

The Mouthpiece

SEPTEMBER 2002

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



September-October Dive Schedule

SEP 8, SUN 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.

SEP 15, SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ FT. LAUDERDALE (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

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.**

SEP 22, 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.**

SEP 28, SAT AFTERNOON ⇒ DUANNE (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 5, SAT MORNING ⇒ BISCAYNE NATL. PARK

\$45.00

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'.

OCT 13, 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.**

OCT 20, SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ N. KEY LARGO (SPECIAL SPIEGEL GROVE DIVE) **\$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 26, SAT AFTERNOON ⇒ BEAGLE WRECK (ADVANCED)

\$29.00 (BBQ \$7)

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.**

THANKS TO CAPTAIN SLATE

As everyone knows by now, the Spiegel Grove is on the bottom near Key Largo. We have dived it several times and plan many more in the future. What few know is who were the key players in getting the job done. One of the original group who planned and brought it to fruition was Spencer Slate, owner of Atlantis Dive Center. His persistence and hard work made it possible for all divers to enjoy the

world's largest artificial reef. Thanks Spencer! Our next Spiegel Grove dive is Oct. 20. The last two booked solid weeks in advance, so sign up early.

WEEKDAY DIVING

This time of year offers some of the best conditions for diving- calm seas, warm water, exceptional vis. But the best days are not always on the weekends when we schedule our dives. Very often the perfect days are

on Mon. or Tues. or Wed. or Thurs. or even Fri. Myself and several others have been able to take advantage of these "Chamber of Commerce" days and have enjoyed some of the best dives in recent memory. I cannot predict when they will happen, but usually the weather patterns will give a clue a day or two in advance. If you feel the urge to submerge during the week and want to play hookie, give me a call. Lon

September B-Days	
Veeta Chase	1
Ann Drobner	1
Nancy Frank	2
Inge Sengelmann	4
Carol Cox	11
Josh Kaufman	11
Carol Kelley	11
Dana Lundquist	12
Senta Sayers	12
Claudia Paterson	13
John Dalkowski	14
Carlos Dovo	14
Jerry Summers	14
J. Nicholas Boyd	19
Mirek Czernek	20
David Scarborough	20
Stan Pierz	22
Mara Suarez Requena	22
Matthew Kiernan	25
Josefina Hansen	29
David Herron	30
Gabriel Kuafman	30

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).

Reef Fish Identification Course

Ocean Watch is offering to have a reef identification course for ADA members only. There are two ways we can approach this if we have enough interest (meaning a minimum of ten members). The first is a short hour and a half course. The second is a series of 5 levels. If you are interested go to REEF.ORG (they work in conjunction with Ocean Watch) and click on experience levels to find out more on this aspect. Should either interest you please call Jerry Kosakowski at (954) 680-1642 or let me know at one of the dives. I'll tally the votes and we will proceed from there.

International Coastal Clean Up

On Sept. 21, 2002 the Pompano and Commercial Blvd. (Lauderdale By The Sea) piers will be closed to the public between 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM. They will be open to a select group of divers for a clean-up underneath and around the pier. This area is otherwise always closed to divers. We can do some good and we will be getting to take a rare look at the area. It should be a very interesting dive site. If you ever thought what exactly blew or fell off the pier here is your chance to discover firsthand. If we get 7 or more persons interested we get some free publicity for the club. Call Jerry Kosakowski at (954) 680-1642 or let me know at one of the dives if you are interested.



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Carol Cox ccox163176@aol.com or fax (305) 740-4995

Post-Dive BBQ's \$7

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.

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

WAKATOBI PRESENTATION

On July 12 Mr. Henrick Rosen, from the Wakatobi National Park, presented a stunning visual tour of the park to a large crowd at the Hilton Hotel. All in attendance agreed it was some of the most beautiful visuals ever seen. Some comments overheard from the audience-

"Better even than National Geographic"

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.

"Never seen anything like it"
"I'm going, when do we leave?"
"Are these things real?"

Many of the photos were submitted by renowned professional photographers and have won prestigious awards world wide. Several ADA members were so taken by this tour of Wakatobi, that they have vowed to visit in the near future. Watch for info in later newsletters.

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
- 4) 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:
- 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.

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

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

ADA KAYAK TRIPS

Saturday a.m., September 7th, Indian Key / Lignum Vitae Key Kayak Trip.

Rated: Easy to moderate.

We'll have a half-day to Indian Key in a.m., with a full day option to Lignum Vitae Key in the p.m.
Single Kayak - half day \$30 - full day \$45. • Double Kayak - half day \$40 - full day \$60.

Indian Key history dates from the time of prehistoric Indians to the 1830's, when the key was the seat of the newly created Dade County. Jacob Housman bought the strategic key in 1831 and turned it into a busy port of wrecking. In 1838 Dr. Henry Perrine and his wife Anna Fuller Townsend May, moved to Indian Key to pursue his interest in tropical botany where he was killed by the Seminoles in an Indian attack in the early morning of August 7, 1840. Indian Key is located ¾ mile SE of the north shore of Lower Matecumbe Key. About 10 acres separated from the Overseas Highway (US 1) by open water, it hardly looks like a place of historic significance. Yet Indian key has a colorful past, which is very much a part of early Florida history.

We can also visit the ranger station / museum at Lignum Vitae Key. This is a botanical preserve and it is the last key untouched by foreign vegetation.

For more information, or to make reservations, please contact our Kayak Trip Coordinator:
Julio Raimundez (305) 551-7545

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- **Articles** – Wakatobi Presentation & Thank You to Capt. Slate
- **Environmental** – Reef Fish ID Course & International Coastal Cleanup
- **Diving** – Special Spiegel Grove Dive (October 20) & September-October Dive Schedule
- **New Family Fun Activities** – Including Kayaking, Picnics, Camping, BBQ's, and more!
- **Kayak Trip** – September 7

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September 2002 Issue

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Call Jim at Membership (954-752-6234) *It could save your newsletter.*