

Kwajalein Scuba Club Meeting

10 February 2010

Called the meeting to order at 1901.

43 members & guests in attendance.

New members and guests welcomed: Doc Padgett; Charles Cable from Coco Beach, Florida; Regina & Roger Barker from Orlando, Florida; Stan Robbins from Kauai, Hawaii; and Dave from Huntsville.

Secretary's Report: Amy Daniels

January 2010 minutes are posted on KSC website and printed copies are available for review on front table.

Motion to approve the January minutes posted online by: Raoul Peeden

Seconded by: Bob Greene

Voting: **Yea** / ~~Nay~~ Results: Motion Carried

Treasurer Report: Mary Stone

Checking Account: \$13,886.64

Compressor Fund: \$15,395.83

CD's: \$20,800.00

Total: \$50,082.47

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report by: Scott Phillips

Seconded by: Tracy Pennington

Voting: **Yea** / ~~Nay~~ Results: Motion Carried

Tank House Report: Work Performed Between: 1/1/2010 and 1/31/2010

Total tanks filled = 1711

NOTE: This is the biggest January in the last 7 years that the club has been tracking! Maybe due to FN time and/or TDY visitors but this is a great number of safe dives none the less. Kudos to Mac for supporting this quantity of tank use.

VIP tanks = 120

Tanks tumbled = 2

Tanks stripped = 0

Tank House wages paid = \$ 1678.90

Tanks missing more than 1 month Nov 09 = 12

- We have recovered several tanks but there are still potentially more stored in boat houses or on boats. This will be discussed further in upcoming EC & DSC meetings.

- Personal pony bottles and Spare Air tanks have been coming into accountability but there was no fitting to properly service them. Mac has ordered the correct adaptors to be used for hydroing and filling. He has also ordered a few pressure valves that will be used to service the bottles and billed to the recipient who needs them.
- The wooden storage unit outside of the tank house was looked at by, Torrey Landers, Theresa Holbrook, and John Pennington. The condition is not as bad as originally thought. We will be replacing one broken hinge and three others with six new ones. There is some rotted wood that will be removed and replaced. Repairs should be able to be completed in less than two hours with materials low enough in cost not to require a vote. John will work with Doug Helper to complete this project.

Chief Dive Supervisor Report: Ivy Springer

- The council wants to thank Mary Ellen and Tom Gibson for all of their service to the dive council.
- There are spots open on the council for “at large” members. These people are the “voices for the club”. It is not necessary that you be insured to fill this position. The “at large” member duties include: attending all DSC and KSC meetings.
- It is becoming increasingly difficult to fulfill the need for orientation dives... we are losing council members and we need new instructors.
- Ivy acknowledged Carrie West as the “at large” teen member.
- Ivy wants to encourage everyone to continue with your dive instruction and get your rescue certification after your advanced certification.

Safety & Training Officer report: Ron Gamble

No incidents or injuries to report.

- Please continue to enjoy diving our deep wrecks but be reminded that our max limit is 130 feet. Please do not violate this rule.
- Ron is concerned about our diminishing ability to train new divers and serve orientation dives.

Pacific Club report: Ron Smith

- We will have a work party on 22 February starting at around 8:00 a.m. We really need help. Please contribute your time.
- There are many things that need to be done: painting, roofing, siding repair, and building a wall around the a/c.
- John will cook.
- If you want to help, please sign up with John or Ron.

Dive Locker report: Bill Williamson

- 3 new designs are on their way.
- We will have more rum reggae shirts at the next meeting.
- 500,000 dives shirt is on the way as well as the popular “I dive here . . .” design.
- Other super secret items are on the way.

Buoy Committee report: JB Scott

- There are a few members who will be sorting through existing buoy materials to replace as many old or missing buoys that they can. One specific location is the Palawan and they will be looking at the tank house board for other potential locations.
- New, more accurate, estimates arrived on Feb 7th and two separate commercial diver contractors have been approached for labor estimates to drill 80 holes at 40 sites as Phase-I of a USAKA reef conservation effort. We have also found new possible sources for funds and contacts to help drive this effort with USAKA and the RMI. Anthony Hoover has been off-island but is back and has agreed to review the reef conservation proposal and to provide input. Also, conversations with the Roi Dolphins indicate they will be supportive as this moves forward.

Old Business:

The Marina Improvement Project

- John Pennington, Torrey Landers, and Theresa Holbrook met to review the completed work and what can be done to make it nicer. Community Activities have agreed to provide a six foot plastic table to sort gear and a round picnic table at no cost to the KSC. The marina will relocate the rock trashcan to the other side of the private pier and put the picnic table there.
- If approved under ‘New Business’, we plan to repaint the faded dip tank, white with nice dive flag flair. The inside would look nicer painted the blue like what was done at the pool dip tank but Community activities cannot provide the paint. They do support the other dip tanks being painted and a dive flag added since we maintain those areas.
- The marina will help also us by cutting loose the old cables and rope that are lying at the end of the tank house so we can keep the salvageable buoys and the trash can be cleared out from the area so as not to be a trip hazard.

“Get In the Mix 2010” invite

- Community Activities is inviting all clubs, private organizations, vendors and departments to promote their group, service or activity and “Get in the Mix.” The goal is to get people out and actively participating in the community. The event date is **Wednesday, February 24th from 6:00-8:00pm** in the CRC Gym. John Pennington has reserved two tables for the KSC to sell Dive Locker goods and to provide membership details.
- Carrie West and Kaitlynn Phillips volunteered to help staff the KSC tables for this event. We are looking for one or two more members to assist.

10th Annual Spring Break Music Festival

- March 28 from 1:00-10:00 at Emon Beach.
- KSC will donate some door prizes and have a chance to staff a table for the Dive Locker. We will need several volunteers to help staff the tables from about noon-6:00 p.m. in 2 hour shifts. Please contact John Pennington for scheduling.
- The KSC will be sponsoring an event similar to the KSC Turkey Hunt where items will be placed in the water and will be redeemable for koozies, shirts and hats. Mike Woundy will be the dive master for this event. We are also looking into Danny Barthle's adult tricycles to race if they can be fixed in time.

New Business:

Dip Tank Repairs and Painting

- Drain valve handles are rusted through and sharp so they should be replaced ASAP.
- Mike Cole and John Pennington have volunteered to paint the dip tanks at the Marina, Emon Beach and the Ski Wreck. Working on estimates and approval for paint and supplies through GSK.
 - PAINT, POLYURETHANE PROTHANE HIGH GLOSS; COLOR VIVID RED; KIT PART A: 4800A & B: 480029; MARINE; MFG: SHERWIN WILLIAMS (1 GAL/KIT) \$89.4131 per kit (plus KRS mark up) / 4 kits on island – Need 2 total.
 - PAINT, POLYURETHANE PROTHANE HIGH GLOSS; COLOR: WHITE; KIT PART A: 4800A & B: 4801-00; MARINE; MFG: SHERWIN WILLIAMS (1 GAL/KIT) \$72.7247 per kit (plus KRS mark up) / 65 kits on island – Need 7 total.
 - Blue for inside like the pool would be nice but not critical and could be done later if we can obtain leftover paint from an adult pool project.
 - Brushes, rollers, and trays aren't in the paint kits so need those too.
 - Tanks need to be pressure washed first and then time to dry before painting.
 - Will try to space out painting to do after weekend use so each will be out of service for 2-3 days at a time. Email will be sent when work is being planned.

A motion was made to approve up to \$900 in materials to replace the rusted/sharp valve handles at Emon & Ski Wreck and for enough paint/supplies to do all 3 dips tanks nicely in white with a dive flag.

Motion to approve by: Jim Bishop Seconded by: Bob Greene

Voting: **Yea** / ~~Nay~~ Results: Motion Carried

Reciprocal Diving on Roi

- The Roi-Namur Dolphins would like us to clarify their position on what support they will provide to KSC members. A very old KSC newsletter (The First Stage - January 13, 2005) and an old email (July 11, 2007) between clubs was brought up this month as a point of order from the Dolphins. Apparently there have been a few TDY divers who completed their orientation on Kwajalein and then wanted to dive on Roi. Per the Dolphins membership page; ONLY the KSC members with K-badges have reciprocal privileges and need to give the Dolphins notification before diving there. Unless they are Active Duty Military, all TDY divers need to pay \$50 for a Roi orientation and \$50 dues to dive there, even if they already completed a KSC orientation.
<http://www.roinamurdolphins.com/membership.htm>
- Both clubs should have accurate "good & bad diver lists" to be exchanged and the clubs recognize that they need to communicate more often than they have. Roi renewals are in January and they only have about 30 members so they are going to provide us a list

ASAP. The KSC membership renewals are coming up in April. The “good & bad diver lists” will be shared between clubs.

- During the next EC meeting, we may try to coordinate a telephone call with their EC if further discussions are needed.
- Lisa Shier shared that the reason for the separate charge to dive on Roi is due to their very limited membership (they only have 42 members). The funds from the orientation dives go towards repairing their equipment.

Farwell to Dear Friends

- Tom and Maryellen Gibson have been tremendously active and supportive for the KSC but it is time for them to leave Kwajalein at their 10th year here. We are losing a very active and capable PADI Instructor from the DSC and two really good dive buddies for the club. We wish them all the best as they return to their “cold-water” diving Florida. John presented Maryellen with a KSC hat and a card with Red Lobster gift cards from the club as a small token of appreciation.

Nitrox Committee

- Lisa would like the KSC to charter a committee to come up with a plan for the possibility of using Nitrox here on Kwajalein.
- The committee will create a detailed plan. Talk to USAKA and then bring the plan to KSC for approval and changes.
- Bob Greene, Scott Phillips, Dan Farnham and Jim Bishop have already volunteered for positions on the committee.

A motion was made to get this committee chartered.

Motion to approve by: Mike Woundy

Seconded by: Tracy Pennington

Voting: **Yea** / ~~Nay~~ Results: Motion Carried

Open Forum:

John Pennington- What happened to “The First Stage”; The Newsletter of the Kwajalein Scuba Club? When did it die and does anyone with journalist talent and time to do it have an interest in reviving it?

A: Lisa Shier- This publication was full of interesting dive articles and activity announcements. It died in 2005 because the production and distribution was way too expensive. The KSC website was created then and thought to be a good replacement. Ivy Springer stated that she did it for two years and has copies if anyone was interested in seeing them. Nobody volunteered to revive the newsletter even though it could be done in pdf and posted to the website or emailed.

John reminded the members in attendance that the KSC Facebook page is up and running.

Cipher Lock issue- This will be discussed at the DSC meeting.

Member dues- Will they be increasing in April?

A: No. The dues will be \$120 for the year. It was mentioned that there might be enough money in the compressor fund to waive the \$30 fee by a vote.

GPS Found- Mike Woundy found a GPS in 80 feet of water. It is currently being held at the Marine Dept.

Ivy & her visiting parents- shared that they stayed at the Nautilus Resort in Kosrae recently. They had a wonderful experience and are more than willing to share information that they gathered with anyone who may be interested.

Email problems- a member stated that she has signed up for email updates through KSC but has never received any.

A: Mary Stone updates the membership list. Contact her or Trace Fleming, who actually sends the emails, to ensure you are on the list. We need to ensure our April/May renewals capture accurate emails and other details.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, 10 March @ 7:00 p.m. at the Pacific Club.

Motion to adjourn by: Ron Gamble

Meeting adjourned at: 7:53 p.m.

Note: There is an after meeting presentation by Chuck Kuzy of the Fiji trip that several KSC members recently took.