



The Mouthpiece



April 2004 THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWS-

The Next Generation of Divers— Planting the Seeds

by Roy D. Wasson

Would you like to be a goodwill ambassador representing the ADA and the sport of scuba diving itself, and help introduce young people to our underwater world? Our weekend hobby combines exciting fun with important values like personal responsibility, teamwork, environmental protection, and physical fitness. Let's work together to plant the seeds of interest in the next generation of divers, and to do it earlier in their lives than many of us experienced.

What was your first introduction to scuba diving? Those of us more senior ADA members watched an old black & white TV show called "Sea Hunt" starring Lloyd Bridges to pique our curiosity about the sport, and Sean Connery did his James Bond diving bit along the same lines. But those shows—usually involving divers slashing each others' regulator hoses and the victims safely making free ascents from 150 feet while being terrorized by hungry sharks—were largely unrealistic, and might have scared away more people from experiencing diving than the shows enticed into the sport.

What about your first personal invitation into the real world of diving?

Did a friend in high school return from a family trip to Mexico, marveling about experiencing the thrill of effortlessly breathing underwater? I was lucky to have a close friend who went into the dive business recruit me as his buddy, but that was in my late twenties. I missed several years of great underwater experiences by lack of information on the subject. While you and I certainly serve as emissaries on behalf of our sport to those in our families and social circles who know that we dive (although my wife groans when I get out the underwater photos for visitors), there is another way we can introduce younger people to the wonderful facts—instead of the scary fiction—of the undersea world we enjoy.

The March, 2004 issue of PADI's Sport Diver magazine has an article by Wayne Hasson (page 20) entitled "Become a Hero—Inspiring Kids Through Marine Life Presentations." The author encourages us divers to invite ourselves into elementary school classrooms with some dive gear and other props, to give a brief talk about the real world of scuba. As the father of two kids in middle school and elementary school, I can personally vouch for the fact that (with a little advance planning) teachers welcome such interesting and informative diversions from the "Three R's."

I have been warmly received by fourth graders when I gave talks about boring stuff like being a lawyer. If I had arrived with a mask and regulator instead of a briefcase and suit, I would have been a superstar by comparison. The article in Sport Diver confirms that the kids watch such classroom presentations enthralled, then pepper the speaker with questions which demonstrate that the message has been received.

This is your invitation to join the ADA Speakers Bureau, newly—created to accept PADI's challenge to "Become a Hero" by introducing school kids to diving.

If you are willing to contribute some time (even one brief visit to a local school), let me know of your availability and our Bureau will help coordinate a visit and provide you with some additional materials to add to the stuff you bring from your dive bag. PADI and another group mentioned in Wayne Hasson's article will provide us with materials to show the kids and ideas for us to use in developing our presentations. I will make those items available to our Speakers Bureau members.

In addition to volunteering as a speaker at a school, if you have connections with groups of children outside the school setting, such as Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, YMCA programs, church youth groups, and so on, let us know if we can schedule a visit to a meeting of those kids to make the same sort of presentation to them. Please complete the information requested in the form which follows, and fax or e-mail back to me.

Thanks.

Roy

SPEAKERS BUREAU VOLUNTEER FORM

ADA Member Volunteer name: _____

Preferred Phone No.: _____ E-Mail: _____

Times and Days of Availability to Speak: _____

Preferred Geographical Area (s): _____

Connections With Schools or Other Children's Groups (i.e., you have a fifth grader at Sunset Elementary, you are den mother to Cub Scout group meeting [when and where], etc.): _____

Other Comments/Ideas:

Fax completed form to Roy Wasson, at (305) 666-2636 or e-mail as attachment

Congratulations to **Daryl Johnson**, who was elected to the ADA Board of Directors recently. Daryl is a long time member and has served on several committees.

Welcome aboard !

!!! ADA COZUMEL EXPEDITION 2004 !!!

* Direct flight Miami to Cozumel

- * June 6–10, 5 days four nights
- * two am dives, one pm dive, total 9 dives
- * optional dolphin encounter
- * \$ 200 deposit refundable until April 10
- * \$ 895 package includes :
 - direct RT jet flights
 - hotel, doubles, 3 meals daily, taxes
 - 9 dives, tanks, weights
 - Cozumel airport transfers
 - * 15 divers Max
- * call Lon 305 251 4975 for res. and more info.
- * not included tips and dolphin encounter.

Note—All details are tentative as of Feb. 1, final arrangements will be published in the April newsletter. And remember, if for any reason the final details are not to your liking,

UF RESEARCHER: ATLANTIC CORALS UNIQUE, CANNOT BE REPLACED IF LOST

. — The discovery that many Caribbean corals are only distantly related to their counterparts in the Pacific Ocean makes the threats of pollution and global warming trends even more serious, according to a University of Florida zoologist.

Gustav Paulay, a member of the team that made the new and surprising discovery published in the Feb. 26 issue of the journal *Nature*, says the finding means loss of the colorful underwater “gardens” could lead to the extinction of an entire coral family.

“In the past, people have viewed the Atlantic coral fauna as a poor version of the Pacific fauna,” said Gustav Paulay, a UF zoologist and a contributing author of the study. “Our findings show Atlantic corals are very distinctive – not just superficially different – but with a long and independent evolutionary history. If we lose them, we’re really losing a very distinct and ancient group of organisms.”

Overturning decades of previous scientific thought that differences between Atlantic and Pacific coral were limited, DNA analysis revealed that about one third of the corals in the Western Atlantic – mostly near popular tourist spots in the Caribbean – form a unique group only remotely related to Pacific corals. Compared to the richly diverse and abundant reefs of the Indian and Pacific Oceans, which host 90 percent of the world’s coral species, scientists have not realized the great distinctiveness of the less diverse Atlantic corals, Paulay said.

But coral reefs in the Caribbean, which have declined by about 80 percent over the last three decades, are more vulnerable than their Pacific and Indian Ocean counterparts largely because greater human impact, such as overfishing and increased nutrient runoff from sewage and fertilizer, have greatly degraded the Caribbean reefs, Paulay said.

(con’t on page 4)

The biggest danger is global warming, however. A summer ocean temperature increase of as little as a single degree Celsius – about 2 degrees Fahrenheit – in these relative warm ocean waters can upset the delicate balance between reef corals and their tiny, symbiotic algae, he said.

With the stress of high temperatures, the algae that lives within the coral suddenly leaves it, causing the coral to lose color, turn white and die if the stress is prolonged, he said.

“We hope people will recognize that the Caribbean corals are not just poor cousins of those in the Pacific, but a unique treasure, and that they will take greater measures to protect them,” said Paulay, who also is a curator of malacology and invertebrate zoology at the Florida Museum of Natural History at UF.

The research shows that if a large portion of the Caribbean corals were to become extinct, there are no close relatives to replace them, he said.

“The other implication is our understanding of the relationship of coral species to each other, and the scientific system for classifying corals will have to undergo a major overhaul,” said Paulay. “Aside from the particular discovery of this one significant lineage in the Atlantic, the work has also outlined other important discrepancies between what we thought we knew about coral relationships and what the data reveal,” he said.

Although typical techniques used to analyze DNA have been applied to other organisms, they have been less successfully applied to corals, Paulay said.

“The problem is that for some reasons that is not fully understood, the rate of evolution in the genetic code of corals is particularly slow,” he said. “As a result, differences among coral species are fairly small compared with differences among species in other organisms. This makes resolution as to who is related to who — the unraveling of their genealogy or tree of life — much more difficult.”

Paulay, a coral taxonomist who has done extensive work in the Pacific Ocean, suggested particular Pacific coral species to use in making comparisons with Atlantic corals, and he helped collect some samples from the Palau islands off Micronesia. In addition to the Caribbean reefs, samples were collected from a variety of locations worldwide, including reefs off the coasts of Brazil, Taiwan and southern Japan.

Join us on June 12, 2004 for the 16th Annual Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup!

Coral reefs are some of the most valuable and spectacular places on earth, and they are in crisis. Too often the beautiful, ecologically sensitive reefs off the south Florida's east coast are the victim of careless boating and recreational use as well as on-going pollution. These delicate reefs benefit from the clean-up efforts of the Annual Reef Sweep and Beach Clean-Up sponsored by Ocean Watch Foundation.

Since its inception in 1989, this ocean cleanup has hauled in more than 18 tons of harmful garbage, collected by more than 5400 volunteers.

Already a South Florida tradition, local charter boats, private boaters and beach walkers will sweep our beaches and coral reefs clean from harmful garbage and debris. We are expecting over 700 beach lovers and coastal residents to pitch-in to preserve the natural beauty of the shores and reefs along Broward and Palm Beach Counties on Saturday, June 12, 2004.

Charter dive boats will go out from various South Florida locations, with volunteer **divers** on board, searching for trash that endangers our delicate reefs. **Beach divers** are invited to participate from the shore at Anglin's Pier in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea and Fisherman's Wharf in Pompano Beach. **Private boaters** will be able to drop off garbage at Lauderdale Marina on S.E. 15th Street in Fort Lauderdale and Alsdorf Park on 14th Street in Pompano Beach.

Public beach cleanup efforts by **beach walkers** will start at 9:00 am and continue through 12 noon at six locations: the Deerfield Beach Pier at Hillsboro Blvd; Fisherman's Wharf north of Atlantic Boulevard in Pompano Beach; Anglin's Pier at Commercial Boulevard in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea; South Beach Park (across from Bahia Mar) in Ft. Lauderdale; Dania Pier at Dania Beach Blvd, and the North Beach Park at Sheridan Street in Hollywood.

All participants are invited to the **Reef Sweep Party** later that day where OSCAR's will be awarded to the people who collect the most garbage, rope and monofilament. This lively party includes food, drinks, live

Looe Key Weekend June 26–27.

ADA will host a 5 tank weekend. 10 am Sat departure from Looe Key Reef Resort will be an all day 3 tank dive, including a dive on the Adolphus Busch wreck, lunch, and two reef dives. Nite dive optional. Sleep late and then north to Islamorada for a two tank afternoon dive. Divers may sign up for either day or both.

The ADA conservation committee is considering becoming involved in the buoy monitoring/maintenance program in Broward and Miami–Dade counties. We are requesting our members to assist in this endeavor. This assistance includes making dives on the buoys and performing maintenance work. Oh yes that four letter word. Of course there will also be the required paper work to be filled out with the program. If any of you are interested please contact me at (954)–680–1642 or you may write me at 10471 SW 51 St., Cooper City, FL 33328. I will need to know the level of your involvement that can be committed to this project so I can inform Ocean Watch (group overseeing the project) of what resources our group can commit to this endeavor. I am sure you will receive some personal satisfaction from this project along with making some new friends and sharing new experiences.

Jerry Kosakowski

MAY Dive Schedule

May 8 Sat pm N. Key Largo (Barbeque \$7.00)
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 16 Sun pm Duane (*Advanced Divers*)
Our favorite Coast Guard Cutter, upright in over 100 feet of blue water. It DOES count even when you don't touch bottom! OUR LIMIT 100 feet! **See advanced criterion this issue.**

May 22 Sun pm 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 29 Sat am Biscayne National Park
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'.

New Speigal Grove Requirements !!!

Effective for 2004, all ADA divers must have advanced certification or higher. Other divers may dive, but will be required to pay for a guide, cost to be divided among those who need the guide.

DIVE PACS FOR 2004

ALL NON PAC DIVES \$35

Five Pac	\$150	Save \$ 25
Ten Pac	\$290	Save \$ 60
Fifteen Pac	\$405	Save \$120
Unlimited season pass		\$550

Pacs must be used in 2004.

June Dive Schedule

June 6 Sun pm Speigal Grove (*Advanced Divers*)

Down about two years now and still spectacular. Never dove it? Now is your chance. Dove it before? You still have a lot of ship to explore!

June 12 Sat pm Taveriner (Barbeque \$7.00)

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.**

June 13 Sun am Biscayne National Park (*Advanced Divers*)

Sites – The Wall, Anniversary, Rocky Reef, Elkhorn Forest, Cuda Ledge, Ball Buoy, Doc DeMilly. Expect currents, usually we drift dive the deep reefs. Depths 70–110', average visibility 40–80'. Only one commercial dive boat allowed in area.

June 19 Sat pm 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.

June 26 Sat am Looe Key

Approximately 5 square miles of spectacular reef to explore, this area is one of the top snorkel and dive spots in the world, and the finest reef in Florida. A photographers delight.

June 27 Sun pm Isamorada

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.

Post Dive BBQS

Cost \$7.00 includes-

Grilled hotdogs, hamburgers, chicken, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, chips and fixins. Soda & Beer.

While divers are tending their gear, our chef of the day will be preparing a feast fit for a King/Queen or at least for hungry divers. We invite all divers on the above dates to join us for good outdoor food and telling tall fish tales. Please send \$7 along with the dive fees, you may make one check for both.

DIVE AND EAT FREE

That's right, on our BBQ days you can earn a free dive and free eats. It's easy, just volunteer to be the chef of the day and you go for free.

Here's how it works -

You buy the food and bring to the dive, after which you and the Safety Officer will prepare and serve. The supplies and menu list will be faxed to you a few days prior with an exact list of needed items. Then you submit a receipt and your expenses will be reimbursed. Call Lon for more info and sign up!

ADA RULES & REGULATIONS

All Members Must be familiar with the following

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

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

ADA GUIDELINES FOR COMPUTER ASSISTED DIVING

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

Check this newsletter or the annual calendar for upcoming dives.

(Call Lon at (305) 251-4975 to make a reservation. Please do not leave requests on his answering machine, the trip may be full.

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.

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)

* 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

Itemize dates of dives on bottom-left corner of check.

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.

COPY Experts

Carlos Paz

Tel: 305-513-8421 7809 N.W. 57th Street
Fax: 305-513-8422 Miami, FL 33166
E-mail: huicho_1@bellsouth.net

2004 ADA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SINGLES ONLY DIVES
NEW MEMBERS DIVES
KAYAK TRIPS
CANOE TRIPS
COZUMEL EXPEDITION
DOUBLE WALL DIVES
BBQs and PICNICS
AWARDS BRUNCH
LOOE KEY WEEKEND
SOMBRERO KEY DIVES
NIGHT DIVES
3 TANK DIVES
TWILIGHT DIVES
CAMPING/CAVERN DIVES

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April 2004

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

Membership:
Jim Kiernan (954) 227-8885
3200 Coral Springs Dr., Apt 104
Coral Springs FL 33065
Membership@activedivers.org

Conservation:
Jerry Kosakowski (954) 680-1642

Social:
Julio Raimundez (305) 551-7545
Patricia Hackett (305) 387-0015

Newsletter:
Steve Herz (305) 752-3755
Newsletter@activedivers.org

Website: www.activedivers.org
Email: info@activedivers.org

Mouse Calls

Steve Herz
13441 S.W. 108th St. Cir. N.
Miami, FL. 33186

Phone: 305-752-3755
Fax: 305-752-3533
Email: Sbar369886@msn.com
Cell: 305-606-6331

Computer Repairs
Upgrades
Data Transfers
Networking Services


Professional and Certified repair
done quickly in the comfort of your
Home or Workplace.

FOR SALE:

Complete Scuba outfit
All items Medium Large sizes

Major items include:

Apex ATX50 regulator set with ATX20 octo, SeqQuest Pro QD+ BC with weights.
Oceanic DataPro Plus computer with Quick-release, compass and retractor
Henderson Gold Core 3 mil suit, ScubaPro dive skin
ScubaPro Twin-Jet fins and boots, Cressi Big Eyes mask
Many accessories including:
Casio dive watch, UK titanium knife, first aid and parts/tool kits, strobe, Sabrelight, sausage, gearbag, baggage cart, waterproof cases, etc.

These items have been used one short season and are in excellent, almost newcondition. Regs and BC have current annuals, unused since.

I would prefer to sell the kit as a package. Original cost over \$2500, asking \$1500 for the set. W. B. Vaughan 305-251-

