

The Mouthpiece

AUGUST 2000

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



ADA SHARK FEST 2000

August 26
Presenting
**COCO ISLAND
SCHOOLING SHARKS**
and
**WESTERN AUSTRALIA
GIANT WHALE SHARKS**
plus
**PAPUA NEW GUINEA
INCREDIBLE BEAUTY**

Lon's first hand visual reports. See past newsletter for written reports.

Who - all ADA members, family, and guests.

What - cocktails, dinner, and presentation.

When - Saturday, August 26. Cocktails (cash bar) 6 pm, dinner 7 pm, visuals 8pm

Where - Tony Roma's Restaurant, 9525 Kendall Dr., Miami, FL. (two miles east of turnpike)

Menu - your choice of (ordered at dinner)

St Louis ribs ♦ Baby back ribs ♦ Breast of chicken ♦ BBQ chicken ♦ Seafood selection
All served with salad, baked potato, soft drink, coffee, hot bread, butter. Desserts extra.

Cost - Dinner & Presentation (\$20) ♦ Presentation only (\$10) - Includes taxes and tips.

RESERVATION DEADLINE-AUGUST 11

Call Lon first, then mail check (payable to ADA)
to: Lon Von Lintel
15305 sw 104 ave. ♦ Miami, FL. 33157

Cancellations- before Aug. 11 full refund.
Aug 11 and after, no refund.





TOP: (Left) Jim Kiernan, N. Key Largo.
(Right) 7/9 BBQ at Tavernier, Chef Maria.

MIDDLE: (Left) N. Key Largo Reef.
(Right) Matt Kiernan, N. Key Largo.

BOTTOM: (Left) 7/9 BBQ at Tavernier.
(Right) 7/9 BBQ at Tavernier

Local Diver Profile

Photos Submitted by:
Jim Kiernan & Lon Von Lintel

Feed a Fish, Go to Jail

(reprinted from Rodale's Scuba diving.com)

Sound ridiculous? It is, but only slightly more so than the effort underway in Florida to ban divers from feeding sharks and any form of marine life in state waters.

Based on emotional pleas from a coalition led by spearfishing interests, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission—the agency with jurisdiction ranging from commercial fishing to boating safety—is drafting rules to outlaw all diver feeding of marine life.

Why? At a series of commission meetings those in favor of the ban argued that feeding dives alter the natural behavior of marine life, harm the marine environment and put people at greater risk of shark attack. Even though the commission's own staff found no evidence to back the claims and advised against a feeding ban, the commissioners voted unanimously to draft the rule anyway. The reason: not enough divers argued against it.

Now It's Our Turn

Commission staffers are drafting the proposed rule for final approval in September. In the meantime, Florida dive operators and industry leaders—including *Rodale's Scuba Diving*—are attempting to convince the commission that a ban is not necessary.

If you'd like to help, please join our on-line petition. It's your chance to be heard on the issue and to defend your rights as a diver. Just type in your name and e-mail address, and with a single click you'll send the following e-mail message to the commission, asking them to reconsider their decision based on the facts.

Please visit Rodale's website and sign their online petition which can be found at:

<http://www.scubadiving.com/feature/fishfeeding/>

Petition Update

Good news: According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, more than 1,500 divers have already used our on-line petition (below) to register their opposition to the proposed fish feeding ban.

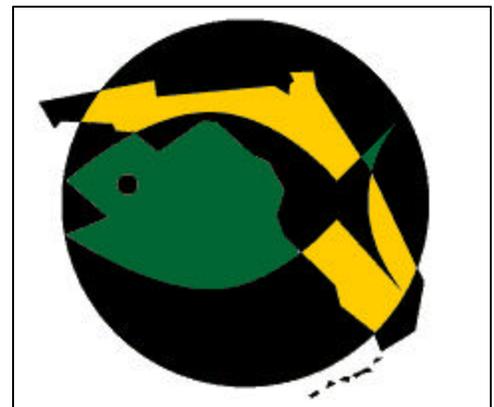
However, the issue has yet to be resolved. That's why we're urging as many divers as possible to attend two important commission meetings to express their opinions in person.

- The Commission will hold a public workshop on Tuesday, July 25th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum, 300 Gulfstream Way, in Dania Beach, Fla. Tel: (954) 922-4212. After an open public comment period, the commissioners will hear presentations by experts aligned on both sides of the issue.
- The commission is scheduled to make its final decision on Thursday, Sept. 7 at the Holiday Inn/Deland Convention Center, 330 E. International Speedway Blvd. in Deland, Fla. Tel: (904) 738-5200. This meeting will be your last chance to weigh in on the issue before the commission votes.

The proposed ban has inflamed passions on both sides, but the involvement of well-intentioned divers will guarantee that the issue will be decided on the basis of rational debate, not emotional arguments.

Thanks again for participating!

—David Taylor, executive editor, *Rodale's Scuba Diving*.





AUGUST-SEPTEMBER DIVE SCHEDULE



▶ ▶ ▶ New Rates for Tank Rentals at Biscayne National Park! ◀ ◀ ◀

AUG 5, 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.

AUG 12-19, NEKTON PILOT BAHAMAS (TRIP)

SEE PAST ISSUES FOR DETAILS

AUG 13, SUN AFTERNOON WEST PALM (ADVANCED) \$29.00

Drift Dive in swift currents, giant turtles, grouper, schooling fish and outstanding color. Depth 80-100', visibility 40-100'. Many wreck/reef sites to choose. See advanced criterion this issue.

AUG 19, SAT MORNING BISCAYNE NATL PARK (NEW MEMBER DIVE) \$40.00 Tanks Incl.(BBQ \$5)

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.

AUG 27, SUN AFTERNOON FT LAUDERDALE \$29.00

Sites include Tracy, Jay Scutty, The Caves, Sunrise Ledges, The Peter, Oakland Ledges, Hog Heaven, Average depth 40-60', visibility 30-50', usually mild currents.

SEP 2, SAT 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.

SEP 10, SUN AFTERNOON EAGLE WRECK (ADVANCED) \$29.00

The EAGLE, named for its donor, The Eagle Tire Company, is a huge freighter, lying on it's side in about 115' of water. Two green morays call it home, as do tarpon and barracudas. We call it a great dive! See advanced criterion this issue.

SEP 16, SAT MORNING BISCAYNE NATL.. PARK \$40.00 Tanks Incl. (BBQ \$5)

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.

SEP 24, 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.

OCT 1, SUN AFTERNOON FT. LAUDERDALE (ADVANCED) \$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. See advanced criterion this issue.

OCT 8, SUN AFTERNOON DUANNE WRECK (ADVANCED) \$29.00

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.

OCT 15, SUN AFTERNOON TAVERNIER \$29.00

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.

OCT 22, SUN AFTERNOON BOYNTON (ADVANCED) \$29.00

Drift dive with currents, reef or wreck, big animals. Average depth 80', visibility 40-60'. See advanced criterion this issue.

OCT 24, 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.

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 Only \$5
Aug 19, Sep 16**

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 \$5 with your dive schedule reservation payment.

ADA BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST	
Gwen Koth	5
Nancy Mackenzie	6
Marylee Liggett	8
Isaac Benzadon	9
John Davis	9
Terry Levy	10
Susana deThomas	13
Madeleine Fass	13
Mary Kay Chable	17
Robin Sherrill	19
Chris Wood	19
Alan Vestal	20
Vicky Kosakowski	22
Joe Werner	23

**BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK
NEW MEMBERS DIVE & BBQ**

SATURDAY AUG. 19

Calling all new members who have not yet joined in the fun! Summer diving is great with warm 85 degree water, calm seas, and shallow reefs teeming with fish. Biscayne National Park offers a perfect environment for your first plunge- safe, easy, and non-threatening. You and several other new members will enjoy a guided reef tour by our Safety Officer who will assist your every need and look after all the details. After the dive, lunch will be served including your choice of BBQ chicken, hamburgers, or hot dogs with all the trimmings. This is a great chance to chat, relax, and meet future dive buddies. You may even hear a few fish stories as our experienced divers love to tell tall tales. Space for new members is limited to sex, oops, I mean SIX spaces, so don't delay, call today. Call Lon at (305) 251-4975.

ADA WEB SITE

(betcha didn't know)

On the back of every ADA newsletter, hidden among the other addresses, is the address for the ADA web site: www.serve.com/ADA. Note the "ADA" must be capitalized to gain entry. Our site is very useful to our members in a variety of ways:

1. retrieve lost paper copies of dive schedules, forms, membership applications for friends, policies, etc.
2. links to all sorts of dive related information and fun stuff.
3. view the newsletter IN FULL COLOR!!
4. contact information to fax, write, call, or e mail us.
5. refer friends to our site to learn anything and everything about ADA.

Check it out - remember the "ADA" must be capitalized.

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

Newsletter by Email

If you've been reading your newsletters (as I'm sure every ADA member does religiously each month...grin!) then you know that ADA is now distributing our newsletter via both Regular (ie - Snail Mail) and now by E-Mail.

If you haven't already, I would like to encourage everyone who has email access, to switch your newsletter preference to email. It's easy to do, just call Jim Kiernan and he will switch you over. If you're not sure you want to relinquish your paper version just yet, you can check out what the email version looks like on our website first. Just go to the directory page and at the bottom will be links for the newsletter. You will need the Adobe Acrobat Plugin for your browser to view the newsletter, but most people have it already on their system. If you're not sure that you

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 2000.

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.

have this, just click the newsletter link to view it - if it comes up, you have the plugin. If it doesn't, just use the link on our directory page to download the plugin, it only takes a few minutes. Then go back and try the newsletter link again.

If you have any trouble setting this up you may call or email me, and I will help you out. If you have Web-TV, you will not be able to receive the newsletter by email, unfortunately.

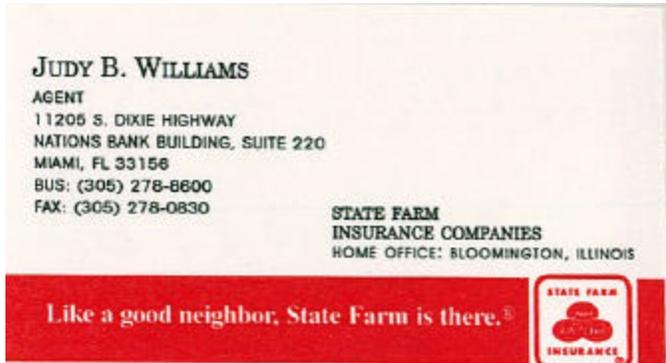
In future issues we will be incorporating more color photographs and color graphics to enhance the new electronic format. So your newsletters will continue to improve and be more engaging and enjoyable to read!

Your Editor, Chris

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.



YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!

BUSINESS CARD ADS

	Space Available
5 Issues	\$50
10 Issues	\$75

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

Ads from \$7.50/mth



Pictures taken by Jim Kiernan at Biscayne Nat'l Park.

NEW RENTAL/DIVE RATES AT BISCAYNE NATL. PARK

Due to changes in policy at Biscayne National Park, now we are able to offer the dive and two tanks for only \$40. This saves you \$5 if you paid \$29 & rented two tanks at \$8 each as before. Note, there are no discounts if you bring your own tanks, so save your back and use theirs. **Next Dive at Biscayne Natl. Park - July 30 (only \$40 w/2 tanks)**

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- **Shark-Fest 2000 - You don't want to miss this!**
- **The August-September Dive Schedule**
- **Feed a Fish - Go to Jail**
- **Local Diver Pics**
- **New Members Dive & BBQ (August 19)**

NOTE:

If you would like to receive club information by email, please indicate this preference and your email address on the application (or call us at any time). By doing this you will receive an enhanced newsletter, up to date club information and will be helping the club greatly to reduce our workload and expense. Your address will not be given out to anyone else! **Please see our Email Article inside for more details.**

THE Mouthpiece ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOC NEWSLETTER

August 2000 Issue

Dive Trips/Return Address:

Lon Von Lintel (305) 251-4975
15305 SW 104 Ave., Miami, FL 33157

Membership:

Jim Kiernan (954) 752-6234
1653 Cypress Pointe Dr., Coral Springs, FL 33071
nyflash@bellsouth.net

Conservation:

Robert Fox (305) 378-6733
Darryl Blackstone (305) 248-4310

Social:

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

Newsletter:

Chris Wood (305) 754-6882
cwood6@bellsouth.net

Website: <http://www.serve.com/ADA>

Email: ada@serve.com



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

