



**BAUE**  
BAY AREA  
UNDERWATER  
EXPLORERS

# BAUE NEWS: 2006 In Review

## BAUE Gets Organized

The past year of 2006 has been a very active year for BAUE. When you read below, I think you will be amazed at all that we've accomplished as an organization.

### ORGANIZATION

In late 2005, BAUE finally cleared the final hurdles to get the organization registered with the State of California. We received our tax exempt status from the State of California and the IRS as a 501(c)3 non-profit this year. While this sounds like it has little to do with diving, it made

BAUE a real legal entity that could engage in projects, sign agreements with 3<sup>rd</sup> parties (like for grants and permits) and handle money. This required a tremendous and unfortunately unpleasant effort (think IRS Form 1040 turned up 20 times) effort lead by Suzanne Baird and Dave Chamberlin -- many thanks to Suzanne and Dave.

Since we could now handle money, BAUE could now collect dues and institute annual membership renewal. So we re-enrolled

the members. At year end we had 55 members including five honorary and one remote member.

Our primary expenditures in 2006 in descending order were for T-shirts, tax filing fees, a Global Mapper license for BAUE, token appreciation gifts for the Escapade Captain and crew, and Paypal fees.

Our two projects and two clinics were entirely funded by participant contributions.

## Membership & New Members

### NEW MEMBERS

While we were very pleased to see the vast majority of existing members renew, it was fantastic to see so many new members. New members are essential to the long term growth of BAUE. The member growth has been primarily due to an upsurge in training. We'd like to recognize the following folks that joined BAUE after passing DIRF during the year:



Harry Wong & Todd Lasman with Beto Nava, GUE DIRF Instructor

- Greg Dunn
- Ildiko Frank
- Todd Lasman
- David Macheel
- Ryan Press
- Ian Rosaaen
- Ben Villao
- Harry Wong

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## GUE Instruction

BAUE was fortunate to not only have visiting instructors but to have Beto Nava certified as a new GUE DIRF instructor. During 2006 Beto ran or joined Bob Sherwood in teaching four DIRF classes with a total of 15 students. In addition Beto ran several Buoyancy Clinics, Bottle Clinics and Gavin Scooter Classes. Beto is not only an outstanding instructor

but also a very active one as well.

In April, Bob Sherwood, a GUE DIRF and Tech instructor based in New York, visited and ran a DIRF class and a skills clinic. And in July BAUE was fortunate to get Jarrod Jablonski, founder and head of GUE, out here for diving, instruction and public outreach (more on that below). JJ ran both a

Tech1 and Tech 2 class. Lastly, in November, Chris Le Maillot and Daniel Riordan, GUE Cave instructors from the Yucatan in Mexico, made a side trip to the Bay Area for a Line and Survey Clinic.



### Paul Braunbehrens

1966–2006

**We are saddened to report that longtime BAUE member and GUE Tech 1 diver Paul Braunbehrens succumbed to brain cancer on January 6th, 2007. Rest in Peace, Paul. You will be missed.**

**Following in the footsteps of GUE & WKPP, BAUE promotes public awareness, education and scientific discovery through exploration and research support within Monterey, Carmel & Big Sur ocean environments**

## Projects & Scientific Contribution

In 2006 BAUE made the first step of one of its long-term goals – to execute complex projects that contribute/support scientific research, assist in environmental protection or support diving. This year we executed on two projects and began two more. The two completed projects were designed as “organizational dress rehearsals” that developed our project management skills with a large number of divers and surface support personnel on shallow, relatively small dive sites.

- In February we conducted the BAUE Barge Project which centered around a roughly 100’ long wrecked barge that may be nearly 100 years old. Underwater, the project involved survey, photography and video. We also collected historical information and published all the data at [www.baue.org/projects/barge/index.php](http://www.baue.org/projects/barge/index.php)
- In August we conducted the multidisciplinary survey of “Shale Island”, a low raised shale bed in 65FSW known for its abundant life in its many cracks and holes. The site is much larger than the barge, at about 400 feet by 120 feet so teams were often out of sight of others. We also expanded data collection to include marine life surveys in 3’X3’ quadrants and coupling GPS tracking on dynamic underwater video while scootering. The data collected from this project is found at [www.baue.org/projects/shale/](http://www.baue.org/projects/shale/)

## Projects & Scientific Contributions Continued

In Q4 we planned a kickoff of two new projects that will build on our dress rehearsals, both of which are sited at Pt. Lobos. We obtained scientific research permits from the State of California enabling us to launch two long term projects:

- Lobos Mapping Project – while CSUMB has generated excellent bathymetry data (detail depth maps) of outer Whalers Cove, due to the kelp cover that interferes with the sonar, Whalers Cove itself is unmapped. The goal of the project is to produce a map (hopefully very detailed) of the diveable areas of the cove and to make the data available to the public in useful form. This project is underway.
- Nudibranch Research Project – The objective of this project is to systematically survey nudibranchs within Pt. Lobos over an extended period and provide this data to researchers. We have been told by researchers that BAUE's regular and organized collection of this data will be of unique value to Nudibranch research.

## Education & Public Outreach

In 2006 we were graced with outstanding speakers who are engaged in amazing projects of their own. These individuals and the teams they represent 'back home' inspire BAUE's project goals.

- While technically not in 2006, in December 2005 Dr. Todd Kincaid visited and spoke to BAUE of his hydrologic research in the Woodville Karst Plain which is driving a new understanding of how pollutant rich surface water quickly penetrate the aquifers of surrounding Tallahassee FL. None of this work would be possible without the amazing cave diving of WKPP.
- In July Jarrod Jablonski, leader of GUE, and world record exploration

diver of WKPP shared his gripping accounts of new line laid only weeks earlier on world record dives within the Woodville Karst Plain. The talk was before a packed house of both BAUE and non-BAUE divers. Todd Kincaid also delivered a reprise of his December talk.

- In November, Chris LeMaillot & Danny Riordan shared results of their pioneering exploration of cave systems in Mexico that connected vast and previously thought unconnected cave systems. Their explorations will potentially aid in conserving these resources and protecting the aquifers. In addition they trained our Lobos Mapping team on survey techniques they use to map the caves.



**JJ enthralls the crowd with a recounting of the latest explorations in caves of Florida – July 2006**

BAUE Works  
For You!!

Renew Your  
Membership

January is our 2007 membership renewal month. Looking back at everything BAUE and the membership as accomplished in 2006 it's clear that 2007 will be another great year. Your membership brought you everything discussed above as well as the 2006 BAUE T-shirt! 2007 will bring you a new shirt design, project participation, the BAUE email list, special events, guest speakers, BAUE-only boat charters, pool sessions, GUE training and a whole lotta fun. Membership is still only \$60 for 2007.

Renew before January 31 either by mail or at [www.baue.org/finance/payments.php](http://www.baue.org/finance/payments.php), after logging in.



Mail Renewal To:  
Bay Area Underwater Explorers  
765 Spruce Street  
Berkeley CA 94707

## Fun & Social Events

It hasn't been all projects and training. There has been lots of fun! All of our guests this year created occasions for Fun Dives off the Escapade and from Lobos. Bob, Todd, JJ, Chris and Danny were all joined by BAUE divers having a blast. We also had a July 4<sup>th</sup> on the water

aboard the Escapade on Monterey Bay! (Ooooooh, Aaahh). We even used the birthdays of some of the members as an excuse to dive – and eat – and talk – about diving. And members enjoyed monthly boat charters including extended trips along the Big Sur coast.



## BAUE "In The News"

BAUE is known and respected around the world. Efforts by our local authors and photographers have enhanced our image. Three articles were published by local authors in QUEST: Beto Nava: "Got My Video System... What's Next?"

Susan Bird: "Imagine

This"

Susan Bird: "Team Building: The BAUE Solution"

Beto Nava & Susan Bird: "The Barge Project: A First Step in BAUE's Project Development Program"

BAUE photographer Mike Jimenez seemed to be in every issue of QUEST with his beautiful work and Clinton Bauder graced one of the pictures in the 2006 GUE calendar and also contributed several local photos for articles in Quest.

Daniel Riordan (2nd from left) and Chris LeMaillot (5th from right) with a bunch of happy BAUE line and survey students at Pt. Lobos