



Waterworld

Club TAG Line Goes Here

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2007

Loogpla Cowden

Named Honorary Emerald Sea Dive Club Member



Loogpla Cowden, Hank and Shawn Miller

EMERALD SEA DIVE CLUB

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Photo by

Andy Norton

By Johanna Raupe

It was a night of emotional tears and gratitude. On December 16th, 2006 Loogpla Cowden, the 2006 Emerald Sea Dive Club president was bestowed the honor of ‘Honorary Member’ as recognition for her contributions in leadership and in making the Emerald Sea Dive Club (ESDC) what it is today. It has been Loogpla’s outgoing personality and her warm gentle smile that has welcomed many a new individual into the club.

Loogpla put on her first set of scuba fins in the early fall of 1993; September to be exact. Scuba became a love and looking for potential dive buddies Loogpla found her way to the ESDC the following month.

Loogpla joined the ESDC in October of 1993, which makes her a 13 year veteran of the club. She has held many roles and has unselfishly contributed to the growth of the club.

Loogpla has held the position of Greeter, Vice President for two years and ultimately President of the club from January of 2005 through the end of 2006. Under her leadership the club has come into its own as a close knit community of skilled divers.

As part of a personal goal, Loogpla strived to build the club to a total of 100 members. At the dawn of her presidency, the club had 60 members. Today the club has 75 active members and is still growing. And what do you think contributed to this growth in the club’s ranks. None other than Loogpla’s love for people, spending personal time with them socializing and developing rich enchanting dive memories. She is best known for her passion concerning the club and her love of the individual members in the club.





By Loogpla Cowden

Over the past couple of years it has really been a rewarding experience for me to see the members of the Emerald Sea Dive Club (ESDC) become involved and active participants in the Critter Collection events at Camp Casey and Richmond Beach, our community service event at the Edmonds Fishing Pier Cleanup and the Social events of the Club Picnic and Christmas Party. It has also been fulfilling to see growth in membership hosting and support of the local diving events and the trips.

As a parting presidential note, being associated with such a wonderful group of divers and their commitment and support in itself has been a very satisfying and enriching experience. As I pass the torch to your new ESDC President, Jill Keeler, I do so with much emotion and thankfulness that I was given the opportunity to have experienced all of the

warm relationships with each and everyone of you. Once again, thank you for the trust that you bestowed upon me for the past two years.

Now Lets Get
Diving!
Loogpla



Loogpla Cowden accepting Appreciation Award December 2006

Redondo Beach Dive

By Pam Norton

Located about 20 minutes south of Seattle, Redondo Beach Shore Dive is a diverse dive site teeming with marine life. The site is easily accessible and perfect for marine photography.



Depending on your skill level, dive experience and special interest, Redondo offers two different unique dive profiles. Option one is to head due west off of the Highline Pier to a depth of about 85 or 90 feet where a large bottle and can field heavily covered with vegetation may be found. Within this bottle field the inquisitive diver will find red octos, stubby squid, and a variety of gunnells, rock fish, pile perch and tube

"The inquisitive diver will find red octos, stubby squid, and a variety of gunnells, rock fish, pile perch and tube snouts."

snouts. On the trip down or back at the 70 foot depth the diver may peruse through boats, tire stacks, heavily oxidized steel drums and a memorial to Steve Golden.

Option two is to head north off of the Highline Pier while maintaining a depth no deeper than 45 feet. Dive attractions include a couple of boats, several large outdoor light reflector piles, a toilet, an oven, Volkswagen bug, and rubble pile or miniature wall. Creatures that can be found at this site include rock fish, painted greenling, grunt sculpin, sailfin sculpin, crescent gunnells, bay pipe fish, tube snouts, red octopus, stubby, squid, shrimp, red rock crabs, decorator crabs and kelp crabs. On the way back spend the end of the dive under the Highline Pier where you'll find various Nudibranchs, small sculpins, decorator crabs, kelp crabs and maybe a juvenile wolf eel.

Pam



SHRIMP ON JELLY, Edmonds Oil Dock, Edmonds, Washington



Photo by Greg Becvar

The Day the Earth Stood Still



Photographer Greg Becvar at the 2006 ESDC Awards and Christmas Party

Through The Lens

Each month as a member of the ESDC you have the opportunity to share your special photos with other members of the club.

To have your special images printed in the newsletter. Email your digital image to ESDC_Scuba@verizon.net with the subject 'Through The Lens.' Include your name, an optional snappy caption for the photo, the subject and the location that the image was taken.



Through The Lens

LINGCOD, Jetty Way - Edmonds Underwater Park, Edmonds, Washington



Photo by Greg Bevan

I Can't Believe I Ate the Whole Thing!

High Adventure Diving with Dolphin Charters

YES!....on Sunday, Jan. 7th we're diving with Dolphin Charters www.dolphin-charters.com The dive boat is a 20 ft. Avon RIB with a 140 hp outboard motor - she's fast!

We are diving the *Hat Island Barges* (wreck dive) 50-120 ft. This site consists of two barges that were sunk to form a wave barrier. These old wooden barges are very interesting with lots of sea life. Lingcod, rockfishes, and many other species. It is great for all divers, and NO CURRENT.

We will catch the boat in Everett at 9:00AM. It is a two tanks dive with food, snacks & drinks included for ONLY \$60.00 per person!

Are you ready to start out the year with some great diving with *Dolphin Charters* doing some High Adventure Diving? Please see Loogpla at the ESDC Club meeting or call at 206-399-5682



Photo by
Johanna Raupe

Dear Emerald Sea Dive Club;

I want to say thank you all for voting me your 2006 member of the year. It was a total shock, and an honor all at the same time. I hope 2006 was a good year to all of you and I'll try to make 2007 better. As for being the club's activities coordinator, I will do my best to keep up with your dives and keeping the calendar up to date. Once again, Thank You All..

Love

Shawn Miller



For the Traveling Diver ... New Passport Requirement

Starting January 23, 2007, passports will be required for all U.S. citizens traveling to or from the United States via air with destinations of Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean (exceptions: Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) and Bermuda.



Jill,

Thanks for the coffee mugs. We use them every morning to hold that cup of Java.

The Emerald Sea Dive Club



To: the ESDC club Members that helped with the Christmas Party,

I would like to express my thanks to those of you that helped with not only the set up but also the clean up at the Christmas Party. I would like to express a special Thank You to Sabine & Glenn for cooking the Turkey and Skip for cooking the Ham.

And then there were those that helped with the set up and clean-up. I could start with Norman, Clarice, Jordan, Andy, Pam, Loogpla, and the list goes on and on. For fear of leaving anyone out I should probably list the entire attendance. As the party adjourned, everyone pitched in to put the whole place back to how it was before we came. I thank each and every one of you for a wonderful year and a fantastic end of year Christmas Party Celebration.

Jill



Trust is a four-letter word

By Lady Goodiver

It's a dive I'm still trying to learn from. I offer the story here only because I hope you can learn from it too. The short of it is, the only person you should trust on a dive is yourself. If you are uncomfortable with any part of a dive, have the confidence to tell your buddy. It does not matter if you're a novice and he/she is a dive master. Trust yourself and be assertive. Do not wait for a crisis to drive the decisions you make underwater.

The site was the Mukilteo T-Dock. I've done crab diving here, as well as a more recent dive down the buoy line to visit the octopus under the sunken boat. This time, the objective was to find the statue of Pan. I didn't know anything about the statue so I deferred to my buddy to lead.

I fully admit that ego had a lot to do with the impending fiasco. My buddy pressed two big hot-buttons. First, "Are you deep dive certified?" My answer: "No, but I've been to 120 feet plenty of times, including this site." Second, "Well, how are you on air?" As a woman of short stature, and decent dive experience (500+ dives over 20 years), this question was irritating. Yes, I only have an aluminum 80 tank, but I usually come up with 1,000 pounds of air.

The beginning of the dive should have been a red flag. "I don't like surface swims," my buddy said, as he dropped down quickly after we donned our gear. I went along with it. I shouldn't have, especially as we were planning a deep dive and I had an 80 tank. Plus, I really like surface swims as a chance to get into a breathing rhythm, get over an ice-cream head-ache, and to acquaint myself with a site.

I took a "back to the beach" compass reading before we descended. I'm still trying to figure out why I didn't use it later. 17 minutes into the dive we were at 80 feet. We were fighting current. I was already at 2000 lbs of air. I signaled to my buddy with four open-then-closed fist signals. I have no idea if he understood.

We dropped to 110 feet. Still fighting current. The mediocre visibility at lesser depths became worse. I felt like I was on a night dive. My anxiety was building.

Was I narc'ed? I don't know. We dropped to 120 feet, then 128 feet. I had 1500 lbs of air. I signaled to my buddy. He signaled in response to turn. Not back to shore, but at least parallel to shore. "Okay, I'll stick with this," I thought. We're on a mission to find that statue.

21 minutes now, and I'm down to 1000 lbs at 120 feet. "How the %*(# did I let myself get into this position?"

I said. I stopped, told my buddy I had 1000 pounds, and signaled to that I was going up.

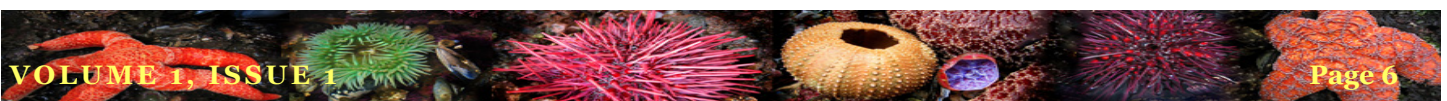
"How the %*(# did I let myself get into this position?"

I rose to 100 feet, waiting to see if my buddy would follow. He did. I went up to 80, then 60, then 45 feet. We attempted a mid-water back-to-shore swim. The current had us spinning in a circle. I looked at my dive computer, but mostly my air gauge. I was down to 500 pounds. "This is embarrassing," I thought. Yeah, not, "I'm going to run out of air, or I'm going to get the bends." My overriding thought was that I looked lame.

We went up to 24 feet. A safety stop? At this point I wasn't really thinking, except that I knew I was not ready to go to the surface. 200 lbs of air! Breathing heavily. My buddy offered me his octopus. I took it. He struggled to find a D-ring on my B.C. He found it and hung on. "Thank you, thank you, thank you" ran through my head. We stayed there for 4 minutes. My dive computer pegged me as in the 'caution zone,' but not in a mandatory decompression situation. I floated to the surface.

A long surface swim ensued. "I am so embarrassed, I'm sorry," I think I said. "How did that happen?" my buddy responded. We agreed we had a lot to talk about when we get to shore.

My buddy was gracious. He chocked the dive up to crazy current and low visibility.



Trust ... Continued

I ticked off the things I 'should have' done: a surface swim, less time at depth, following my compass, instead of trusting his, being more adamant about going to shallower depths.

The bottom line, as I said at the beginning of this story: know yourself, trust yourself, and be assertive about yourself. Don't apologize, and don't defer to your buddy, just because he/she has a higher level of certification or more experience at a site.

"I will abort any dive where I feel unsafe;"

Here are the commitments I've made to myself:

From now on...

- I will abort any dive where I feel unsafe; I will only

dive with buddies that understand this.

- I will only go to 70 feet with someone I haven't buddied up with before.
- I will insist on a surface swim if it's an option
- I will insist that the person with the smallest tank determines the dive plan
- I will dive at slack, and if I have misjudged the current, I'll return to shore.
- I will be heading back to shore at 1000 lbs
- If I want to see a statue underwater I'll look on the web:

<http://www.underwatersculpture.com/gallery.html>

I'm sure there are other things I should do 'from now on.' I welcome your suggestions in the newsletter ESDC_Scuba@verizon.net or on the ESDC Yahoo site!

Lady Goodiver



Photography Contest Winners Announced



First Place: Cheng-Hui Wong



Second Place: Robert Bailey



Third Place: Johanna Raupe

2006 Awards

By Shawn Miller

The 2006 awards are given out each year to members of the club in recognition of the past years 'Above and Beyond' events.

- **I'm a Lost Diver**, goes to **Fran Murray** , for getting lost on the way to flowing lake.
- **Can We Beat The Current** , goes to **Norman Gregory** and **Johanna Raupe**, for losing your critters and your gear but keeping a cool head.
- **Don't Mess With Me**, goes to **Johanna Raupe** for recovering the stolen 50 cents
- **Your The Best Dive Buddy**, goes to **Tina Seawell**, for sticking with Steve, in his darkest hours.
- **Wake Up And Smell The Roses**, goes to **Wendy Drucker**, for almost missing here ride off the ferry. No time for a tour.
- **Collecting Critter Crew**, goes to **Greg Becvar**, **Bruce Bury**, for going back to collect critters for Fort Casey.
- **Go Get Bent**, goes to **Steve Berthinier**, we are glad you are here with us, Bend the rebar back straight!!!!111



Membership Renewal

With the new year also comes membership renewal. If you are planning on renewing your club membership and any of your personal information has changed, please take a moment to provide us with your contact info.

Name

Address

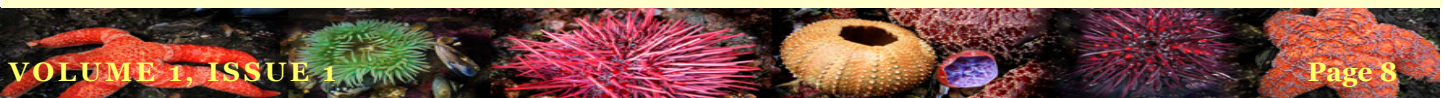
Phone

E-Mail

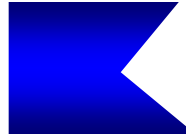
Single Membership

Family Membership

Membership dues are; Single Membership \$30, Family Membership \$47. Please return the completed form to the new secretary Peggy.



Christmas



By Ship Stacy

A REAL GOOD ONE

Lotsa Food — Lotsa Prizes — Lotsa Gifts
Lotsa People

This year's 2006 Emerald Sea Dive Club Christmas Party was *lots of* everything. The party was held in the historic Waltz Building in downtown Snohomish. The turnout to the party was one of the best ever; At least 50 to 60 members and their families. It was nice to visit with members we seldom see and rehash past dives with those that we see frequently.

A historic second time in club history as Loogpla received the Honorary Lifetime Membership, following in Jeff and Clyde Margolis footsteps. Many Congratulations for a well deserved award.

A few other well deserved (You know who you are and why) presentations and it was then chowtime with everything anyone could desire to feast on. There was a fair amount (If not more) of dessert, especially chocolate, and my personal thanks to those of you who remembered the old sweet tooth (singular).



Piles of trip give-aways that will fill up next years dive calendar if the winners all sponsor these as club trips. Many Many thanks to the charters and resort operators that provided these dona-

tions. Lots of other prizes; from an Aluminum 80 --- a Pony Bottle--- a couple of the new ID Books and various other diver treasures.

Garrett's wooden cutting board will be set aside as a piece of art work in my household. And I hope all members will enjoy their winnings throughout 2007. The gift exchange went pretty smooth without any chewed up Frisbees or cowbells to be unwrapped. With the storm and power outages I hope the warmth, fellowship and good food more then made up for what nature brought us a couple days before the party. The whole club made this a roaring success and it really makes me look forward to all the diving (and food) that the New Year will bring. Thanks to all and a *Merry Merry Christmas* and *Hanukah*.

Skip 

Newsletter Credits

I would like to take a moment here to recognize the following individuals for their contributions in this months newsletter

Andy Norton (Photography)

Pam Norton (Redondo & Layout)

Robert Lischke (Photos & Layout)

Loogpla Cowden (Truly Rewarding)

Cathy Duchamp (Photography)

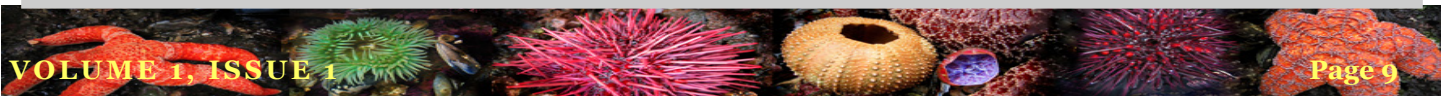
Skip Stacy (Christmas)

Greg Becvar (Through the Lens)

Lady Goodiver (Trust 4 letter word)

Shawn Miller (Currents & Awards)

Jill Keeler (Currents)



ESDC Elects New Officers



The Emerald Sea Dive Club elected new officers to serve for the 2007 calendar year. The following new officers were announced at the Christmas Party.

President: Jill Keeler

Vice President: Rich Carton

Secretary: Peggy McCright

Treasurer: Laura Orlich

Activities Coordinator: Shawn Miller

Newsletter Editor: Johanna Raupe

Appointed Positions still to be determined ...

Greeter

WEB Master

Big Buddy Coordinator

The following individuals have expressed an interest in the appointed positions:

Greeter - Loogpla Cowden

WEB Master - Andy Norton

Big Buddy Coordinator - Pam Norton

If you are interested in one of these positions, please send an email to ESDC_Scuba@verizon.net with the subject line of "Interest in Appointed Positions"



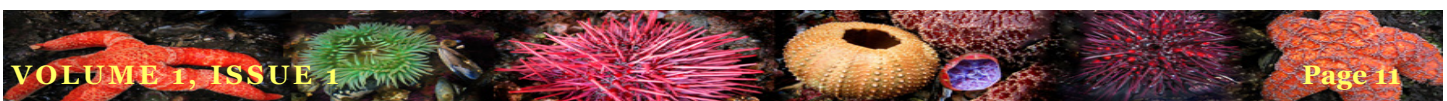
Scheduled Dives

JANUARY 2007

mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun
1	2	3 Club Meeting	4	5	6	7 High Adventure Boat Diving <i>Dolphin Charters</i>
8	9	10	11	12 Cove 2 Night Dive 7:00 PM	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

If you would like to host a dive or have one that we may not be aware of — please send an email to ESDC_Scuba@verizon.net with the subject line **Hosting a Dive**. I will include it in the monthly dive calendar.

Next months dive calendar should be more elaborate than this months. Hint ... Loogpla is busy scheduling bunches and bunches of activities for all of us to participate in and I here that someone else may be hosting some dives as well.



EMERALD SEA DIVE CLUB

Emerald Sea Dive Club
PO Box 73
Edmonds, WA 98020

Newsletter E-mail:
ESDC_Scuba@verizon.net

*The CLUB TAG Line Goes here
~ Author*

Next Club Meeting

The ESDC meets the first Wednesday of the month at



Alfy's Pizza
4820 196th SW
Lynnwood, WA
(425)-775-5459

Board meeting at 6:00 PM; Everyone is welcome
General club meeting 7:00 PM.

We are on the WEB!

www.emeraldseadiveclub.org

Directions to Alfys:

From IH-5: Take exit 181 (Lynnwood). Turn right onto 196th St SW.

ESDC TAG Line Contest

Contest Contest Contest

Here is an opportunity to get your name emblazoned in the newsletter directly below the TAG line each and every month of the 2007 calendar year. Submittals for a Club TAG Line are now being accepted. Send your ideas to ESDC_Scuba@verizon.net with the subject line **TAG Line Contest**. Entries must be received by Noon on January 3, 2007.

- 1). Got a sinking feeling and loving it!
- 2). The club that is always on the bottom.
- 3). Many tanks to you!
- 4). Divers R Us!
- 5). To the Bottom and Beyond!
- 6). Cold, wet, and slimy. Who could ask for anything more!
- 7). Happy Tails to You
- 8). Who Goes Down, Must Come Up.
- 9). The Silent World Beckons
- 10). While other clubs sink boats, our club sinks planes!
- 11). Emerald Sea Dive Club, the University of Diver-sity
- 12). Welcome Nitrogen Addicts!
- 13). Ever wonder what's down there? Join ESDC and find out.
- 14). How's the viz?
- 15). Diving for Freedom
- 16). We Dive for Freedom

