Beach, Florida, a return to the weekend club outing to Dale Hollow Lake, and often mentioned other local diving destinations. It seems that we have great ideas and intention but are unable to muster the follow through. I am not casting shade on myself or others, but like someone wiser than myself once said, "The solution often begins by admitting the problem. (paraphrased)".

As volunteer leaders we are in need of the help of others to see some things to fruition. We just don't know how or who to ask. If you might be that person or perhaps know that



Webmaster Cont.

person then drop me a line at webmaster@bluegrassdiveclub.com .

Help your club leadership know how to make the club experience better for everyone; even if that means I need to get out of *your* way.

Future Trip Pages and Registration

Your club is adopting a new online platform for posting club dive trips that is provided by WeTravel.com. We have reviewed the many benefits and ease of use of the We Travel booking platform and know that it will make for a much better experience that will improve; the setup of trips and various options, easier registration process, ability for a traveler to see what they have paid and what they owe and when, smoother communications with trip registrants.

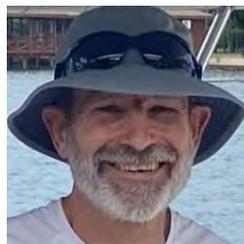
Our just approved trip will be the first to be setup with We Travel. Be on the lookout for details for a liveaboard dive trip aboard the Turks & Caicos Aggressor II from 8/22/2026 until 8/29/2026. Hold the date if you are interested. You can sneak a peek of the boat and itinerary with this link: <https://aggressor.com/destination/Turks-Caicos>

Club Pig Roast – Hosted by Priscilla and Butch Mellott

Our club's annual **Pig Roast** (yes, the club has roasted an entire pig at least once) is on Saturday, **August 23, 2026** beginning at 4:00PM EDT. Our hosts are Priscilla and Butch Mellott and the location is a new one for the club. We will be gathering at **Kamp Kennedy Marina on Herrington Lake, 4646 Kennedy Bridge Rd, Lancaster, KY 40444**. The club will be providing the meats as prepared by our host, soft drinks will be provided, if you care for any other beverage then bring your own. The rest of the food is **pot luck style, so bring a side dish or dessert to share (to serve 10-12 people)**. Hope to see you there! 🍷

Safety Information Director

By Bart Bertetto



I Got a Taste of Diving Safety from This SAFETY BITE

*My mission is to provide you relevant safety information for your use. Each article will be a bite size portion of a specific safety risk. I will draw from my experience, hopefully yours, and the dive community to highlight real risks that we must be aware of. So, if you see or hear of something that we could all learn from, please pass it to me. There is nothing like first-hand experience to drive a point home. This month's **SAFETY BITE** is:*



THAT SMALL STRAP ON TOP OF YOUR BC

Note from Bart: On a recent boat dive, the dive master helped a few people set up this strap properly. Most BCs made in the last 10 years have this strap and it's a great little innovation. Make sure you are using it right. The strap has a double function.

1. Once adjusted, it lets you set your BC onto your tank at the same height each time. No guesswork or fiddling needed. Just loop the strap over the tank valve, drop your BC down over the tank until the strap is taught, and

Safety Information Dir Cont.

you're done. Now the BC is hanging on the tank and it is easy to rotate and center the BC before latching the heavy tank restraining straps. But you need to adjust the little strap to your preferred tank height ahead of time.

2. It is also considered a safety strap. If it is taught around your tank valve, it should catch your tank if the main restraining strap slips and the tank tries to fall out. But don't plan on this. Make sure your main straps are tight and

secure! If you haven't used the BC in a awhile, it is a good idea to wet those straps before tightening them. See ya down there. 🚩



2025 BGDC Officer's

Kathryn Bowers, President	859 619-0166
Kris Harn, Vice President	859 333-6911
Amy Hiatt, Secretary	303 815-8375
Dan Miller, Treasurer	859 948-5133
Natasha Bowers, Trip Director	651 786-9574
Bart Bertetto, Safety Info Dir.	502 299-3656
Alex Fassas, Webmaster	859 582-1600
John Geddes, Newsletter	859 608-0682



Bluegrass Dive Club 2025 Calendar

August

12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
23, Saturday Club Pig Roast
26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

September

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
23, Tuesday E.C. Meeting



October

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting
25 -11/1 Cozumel Trip
28, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

November

11, Tuesday Club Meeting (Elections)
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

December

13, Saturday Christmas Party

