

S'NAG-A-NEWS

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

July 2014

July 19 Twilight Movie, *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*, Dive-In & Cookout @ C'ville Twin Q!

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General Meeting Minutes

Present: Adam Biehl, Rick Blaine, Josh Carney, Donn Ellerbrock, John Guegold, Danny & Yung Holt, Gerry Kubatska, Glenn Mitchell, Mag & Steve Ranft, Rob Robison, Laurel Sheppard

Announcements

1. **Ryan Jones** combined his first night dive with his 50th logged dive after the movie June 7. Congratulations!
2. Announced a \$100.00 gift card to be raffled at the club banquet, with ticket entries based on member monthly attendance at the monthly General Meeting. See Rob for details.

Additional Announcements

3. 2014 Club membership dues are \$20.00. 2014 Ohio Council dues are \$9.00.
4. Club logo patches and decals are available to new club members as a part of their membership dues. Returning members can purchase extra decals/stickers at a cost of \$1.00 each—these are plastic/waterproof--and extra patches for \$2.00 each while they last.
5. 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.
6. Twitter page!! Thanks to **Josh Carney**, the club now has a **Twitter page**:

<@CbusSeaNags>. Check it out today!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

DON'T MISS: Twilight dive, cookout, and movie Sat. July 19! Details in Calendar below.

2014

July

- 3 General Meeting@ Planks, 7:00 PM Social. No official program or formal meeting
- 17 Executive Meeting @Planks 7:00PM
- 19 Twilight Movie, *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*, Dive-In & Cookout @ C'ville Twin Q (Details via email)
- 19 – 20 DAN BBQ @ Portage

August

- 7 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Public Safety diving with John Sanders & Doc Whittington (Tent)
- 9 Corn Roast/Gear Swap, Movie: Rudy Whitworth Sea Horse Productions Underwater Photographer and a Dive-In (Details TBA)
- 21 Executive Meeting @Planks 7:00PM

September

- 4 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Dive Medicine or Deep Blue Travel Tips (TBA)
- 13 Twilight Movie: Sea Hunt episodes, Dive-In & Cookout @ C'ville Twin Q (Details TBA)
- 21 Executive Meeting @Planks 7:00PM

October

- General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Nominations for club officers, Sea Grant update or Deep Blue Travel Tips (TBA)
- 23 Executive Meeting @Planks 7:00PM

November

- 6 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Elections
- 8 Annual Banquet & Christmas Party, Red Door Tavern (Grandview): Featuring Tony Gramer: Diving Socorro Islands and Fresh Water Wrecks
- 13 Executive Meeting @Planks 7:00PM **IF NECESSARY**

December

- 4 General Meeting@ Planks, 8:00 PM. Awards
- 31/1 8th Annual New Year's Eve Dive & Cookout. Details TBA

Program: Special thanks to CBUS Fire Underwater Rescue Team with Chip Pritsel and Mike Thomas who shared their exploits, history and equipment! Outstanding!

Executive Meeting Highlights

- 7PM@Planks, 6/19/14. Present: Josh Carney, Donn Ellerbrock, Glenn Mitchell, Steve RANFT, and Rob
- Confirmed Red Door Tavern for annual banquet
 - Opened July twilight dive, cookout and movie to advertising from Todd.

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Dive Reports

Please send dive reports to
<newsletter@seanags.com>

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Spasms & Oral Reports

None reported

Written

June 14-15 @ Gilboa.

Hi Everyone, It's been two weeks since my last update. On Sunday the 8th I went to Gilboa to assist TDI with their Intro to Tech diving program. We met at 7:30 am, and had enough instructors/assistants that we had a 1 to 1 ratio between staff and participants. We began with a briefing where we went over the day's activities. We planned four dives, each consisting of various skills used in technical diving. For the first three dives the participants wore their own gear and they were introduced to proper trim and buoyancy, lift bag deployment with the additional skill of a dead bag lift, use of a guideline and splicing a line, and a review of distance measured by kick cycles. For the fourth dive the participants were introduced to side mount diving.

Dave Resch and I teamed up as staff, and during the first dive we set-up the guideline course, then joined the rest of the group performing the lift bag skills (37'/51min). I led the second dive, first we swam to the platform where one of the buddy team began to run a reel, then I would cut the guideline and the buddy not running the reel was responsible for splicing the line. After each team completed the splicing we swam over to

the guideline course where I demonstrated how to run a proper guideline by tying off to three pylons creating a triangle, then each team took a turn reeling out and reeling back around the pylons (32'/50min).

We broke for lunch and planned dives 3 and 4. We lost some of our participants during lunch. The day was getting long and some were too tired to continue. So we planned a short dive three where we ran the kick cycle drill (26'/14min) and then the majority of the staff stayed in the water as our participants quickly changed into side mount gear provided by Dive Rite. Our last dive started at the platform where they adjusted their trim and then we swam to the helicopter and plane (35'/38min). I wore my double 121's for all four dives, and by the end of the day was happy to make my last trip up the stairs to pack my truck. Incidentally this was the last trip for my Ford Ranger. I've had it since 2000 and have put over 210,000 miles on it. On Tuesday of last week, I bought my friend's (Mark Christel) Ford F150. Hopefully it will serve me as well as my Ranger.

Yesterday, the 14th, I returned to Gilboa. Dave Fleming and I wanted to practice with our trimix rigs, which we plan to use for the wreck dives on July 6th. Unfortunately, both Dave and I have been busy at work and we really didn't get a chance to plan our dive until Saturday morning. Normally I would have everything ready a day or two before a trimix dive, but found myself analyzing gasses and packing late Friday night. I used 14/33 trimix for my diluent and had a 72 each of air and 50% nitrox for my bailouts. I told Dave that I wanted to practice a full bail out at 120'. On the drive up I used Jplan to plan the dive 10 minutes on my rebreather swimming away from the descent line, then 12 minutes on air returning to the line and beginning the ascent with a switch to 50% at 70'. The plan called for

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minimum decompression totaling about 9 minutes with a run time of 32 minutes.

The plan was great, but we ended up having to change it on the fly. First off there were no spots left at the deep entry, so we had to start from the shallow side. At the start of the dive Dave hooked one of his bailout regs on a tree, pulling it out of its strap. I motioned to him and he began to fix it, as we swam towards the plane. I swam under the wing as Dave swam over, but his reg slipped again and got hooked on the wing. I turned to look for Dave, and he was way behind me. I swam back to him and then saw the problem with his retaining strap. After another minute we had the issue resolved. We began heading down the road, but at the 10-minute mark we were only at 50'. I decided to keep going down the road passing the tubes and by the 20 minute mark had reached 100', wanting to stay on run time I pulled the rebreather mouthpiece out of my mouth and switched to open circuit air.

I had major difficulties making the gas mix switch on both my computers. The vision handset needs to come off the back of my hand, and be hooked where I can reach it with both hands. I need to be able to squeeze the buttons between my fingers and thumb. With 5mm gloves on trying to just push on the buttons doesn't work so well, especially if the correct sequence requires simultaneous activation of two buttons. I even had problems with my new Nitek, but that was from unfamiliarity with the unit. I knew the correct button to push, but not the proper timing sequence. Some pushes need to be 1 second long and others 5 seconds long. Eventually I figured everything out. All this was going on while I was trying to make my ascent. It was not as smooth as I wanted it to be, while concentrating on my computers, I let my buoyancy get the better of me, sometimes sinking into the mud and other times

ascending too rapidly as I forgot to dump the air in my counter lungs. I ended up 3 minutes ahead of run time but that was due to starting my drill 2 minutes early and being at 100' instead of 120'. Which means that even with all my problems, my ascent was still properly done.

Since we were still a ways away from our entry point, I went back on my rebreather, but not for long. Within 5 minutes I got a scrubber warning. I knew I was nearing the end of my scrubber at the start of the day, but my original plan only called for me to be on my rebreather for 10 minutes, by this time I had used it for at least 25 minutes. No problem, it gave me an opportunity to practice my bail out procedure again.

After bailing out and switching my computers (which went better this time), we were nearing the airplane. I wasn't sure if Dave was going to be up for a second dive, so I pulled out my reel and SMB (it's big enough to be used as a lift bag if needed) and deployed it. It went smoothly to the surface. Dave also practiced his SMB deployment and we swam back to our entry point (100'/56min).

I asked Dave if we were going to do a second dive and he said that he had enough and had accomplished what he wanted to do. I was in complete agreement with him. We both practiced bailouts (some smoother than others), I learned a lot about my computers, and we deployed our SMBs. We have a little tweaking to do, but that can happen at Lancaster on the 29th.

MB

Tuesday night divers@ Circleville: May 20: Good vis. H₂O @74° - 76°, depending on the location and depth. One of the catfish was lying on the rocks in front of the pavilion. Another could be found under the nose of the airplane.

June 7 Twilight dive, cookout, & movie:

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Josh Carney, John Guegold, John Skobel, Donn Ellerbrock, Ryan Jones, Jim Wickline, Rick Blaine, & I dove early. Visibility was zero in the south end on the platform to the point where we couldn't see it, the toilet, or the plastic rat. We had to feel for the edge in order to locate the line heading out to the rowboat. The ambulance area and the jeep area at the north end were fairly clear.



L – R: Rob, Donn, Josh, Ryan, Andrea & Rick; photo by Glenn

With the H₂O still between 75°-76°, Rick Blaine his guest. Aaron Kearns, plus Josh, Donn, Glenn, Andrea, Ryan, and Darla Jones surfaced to join me for the movie, which held us enthralled thanks to stars such as Clark Gable and Burt Lancaster.



Clark Gable & Burt Lancaster powwowing; photo by Glenn

After cleaning up, Ryan, Don, and I donned our gear and hopped back into the quarry for a genuine night dive under pitch-black conditions. We had a great time, good food—Jim Wickline brought his wonderful baked beans in a bean pot—lots of camaraderie, and diving. Special thanks are in order to Steve Ranft for the soda donation, Glenn and Donn for putting together the screen, Rick Blaine for the charcoal lighter fluid, Josh Carney for the movie, and Glenn for the photos. Also, **kudos** to **Ryan Jones**, who logged his 50th dive and his first night dive after the movie.

Next up, gill man himself, *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*, Saturday July 19th. The water will be delightfully refreshing, the food will go down easily, and the camaraderie will top off a great evening of diving BBQing movies, and friendship. So join us for a late afternoon and evening full of fun. You won't want to miss it.

Tuesday eve, June 10 South Q. The conditions were similar to the previous weekend.

Saturday, June 14 North Q. The H₂O was noticeably colder, 73° - 74°, especially below the thermocline. Vis was murky to 10' - 15' depending on the spot. Lots of small bass were moving about and feeding. The silver crappie from last year has grown noticeably, Donn spotted a large bass lurking in the shadows of a tree up close to the bank. We dove twice on one tank and enjoyed a combined 90 plus minutes worth of diving on a beautiful and relaxing sunny Saturday afternoon. It was a delightful day for enjoying a bit of the hydrosphere.

Tuesday eve, June 17, South Q. H₂O warming up a bit to 76°-77°, vis clearing from up to 15'-20' in some parts of the S. Quarry, although visibility was still zero on the south platform. Fish activity picking up the pace. Some of the catfish were out on display in

front of the pavilion on the rocks waiting to be fed the fish food on sale in the dive shop or hanging out in the water column near the single engine plane. The pan fish cloud is in full swing now following us everywhere!

Environmental News

Visitors to Jennette's Pier in Nags Head, North Carolina, were shocked last week when an evil-looking fanged fish washed up alive on the shore.



A long-snouted lancetfish (*Alepisaurus ferox*).
Credit: NOAA. [View full size image](#)

The monstrous fish has been identified as a long-snouted lancet fish (*Alepisaurus ferox*), a nocturnal predator that's rarely seen near shore. The fish are known not only by their large fangs and tall dorsal fin, but also by their habit of eating their own species.

Because it's a relatively uncommon fish that inhabits the open ocean, little is known about its life cycle. In adolescence, lancet fish are [hermaphrodites](#) (having both male and female sex organs), though there's no evidence of adult hermaphrodites. [[See Photos of Lancet fish and other Freaky-Looking Fish](#)]

Lancet fish are also known as handsaw fish, because of their prominent, jagged dorsal fin, which runs almost the entire length of their back. The fish have no scales — their

scientific name, *Alepisaurus*, translates as "scaleless lizard" — and their skin is instead covered with pores.

They can grow to be as long as 6.5 feet (2 meters) in length. Lancet fish generally feed at night, and in addition to dining on other lancet fish, they also eat crustaceans, squid and smaller species of fish.

Lancet fish are in turn preyed upon by seals, [sharks](#) and other large fish, including tuna. They're not considered a good fish for human consumption, because their muscles contain large amounts of water, making their flesh somewhat mushy. Fishermen, in fact, consider the lancet fish a "trash" fish that sometimes takes bait intended for more profitable catches such as tuna.

The fact that their muscles have a high water content makes it unlikely that the lancet fish can move quickly or pursue other prey, so scientists speculate the lancet fish is an ambush predator — it probably uses its big dorsal fin to accelerate in short bursts to overcome prey.

The fish are found in open waters throughout tropical and subtropical oceans, though they've been known to travel as far north as Greenland and Iceland.

The lancet fish found in North Carolina was alive when it washed up on shore, but when it was carried back out into deeper water it washed ashore again, indicating it may have been sick, according to [Nature World News](#).

Log Book

Mexico's Underwater Cathedrals

Submerged caves off the Yucatan Peninsula hide gems for divers and archaeologists alike — including cathedral-like caverns, a 10,000-year-old boy and Mayan skulls. To watch the BBC *The Travel Show* video and learn more, go to: <http://www.bbc.com/travel/feature/20140312-mexicos-underwater-treasure-trove>.

Related article: **Surreal shapes in Mexico's**

cenotes. In *Mexico: Arts & Architecture 13*
Dec. 2013. By Adam Skolnick

The water surrounding me had the soupy texture of liquid glass. Drifting through the halocline – where cold and warm water converge in layers, their collision blurring the field of vision – was a deliciously disorienting feeling. Only my limbs were clearly visible.



I could vaguely make out the limestone walls as we dove deeper inside the cavern, our bubbles reverberating off the ceiling. Each Darth Vader-like exhale mutated into a locomotive thundering overhead. I was swimming into Car Wash, one of the famed cenotes of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, a must-see destination for serious scuba and free divers.

Moments later, free of the halocline, I marveled at the primordial stalagmites and stalactites before we reversed direction, following our safety line toward a patch of pure jade-coloured light at the mouth of the cavern. Here, elegant lilies climbed toward the light shafts that penetrated the surface and the gnarled roots of old trees hung down like underwater branches. That's when I saw the unmistakable silhouette of an owl.



I was in the surreal world of Lia Barrett. A photo editor at underwater photography magazine Dive Photo Guide, Barrett has spent plenty of time in exotic dive meccas such as Thailand's Similan Islands and Indonesia's Komodo and Raja Ampat Islands. But last year, she shifted her viewfinder away from Technicolor reef creatures, in favour of featuring free divers.



Their athletic elegance, their courage to hold their breath long past sanity and their ability to dive deeper than those on tanks inspired her. Soon she was convincing competitive free divers to dress in civilian clothes and pose for underwater teatime portraits, while her assistants chummed the water with fish parts to lure massive reef sharks into frame. The result was a magnificent surrealist shoot in Roatan, Honduras, that went viral in August 2013. This October, it was time for a follow up, and she abandoned the sea to focus on the

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cenotes, a network of more than 3,000 pools that serve as entry points into the Yucatan's underwater rivers.

Parting Shots



Is Rhapsody the killer whale just fat, or pregnant? Photo by ©Josh McInnes



Saxipendium coronatum, the spaghetti worm. Googly eyes = meatballs.
Photo by R Lutz, WoROSS.



Megalodocopa hians is having a good time.
From the Deep.

Deep Sea Fauna... with Googly Eyes

<http://deepseafauna.tumblr.com/>



I work at A World of Fish in Richfield, MN. Our crew loves your blog and we thought we'd experiment with googly eyes. We gave a few to our collector sea urchins and they picked em up right away! Many LOLs were had from customers and staff. Thought you'd enjoy a pic!
Photo Credit: Anna Lehmicke

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY,
EVERYONE!



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., July 3, 2014. Program: Social in the BS corner only! No program.

The Columbus Sea Nags
 Rob Robison
 6803 Maplebrook Lane
 Columbus, Ohio 43235

OFFICERS 2014

Acting President Rob Robison
 (614) 546-9018 (cell)
 president@seanags.com

Vice President
 Steve & Maggie Ranft
 (614) 834-3941
 vicepresident@seanags.com

Treasurer
 Glenn Mitchell
 614- 272-2448
 treasurer@seanags.com

Secretary
 Josh Carney
secretary@seanags.com

Newsletter Editor
 Rob Robison
 (614)-546-9018
 newsletter@seanags.com

