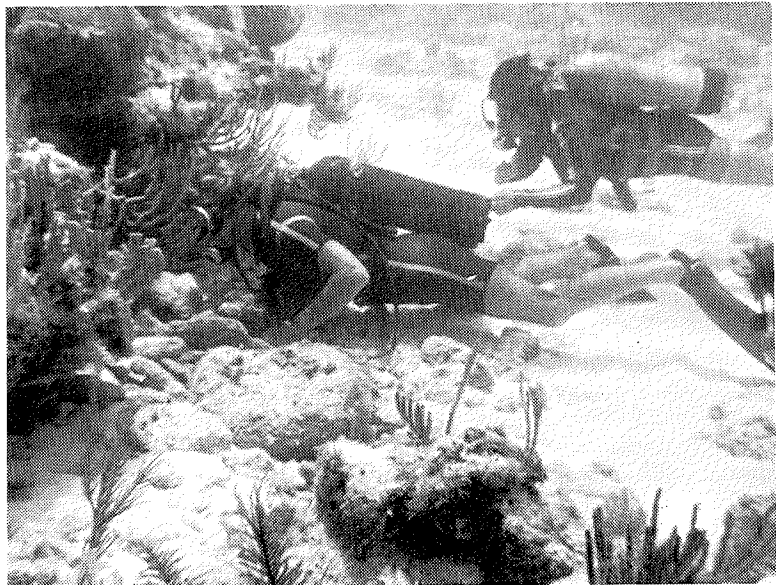


"VOICE OF THE SOUTHWEST COUNCIL"

VOLUME 1—No. 10

May, 1971



Aqua Sports Dive-In May 22-23

The Aqua Sports Diving Club will sponsor the next southwest council sanctioned contest at L.C.R.A. Park on Lake Travis.

This contest will be similar to the last aqua sports contest in that it will offer something for every diver, young or old.

Spearfishing will naturally be the prime event, with a treasure hunt and a junior contest sharing the highlights.

The spearfishing will be governed by the southwest council constitution and by-laws, and will be a sanctioned event. Entry fee this year will be \$4 and will also entitle the entrant to the door prize drawings.

The treasure hunt will be a non-sanctioned event. This event will be handled similar to the event last year with quality prizes being awarded for places. Last year, remember that, aqua sports awarded a tank and regulator as 2 of those prizes. Entry fee — \$3.

Treasure hunt rules will be much the same as last years. The diver collecting the most treasures wins. Ties will be broken by a coin flip. Treasure hunt divers are also entitled to the door prize drawing.

The junior contest will be aqua sports attempt at something new.

Last year we tried a photography contest and received three entries. This year we intend to offer the young man, or young lady that is a certified diver, a chance to compete for three places. The rules for this event are not yet finalized, and will be announced at the dive.

In order to participate, the diver must be 12 years old thru 15 years old. He, or she, must be a certified diver and must be accompanied by a parent or acceptable substitute. Parents must approve of this event. Aqua sports will not be held responsible for junior divers competing in this event. Junior divers must be equipped with a horse collar safety float.

These rules are the only ones yet finalized — again changes or additions will be covered at the dive. Entry fee for this contest will be \$2.

The young people in our club are looking forward to this event and encourage participation from the young people of other clubs.

The junior event will be held Saturday afternoon starting at 1:00 p.m. and will run until 4:00 p.m. This gives dad or mom a chance to check the lake.

The spearfishing and treasure

(Continued on Page 3)

Rough Fish Round Up

The Lone Star Divers will host the annual Rough Fish Round Up on June 13, at Sandy Beach, Possum Kingdom Lake. Registration will begin Saturday night, June 12, at 5:00 p.m. and continue until 8:00 p.m. Roll call will be at 7:45 Sunday morning, June 13. The contest will start at 8:00 a.m. Contest fees are \$4.00.

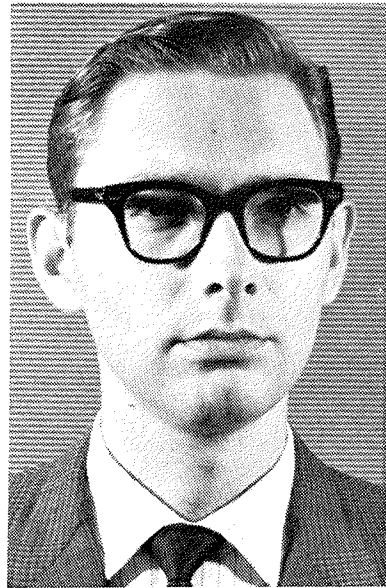
Immediately following the weigh-in Miss Southwest Council and Junior Miss Southwest Council will be selected from among the club entries.



The last meeting Aqua Sports had was at the dive shop on April 21, with twenty members present. We had as our guest, Wayne Mathewson. He brought us up to date on the recent council meeting. We are well on our way to a good contest May 22 and 23. We will have a Junior non-sanctioned spearfishing contest on the 22 of May. So Junior Divers from 12 years of age to 15 come join in the fun. There will be trophies for these Junior Divers. The 23 of May we will have a sanctioned spearfishing contest running consecutive with a non-sanctioned treasure hunt. We have some very nice prizes of the treasure hunt and some beautiful trophies for the spearfishing contest. Let's all hope for beautiful weather. See you at the contest at Lake Travis.

Carolyn Wearherman

Artificial Ocean



Editor's Note: Michael C. Robinson will publish a series of articles concerning Marine Biology. Mr. Robinson received his B.S. and M.S., in Marine Biology from Texas A&M College, is a Fellow in the International Academy of Fishery Scientist (a professional fellowship of Scientist based in Rome, Italy) has published several periodicals including a text on Marine Biology, presently teaches Geological Sciences at Tarrant County Junior College in Fort Worth, Texas. His field of instruction includes: Environmental Biology, General Biology, Comparative Anatomy and Anatomy and Physiology.

The following report is on his research and development of an artificial ocean used to keep sharks alive.

by Michael Robinson

During recent years, the elasmobranch fishes have become increasingly more important as research animals, particularly in the fields of medical and paramedical experimentation. Their

peculiar combination of primitive and specialized characteristics have made them valuable experimental specimens in the fields of physiology, immunology, biochemical nutrition, salt and water metabolism, and certain areas of pharmacology. Unfortunately, they represent a paradox in that, although they are extremely hardy animals over a short span of time, they are also among the most sensitive to changes in environmental conditions and very difficult to maintain in captivity. The best results have been obtained when a constant source of natural, filtered running seawater was available. Most synthetic seawater formulas have been unsuccessful in keeping sharks alive over long periods of time. This is particularly significant when laboratory facilities are located any considerable distance from the ocean. The problem, then, arises of constructing an inexpensive artificial seawater formula capable of simulating the natural environment in which the research specimens have been taken.

Beginning in 1965, I have attempted to maintain in captivity those sharks normally found along the Texas coast — the Atlantic Sharpnose, the Blacktip, and the Bonnetnose sharks. A variety of synthetic seawater formulas have been used, but all have failed. All the sharks died after varying lengths of time, usually with no outward signs of trauma or disease, although autopsies indicated advanced stages of severe anoxia and some tissue degeneration due to a lack of oxygen. This was of particular interest, since the tanks wherein the sharks were held had continuous oxygenation and chemical analysis were held had con-

(Continued on Page 3)

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Aqua Sports		
Dive In	May 22-23	Lake Travis
Lone Star		
Rough Fish Round Up		
Miss SWC & Jr. Miss	June 12-13	Possum Kingdom
Orca Tamers	Aug. 7-8	Lake Travis
Lawton Divers	Sept. 4-5-6	Lake Murray

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ARDENT DIVERS

OKLAHOMA SCUBA DIVERS

June 5-6	Lake Greeson, Damsite Area
	Kirby, Arkansas
July 31-Aug. 1	Greers Ferry Lake
	Heber Springs Public Use Area
	Heber Springs, Arkansas
August 14-15	Lake Texoma, Soldiers Creek Area
	5 mi. South Kingston, Oklahoma

MISS SWC CONTEST Jr. Miss June 13

This year the Lone Star Divers will again sponsor the Miss Southwest Council and Jr. Miss Southwest Council Beauty Contests in conjunction with their spear fishing contest on June 13, 1971 at Sandy Beach, Possum Kingdom Lake. The Beauty Contests are Southwest Council sponsored events.

Each club in the Southwest Council should pick a representative from their club to be judged in the Beauty Contest. The Jr. Miss representative should not be over 14 years of age, and both representatives should be a mem-

ber of a diving club in the Council. Also, it is advisable to choose an alternate for each group. The judging will take place at Sandy Beach at 12:30 p.m. The judges will be selected from officers of the Southwest Council as they have in prior years.

The winner of the 1970 Miss SWC title was Gaye Wiley who is pictured at the right as she received an orchid corsage at the convention dinner dance. Teresa Rhodd was the winner of the 1970 Jr. Miss SWC title. At press time we were unable to come up with a picture of Teresa.



Gaye Wiley

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The Editorial Page of the Slate

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Area 6 Report

The East Texas Aquanauts have been busy these past few months. Through the hard work of the club members and much publicity, the Texas Gar Rodeo was a success. We were disappointed to find out the Council had cancelled the Gar Rodeo, but in view of the preparations already made, the club decided to host the event anyway. Fifty-nine divers, only four from the SWC, entered the contest.

In a recent meeting, the Aquanauts decided to sponsor the Texas Gar Rodeo again in December. Preparations for this contest will begin soon, and more details will follow. It is hoped that this contest will be SWC sanctioned.

This Easter Sunday, a group of ten divers from the East Texas Aquanauts searched for colored eggs on the bottom of Mrs. B. A. Skipper's Lake in Longview. Each diver brought one dozen Easter eggs to be thrown in the lake. Of the 120 eggs thrown in, 101 were recovered. Aubrey McElroy was proclaimed the Underwater Bunny of the Year because he found 22 eggs and Mike Young captured 2nd place with 19 eggs. Two beautiful hand painted trophies were presented to the lucky bunnies by our president, Horst Seeger. Horst, incidentally, won the booby prize, a giant chocolate Easter egg, for the least number of eggs. He considered himself lucky to find one. Meanwhile, on the land, the wives and children of the divers had an Easter egg hunt of their own. After most of the eggs had been found, the underwater egg hunters and the land egg hunters settled back under the huge pecan trees for a barbecue dinner. The event was covered by KLTU-TV news.

Several members of the Aquanauts attended the I. D. A. Buffalo Blast at Possum Kingdom Lake. The buffalo weren't on schedule, though, and they weren't running. Our divers weren't alone in their bad luck, however, as nobody else shot any buffalo.

The East Texas Aquanauts are planning several activities for the near future including a treasure hunt and a couple of night dives in Mrs. Skipper's lake's clear water. If you have any information concerning your private or club activities in Area 6, which includes all East Texas and West Louisiana, please contact me at 1806 Beht Dr., Longview, Texas 75601. Paul Canon, Area 6 vice president.

Paul Canon
Area 6, V.P.

Area 1 Report

American Airlines Divers had a very interesting meeting this past month. They showed the movie "The Bay of Gold." This is a story on the building of the Golden Gate Bridge the expense and lives lost building this bridge. They also had a movie on whale hunting and fishing.

Aqua Sports are in the middle of planning their contest May 22 and 23. Looks like a wonderful dive, don't forget it. They have all their members involved working out every detail. This will also be the first dive this year with a Junior Non-Sanctioned Contest.

Dallas Divers are in the process of planning their trip to Cabo San Lucas in July. They have twenty seven divers planning on making this trip. I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Lumley for inviting my wife and I and our guests, Bob and Louise Lackey, to their house party. We had a most enjoyable time.

LHDM had their monthly meeting this April and their intertainment for the evening were some slides shown by Hilton Quine. They were some slides he has made over the past three years. The Texins have just completed a training class of over seventy students who are now certified divers, ready to go explore the silent world.

Wayne Mathewson
Area 1 Vice President



Diving with UNEXSO



by Judy Crouch

Freeport, Grand Bahama Island, boasts one of the world's most complete diving facilities. The Grand Bahama Underwater Explorers Society (UNEXSO) maintains a spacious club that provides the vacationing diver with a complete dive shop including plenty of rental gear, health spa and sauna, snack bar and lounge, and the Jacques Cousteau Museum.

In addition to their pool which overlooks a blue channel lined with sparkling resort hotels, they have an 18' training tank with windows for sight-seers and dry photographers. All the UNEXSO personnel are NAUI instructors and conduct intensive 5-day NAUI certification classes regularly. For non-diving tourists they offer a 3-hour crash course which qualifies them for a temporary diving permit.

The pools are flanked on one side by wings of guest rooms and on the other by gear-storage

lockers and the docks. One large boat with a roomy cabin handles
(Continued on Page 4)

From The President

Congratulations are in order for the Texins, who put on another excellent dive. Ed Ralston and his partner seem to be the men to beat. They had over one hundred pounds of total weight.

The Aquasports dive on May 22-23 is the next one up. A special event is a non-sanctioned treasure hunt for Juniors 12-15. This is a pilot for a future Junior Division, so let's see a lot of participation.

A meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Texins dive. It was decided that, in the future, members of other councils will be welcome at our dives, but they may compete only for trophies, not for points, unless they are members of the SWC.
(Continued on Page 4)

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Photo Credits

In the last two issues of the Slate we have had some fine pictures at the disposal of the editor. These pictures were made by BERT SMITH of PADL. Normal courtesy dictates that credit be given for photos. This I neglected to do. My apologies to Bert and thanks for the pictures.

Along this line I often get pictures with photographer unknown. Contributors who want the pictures credited to the proper person are requested to show "photo by xxxxx."

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—ARTIFICIAL OCEAN (Continued from Page 1)

tinuous oxygenation and chemical analysis of the water indicated adequate levels of dissolved oxygen in the system. The possibility that water temperature had caused the deaths was ruled out due to a continuous monitoring thermostatic setup that maintained temperatures in the system at or very near 76° F, a temperature already established as compatible with elasmobranch metabolism. The only source of variability left was judged to be the ionic chemical content of the water. For that reason, a careful study was initiated of water samples taken from the collection sites off Galveston, Texas. The observed analyses were then combined with data taken from the literature and a series of formulas were constructed in an effort to approximate as closely as possible the seawater from which the sharks were taken.

Although a detailed discussion of the chemical makeup of Texas coastal waters is in appropriate here, it is of interest to note that the chemical analysis indicated significant variations from published analyses of water samples taken from Florida, Mississippi, and California. The formula included here was attempted rather early in the experimentation and proved to be of marginal success. However, when modified after a table published by Dr. Eugene Agalides of the General Dynamics Corporation, it proved

to be the most successful. Blacktip and Sharpnose sharks were kept for over ten months and the Bonnetnose sharks were kept alive for almost six months. The formula was used in a plexiglas container with glass wool and charcoal filters for the oxygenated water.

All water was oxygenated in a separate container with a filtering system to remove oil and impurities from the air before bubbling it through the water. The was then filtered before passing it into the main tank. The oxygen was kept at 3.5—4.0 mg/L and the pH was kept between 7.5—8.3. A thermostatic control system was used to keep the temperature at 76°F + 4°. The total circulation rate was 1½ times per hour and the entire

(Continued on Page 4)

—Dive-In

(Continued from Page 1)

hunt will run from 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning until 1:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Door prize drawings will follow awards. You must be present at the end of the contest in order to receive door prizes.

Aqua sports encourages participation from all divers in these events. The spearfishing is limited to council members, but the treasure hunt and junior division are open to all divers. Safety is always stressed at aqua sports events and club appointed lake marshalls will check for safety flotation vests.

Join us in this eventful weekend of diving. See you there.

Jim Kitterman
For Aqua Sports

Waco Diving Class

Seven more divers for the old area III of the S.W.C. were recently certified at the Waco Y.M.C.A.

The Y.M.C.A. divers certification course was sponsored by the Waco Y.M.C.A. and was taught by Jim Kitterman, Y.M.C.A. and S.C.I.P. instructor.

Most of these students were experienced divers who had not previously obtained a certification. The class was taught on weekends with the lecture portions in the mornings and the pool work on afternoons.

Upon completion of the course, the students were given a packet on how to organize a diving club. Included in this packet was a sample set of club constitutions and by-laws around which

they could, if they so desired, form a club nucleus. The southwest council organization was explained to these students and they were encouraged to join in these events even if a club was not formed. Students were derived from the Waco and Hillsboro areas as well as the Waco Fire Department.

The next class for the Waco area has been scheduled for the end of July at the Waco Y.M.C.A. Interested parties in that area should contact the Waco Y.M.C.A. or Jim Kitterman at (817) 254-5920, Irving, Texas.

Jim has also indicated that he is interested in teaching classes in other outlying areas or cities. Interested parties should contact the above number.

Senior Divers

Train at Larry's

Larry's Dive Shop has recently started possibly one of the finest divers courses in the Dallas-Fort Worth Area.

Having established an excellent certification course, owner Larry Cleghorn and instructor Jim Kitterman put their heads together and developed what they believe to be a senior course that will offer every certified diver something new and interesting. Emphasis for this course has been placed on physical fitness and enjoyment of our water sport.

The course has been designed to accept applicants on a continuing basis. No dates have been established; therefore, any person wishing to take this senior course may enroll at any time. Requirements have been established and as the applicant completes one phase he can go on to the next exercise. Having completed all requirements, he is then certified as a senior diver.

The present course offers requirements in underwater cartography, salvage, breath control, lifesaving, underwater problems, compass problems, night dives as well as pool and lake exercises.

Initial course requirements follow the S.C.I.P. senior divers program and include all of the above exercises prior to completion of the course.

Also included in this course, at no cost to the students, is the American Red Cross Senior Lifesaving which is required for all instructor candidates.

Divers are required to furnish all equipment necessary for the completion of this course. Air is furnished by the dive shop. Divers logs and certifications are required or approved S.C.I.P. exceptions.

Persons desiring information on this course should contact Larry Cleghorn at Larry's Dive Shop, 282-5031 or Jim Kitterman, 254-5920.

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—UNEXSO (Continued from Page 2)

the daily diving schedule while a number of smaller, open boats await the busy students. Convenient to the dock is the vast array of rental equipment and handy hoses for rinsing your personal gear. Also on the grounds are a complete photo lab, biology lab and library.

There are three trips scheduled per day beginning with the deepest early in the morning. The deep reef, as they call it, offers fish population to depths of 80'. The noon dive is extremely shallow to 20'; I prefer to call it the "Snorkelers Special." The water is bright and clear here and brilliant yellow and purple sea fans carpet the ocean floor interrupted every few feet by fire coral and stately staghorn — a lovely garden.

The afternoon dive is spiced up by exploration of the Perry Foundation's underwater habitat which is being tested for eventual public use. UNEXSO plans to offer the average diver an opportunity for saturation diving—sounds great!

Reservations for these trips must be made at least a day in advance. For exploring the Blue Holes or other specific locations, advance corresponding and planning are a necessity.

The staff offers plenty of assistance with questions about photography, and they rent photographic equipment too. Since spear-fishing, shell-picking and

—From the President

(Continued from Page 2)
In order for team members to receive points all members of the team must be members of the Southwest Council.

All Area V.P.'s and Club Presidents are urged to get the names and addresses of their Constitutional Committee members to Ben Sleigh at once. We need to get this committee working as soon as possible. (Ben Sleigh: 1621 Mayflower, Irving, Texas 75060).

Any suggestion or propositions that you want the Executive Council to consider, send them to me or your Area V.P. The Executive Council has been elected to serve the Council. Communication is the key. Let us hear your problems, suggestions, and comments. We can't find a solution to a problem we don't know exists.

E. A. (Tony) Bruguere
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coral-hacking are strictly forbidden, consider taking some pictures; there is nothing else to do and it is a very rewarding experience.

Be prepared to pay double prices for everything you do or rent or buy in Freeport. (The Casino is one thing you cannot prepare for.) You will probably find, as I did, that the greatest bargain on the island is the UNEXSO hamburger — it costs less than a dollar. And that's saying a mouthful!

—Artificial Ocean

(Continued from Page 3)

tank was covered to reduce evaporation. The sharks were fed frozen shrimp and mullet at the rate of 25 oz. per week and 5 oz. of squid once a week. This system proved very good and was quiet inexpensive. At the end of the experiment, selected sharks were sacrificed and autopsies performed and all were in good health.

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Boric acid, NF 8.2 gm
*—dissolve separately
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potassium bromide 1.0 gm
copper sulfate,
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cobalt sulfate, hydrated 20 mg
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hydrated 180 mg
the three solutions should be mixed separately — the first solution in 85 gallons of deionized water and the latter two in 1 gallon each. Then mix all three together and add water to make 100 gallons. The final solution should be maintained at 76° F and oxygenated for 3-4 days before use.

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Lone Star Divers



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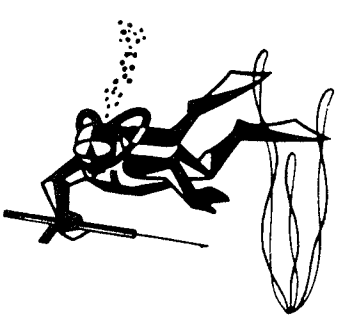
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