



NEWS BITES

Upcoming Events

We have a few events coming up that we hope everyone will join:

- Recreational Charters (March 9, April 13)
- Point Lobos Invitational (April 27)

Thanks to Outgoing President Mark Lloyd

After 6 solid years of volunteer work on behalf of BAUE, Mark Lloyd has decided to resign from the board of directors. Mark has been our president for the past two years, and has been working diligently to build an infrastructure for Project Baseline for our local GUE community. He established a presence for BAUE on Facebook, and was the driving force behind a number of ongoing BAUE activities including the 2011 Pt Lobos Trail Map Project. Prior to being president, he was responsible for compiling our annual project webpages, and publishing the



BAUE newsletter. Mark's positive energy and sunny personality will be missed by the board. Fortunately, he's not going anywhere-- he'll be managing Project Baseline Project and we'll be seeing him at the ocean diving regularly on our Escapade charters and at Pt Lobos! We wish him all the best in his personal & professional endeavors as well as his flourishing martial arts career.

Call for Volunteer Director

We are looking for a volunteer to join the BAUE Board of Directors.

The BAUE board is an entirely volunteer group and works together to ensure that BAUE continues to achieve excellence in our endeavours. Board members have a wide array of responsibilities and are expected to contribute to conceiving, facilitating, and executing BAUE projects and events, setting

future direction, resolving membership issues, and serving as a voice of the membership at-large. Board members should expect to dedicate a significant amount of time to fulfilling these duties, including attending regular (monthly) board meetings as well as taking on various administrative, organizational or project tasks.

BAUE directors contribute in a number of ways and tasks are often shared or redistributed, so a measure of flexibility is required as a board member. Presently, one area that we would like to strengthen is the cultivation of new members. Ideally we would like a director to serve as a point of reference for new members, to proactively welcome divers and engage them in our many group activities.

If you are interested in serving as a BAUE Director, and believe you can help us continue to grow and flourish, please contact the board via directors@baue.org

Statement of Financial Position 2012

Some members have requested greater transparency of BAUE's financials. So we will be publishing this information annually, starting with the close of 2012.

BAUE 2012 Summary Financial Position		00's	Hoyo Negro 2012 Summary Financial Position	
Beginning of the Year Funds		8,200	Beginning of the Year	17,000
Receipts		13,000	Receipts	38,400
Expenditures		12,800	Expenditures	55,400
End of the Year Funds		8,400	End of the Year	100
Major Sources of Funds:			Hoyo Negro Sources of Funds	
Membership Contributions and Additional Gifts		4,600		38,400
Project, Invitational and Class Contributions		4,600	National Geo Graphic	34,600
Contributions to CSUMB Mapping		3,700	Participants	3,800
Interest		100		
		<u>13,000</u>		
Major Uses of Funds:			Hoyo Negro Uses of Funds	
PayPal fees		200	Project Participant Costs	29,500
Member Contribution to CSUMB		4,600	Equipment	<u>25,900</u>
BAUE CSUMB Contribution		400		55,400
2012 Member Gift - T-shirts		1,200		
Project, Invitational and Class Costs		6,200		
Misc other		<u>200</u>		
		12,800		

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Fundraising for the Pacific Grove Hyberbaric Chamber

by Robert Lee

The hyperbaric chamber in Pacific Grove (maintained by the city) has been inoperational for some time now due to funding issues. The chamber itself requires repairs and while the funding exists to effect

those repairs, the city needs assurances of continual funding (to the tune of \$10k/year) from the diving community in order to commit to making the repairs and staffing and operating the chamber.

There are potentially a number of avenues that may be worth exploring longer-term in terms of securing annual funding for the chamber (e.g. the Catalina model); those are still being discussed and debated. In the meantime, there have been a number of calls for donations, etc. within the larger dive community as a whole in order to get the ball rolling.

With the amount and scope of diving that we as a group are conducting, it is clear that having a chamber accessible is an invaluable contingency resource. BAUE is collecting donations from our members (or anybody) and aggregating them into a lump-sum contribution from BAUE.

The board has agreed to support this endeavour, and Suzanne has volunteered to collect, earmark and distribute the donations (via paypal or check. We have set up a click-through link to paypal specifically for chamber donations, but if you are donating by check, please make it clear in the 'Memo' section what the donation is ear-marked for. The paypal link is available at <http://www.baue.org/finance/payments.php>

As a personal note, I know that there are a lot of expenses and ways to leak money in this hobby, but I would ask you to strongly consider a contribution of any amount toward restoring this important resource.

FEATURES

Incorporating GUE Concepts into Non-GUE Training

by John Heimann

As a dive instructor who has been teaching for more than 15 years, but who has been affiliated with GUE for nearly that long, I have often thought about how one can align GUE principles and training with non-GUE dive training. I have come to the conclusion that GUE personal diving and non-GUE instruction don't have to conflict, and one can apply GUE concepts to non-GUE training in a way that does not undermine (and even supports) the objectives of GUE.

One of the first questions that confronts a non-GUE instructor who becomes affiliated with GUE is whether it is professionally ethical to continue to offer non-GUE training. Shouldn't one preach what one practices? This question did not arise when I started teaching scuba, since GUE did not offer a recreational certification, and students undertaking the lowest level of GUE training (then called DIR-F) were required to be open water certified through some other training agency. In recent years, GUE has introduced a recreational dive certification program, which assumes no prior dive training and provides an open water certification that incorporates GUE-F level training. Given that GUE offers this class, is

there a legitimate role for non-GUE training? I believe the answer is still yes, since there are still a limited number of GUE instructors in many parts of the world, and GUE Recreational training requires a significantly higher level of student commitment in time and money than non-GUE open water training. Many potential students who are interested in diving may not be ready to commit to GUE training for their first scuba course, but then go on to take GUE training and become members of the GUE community.



How can one align GUE principles with non-GUE training? To begin with, non-GUE instructors who have GUE training can inform open water students that GUE training exists, and is a good option for more advanced training, is their preferred choice for cave and technical training, and is an ideal basis for project-oriented diving. Moreover, instructors can describe the environmental, research, and

exploration goals of GUE, and the benefits of GUE membership. GUE-trained instructors can expose students to basic GUE gear and concepts even at the open water level, though limitations on class time for a typical open water course usually do not allow in depth discussion of these. It is often not possible to require students to use GUE compliant equipment in open water training as most facilities do not stock this equipment in their rental inventories. Instructors and divemasters, however, can usually use GUE compliant gear themselves when teaching, and explain some of the benefits of their gear configuration to students, especially if the training facility offers this gear for sale.

Instructors can note the benefits of team diving, and uniform gear, training, and procedures within a dive team, at the open water level, and can also demand a minimum level of buoyancy competence from their students. It is all too common for instructors to overweight their students, since instructors typically teach basic skills to students while students (and even instructors themselves) kneel on the bottom, since over-weighted students are easier for the instructor to keep under control. I believe this practice undermines the ability of many students to develop acceptable buoyancy control, and insist that students are properly weighted in class. I stress that good buoyancy control and trim are critical skills for any diver, and point out that good buoyancy and trim are the best way to demonstrate comfort and experience in the water to potential buddies, instructors, and dive guides. I urge students to keep careful track of the weight they use in their first 50 +/- dives, and to recheck their weighting often as they get more comfortable and experienced, so that they use the minimum weight necessary while diving. I also believe it's important as an instructor to demonstrate neutral buoyancy and trim

while teaching and demonstrating skills, and not to kneel on the bottom as many instructors do. Instructors can also note that air, while convenient for training dives, is never the best choice for real world diving, and encourage students to get nitrox training as soon as possible.

Advanced open water classes provide more opportunity to introduce GUE concepts to students. By the time students are ready to take an advanced open water or deep class, they often have started to purchase their own gear and are not constrained to use rental gear available in the shop. At that point, instructors can emphasize the general benefits of consistent gear within a dive team, and the particular benefits of a harness, backplate and wing configuration, of a long hose, of canister lights, jet fins, etc. Instructors can also recheck student buoyancy, weighting, and trim, and carefully remind students of the in-water process for determining correct weighting. Open water students have often been taught to use weighting rules like "use 10 percent of your weight plus 5 pounds in a full wetsuit," which are usually inaccurate.

For deep dive training, which the recreational dive community defines as in excess of 60', instructors can emphasize the limitations of air as breathing gas, the importance of knowing, and respecting, minimum gas constraints, the importance of controlled ascents, the need for pre-dive planning and checks, and the need to do S drills and practice gas sharing with buddies. I insist that students be able to plan dive profiles without relying a computer, since many students forget how to do this immediately after open water training (if they ever learned how to do it). I require deep diving students to be nitrox certified, which means they have been exposed to basic concepts of partial pressure, oxygen toxicity, and maximum operational depth. These concepts provides a good foundation for introducing the concepts of equivalent narcotic depth and the desirability of using helium in the breathing mix for dives greater than 100'. I then recommend that students pursue GUE technical training if they are interested in diving deeper than 100'.

While non-GUE instructors cannot generally offer the full scope of training offered by GUE classes, I believe that those instructors do not have to be in conflict with GUE principles when teaching non-GUE classes. Instructors who believe in GUE's approach to diving can introduce students to GUE concepts, and can encourage them to pursue GUE training and membership in the GUE community, even in the context of training through other agencies than GUE.

GoPro3 Black Edition Review

by Kevin Dow

I recently had the opportunity to upgrade my video system from a GoPro Hero 2 to a GoPro Hero 3 Black edition and wanted to pass on my basic thoughts and give some resources useful for research of the product.

With the release of the GoPro 3, there are now three editions of the product. In ascending order of features and cost the cameras are named White, Silver and Black. The GoPro 3 is now lighter and thinner than the GoPro 2 and the buttons controlling the device are larger and more ergonomic. In addition, all of the devices now come with Wi-Fi integrated into the device. One can use a handheld remote to control the device or even download a free app and control the camera via your iPhone.



While the White and Silver editions are in the new smaller form factor and have the Wi-Fi built in, they are still using the same sensor from the GoPro 2. Thus one will not see much improvement in picture quality over the prior version.

The Black edition, while is the most expensive, comes with an upgraded sensor that provides a noticeable improvement in low light performance. In addition, the GoPro 3 Black can shoot in resolutions as high as 4K at 15 frames per second. This though is of limited utility as there really are not any TVs out that could display such a high resolution and few computers are suited to edit video as such high resolutions. At more realistic resolution, the GoPro 3 Black can shoot video at 1080p at up to 60 frames per second.

With the GoPro 3, they have changed the storage medium. It now uses a Micro SD chip and requires the chip to be at least class a 10 device. The owner will need to purchase this separately from the camera. I would recommend getting the largest size Micro SD available (64Gb) and choosing from a reputable manufacturer.

All versions of the GoPro 3 now come with an underwater housing rated to 197'/60m so this will not need to be an extra purchase.

For those divers looking to purchase a new video system, I would recommend the GoPro 3 Black edition over the White or Silver editions. Though more expensive than the others, the increased sensitivity of the sensors along with the higher resolutions make it well worth the cost.

For those divers who already have a GoPro 2, the case for upgrade is a bit tougher to make. There is little to recommend the White/Silver edition over the GoPro 2 and they may find the cost for the Black edition a bit too steep for the extra features they would receive.

Below are some further resources on the GoPro Cameras.

Tested.com review of the GoPro 3: <http://youtu.be/fHieo4iNmCE>

Side-by-side comparison of video quality between a GoPro 2 and GoPro 3: <http://youtu.be/szjuBzkxnh8>

An underwater video made with:

- GoPro 2: <http://tinyurl.com/byshgcm>
- GoPro 3 Black in a cave - <http://youtu.be/Hgx0UI02aeQ>
- GoPro 3 Black in open water - <http://youtu.be/y32di8BzA-E>

MEMBER TRAVEL

New Year's in Florida

by Allison Lee

In what has become an annual tradition, Rob, Kevin and I spent New Year's in Florida doing some cave diving. This year, Matt and Leah were also in Florida over the holiday. We mostly dove the usual "tourist" caves on this trip. However, we managed to do a lot of new-to-us dives even at caves we've been to many times before. We ventured a bit further afield one day, and went to Emerald Sink, a Tallahassee cave which has one of the nicest cavern/open water zones of any site I have dived in Florida. The sink is large and drops down to about 100'. On the day that we dived it, the viz was excellent, so you looking up for 70', you could see the branches of the trees hanging over the surface of the water. This dive site requires a stop at Wakulla Springs State Park in order to pick up and drop off the key. This is a good excuse to take a little walk around Wakulla, though with temperatures in the thirties, we only took a very quick walk. Kevin experimented with his new Hero3 with his primary light plus a video reflector, and got surprisingly good results, especially at Madison where he got some great footage of the clay banks in the Courtyard. I realized during the trip that it has been a really long time since I've done a cave dive with Team Kitty proper, so it was good (and easy!) to do six straight days of diving with Rob and Kevin.

In addition to the diving, we met up with lots of GUE friends from all over, including John and Rachel Kendall (from the UK) and Karim and Heather Hamza (of SoCal) plus all of the usual Florida residents, and ate more than enough BBQ to get the year started off right.

MEMBER NEWS

Member Statistics

64 paid, 11 honorary

New members:

Greg Saiz, Fofu Gonzalez, Claude Luu, Jon McNeil

New Certifications/Classes

Fundies checkoffs

Fofu Gonzales

Ian Lee

Teresa Luther

Rec 3

Suzanne Baird

Greg Nyce

Andrew Yasinsky

Cave 2

Leah Vieta

Matt Vieta

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