

M I N U T E S
4th QUARTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 11, 2008
Ginnie Springs Outdoors
HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Present:

- * Jeff Bauer - President, Instructor Director
- * Larry Green – Training Director, Instructor Director
- * Rick Murcar – Vice-President, Director
- * Richard Dreher – Secretary/Treasurer Interim, Instructor Director
- * Tracy Grubbs – Director
- * Bert Wilcher, Director

* = Voting BOD Members QUORUM PRESENT

Debra Green - Operations Manager
Sean Denney – General Manager - absent

Committee Chairs Present:

Exploration/Survey – Alex Warren	Journal – Jeff Bauer
Membership – Rick Murcar	Publications – Debra Green
Safety – Richard Dreher	Science Committee – Joel and Jacki Clark

Members Present:

Stacy Dreher	Robert Trantum
Ben Wilcher	Don Syme

MEETING OPEN 6:13 PM

Approval of July 12, 2008 minutes - Approved.

Nomination for BOD Election 2008 –

Motion - Larry Green for the ID seat – approved, unanimous.

Motion - Rick Murcar for the D seat – approved, unanimous.

President's Report – Jeff Bauer – present. Horst Schmid Memorial read, moment of silence for the memory of Horst Schmid.

Created Facebook account for the NACD, high activity and this is a very valuable tool for the nacd.

Cave diving interview Tuesday for the NACD with Larry Green, for Classic 89 news' NPR affiliate station in Gainesville.

Man in the Sea Museum, Panama City, FL – looking to create cave diving section for the museum. Will meet with them and proceed with this project next quarter.

Vice-President's Report – Rick Murcar – Everything running smoothly.

Treasurer's Report – Richard Dreher (Interim Treasurer) – report submitted, attached. Financial status remains healthy. BOA General Fund - \$6,765.61, Sust. Cave Contributor Fund - \$14,363.50, Cert Deposit from Judy Bauer - \$10,593.56, Primerica Financial Account - \$29,914.00, Procter and Gamble - \$3,360.00, Total assets not including inventory - \$64,996.67.

Training Director's Report – Larry Green

Certification totals for 3rd Quarter, 2008, Total 100. Full – 40, Apprentice –6, Intro to Cave – 11, Cavern – 28, Spec. -15.

Working on translation of workbook to Russian and German. New look for workbook will be revealed in beginning of 2009.

Guidelines for Success pamphlet in the works with Sue Smith. Should be ready for print early next year.

NACD IEC dates are posted on website: Nov 10/11 – Cavern / Intro to Cave – Nov 12/13 – Full Cave
NACD 2nd Annual Rebreather Summit – November 16, 2008 at Camp Kalaqua where the NACD held their 1st Seminar 40 years ago.

Dan Alert Diver article submitted and printed – 3 part story on cave diving, good exposure for the NACD.

Operations Manager – Debra Green – Busy quarter. Everything running smooth. Need help with advertisement for the seminar and rebreather summit.

Wakulla – so far we have 16 bronze, 4 silver and 1 gold for 2008.

General Manager – Sean Denney – absent, report submitted. Currently scanning the journals for the third dvd archive (10 years each). First 20 years of journals are done. The redesign of the nacd catalog is coming along.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Coordinator – Tracy Grubbs – busy quarter. Went to Kennedy Space Center for Demo – staff members – Greg Orrell. 38 people showed up.

Accident Advisory – J. Bozanic – report submitted. Jeff Bauer had meeting with the Wakulla Co Dive Club, Sept 6, 2008, used the Accident Analysis Power Point for the meeting, very successful.

Conservation – Jason Ottinger – report submitted. Not alot of activity this quarter. Sustaining Contributor fund at aprx \$14, 800.00.

Equipment & Technology – Marius Clore – report submitted. Article on trimix dive computers written and submitted to the NACD Journal. An article on lightweight scooters is being prepared. Welcome to Bob Sheridan as a member of this committee.

Exploration & Survey – Alex Warren – report submitted. No requests in yet for funding the year of 2009. Deadline Dec 31, 2008. Beacon Woods map donated for use in the NACD Store.

Journal - Jeff Bauer – Advertisement on the Deco Stop – very proud that our journal attracts a lot of advertisers, and would like to thank all the journal advertisers, which make it possible for us to print a full color quality journal.

Always welcome new articles and pictures for the journal.

Deadline: Nov 15, 2008 for journal submissions for the 4th Q issue.

Membership & Nominating – Rick Murcar – Membership total is 1019.

Public Relations – Craig Walters – Dog Days, August 9, 2008, event very successful at Dive Outpost. Dive Rite did a demo day in conjunction with the event, along with a Rebreather clinic. NACD trailer was taken and we had a full selection of product on display. Received new members from the event, sold merchandise and got acquainted with many new cave divers. It was a very pleasant event and we anticipate that Cathy will want to do the event in 2009 again. Lunch provided by Cathy – great food and drinks.

Publications – Debra Green - NACD Store running smoothly, online orders shipped out daily. New products: Beacon Woods Map, new DVD's. Looking at large nacd stickers and slap straps.

Safety Officer – R. Dreher III – Quiet quarter. 3 new safety officers, John Ivanic, Toddy Waelde – Slovenia and Argyris Argyriadis – Greece. Installation of 2 signs this quarter. Line now available to go with gold line for safety officers. Water levels increasing, visibility increasing. 1 rebreather fatality Sept 19, 2008. Report forthcoming.

Science – Donald Kendrick –

The science committee has been active this past quarter with numerous water quality tests and workshops conducted, surveys on solo diving and gear configurations, personality traits of cave divers, and identification and counting of cave species.

I attended the 4th Annual NSS/CDS Missouri Workshop as an invited speaker on the NACD's water quality testing program. The slide show presentation and water testing generated a lot of interest. We dove cannonball spring at the bottom of Lake Wappapello for our water testing. We may soon have a Missouri contingent requesting the funding of another water quality test kit for the testing of Missouri springs and caves (I am working with several Missourians hoping they will make the request independently). Fish counts were taken during the Cannonball Springs dive and we sighted what were either several eels or rare species of salamanders. Documentation is needed, which means another visit soon!

A survey on attitudes regarding solo diving has been completed and the results will be presented to the BoD in a month or so, with a request to publish the findings in the journal. In general, preliminary data analysis suggests that scuba divers in general believe that solo diving is about as safe as diving with a buddy. It is clear that the general attitude is that solo diving can be as safe as buddy diving with proper training. Maybe no big surprise there, but with the increase in deaths of solo cave divers of late, the NACD may want to address this apparent disconnect between reality and belief.

A survey on personality traits of cave divers has also been completed and a report to the BoD, again with a request to publish the findings in the journal will be forthcoming. The findings are perhaps not too surprising in that cave divers tend to be independent thinkers, seek adventure, very low in trait anxiety, somewhat introverted, open to new ideas, and inventive.

Distribution of the Southern Cavefish is another project of the science committee and volunteers. The Southern Cavefish inhabits cave systems in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, southern Illinois, and Missouri, and we are finding new populations almost every week (as we discover and explore new cave systems - about 20 new systems explored over the summer with penetrations from 200 feet to 2,000 feet and most with still-going cave). The main project at this time is to accurately assess a local population located in the Guy-James system in Tennessee. This system is extensive, over 4,000 feet of mainline penetration (so far) with several karst windows, and numerous side passages, most of which have not been explored. It may turn out to be the largest single population of Southern Cavefish in the United States (they appear to be distributed throughout the system, rather than concentrated in any one location). The science committee is working on arranging a joint project with local state wildlife resource managers.

Fossilized remains of Mammoths and Mastodons have also been discovered in some of the caves we have been exploring and some have been retrieved and donated to local colleges/universities. In one system we have found complete tusks over eight feet long along with rib bones, teeth, leg bones, etc! Finding these bones is perhaps not unusual in the south-central states, but the locations suggest that the karst windows may have been the source of doom for these ancient creatures and may further indicate the age of the local hydrogeology. We are consulting with local geologists to see if the NACD can help contribute to the knowledge of the development of karst systems in this region of the country.

Finally, we are sampling what may be bacterial colonies in the local cave waters (areas where the water turns milky blue white) for analysis and in consultation with local University biologists hope to discover the cause of such "blooms" and whether they are harmful or helpful to aquatic species.

One last addition: We have also discovered what may be new species of aquatic salamanders and eyeless albino crayfish. I personally am seeking permission from the state to collect cave specimens for DNA analysis.

Joel and Jacki Clark (Science Committee members) will be in charge/care of the NACD Science Kit. Will get together and finalize details/rules and stock kit.

Webmaster – Shirley Kasser –

The website now contains a Photo Gallery, supported by an Access database back-end. Submissions are encouraged, and should include photographer's name and description of the photo. The static Safety Officer data has been converted to a table in the database, and now feeds the Safety Officer page dynamically. This makes maintenance of this data more accurate and efficient.

Site Statistics as of 10/08/08

Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Oct 2008	4754	3671	644	202	1217	734308	1617	5153	29368	38039
Sep 2008	5106	4063	610	201	3572	2645658	6055	18318	121897	153191
Aug 2008	5877	4426	619	236	3837	3150691	7334	19207	137230	182192
Jul 2008	5554	4104	672	251	4212	4480668	7791	20835	127244	172183
Jun 2008	5377	3951	750	286	4211	2076864	8588	22501	118554	161334

Additional statistics are available, ad nauseam, so feel free to contact me for me information. Suggestions, requests, and content are welcome and appreciated. On second thought: suggestions, requests, and content are requested! This is your website and sharing your thoughts on how to make it better is the best way to help it improve.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

DEMA – VEGAS – NACD will be at booth #3444. Discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tank to Bank Program – Scrap aluminum cylinders \$20 per cylinder, the intent is to get the old cylinders out of the community, safety concerns. Thanks to Tracy Grubbs for creating the flyer and implementing this program with the NACD.

New graphics being created for NACD stop sign and promo items.

The next quarterly meeting of the NACD BOD will be on Saturday, January 10, 2009, at Ginnie Springs Outdoors, 6 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:39 PM