

# S'NAG-A-NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE COLUMBUS SEA NAGS HTTP://WWW.SEANAGS.COM

May 2015

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## General Meeting Minutes

By Ryan Jones

Present: Bob Bailey, Marty & Maggie Bailey, George Bittner, Rick Blaine, Andrea Caito, Donn Ellerbrock, Dave Foley, Ryan Jones, Gerry Kubatska, Steve Locsey, Glenn Mitchell, Steve & Mag Ranft, Rob Robison, Laurel Sheppard

### Announcements

1. Rob reported on ScubaFest. Low attendance, few presenters, and the exhibition hall was scarcely populated.
2. Glenn informed us that the Ohio Council dues have been paid.
3. **Steve** reminded everyone about the **Twitter page!!** Thanks to **Josh Carney**, the club has a **Twitter page**: <@CbusSeaNags>. Check it out today!
4. The club's affiliation with Underwater Connection was discussed. We plan to place a banner by the pool, brochures at the front counter, and tank hangers on tanks that get filled there. Jane requested visits from club members during either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> class for a group. Jane has a copy of our planned club dives to distribute to new divers and return customers.
5. Bonaire Trip with Rick Minturn via Deep Blue Adventures (Cheryl Patterson). Ric Minturn's trip this year will be October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (the week of Regatta on the island).

### The rate is:

- \$1026 per diver double occupancy in a deluxe room, \$765 per vacationer

based on double occupancy

- \$1060 per diver double occupancy in a Studio, \$825 per vacationer based on double occupancy
- \$1550 per diver single occupancy in a deluxe room
- \$1650 per diver single occupancy in a Studio

The rate includes:

- 7 nights' accommodations
- Full breakfast daily
- Welcome cocktail
- Beach towel at pool and beach
- Round trip airport/hotel transfers
- Taxes and service charges on package features

Diver rate also includes:

- 11 boat dives
  - 24/7 unlimited shore diving for 6 days
  - Tanks and weights
- \$25 per diver marine park fee is **not included** and paid at the dive shop

Terms:

\$100 deposit is due at this time

Cancellations 35-65 days prior to travel date - 50% penalty

- Cancellations less than 35 days prior to travel - no refunds, credits or rain checks
- No refunds on no-shows or unused portion of package

For more information and payment schedule, contact **Cheryl Patterson** @ <Cheryl@deepblueadventures.com> or <<http://www.deepblueadventures.com>>

6. 2015 Club membership dues are \$20.00, \$30 for husband/wife. Please note 2016 club dues will increase to \$30 for individuals and \$40 for husband/wife. 2015 Ohio Council dues are \$9.00.
7. Club logo patches and decals are available to new club members as a part of their membership dues. Returning members can purchase extra

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decals/stickers at a cost of \$1.00 each—these are plastic/waterproof—and extra patches for \$2.00 each while they last.

8. **Facebook:** You can find the Club Facebook forum by going to: <http://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/Columbus-Sea-Nags-SCUBA-Divers-/289276535926?v=wall>, thanks to Andy Dennis.

## Treasurer's Report

As of April 17, 2015: Checking (\$902.66) & Petty Cash (\$101.21): \$1,003.87. Finneran Fund: \$5,000. Total Club Funds: \$6,003.87

## Member Raffle

**Marty Bailey** – Dive Pass for Circleville Twin Quarries; **Steve Locsey & George Bittner** – Fleece Jackets; **Dave Foley** – Dive Pass for Lancaster; **Mag Ranft, Rob & Glenn** each won a book (Good luck with overcoming your literacy issues, Glenn). Items for the member raffle donated by **Don Ellerbrock, Laurel Sheppard, Rob Robison, and The Club**. Thanks everyone!

## 50/50 (AKA The Pot of Gold)

**Gerry Kubatska** donated his big \$16.00 pot back to the Club. Thanks, Gerry!

## Evening Program

**Marty & Maggie** gave a great presentation on Iceland. It included not only some of the great diving opportunities, but also the cultural richness of the country.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

2015

May

7 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: Steve & Mag Ranft: Diving Barbados

9 Lancaster club dive (splash @10AM) cookout follows@ Lakeview RV Park(Rob)

21 Exec Meeting @ Planks, 7:00 PM

Jun

4 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: Columbus Police Recovery Dive Team (Steve)

18 Exec Meeting @ Planks, 7:00 PM

20 Twilight dive /cookout, & movie: *Sanctum*, Circleville (Ryan Jones)

Jul

2 TBA Social @ Planks, 7:00 PM. No Program!

16 Exec Meeting @ Planks, 7:00 PM

18-19 Weekend Nat'l Museum of the Great Lakes

\$12 adults, \$11 seniors & kids: (www.inlandseas.org) (Toledo) & White Star overnight twilight dive & movie, *The Abyss*. See <http://whitestarquarry.com/fees.html> for dive & camping fees

Aug

6 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: *Minndeosa* (Wreck of the) video or DAN video  
20 Exec Meeting @ Planks, 7:00 PM  
22 7<sup>th</sup> annual corn roast, gear swap, twilight dive, & movie, *Into the Blue* (Circleville: Glenn, Steve, R)

Sep

3 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: MAST Update by Patrick Enlow  
11-13 Port Sanilac (L. Huron) weekend dive trip OR  
12 Twilight dive cookout & movie ( *Sea Hunt* episodes)  
17 Exec Meeting @ Planks, 7:00 PM

Oct

1 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: Club officer nominations Sea Grant (Lake Erie) Update or Battelle commercial diver (TBA)  
15 Exec Meeting @ Planks, 7:00 PM

Nov

5 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: Election & video (TBA)  
7 or 14 Annual banquet: TBA  
TBA Exec Meeting

Dec

3 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Program: Awards presentations & video  
TBA Exec Meeting  
31/Jan1 8<sup>th</sup> NYs Eve Dive-in & Celebration @ C'ville

## Executive Meeting Highlights

@ Plank's April 16, 2015. Present: Donn Ellerbrock, Ryan Jones, Mag & Steve Ranft, Rob

• Confirmed our relationship with Underwater Connection. Steve will have highlights @ the May meeting.

## Dive Reports

Please send dive reports to  
<[newsletter@seanags.com](mailto:newsletter@seanags.com)>

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## Spasms

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Club commando diver **Steve Locsey** self-reported spending all but 5 minutes of a, intended ice dive at Lancaster dealing with a torn drysuit glove and a leaky rebreather that required disassembly and reassembly at the dive site before he could get wet.

## Oral Reports

Steve dove the California Channel Island and Long beach point last month. The **Ranfts** spend a week diving, sunning, and more in Barbados.

## Written Reports

**Circleville** Saturday, April 4, & Sun April 19, 2015

Ryan Jones, Brent Bautista, and I met at mid morning to don our dry suits and splash into the Twin Qs after the winter thaw. All of us were checking out the status of winter self or commercial repairs on our equipment and were testing their success in the 47-48°F water on a beautiful sun-shiny day. Visibility was a murky 2 – 6 feet depending on the location. Rick Blaine and Randy Beck showed up to watch and lend a hand before heading off to warmer climes.



*Rob, Ryan and Brent (this photo's photographer)*

Took a heading and descended toward the trailer bed platform only to discover that I had no idea where I was at first because of the incredibly low vis. Evidently, I overshot the platform bed and ran into the line heading east to the tub lady. So, I made a

left turn and followed the line back to the trailer, where the three of us joined up and headed out to the tub lady, Cessna, etc. around the horn, and back to the trailer. We spotted a few sunfish swimming about, but that's it, during our 40-minute dive. Ryan and I were happy with our repairs while Brent discovered a leak in the vicinity of his exhaust valve. Having dealt with that issue before, I think he may discover that the real culprit is a leaky zipper, neck seal, or a seam or two. Fingers crossed for him.

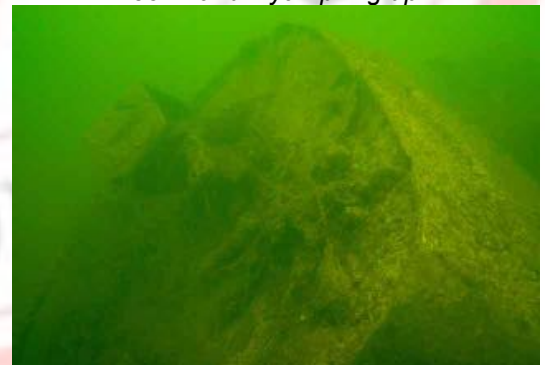
A thermos of hot coffee helped quash the post-dive chill along with the sun and lively conversation with good companions. They enhanced a refreshing morning and made the effort worthwhile. Time to start diving back into it everyone!

*Rob*

P.S. Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>, water temps had risen to a balmy 51° but the vis was unimproved.



*John and Ryan piling up*



*Plane nose*

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Ryan Jones, John Skobel and I enjoyed the companionship and John's brownies—to di(v)e for. Sunday the 26: Water temps: 52° in the southern half of the Q and 54-55° in the northern half due to the warming effect of the spring. Visibility improving to @ 8' – 10' in places, even better above the thermocline.

P.S.2 Though technically in action, Tuesday Nite dives have not gotten off the ground yet this spring, due to everyone's schedule conflicts. Check with me if interested in making a dive with the group this Tuesday the 28th.

*R*

## Lancaster April 16, 2015

Hi Everyone. Last Sunday Dave and I planned to dive at Lancaster. I wanted another try at properly weighting myself when using my Inspo Classic rebreather, and I also wanted to test the side mount system I'll be using this Friday in Crystal Rock Cave.

We met at 11:00am, and went over the modifications we had made to our gear. We entered the water, the vis has improved to about 10 feet and I quickly found out, that adding two pounds and my steel 72's was a mistake. I was definitely over weighted. We spent a few minutes at the Frito-Lay truck checking for bubbles then swam to the old wooden platform and to the line on the west side. At depth I was able gain a little control (I even practiced switching my set points), but it took me nearly 30 minutes to feel comfortable diving. We swam past the platform and then turned on the line leading back to the culvert. We swam to the main platform where I practiced a bail out to open circuit to test my side mounts. We swam to the cabin cruiser and then back to the culvert and platform. I switched to my other side mount bottle halfway through the circuit. Once back at the platform I returned

to my rebreather and we swam to the exit (49'/70min).

This Friday Maggie and I will be back at Crystal Rock Cave. The plumber has readied the equipment for me to install and we always enjoy a visit with the Winkels afterward. Saturday I'd like to watch the Spring game, and on Sunday if it's dry enough it will be time to start yard work. I have completed the rest of my 2015 schedule, but hope to add a few more trips for the summer months.

*Marty*

## April 4, 2015

Hi everyone, Originally Dave and I planned to meet at Lancaster today, but Dave's Easter plans changed and he wasn't able to make it. As it turned out I wouldn't have been able to meet him at our appointed time of 11:30 anyway.

I woke up early and began looking at my rebreathers, the cells in my Vision need replaced, so I turned my attention to my Classic. Till I checked the cells, packed the scrubber, mounted my bottles, repaired a dump valve, filled my bailout, and packed my gear it was 1:00pm! But with the sun out and 51 F air temps, I couldn't see wasting the afternoon grading papers, and headed for Lancaster.

I arrived around 2:00pm, set-up my gear and was in the water by 2:45. As I started I didn't really have a plan, the vis was poor 5 to 8 feet at best. I was a little under weighted and entered with the clips to my counter lungs unclipped. I spent a few minutes at the Frito-Lay truck sorting everything out, and then swam to the platform. At depth I was able to add some air to my drysuit, but would have preferred to have had the extra weight so that I could have put more air in than just enough to reduce the suit squeeze. I swam to the culvert and airplane, at that point everything was going so well that I decided

to circumnavigate the quarry. I had a little buoyancy issue along the north side since my average depth was about 15 feet, but once I got to the van and in deeper water I was swimming normally again. I took the detour to the boat on the west side and stayed on the bottom line as I swam to the refrigerator on the pallet and past the pontoons to the old wooden platform. Once back near my exit point, I swam back to the platform where I did a linearity check on my cells (they all passed with flying colors) and then practiced a bail out as I swam for the exit (48'/70min).

It felt good to be diving my rebreather again. In the past, after diving several months on open circuit and switching back to the rebreather, I always had an adjustment period that lasted several dives but this time (and actually the time before that) it's been like riding a bike. I still have enough Diluent and O2 for another dive, so next week I'll probably be back at Lancaster for another dive. I'll be working on the rest of my schedule soon, so if anyone wants to do some training dives or dive trips just send me your dates and I'll see what I can do.

Safe diving,

*MB*

## ***Environmental News***

### **Scientists Spot Deep-Sea Wonders Off Australia's Coast**

A two-week-long seafaring mission off the coast of western Australia has helped illuminate a deep and dark underwater abyss the size of the Grand Canyon.

During the trip to Perth Canyon, researchers encountered countless [deep-sea organisms](#), including Venus flytrap anemones and golden coral. They even found a lost piece of equipment — an autonomous ocean glider that had gone missing two years earlier.



*Perth Canyon undersea wall*

The scientists, from the University of Western Australia's Oceans Institute, began their mission on March 1 on the Falkor, a research vessel owned by an American nonprofit organization. Once aboard, they sailed about 19 miles (30 kilometers) from Fremantle, a city on the western Australian coast. They then used a remotely operated vehicle to [explore the underwater canyon](#), which extends from the continental shelf down more than 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) to the ocean floor. [[Marine Marvels: Spectacular Photos of Sea Creatures](#)]



*Deep-sea anemone from Perth Canyon (Above & below)*



"We have discovered near-pristine, sheer-drop cliffs of over 600 meters [1,968 feet] and mapped structures that are rarely found in other parts of the ocean," Malcolm McCulloch, the project's leader and a professor of Earth and the environment at the University of Western Australia, [said in a statement](#).

The canyon probably formed more than 100 million years ago, the researchers said. They say an ancient river cut the canyon during rifting that separated western Australia from India. Nowadays, the submerged canyon is a hot spot for marine life, attracting [blue whales](#) and other sea life in search of a tasty meal.

Researchers knew little about the canyon's structure and the creatures that inhabited it until this expedition. Next up, researchers will use the Falkor to test underwater robotic vehicles at Scott Reef, off the coast of northwestern Australia.

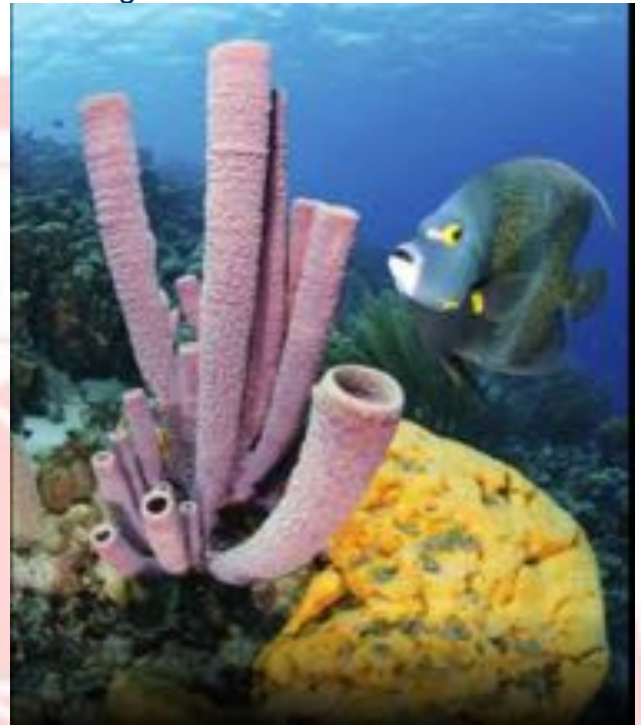
— Laura Geggel, LiveScience

*This is a condensed version of a report from LiveScience. Read the full report and watch the video to learn more at: <http://www.nbcnews.com/science/environment/scientists-spot-deep-sea-wonders-australias-coast-n328931>. Follow Laura Geggel on Twitter. Follow Live Science on Twitter, Facebook and Google+.*

## **Oldest Animal Species on Earth**

It is unclear exactly how long sea sponges have been around, but they are at least old enough to be the longest-existing creatures on Earth, outside the realm of micro organisms (like bacteria). The oldest evidence of a sea sponge found was a fossil discovered just last year in a 760-million-year-old rock. This beat the previous record for oldest sea-sponge fossil, a 635 million-year-old sponge discovered in 2009. There may be still older fossils yet to find. But finding older species is unlikely, as these

simple organisms appear to be the progenitors of much more complicated life, including the first multicellular animals.



*Sponge - 760 Million Years Old*

To learn about the remaining 11 oldest animals species on earth, go to <http://www.msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/pets/12-oldest-animal-species-on-earth/ss-BBi19WU?ocid=iehp#image=1>

## **Log Book**

### **Crab-cam records theft by a crafty crab**

March 06, 2015 by [David Strege](#)

The Katnich Crabbing team decided to attach a GoPro camera to its crab pot in Largs Bay Beach, Australia, to see what would happen.

What it got was video of a crafty crab figuring out how to open the bait trap and steal the bait, eliciting quite a number of views and shares and likes on the [Katnich Building & Design Facebook page](#). See if it elicits a smile for you:



*A crafty crab takes the bait and runs.*

*Photo is a screen grab from Grind TV video.*

Watch the hilarious video at <http://www.grindtv.com/wildlife/crab-cam-records-theft-crafty-crab/>.

The Katnich Crabbing team recorded this break in & theft! Gives a new perspective on crabs!

## **Diver fends off sudden shark attack**

March 17, 2014 by [David Strege](#)



*Diver fends off a shark attack in Caribbean Sea; photo is a screen grab from the video*

A diver off the Cayman Islands in the western Caribbean Sea was suddenly forced to fend off a shark attack with the pole spear he had been using to cull the area of the invasive and destructive lionfish. A Caribbean reef shark came out of nowhere, scaring the bejesus out of diver Jason Dimitri, who had just speared a lionfish in about 70 feet of water. Watch as the normally shy reef shark goes after Dimitri, who does a commendable job in defending himself:

<http://www.grindtv.com/wildlife/diver-fends->

## [off-a-sudden-shark-attack/](#)

Reef sharks are usually indifferent around divers, but they are known to become aggressive when food is present, which describes the circumstances of the shark attack on Dimitri.

"I want to make it clear that I am hunting lionfish to help protect the reef from the destruction that they cause," Dimitri noted. "The shark was acting in his natural environment. I have no ill will toward him and will get back in the water and continue to protect the reef for future generations."

And he will continue to protect himself in case other reef sharks have the same idea of attacking him.

Caribbean reef sharks are common in the Caribbean Sea and are typically 6 to 8 feet in length, but can grow to 10 feet. According to the latest findings of the International Shark Attack File, there have been 27 shark attacks attributed to the Caribbean reef shark, four of them unprovoked, none fatal.

Make that five unprovoked attacks.

Dimitri remains undeterred.

"In no way did this encounter discourage me from getting back into the water," he said.

## **Parting Shot**



*Mark Thomas diving/exploring unknown quarry. Photo by Steve Hecker*

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## AD Rates

S'Nag-A-News monthly advertising rates are as follows:

Business Card \$4.00  
1/4 Page \$10.00  
1/2 Page \$20.00  
Full Page \$30.00

Club members receive a 10% discount on advertising rates. Non-members receive a 10% discount for three months paid in advance.



**NEXT MEETING: 8:00 p.m., Plank's Café, Thurs., May 7, 2015. Program: The Ranfts on Diving Barbados**

**The Columbus Sea Nags**  
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