

EARLY DAYS: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SKIN AND SCUBA DIVING SOCIETY, LATER, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS UNDERWATER SOCIETY. — CELIA CARROLL, 1968

Fifteen divers met to form the University of Texas Skin and Scuba Diving Society in the Spring, 1964. Gary Yantis and Robert Wogstad were instrumental in its formation.

Courses were begun at first under the leadership of Lee Trice and at the end to the first year there were 27 members. The first club-sponsored dive was held April 10, 1964 at Volente on Lake Travis.

By May 14, 1964, the Constitution was accepted by the members. Dr. Allen Scott was faculty sponsor.

Earl Mitchell was the first Safety Officer. Earl structured the club course and formulated much of the lecture material. Other members who were active in the first year were Ray Burford, Penn Jones and Jim McAfee. Gary Howsley designed the 'Sea Steer' patch..

The original slate of officers (Feb, 1964) were: Jim McAfee, President; Gary Yantis, Vice President; Terry Steves, Secretary; Ron Miller, Treasurer; and Jerry Derryberry, Safety Officer.

In September Ann Denman became Secretary and Jerry Derryberry became Treasurer. Earl Mitchell became Safety Officer.

In January, 1965, Jerry Derryberry was elected President, Peggy Lanius, Secretary; Tim Davis, Treasurer; Jim McAfee, Safety Officer; Carla Hope, Reporter; Judy Camps, Publicity Officer, and Mike Burkett, Parliamentarian. In March, 1965, the club joined the Southwest Council of Skindiving Clubs.

The first club party was held December 11, 1965.

In 1965, trained instructors were Lee Trice, Jim McAfee, Gary Howsley, Earl Mitchell, Tim Davis and Skip Miller. By 1966 Doug Duryea, Charles Ervin, Ron Miller, Rudy Malik, Burt Burton, Jerry Derryberry, Carolyn Haddox Mitchel, Jan Landis, Bob Ireland, Burke Brown, Warren Schneider and Chris Clearman had become instructors.