



# UNDERCURRENTS

Newsletter of the Bluegrass Dive Club / [www.bluegrassdiveclub.com](http://www.bluegrassdiveclub.com)

February 2026

Volume 56, Number 02

---

## Club Meeting

---

Date: February 10 2026  
Time: 7:30 Business Meeting  
7:00 Social

Location: Roosters on Richmond Rd  
Program Dive fitness and physiology

---

## President's Message

---

*By Kathryn Bowers*



As you may or may not know this month finds Alex and I out of Lexington. Several years ago, we decided to take the snowbird leap and purchase condo in South Florida. I'm currently looking out the window at a very angry sea. We escaped the icy clutches of the central Kentucky regional airport and flew down to Fort Myers last week. I have to say the aircraft parking ramp in Richmond was the second slipperiest I have ever walked on. The slipperiest was in St. John's Newfoundland so that's saying something. After getting down here and realizing how dang cold South Florida is, I'm thinking perhaps our members in Roatan had the better idea!

The grey waves crashing on the beach outside my window are more reminiscent of Iceland or somewhere on the North Sea than South Florida! It seems that anywhere on the North American continent isn't far enough south to escape this cold snap. The good news is warmer temperatures are expected next week. This is a good reminder to me of why I always lookso forward to a late February or early March Dive trip. Seriously, who doesn't think a little over a month is enough winter? I always look forward to our meetings as a break in the cold and a reason to start dreaming about sunny shores and fabulous fishes I want to visit at the earliest opportunity.

I'm looking forward to the next installment of Doc's Dive fitness and physiology talks at the meeting next week.

---

## In Memoriam

---

If any of you met Eric Anderson on the Club's 2022 Compass Point trip his wife Heather posted of his passing while snorkeling in Key West, Florida on December 30, 2025.

It is with a heavy heart I share that my soulmate, best friend and partner in life has gone home to be with Jesus. Eric loved life, his family, his friends and to make people laugh. We were living our best life together and snorkeling with friends when he likely had a heart event. Despite the best efforts of friends and the Coast Guard, they were unable to revive him. Eric always said "The good Lord is going to call me home, when the Good Lord calls me home". 🚩

---

## The Editor's Notes

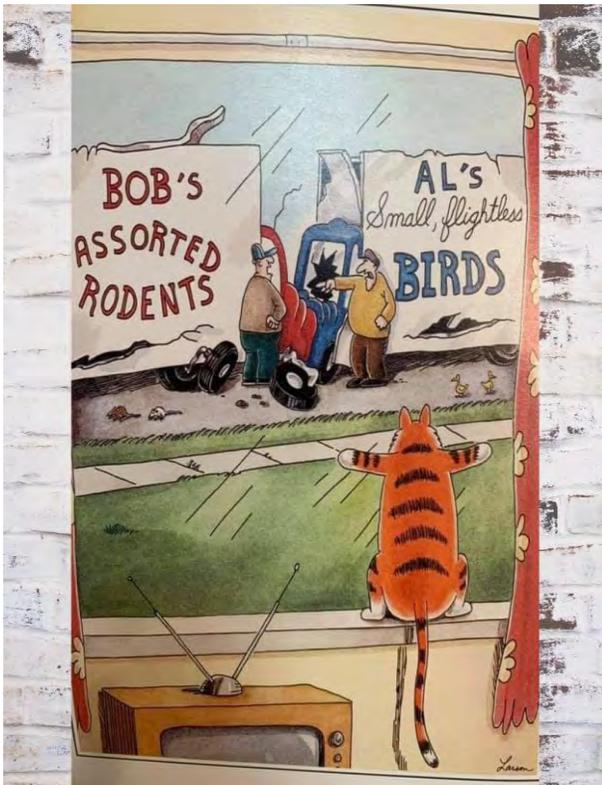
---

By Scott Newby



It's true... it is warmer down here in Roatan. But, and there is always a but, the weather systems that have wrecked havoc on the US have also caused torrential rains here. One day I believe it was 10 plus inches! Perfect for discovering a few drips here at the house lol. Thankfully the water is starting to clear up and I look forward to getting in some dives.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone who has contributed info to the newsletter and to encourage everyone to consider sending photos, links, tall tales and news that can be shared with our club. I don't know about you, but this is me when someone is sharing dive trip info:



Everyone stay safe! 🚩

---

## Aggressor Adventures Catalog

---

<https://www.aggressor.com/catalog/>

Bluegrass Dive Club is an authorized reseller for The Aggressor fleet! Dan Miller has reported that the sailings for the total eclipse in Egypt are filling up fast, and provided a links for info about the eclipse. Book Aggressor through the club and save \$\$.

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/in/egypt?iso=20270802>

The link below has some interesting eclipse trip offerings by Deep Blue Adventures.

[Big Book T&A 2026 Edition](#)

---

## Vice President Report

---

By Butch Mellott



Welcome to all new members, I will be reaching out and contacting all. At this moment in the last 60 days we've had 13 new members.

It is an exciting time to look and move forward. Opportunities for training and travel are being discussed and looked into. Input is valuable and desired....welcome to all.



---

## Trip Director Report

---

By Priscilla Mellott



The trip committee has met and we are putting together several trips to be priced. If anyone has suggestions on places or dates, please let us know. Hopefully we will have some more information soon. 🚩



Shared by Alex Fassas, Sunset Over the Gulf, Bonita Springs, FL

---

## Secretary's Report

---

*By David Carr*



## BGDC Board Meeting 01/27/2026

Board Members present:  
Kathryn Bowers President, Butch Mellot Vice President, David Carr Secretary, Dan Miller Treasurer, Priscilla Mellott Trip Director, Alex Fassas Webmaster and Scott Newby newsletter Editor. Bill "Doc" McGrady Safety Information Director was unable to attend. Meeting occurred over the Zoom and called to order by Kathryn Bowers at 7:04pm with a quorum present. The Agenda was approved. David Carr had emailed minutes from 01/13/2026 board meeting which were reviewed and approved. Dan Miller reviewed the financial report with current balance of \$20,953.73. New members are the only activity. Turks and Caicos trip for members yields them a 40% discount through Aggressor. Additionally, club members receive additional 15% discount.

## New Business

Butch presented that we have 13 new members. Discussion about whether or not new members need to be approved. Butch and Alex will welcome new members. VP gets new members a license plate.

New members can apply online or in person at meeting. Getting membership payment defines real intent. Dan typically follows up to determine interest. Coordinate with Alex introductions through newsletter. Membership database to be tested beginning of February.

## New topic

Board will investigate liability of club, board, and individuals. This exposure to be investigated relative to training, travel, PADI, and

SSI (association with dive center).

Butch and Alex will investigate the liability issue and best course for action to take for club and individuals benefit.

Changing Board Meeting and possibly Club meeting schedule. Changing Club meeting date would involve changing agreement with Roosters or finding a different venue.

Tentative plan would be to change the board meeting first, to 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, 2/26/2026 and 03/26/2026.

Club meetings to be moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. These changes to be discussed at the next club meeting and coordinate with Roosters.

## Travel Committee report

Members include Priscilla (board officer), Cindy K, Carol RC, and Lavon L. First meeting forthcoming.

Scott will include info about TSA/REAL ID relative to upcoming travel.

Responses on Dive Destination questionnaire to be tabulated and results sent to Butch and presented at next dive meeting. Those who have not responded to questionnaire to be contacted once more for best possible membership sampling. 🚩

---

## 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 Gunpowder 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](#)

### Greetings From Sunny Southwest Florida

Following the Central Kentucky snowmageddon event of January 2026, we departed like the snowbirds that we have become for Bonita Springs, Florida. We were met with low temperatures of 36 degrees and highs of 55. Although 20 to 25 degrees warmer than Kentucky, it is unseasonably cold here. I am not complaining nor rubbing

anyone's nose in this news. Just the facts ma'am. If only we had sought winter refuge in Roatan, Honduras where Angela and Scott Newby have built a home. They are enduring temps in the 80's.

### UPDATE - DAN or Dive Assure Membership and Dive & Travel Insurance

This is a follow-up based upon questions and suggestions from our January club meeting. If you already have a DAN membership or dive accident or travel insurance, you can contact DAN Customer Service and ask them to link your member account or policy # to the Bluegrass Dive Club, Inc.'s partner DAN ID # 3219835. You can reach DAN Customer Service at [member@DAN.org](mailto:member@DAN.org) or 919-684-2948.

If you already have a Dive Assure membership or insurance policy, you can contact Dive Assure Customer Service and ask them to link your member account or policy # to the Bluegrass Dive Club, Inc.'s partner ID # 752. You can reach Dive Assure Customer Service at [members@diveassure.com](mailto:members@diveassure.com) or 866-898-0921.

Your club is a partner with both DAN (Divers Alert Network) and Dive Assure for membership, dive accident, and travel insurance protection products. There is ZERO additional cost to YOU when you use our partner links to purchase their offerings. A recent purchase of trip insurance by two club members has generated \$281.00 in partner rewards for our club. Something they were going to purchase anyway and it cost them the same amount to use the club's partner link when purchasing. More information about the club's partners and links at <https://bluegrassdiveclub.com/dive-travel-insurance/>



## Webmaster Cont.

Do you have news or a program to share?

Your dive club has a fabulous email list with which to share news and information that would be of interest to its members and friends. If you have something to share forward it along to [webmaster@bluegrassdiveclub.com](mailto:webmaster@bluegrassdiveclub.com) or use the Contact Us web form.

## Important New TSA Info!

### NOTICE

TSA ConfirmID Alert: Travelers without an acceptable form of ID must pay a \$45 fee.

Read all about it here:

[Home | Transportation Security Administration](#)

What you don't know could cost you

# \$45!

## Bluegrass Dive Club 2026 Calendar

### February

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### March

10, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### April

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

### May

2, Saturday Club's Derby Party  
12, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
26, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### June

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

### July

7, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
21, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### August

11, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
??, Saturday Club Pig Roast  
25, Tuesday E.C. Meeting



### September

8, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
22, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### October

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
28, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### November

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

### December

??, Saturday Christmas Party

---

## 2026 BGDC Officer's

---

Kathryn Bowers, President	859 619-0166
Butch Mellott, Vice President	859 621-5160
David Carr, Secretary	859 585-5105
Dan Miller, Treasurer	859 948-5133
Priscilla Mellott, Trip Director	859 553-0739
Bill McGrady, Safety Info Dir.	713 259-9701
Alex Fassas, Webmaster	859 582-1600
Scott Newby, Newsletter	859 559-5105

## USA Dive Show Calendar for 2026

- [Boston Sea Rovers](#)  
14–15 March 2026 | Danvers,  
Massachusetts, USA  
A diver-led show with deep roots  
in exploration, photography, and  
education.
- [Beneath the Sea](#)  
27–29 March 2026 | Secaucus,  
New Jersey, USA  
One of the North America's  
longest running consumer dive  
shows with strong education  
programming.
- [Scuba Show Long Beach](#)  
30–31 May 2026 | Long Beach,  
California, USA  
The West Coast's major dive  
expo with heavy retail and  
training presence.
- [Scuba Show Atlantic City](#)  
6–7 June 2026 | Atlantic City,  
New Jersey, USA  
New for 2026. Designed to reach

East Coast divers unable to travel  
west.

- [DEMA Show](#)  
3–6 November 2026 | New  
Orleans, Louisiana, USA  
The world's largest trade-only  
diving industry event. Business-  
critical for brands and agencies.

The [Travel & Adventure Show](#) series  
is held in 10 cities during 2026. There  
are many dive-related entities listed  
among the exhibitors. Perhaps one of  
the show dates on their website will  
pique your interest ([travelshows.com](http://travelshows.com)).

