

SLATE

OCTOBER 1975

Voice of

Southwest Council of Diving Clubs

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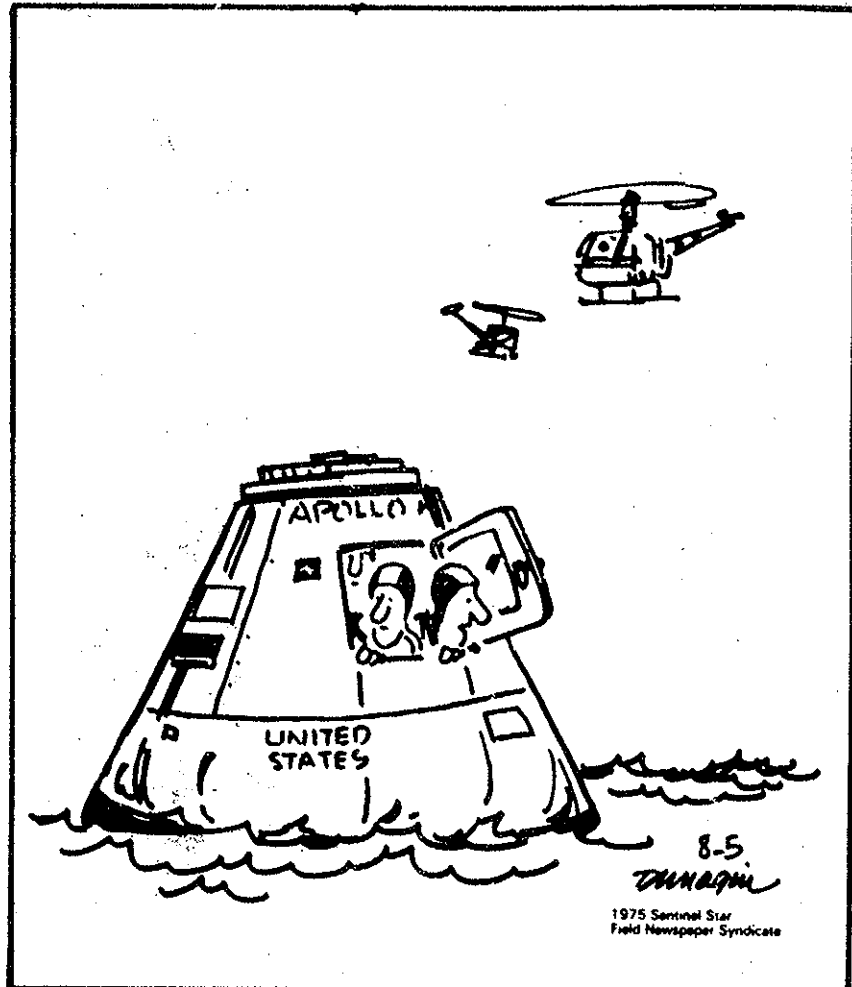
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Courtesy of Charles and Helen



"YOU SAW THAT MOVIE TOO, HUH?"

Well, I'm glad to see that someone besides me recognizes that the Council has a problem with member participation at dives - Mid Year Conventions, etc.

It is obvious that most Council members are not competitive spearfishermen - including myself - however, if the Council would create some photoprgraphy contests thru-out the year I would participate 100% and I feel many others would also.

There are also many Council members who belong solely to support organized diving not to participate in spearfishing or photography and we need these people's membership financially as well as for the numbers of people the Council represents when it speaks out on some particular issue, it is ignorance

to feel only those who participate in spearfishing should be members. The Council would be laughed at if it only had 50 members and represented Texas, Okla, Ia. Lets face it a lot of people are just belongees and are not participators, futhermore you can't force people to do what you think they should be doing. Lets broaden our scope of activities to include something other than spearfishing and encourage more participation.

The Jim Clark Memorial Texas Gar Rodeo is close at hand and we of the Aquanauts extend a cordial invitation to all Council members to come and enjoy the party, dice, and diving.

The Aquanauts have lost a good member and his wife to the Peace Corp. for a couple of years. Jack and Betty Elliott left on Oct. 4 for Honduras. We wish them well and hope to hear from them.

Happy Halloween,
Dick

AREA II REPORT

Sweet memories of all the good diving these past months linger with us and seem to help us look forward to the next dive with only slight misgivings. Area II has consulted the local palmists, fortune tellers and such and is happy to report that the diving will be good, very good, at Caddo this year. After 3 years of bad weather, dirty water and such, Caddo will have sunny warm, but not too warm, weather and clear, beautifully fantastic water for the Jim Clark Memorial Dive this year. The fortune tellers also predict that the Jim Clark Dive will be a legal contest this year with a record number of gar brought in. We'll all see you there. Remember this will be a legal contest!

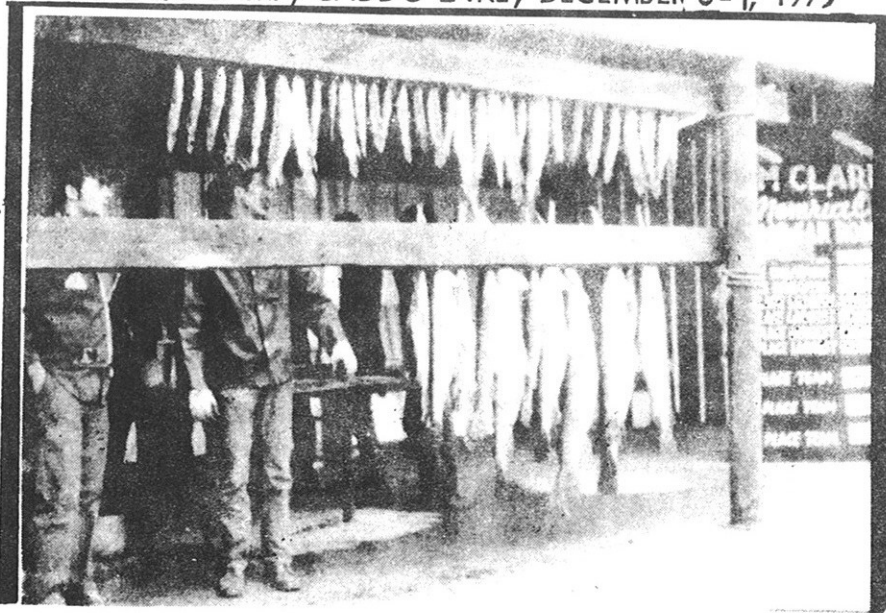
Now to the business at hand, Area II clubs are having a busy time at present. Inland Divers are planning the biggest and best Photography Contest ever. The date for this years show is Janurary 24. So all you lucky people who have been able to make a lot of good Salt Water dives get your film sorted and enter your best. Also for the poor souls who haven't had a vacation in Hawaii or some other such "port of call", get your fresh water pics together and enter what looks to be a really good show! IDA will be nominating and electing officers this next month.

Orca Tamers have their election of officers soon, too. They are planning a party for the not too distant future and hope to have a lot of fun.

Westside Divers are having a dive at Lake Travis this next weekend so they should have some news on the diving at Travis for us next month.

Deryle Matthews

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE BIGGEST CONTEST OF THE YEAR
CURLEYS CAMP, CADDO LAKE, DECEMBER 6-7, 1975



August and September sure were busy weren't they? Our Area's club meetings were very well attended this month, showing that all club membership rolls are up. I was unable to attend Nationals at Amistad because of a conflict. I have just recently (Labor Day) returned from diving the "Blue Hole" at Lighthouse Reef, Belize. All of our party was ecstatic about the diving; never have seen better in this hemisphere. If anyone is interested in info or reservations on a trip here, write or call me.

Forty or more Dallas-Fort Worth divers attended the 7th Sea-space Symposium and Film Festival in Houston. As usual our hat is off to HUC for the finest, smoothest affair in the land. The Film Festival was colorful, exciting and beautifully run. Every exhibitor of film or slides remarked how professionally the show went. We were privileged to see the works of Jack McKenney, Rick Freshee, Ernie Brooks II, Harry Pederson, and three Texins who are superb photographers...Dr. Hal Reuter, Farley Somnier and James Creighton, who always win or place high in competition.

The Symposium speakers discussed panic, legislation, sign language, first aid, medicine & physiology, thermol pollution, shell collecting, spearfishing and photography. Speakers were just super...Ernie Brooks II, Larry Cushman, Leon Manry, Dr. Irvin Kraft, Jack McKenney, and this year's edition of the Jeff and Bruce Show.

The weekend was great and I for one rate it as a super diving weekend. You all should plan right now to attend next year's Seaspace '76. The program, hospitality, and information are not to be found anywhere in our region.

Some notes on diving.

Did you know that: 137 people died hiking or back packing in 1973
 200 people died in auto drownings in 1973
 308 people died struck by lightning in 1973
 only 118 people died in SCUBA accidents in 1973.

There are in 1974 over 2,000,000 certified divers in U.S.

If an accident is reported in your newspaper or TV news, what do you do?

- Respond instantly with:
1. Facts about diving
 2. Act as a spokesman to reply to slanted reporting
 3. Do it quickly.

NAUI has a fact sheet for you.

To get one write: N.A.U.I., Box 630, Colton, Ca. 92324.

The answer to panic according to Dr. Kraft:

"Know your gear so that its operation becomes automatic to you. The reason divers panic and die, 75% run out of air; 25% hold breath upon ascent."

Training is the answer folks.

Good Diving..... Hank

AREA V.P. POINT-STANDING

VICE PRESIDENT AREA	MONTHLY ISSUE AREA REPORT	IND. MEMBER POINTS	MEMBER CLUB POINTS
#1, Hank Silver	Sept. & Oct.	36	2/Explorers
#2, Deryle Matthews	Sept. & Oct.	19	NONE
#3, Jim Gale	NEITHER	12	NONE
#4, Bart McCollum	Sept. NO Oct.	NONE	NONE
#6, Bill Hutto	Sept. & Oct.	19	NONE
#7, Jeep Valenti	NEITHER	10	2/Hell Divers

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- F LCG CAPILLARY DEPTH GAUGE.** Large phosphorescent face, 250' scale, easy to read and clean tube. Economical and accurate. (Model MCG in meters).
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- J 400-2 OCTOPUS REGULATOR.** Ultimate in performance. Features anti-free flow system, balanced 1st stage, double filters, dual springs, and unique double-exhaust. With 39° yellow striped extra 2nd stage.
- K PBH DIVERS AND CAMERAS BOOK.** Unique new text simplifies theory, techniques and methods. For class or self teaching. Clearly removes the mystique surrounding underwater cameras, lenses, housings, filters, film, light meters, dome ports, macrophotography, strobes and flash. Hard cover.
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The East Texas Aquanauts held their annual banquet the first weekend in September. The banquet consisted of an excellent meal, election of officers, presentation of awards, and a dance afterwards.

Officers newly elected for the next year are as follows: President - Steve Hudgins; Vice President - Aubrey McElroy; Secretary - Larry Smith; Treasurer - Larry Henderson; Parliamentarian - Dennis Forgarty; Public Relations - Kenneth Thompson; and Safety Officer Glen "Newlywed" Todd. Congratulations diving officers. May you have a very, very prosperous year.

Awards were also presented at the banquet for the past year. These awards were earned by lots of hard work by the following people: Dennis Forgarty, Larry Smith, and Dick Wilgus, all received Service Awards. Diver of the Year was awarded to Larry Henderson and the Spearfisherman Trophy was carried home by Dennis Forgarty.

The Spearfisherman Trophy is a revolving trophy that goes to the individual that shoots the most pounds of fish each month and at the end of the year the person that has the most poundage gets to keep the trophy. Congratulations Dennis and all the other award winners.

About two years ago, Edd Long had a flag pole climbing party at his home in Gladewater. The object was to see who could climb the flag pole and put a rope on the top pulley the fastest. The flag pole was to be used to raise the Diver's Flag. By the time the keg of beer was about half gone, Dennis Forgarty was crowned the ETA's fastest flag pole climber. Well almost two years later, Dennis was awarded his trophy. That a boy Edd. We knew you would make it.

The ETA Ladies Auxillary is sponsoring the clubs October dive to be held at Lake Hawkins. No details were available at the time of this report. The ladies are also selling hand made items on the side presently. The ladies are a great asset to the Aquanauts. Ladies, there is NO way we can express our appreciation that wouldn't do you an injustice. Your hard work will never be forgotten (as long as you keep bringing in the money). Thanks for all you have done.

Also in September the Ark-La-Tex Divers held their annual banquet. Their banquet also consisted of an excellent meal, election of officers, presentation of awards, and a dance afterwards. Congratulations are in order to the following newly elected officers: President - Dennis James; Vice president - Kenneth Scott; Secretary - Dewey Mosely; Treasurer - Don Sibley; Program Chairman - Lawrence "Weasel" Wood; and Advisory Chairman - Greg Despot. Presented awards for the past year were: Lawrence Wood - Saltwater Spearfisherman and Margene McCoy the Freshwater Spearfisherman. Out going president, David Walsworth was awarded the Car Trophy.

The Aquanauts are presently working on the Jim Clark Memorial up coming in December. They are looking forward to a great gar rodeo and are also looking forward to seeing everyone once again.

There is a group of divers trying to organize a club in Carthage. There will be an organizational meeting the first of this month. Hopefully the club will materialize and will also join the Council. I will be working with them until they can get on their feet and get started. There will, I hope, be more on the future club in the next issue of the Slate.

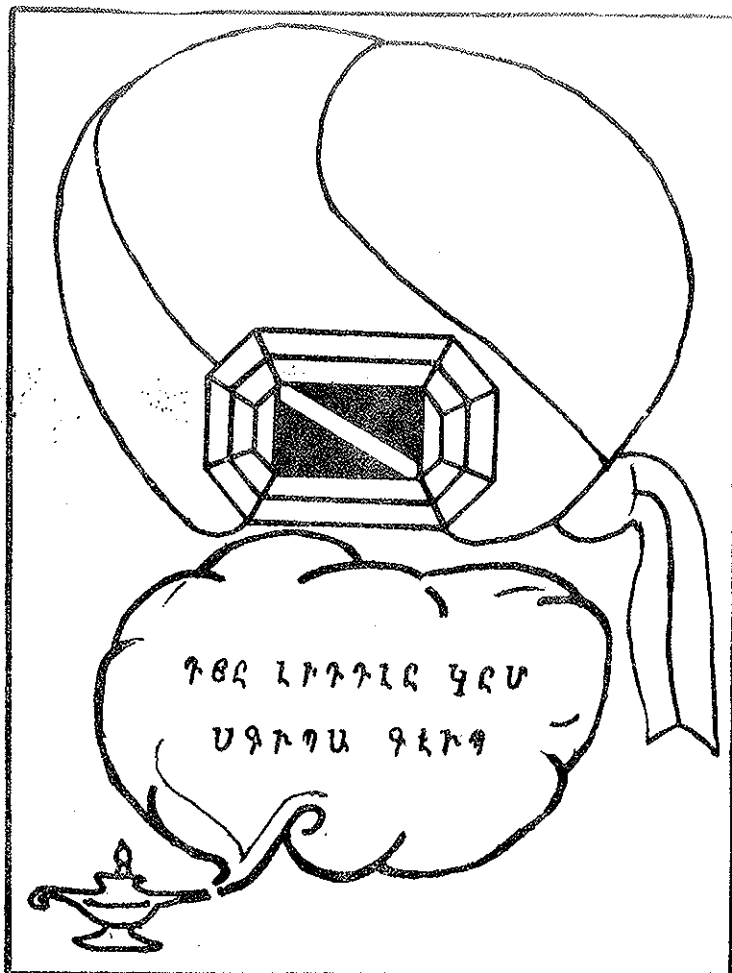
Also in Area VI is a club in South Louisiana I have got to visit. I am hoping to join them at their next meeting. They are also considering membership in our Council. As soon as I can get more information about this club, I will let you all know.

There is also another club in Monroe, Louisiana that is considering membership in the Council. I had planned a meeting with them in September but I wasn't able to make it due to illness. I now plan to meet with them in October at their next monthly meeting.

These new clubs are great. Let's hope that they decide to join the Council and if they do let's give them all the help and backing possible. Our Council is growing rapidly and contains the greatest people in the world (divers). Let's keep up the good work and support our Council whole-heartedly.

Until the next time, good, safe diving.

Bill Hutto



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