

The Mouthpiece

APRIL 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.

RESERVATIONS- call Lon and send a non-refundable deposit of \$100. (Trip insurance is recommended)

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.

***** (PLEASE NOTE): **BALANCE WAS DUE - March 15.** *****

DIVE AND EXPLORE!!!

- WORLD RENOWNED SHERWOOD FOREST!!!
- 6 WWII WRECKS SUNK BY GERMAN U-BOATS!!!
- TURTLE AND SHARK ENCOUNTERS!!! (no feeding)
(also)
- NITROX FILLS AND INSTRUCTION (extra cost)

ONLY 4 SPACES LEFT!!!!

CALL LON TODAY TO RESERVE SPACE • (305) 251-4975



DETAILS AND LOGISTICS

Departure- divers will check in at the boat anytime between 6 and 9 pm on Sat. June 15. We will depart that nite for the cruise to the first dive site. Some of us plan to go to Key West in the am and dive the local reefs in the afternoon.

Day 1- Awaken to the smell of breakfast , after which we began diving.

Dive all day and nite between meals.

Days 2-4 Dive day and nite and visit historial Fort Jefferson.

Day 5- Cruise back to Key West, diving as we go. Arrive in the evening of Thurs. June 20. Arrival time will be "taylored" to suit the needs of the divers.

Car pooling available.

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

<i>SITE NAME</i>	<i>WATER TEMP</i>	<i>MAX DEPTH</i>	<i>WATER VISIBILITY</i>
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.

UNDERWATER PHOTO WORKSHOPS

NON-PHOTOGRAPHERS who want to engage in this most challenging and rewarding hobby.

BEGINNERS who want to learn how the "big boys" do it and take home winners.

INTERMEDIATES who want to refine their skills and learn all the trade secrets.

These four hour workshops will be scheduled for groups of 6 divers(max). The time and dates will be arranged to meet their needs. The cost of \$250 will be split among those enrolled. (\$42 each for 6) Instruction by the technicians at Underwater Camera Repair located in the Cutler Ridge area in S. Dade. They are experts in uw photography and have published books and articles on many related subjects. Classes will be offered in their lab. Interested divers call Lon for more details • (305) 251-4975

BACKGROUND INFO ON THE INSTRUCTORS

Professional photographers for over 18 years, Mike Haber and Mike Mesgleski have operated Subtropix Productions since 1994. Their photographic work has appeared in ad campaigns for companies such as Orca Industries, Scuba Suits of Australia, Darlington Fabrics Corp., Burger King Corporation, Image Devices Betamarine, The Video Fish Book, Sunset House in Grand Cayman, APC UPS Systems, Mastercard, and Atlantis Submarine.

Mike and Mike have had articles and photographs published in magazines such as Skin Diver, Ocean Realm Undercurrents and Scuba Times. Their book and video ER - Emergency Repair for the Nikonos V Camera has been designated an "essential part of any underwater photographer's travel kit" by famed underwater photographer Stephen Frink.



They both operate Underwater Camera Repair, a repair facility for underwater photo equipment. Nikonos, Sea & Sea, SeaCam and Aquatica are among the brands they have kept working for hundreds of satisfied customers all around the globe.

For over fifteen years, they have been associated with Jim Church, a pioneer of modern underwater photography. They have collaborated with Jim on three of his books and have team taught underwater photography with him in both the Caribbean and the Pacific.

After years of photographing nature on land, Mike Haber and Mike Mesgleski turned their viewfinders to the underwater world in 1977. Upon completing advanced scuba courses, in the cold, murky waters off of New Jersey, they were quick to challenge their skills as photographers by taking their cameras into the realm beneath the sea.

Mike Mesgleski has been teaching Underwater Photography for more than 17 years, helping over 900 students create thousands of beautiful images of our underwater world. Among his awards, Mike is an inaugural year recipient of the prestigious SSI Platinum Pro certification.

Mike Haber, also a qualified instructor, is a professional photographer both topside and underwater. His base of operations starts here in Miami and extends almost around the world. Mike's studio subjects and nature images reflect the wide range of his photographic skill and creativity. Mike is also proud to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Marine life Preservation Society.

While traveling extensively, Mike and Mike have amassed thousands of images. Their catalogue of photographs encompass scenes from around the world. From the streets of Europe, to the American wilderness, to the distant Pacific Atoll resting place of the Sunken Ghost Fleet of Truk Lagoon, their images represent views of the world few individuals have ever seen.

April B-Days	
Barbara Fox	2
Margaret Davis	3
Willis Hand	5
James Schulte	7
William Christian	8
David Frank	8
Lee Wood	11
Julio Raimundez	12
Ramon Perdomo	13
W. Battle Vaughan	13
Debra McLaughlin	14
Robert Alencar	19
Chris Hansen	19
Paul Thatcher	19
Cheryl Bartek	20
Chris Higgins	20
Allen Smith	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

A VERY HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY - WILLIS HAND

**CONGRADULATIONS TO A
REMARKABLE MAN ON HIS 20TH
ANNIVERSARY AS AN ADA
MEMBER!!!! WE'LL LOOK
FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON
THE REEFS, AS ALWAYS!!!!**

**WILL HAS THE 6TH LONGEST
MEMBERSHIP IN THE ACTIVE
DIVERS ASSOCIATION!!!!**

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 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 this year.

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

\$29.00 (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

\$35.00

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

\$29.00

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

\$29.00

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

\$29.00

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

\$45.00 (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)

\$29.00

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**



TIBURON - This could be your home from June 15-20 for the Tortugas live-aboard trip. **(SPACES STILL AVAILABLE)**

Live-Aboards are the only way to explore this remote area, and we have plans to utilize the research vessel "Tiburon" 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. **(See article on front page)**

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- Dry-Tortugas Live Aboard Trip - Spaces still available - Hurry!
- Underwater Photo Workshop
- 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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ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOC
NEWSLETTER
April 2002 Issue

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