

The Mouthpiece



MARCH 2002

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

DRY TORTUGAS LIVE-ABOARD *June 15-20, 2002*

Plans are being finalized for an ADA trip to the unspoiled reefs of the Dry Tortugas. Located 70 miles west of Key West, Fl. National Geographic and many government agencies have studied these reefs over the past few years and have pronounced them to be the finest in this part of the world. A live-aboard is the only way to explore this remote area, and we have plans to utilize the research vessel "Tiburón" which departs from Key West. It is a modern yacht which will accommodate 14 divers in full comfort. It is a twin diesel, 63' long with twin cabins, AC, nitrox, fresh water maker, and all usual cruising amenities. This will be a non-spear fishing private ADA charter. This will be an advanced diving trip for those who meet the ADA Advanced criteria. (see Rules & Regulations page for Advanced Criteria)

COST- approx. \$1100. March newsletter will have complete details.

RESERVATIONS- call Lon and send a non-refundable deposit of \$100.

CANCELLATIONS- If another diver fills your space all monies will be refunded. Otherwise if the space goes unused, a 90 day notice will refund all monies less the deposit of \$100. Less than 90 days notice will result in no refunds.

INCLUDED- all meals, tanks, weights, non-alcohol drinks, linens, twin share.

BALANCE DUE- March 15.

Trip insurance is recommended.

FROM THE LOG OF LON VON LINTEL (DRY TORTUGAS TRIP '93 HIGHLIGHTS)

SITE NAME	WATER TEMP	MAX DEPTH	WATER VISIBILITY
Mushroom Many large coral heads, much coral, 200 lb grouper, many fish.	84	50	30
Twin Peaks Many caves, fish and coral good, mini wall 45-70 ft.	84	70	100
Bommie Pretty reef, coral pristine, fish pop. good, wall 40-90 ft.	84	70	75
Texas Rock Outstanding corals, brains, star, mound, fish pop. good, best seen in this part of world, 30 ft mountains, 3 large eagle rays. 6 ft sting ray.	84	40	40
French wreck Pristine corals on wreck, many fish, blizzard of small stuff, sank 1907. Great nite dive spot, many unusual critters.	84	20	60
Loggerhead Mini wall 20-60 ft., stingrays, coral and fish good, sawtooth ledge. many caves.	84	50	30

We made 16 dives, some repeats, and still had time to tour Ft. Jefferson, a real trip into the past. This trip did not include the now famous **Sherwood Forest**, it had not yet been discovered. The June trip will.

ADA Annual Awards Presentation and Family Fun Night

March 23, 2002 ♦ 7 P.M.

WHO All ADA members, family and guests.

WHAT Dinner, Awards, Videos, Music, Fun.

WHEN Saturday, March 23, 7 P.M.

WHERE Dave and Busters fun place, Midway Party Room, FI turnpike and 836, Dade County, Dolphin Mall.

Join us for an evening of good eats, special presentations, awards to special people, (including Divers of the Year) and underwater videos followed by fun in the game rooms which include virtual worlds, electronic simulators, pocket pool, and all the classic midway games we grew up with.

RESERVATIONS

DEADLINE MARCH 10

Please call Pat Hackett at (305) 387-0015 then mail check (payable to ADA) to:

Lon Von Lintel
15305 SW 104 Ave.
Miami, FL 33157

COST Adults \$25, Children under 12 \$10

Price includes 18% tip and taxes, and includes dinner, and all presentations, videos, and music in the Midway Room. Not included are fees for games.

Cancellations- full refund before March 10, after that no refund.

DINNER MENU

Chili Con Queso and salsa with tortilla chips, fresh bread and butter, BBQ chicken and Mesquite and hickory smoked beef ribs, house salad, hickory smoked beans, Corn O Brian, chocolate Mousse with vanilla cream, coffee, tea, and soda.

SPACE IS LIMITED!!!!!! CALL TODAY!!!!

Featured Speaker

Lisa Wetherington, Executive Director, Ocean Watch Foundation will be a featured speaker, with slide show, at our annual awards dinner. This show will cover coral reef conservation and what we can do as divers. Ocean Watch is a non-profit volunteer organization founded in 1988. They are composed of people from the diving, fishing, boating and marine communities. They are instrumental in the mooring buoy project and have installed the first ten buoys in Broward County. Let's find out how we can help.

March B-Days	
Karen Avila	2
Rafael Laverde	4
Suzan Blacher	9
Manuel Zapata	9
Bill Radunovich	11
Shaina Roth	15
Tina Kamenel	16
Nancy Murray	19
Adrian Field	21
Andrew Ressel	22
Brian Kaufman	24
Brandon Short	25
George Cole	27

Earn Free dives & BBQ

Throughout the year, ADA will offer BBQ's after selected dives. You can enjoy both for free! All you do is volunteer to be the chef of the day - we provide a list of foods, you buy & bring to the dive. After the dive, you & the ADA Safety Officer cook & serve to the hungry divers. It's not too hard, and a great way to go for free! Call Lon & sign up. (ADA will reimburse monies spent for food).

Post-Dive BBQ's \$7

April 14 Tavernier - May 18 BNP - June 15 Tavernier
 July 21 BNP - Aug 17 BNP - Sept 22 Tavernier - Oct 26 Eagle

Last year our BBQ's were a great success. A hot delicious meal after an exciting dive is a wonderful way to punctuate the day. Cooking will begin just after we hit (not too hard I hope) the dock, and before you have stowed your gear, your choice of grilled meats will be ready for your enjoyment. Including:
 Grilled chicken, hamburgers, hotdogs
 Soda or beer
 Potato Salad, slaw, chips & condiments

When you make your dive reservation, indicate if you plan to join us (check the dive schedule first to make sure it's a BBQ dive) & include an additional \$7 with your dive schedule reservation payment.

New! ADA T-SHIRTS & TANK TOPS

Show Your team spirit and pride to belong to one of the largest and oldest dive clubs in the USA!
 On sale at most ADA activities
 \$10 each.

ADA KAYAK TRIPS

Our Kayak/Snorkel trips were a huge success last year. If you missed out on them don't despair, we're going to be doing more kayaking this year.

Trip dates to be announced in upcoming issues



BUSINESS CARD ADS

Space Available

5 Issues → \$50
10 Issues → \$75

To Place Your AD Please Contact:
Chris Wood (305) 754-6882

NEW MARINE SPECIALTY TAG

Already renowned for a dazzling array of license plates promoting organizations, 51 in all, Florida could be up for adding one more designed for anyone with a fondness for the sea. Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota is trying to collect at least 15,000 signatures needed in order to present the "Protect Our Reefs" slogan before the state legislature in January. According to Bob Dunning... proceeds from the tag are slated for efforts that contribute most meaningfully to improving reef health through education research and conservation programs.

ADA RULES & REGULATIONS

All Members Must be familiar with the following

FOR ALL ADVANCED DIVES (DEPTHS OVER 60') ADA DIVERS MUST:

1. Be current (dive activity within the previous 3 months).
2. Have the approval of an ADA Safety Officer.
3. Have a minimum of 25 logged dives.
4. Carry an alternate air source (octopus), time keeping device and depth gauge.
5. Have previous ADA diving experience.
6. All members must dive with at least a 72 cubic foot tank.

ADA GUIDELINES FOR COMPUTER ASSISTED DIVING

1. Members using dive computers may extend their time underwater ten-(10) minutes beyond the time allowed by the tables.
2. Computer assisted dives must be well within the NO DECOMPRESSION LIMITS.
3. Members should understand and follow the manufacturer's recommendations.
4. If a computer diver is buddied with a diver using the tables, both must follow the tables.
5. If a buddy-team is using unlike computers, both must follow the more conservative computer.
6. If, in a buddy-team, either computer fails, both divers must terminate the dive.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE SAFETY OFFICERS' COMMITTEE

All members are reminded to read the "Rules & Guidelines for Diving Activities" you received with your membership package. Number 16 states, "All divers must be present for the pre-dive briefing". If the diver is not present for the entire briefing, diving privileges may be revoked for that dive. Please plan to arrive on time - or better yet - a bit early. We thank you and appreciate your cooperation.

Julio, Dan, Robert, Lee and Lon

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

FOR LOCAL DIVE TRIPS

Because of our contractual agreements with our service agents - dive shops and boat captains, we must notify them - usually seven days in advance - of the final number of spaces we are paying for. Thus, if our members cancel less than seven days in advance, we regret that *NO REFUND OR CREDIT* can be given, unless trip cancellation insurance has been purchased at the time of the dive trip payment (see next news article!)

ADA TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE

The Board of Directors has approved a unique concept in local diving: *NO FAULT INSURANCE!!*

For an additional \$5.00, per person, per local dive trip, members can eliminate the worry of losing their dive fees because of an unforeseen change of plans.

If, for any reason you are unable to attend a local dive for which you are scheduled and have paid the insurance, ADA will credit your \$29.00 dive fee to another date. *The \$5.00 insurance is non-transferable and non-refundable!*

When you make a reservation, ask for dive trip cancellation insurance.

The Board has elected to continue the insurance offer for 2001.

NOTE: It may be discontinued at any time without prior written notice.

Please call Lon with your questions and comments.

IMPORTANT WEATHER INFORMATION

Before departing for the dive site, confirm weather condition with Lon or the designated Safety Officer. It is the responsibility of the member to call; we cannot call you due to the large number of divers involved. For morning dives, call between 6 and 10 p.m. the night before the dive. For afternoon dives, call between 9 and 10 a.m. the morning of the dive.

HOW TO MAKE DIVE RESERVATIONS

- 1) ✓ Check this newsletter or the annual calendar for upcoming dives.
- 2) ☎ Call Lon at (305) 251-4975 to make a reservation. Please do not leave requests on his answering machine, the trip may be full.
- 3) We will hold your reservation for four (4) days from the date you call. If we do not receive payment within four days, your space may be given to other members. If you wish to confirm receipt, call Lon.
- 4) Ask for details about the trip when you call. Otherwise, details will be given when you call for a weather check. (See "Important Weather Information" this and every issue)
- 5) Make your check payable to ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION, not to any individual, and mail to:
Lon Von Lintel, 15305 SW 104 Ave., Miami, FL 33157
- 6) Itemize dates of dives on bottom-left corner of check.
- 7) Do not pay for persons other than spouses or other family members. Include their names on check.

REMEMBER: That family members must have completed individual documentation to register as ADA members.



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APRIL-MAY DIVE SCHEDULE

APR 14, SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ TAVERNIER

(BBQ \$7)

Sites may include: Conch Reef, Davis Ledge, Hens & Chickens, Little Conch, Capt. Tom's Ledge, 40' Ledge, Fish Trap, Horseshoe. Average depth 30', average visibility 40-60', many moreys, schooling tropicals, unusual pillar corals. **BBQ after dive, see article this issue.**

APR 20, SAT AFTERNOON ⇒ HOLLYWOOD

Sites may include: The Caves, Josey Reef, Cuda Reef, Lorraine's Delight, Coral Canyons, Shark Reef. Average depth 30', average visibility 40'. Usually no currents, very different from the Keys. Sometimes drift/swim dive.

APR 28, SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ N. KEY LARGO

Sites may include: The Christ of the Abyss, the Elbow, N. Dry Rocks, N. N. Dry Rocks, Grecian Rocks, Carysfort, Shark Reef. Average depth 30', usually no current. Average visibility is 30-50' with many tropicals, moreys, cudas.

MAY 4, SAT AFTERNOON ⇒ ISLAMORADA

Just 4 miles past Tavernier, sites may include: Hammerhead, The Canyon, El Infante, Crocker, No Name, The Valley Aquarium, Alligator. Average depth 30-40', visibility 40-50'. Some current, many fish, shallow wrecks.

MAY 11, SAT AFTERNOON ⇒ S. KEY LARGO

Sites include: Molasses, Spanish Anchor, Hole-in-wall, French, Pickles. Average depth 35-40', average visibility 50-70', expect currents and high voltage action. High profile corals.

MAY 18, SAT MORNING ⇒ BISCAYNE NATL. PARK

(Tanks Incl.) (BBQ \$7)

Sites may include: Rocky Reef, Elkhorn Forest, Ball Buoy, Far Out Reef, Cuda Ledge. Usually no currents, massive corals, small caves. The Keys "Best Kept Secret", only one commercial boat allowed in area. Depth 20-30', vis 30-60'. **BBQ after dive, see article this issue.**

MAY 26, SUN MORNING ⇒ MIAMI BEACH (ADVANCED)

Choice of more than 40 wrecks. Some unlike anywhere else: Jet airliner, M-60 Tanks, Tankers, Freighters, Tugs, Barges. Most are intact with penetration possible. Average depth 90', visibility 40-50'. Expect currents and dramatic profiles, many fish. **See advanced criterion this issue.**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!!!!

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

You will be receiving your membership renewals in the mail a few days after receiving this newsletter. If you've changed your Phone number, Address, or especially your Email Address - please let us know of those changes. And if everyone could get their renewals back to Jim in a timely manner that would sure make his monumental task of Membership a lot easier and I know he would greatly appreciate that. Besides, you can't sign up for the new dives of the year if you aren't a Member!

PLEASE NOTE: Our Membership Chairman, Jim Kiernan, has a new email address. If you've bookmarked his old email address (Nyflash@Bellsouth.net) please change it and direct all correspondence for membership to Membership@Activedivers.org.

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- Membership Renewals
- Upcoming Annual Awards Dinner and Family Fun Night
- April-May Dive Schedule for the 2002 Year
- New Family Fun Activities - Including Kayaking, Picnics, Camping, BBQ's, and more!
- Environmental & Local Issues

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March 2002 Issue

Dive Trips/Return Address:
Lon Von Lintel (305) 251-4975
15305 SW 104 Ave., Miami, FL 33157

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THINKING ABOUT MOVING? ☎ DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET!
Call Jim at Membership (954-752-6234) *It could save your newsletter.*