



The Mouthpiece



June 2003 THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

June-July Dive Schedule

June

Sun. June, 1 PM 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.

Sun. June, 8 AM Biscayne National Park (**Advanced**) Barbeque \$7.00
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. **See advanced criterion this issue. Barbeque after dive, see article this issue.**

Sat. June 14 PM * Tavernier
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

Sat. June, 21 PM Lauderdale (**Advanced**)
Double your pleasure with the best of both worlds! A reef followed by a wreck. A plethora of flora and fauna, just waiting to be explored. See advanced criterion this issue. **See advanced criteria this issue.**

Sun. June, 29 PM Tavernier
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

July

Sat. July, 5 AM Biscayne Park Barbeque \$7.00
Sites may include: Rocky Reef, Elkhorn Forest, Ball Buoy, Far Out Reef, Cuda Ledge. Usually no currents, massive coral small caves. The Keys "Best Kept Secret", only one commercial boat allowed in area. Depth 20-30', vis 30-60'.

Sat. July, 12 PM Spiegal Grove
What needs to be said? It's one BIG Wreck. It's starting to develop soft corals and lots of fish are moving in and calling it home.

Sun. July, 13 PM Tenneco Towers (**Advanced**)
Scheduled site - Tenneco Towers. 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.**

Sat. July, 19 PM Tavernier
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.

Sat. July, 19 PM Tavernier night "Free Mini Nite Dive Course"
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.

Sun. July, 27 * 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.

Win A Free Bahamas Dive Trip

That's Right, ADA is awarding a free trip to Walkers Cay to the lucky winner of a special raffle! This raffle will be only for the divers who sign up for the trip. Only 15 divers will be allowed to sign up so your chances will be one in 15, a bit better than the lotto. The drawing will take place during the trip and ADA will, on the spot, refund the trip costs to the winner. Free trip will be awarded if and only if 15 divers sign up.

Dates—Aug. 29th to Sept. 1, 2003

Package includes: RT Airfare, Hotel (Double occupancy), Diving (10 dives if time permits), Breakfast and dinner daily, Shark Rodeo. (not included— departure taxes, tips, lunch)

Package Cost \$649 (the winners refund)

Call Lon for a reservation, (305-251-4975) then, within four (4) days, send a non-refundable deposit of \$100 payable to ADA

Details:

Depart Ft. Lauderdale airport aboard Chalks sea plane—flight time 1 hr.

Arrive and dive 1st day (if time permits)

Three dives per day on days 2 and 3, including Shark Rodeo and at least one night dive.

Dive on day 4, if time permits. The plane cabin will be pressurized to sea level so there is no concern for diving then flying.

For more detail call Lon or go on line to walkerscay.com.

Cancellation Policy— If another ADA diver fills your space, all monies less a change fee, will be refunded. If your space is not filled, the balance, less the deposit, will be refunded with a 60 day notice. Less than 60 days notice, No Refunds!

Post Dive BBQS

| | | | |
|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| June 8 | Biscayne Park | Sept 7 | Tavernier |
| July 19 | Tavernier | Oct. 11 | Biscayne Park |
| Aug 2 | Biscayne Park | Nov. 9 | Tavernier |

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 more info and sign up!

REEF SWEEP AND BEACH CLEANUP

June 14, 2003

Ocean Watch is having it's 15th annual cleanup day. All types of volunteers needed- divers, non divers, kids. For more info go to info@oceanwatch.org or call (954) 467-1366. ADA Conservation Committee.



Chair Jerry Kosakowski has first hand info, and can be reached at (954) 680-1642.

THE BIG STUFF IS Here!!!

If you noticed the free raffle info in this issue (pg. 8) , you may have been curious about the "big stuff". Well here is the start-

1. \$200.00 gift certificate from **Biscayne National Park**, thanks **Tom**
2. Two free dive trips, tanks and weights (value of \$120.00) from **Atlantis Dive Center**, thanks **Capt. Slate <awarded 3-30-03>**
3. Two free dive trips, tanks, and weights (value of \$120.00) from **Lady Cyana Divers**, thanks **Gloria**.
4. Two free dive trips, tanks, and weights (\$128.00 value) from **Florida Keys Dive Center**, thanks **Tom**
5. \$200.00 gift certificate from **Southeast Oceanic Services**, thanks **Mike**
6. Scuba Pro depth/pressure console, a \$200 value from **Austins Dive Center**, thanks **Tom**
7. \$100.00 Gift Certificate for **Divers Den**, Thanks **Ray**
8. Brunch for 4, a \$100.00 value, Thanks **Anna. <awarded 3/30/03>**

MUCH MORE TO COME!!!!!!!!!!!!

Remember this is all FREE and the only way to get tickets is to EARN them.

(see free raffle article this issue)

Dive Packages for 2003!

Members may now take advantage of NEW DIVE PACS and freeze 2002 prices for this year! Look at these savings

10 packs—10 dives for only \$290 Save up To \$60

5 packs—5 dives for only \$150 Save up to \$25

You may use these pacs for any local dive except Biscayne National Park. They are non-refundable unless you purchase insurance or if we cancel the trip. This offer may be withdrawn at any time without notice. To simplify your booking and our accounting procedures

ALL NON DIVE PACK DIVES FOR 2003 ARE \$35.00

INCLUDING BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK!

June Photo Contest



Taken by Nick Boyd with Oly E. 20N External Sea and Sea Strobe
Rock Beauty diving with Lady Cyana 1st Place Digital Camera manual with external strobe



Taken by Carol Cox with Sea and Sea MX/O V540 Strobe - Bana Reef - Key Largo diving
with Arkenis Dive Center 1st Place Manual Camera with External Strobe

ADA Photography Contest (Rules have changed!)

Please bear with us as we evolve our new ongoing photography contest for 2003. Winners are announced in each MOUTHPIECE and a link provided so the images can be viewed online (in living color). Winners will win raffle tickets (see related article).

In addition, a Yearly Grand Prize Winner will be announced and recognized. Board Members can enter the contests but are not eligible to receive any contest prizes (other than the monthly recognition). There will be 1st and 2nd place winners for each category - if a board member has won, then there will be further winners to the extent non board members have won 1st and 2nd prizes. Judging will be done ultimately by someone with professional experience yet does not participate in the contest.

Five Categories:

- 1) "Film Cameras External Strobe(s) Manual Settings",
- 2) "Film Point and Shoot" - Those without external strobe(s) and manual settings,
- 3) "Digital Cameras - External Strobe(s) Manual Settings",
- 4) "Digital Camera Point & Shoot" - no external strobe(s), and
- 5) "Anything Goes" - be as creative as you can, edit at will.

We contemplate expanding to a Master category for four time winners.

The Rules:

- ? Pictures will be from the 2003 dive season (not prior year(s) pictures),
- ? Pictures will be limited to South Florida Waters or ADA sponsored dives,
- ? Pictures will be limited to two per month per diver per category,
- ? The only editing allowed is overall color balance and sharpening. Please do not otherwise edit, such as, but not limited to - crop, clone, mend, paint, saturate, cut, paste, move, etc. Of course, this last rule does not apply to the "Anything Goes" category.
- ? Photographers will provide either 1) prints, and/or slides from film cameras, or 2) jpeg files from digital cameras or the "Anything Goes" category.
- ? Prints or slides will only be returned if a Stamped, Self-addressed envelope is provided.
- ? Prints or slides will be scanned for judging and posting to the website.
- ? Send your prints, slides, or digital images on CD to:

J. Nicholas Boyd

One South Ocean Blvd. Ste. 204

Boca Raton. FL 33432

- ? Or e-mail the digital images to: nboyd@oceanlandinc.com (re-size them to 800x600 and as uncompressed as your camera will allow). If you email your pics, follow up with a confirmation e-mail to ensure they got there. Large e-mails sometimes get "lost in the mail".
- ? Include/provide your full name, camera model, category, lighting (name of external strobes, indicate if internal strobe, natural light, etc), special lens, dive site, description of entry, etc - the more information the better.

Email (above) or call (561-416-2099) Nick Boyd with questions.

DIVING THE SPEIGEL GROVE

by Carol Cox

- June 24, 2002 The Speigel Grove is opened to recreational divers after a rather difficult partial sinking bow up, turning turtle, finally being sunk on its side, then diving delayed due to unknown oil seepage.
- June 25, 2002 The day after opening to recreational divers, its pouring rain, lightning and thunder, and white-out conditions (ie the boat captain is steering the boat via GPS due to almost zero visibility-what am I doing here???) Finally, he cuts the engines, the sun comes out and the water is flat not even a ripple. There are 5 of us divers and the diver master. We go as a group, down the buoy line as the huge mass below us comes into view. Not a trace of current. It's dark and eerie, except for the massive white expanse of metal below us. The Speigel Grove is on its starboard side, massive chains stretching out onto the sand. We come down right on the bow and start heading up an incline towards the stern. The other 4 divers stay up on the top with the divemaster. I take my camera a little lower along the gunnels to get a better view of the deck of the ship. The huge gun recoils are amazing. There is already life attaching itself to the ship along the massive hull. Arrow crabs are already cowering under the ledges. Amazing! How do they know?
- July 13, 2002 My second dive on the Speigel Grove. I purchased the of the "gold" medals being sold to help offset costs of sinking the ship so I don't have to pay a yearly fee. My name will be on a plaque that will be placed on the Speigel Grove once they sell 1000 medals. I'm famous! We do a "live drop" since all the buoys already have boats tied up to them-the Speigel Grove has become very popular! This dive is mid-ship and again, very little current. Vis is about 50 feet and the sun is trying to shine through the depths. Look at all the growth! What a difference two weeks makes.
- July 17, 2002 Third dive on the Speigel Grove, this time there's just a mild current. Dive was mid-ship back to the props. Each prop is about 5' tall. Heading back to mid-ship, there's a scorpion fish on one of the gun recoils. A queen angelfish appears and there are arrow crabs everywhere.
- October 20,2002 Fourth Speigel Grove dive. Anchored to the bow line. Again, (why am I so lucky) very little current, good viz. The anchor chains lying in the sand below the bow extend into oblivion. Such a clear day. Look at the growth-it's a foot tall!!! There have to be more arrow crabs than I've ever seen in one place. Schools of jacks. Schools of everything! The fish have found the Speigel Grove!
- April 6, 2003 Dive Five. Bow to mid-section. Some current-enough just to have to hang on to the gunnel railing to keep in one place. Biggest arrow crabs I've ever seen-one had a diameter of six inches, another 5 inches. Bristleworms everywhere. Even more schools of jacks, grunts, you name it. Fish everywhere. The artificial' reef is a success!

One of the Guns on the Speigel Grove



COPY Experts

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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 buddyed 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.

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 MESSAGE FROM THE SAFETY 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

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



LUXFER OFFERS \$50 FOR OLD TANKS

For scuba tanks made between 1972 and 1987 they will give a credit towards a new tank.
Call 1 800 764 0366 or your local dive shop for more info.

Good-Bye Lady Cyana

Much to the surprise and disappointment of all who knew Lady Cyana Divers and Gloria, Dustin, Jim and crew, she shut her doors recently for the last time. Stating the poor health of Mr. Wright, the founder of the shop, and the economic decline, they decided to end operations. We will miss the awards winning service, the friendly smiles, and the leadership of Lady Cyana. The free dive trip donation to us is in limbo at this time. Good luck to her and her crew in their next endeavor.

FREE

**WIN HUNDREDS OF \$\$\$\$\$\$\$:
IN PRIZES, EQUIPMENT, GIFT CERTs.**

FREE

Earn raffle tickets by:

1. Wearing an ADA t-shirt during the dive briefing. (1 ticket)
2. Attend any ADA function. (1 ticket)
3. Bring in a new member. (5 tickets)
4. Win the monthly photo contest. (5 tickets)

A small prize will be awarded at each dive, the big stuff later this year. Soooo get out there and earn those tickets. (Tickets cannot be purchased) More info on "THE BIG STUFF" next issue.

THE Mouthpiece
ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
April 2003



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