

The Mouthpiece

OCTOBER 2002

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



October-November Dive Schedule

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 ⇒ EAGLE 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.**

NOV 3, SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ WEST PALM (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

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.**

NOV 10, SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ TENNECO TOWERS (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

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.**

NOV 17 SUN AFTERNOON ⇒ POMPANO (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

Drift dive with the currents, perhaps a deep reef or a wreck. Average depth 80', visibility 40-60', good chance of huge turtles. **See advanced criterion this issue.**

BAHAMAS LIVE-ABOARD 2003

ADA is considering several big trips for next year. Of interest is a one week trip on the luxury dive boat Aqua Cat. Their colorful brochure is being handed out at most of our local dives. If you have not attended any of our recent dives and would like a brochure, call Lon.

You can also study the details at their web site - www.aquacatcruises.com. We ask all interested divers to call in your vote. If we receive enough positive response, we will book a trip for next June. **CALL LON AT (305) 251-4975**



October B-Days	
Ramzi Koussa	1
Alicia Soule	2
Rhonda Spath	2
Henry Befeler	3
William Whitehurst	4
John Royer	5
Vivian Carvajal	8
Robert Fox	9
Mark Kosakowski	10
Antonio Govela	11
Enrique Gonzalez	13
Carl Blencowe	15
Heidi Befeler	16
Diane Davis	16
Sharon Miles	16
Stephen Herz	19
Maria Schellhase	19
Ignacio Medir	21
Rosemary Wood	21
Carol Morris	22
Maria Zarceno	22
Jeanine Woll	24
Abby Siegel	25
Thomas Davis	26
Michael Oertel	27
Curry Christian	29

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).

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.

BUSINESS CARD ADS

Space Available

5 Issues → \$50
10 Issues → \$75

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



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TELEPHONE (305) 670-6969

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Mouse Calls

Steve Herz
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Miami, Fl. 33186

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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.

Post-Dive BBQ's \$7

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

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.

ADVICE TO OLDER DIVERS

Through Project Dive Exploration DAN is trying to answer questions about aging and diving. Using Doppler to detect venous gas emboli over the heart of divers, they found that 30% more bubbles was found in divers at age 57 than those at age 33, and 20 % more in males than females. They concluded that "If we are cardiovascularly fit, exercise regularly, not more than 20% overweight, and have no serious potentially incapacitating disease, we shouldn't stop diving. BUT as we age beyond 60 we might consider limiting our diving to shallower depths...." For complete info on this subject see "Alert Diver" July 2001.

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.

ADA KAYAK TRIP SEPT 7TH 2002

By Pat Hackett

Julio Raimundez organized and led another of our vaunted ADA kayak trips on Saturday, Sept 7th to Indian Key.

Quite a few ADA members and friends turned out for this paddle. The weather was beautiful! Several paddlers rented kayaks and those that brought their own, unloaded them from their vehicles. We then loaded up water, lunches, snorkeling gear and set out for Indian Key, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile southeast of the north shore of Lower Matecumbe Key.

There was a bit of current as we paddled under the Overseas Highway U.S.1 bridge so a few of our more experienced paddlers held back a little and encouraged the new kayakers on.

We beached the kayaks at Indian Key among the mangroves. After meeting at the covered dock, several adults and children, decided to use the dock as a diving board – no giant stride entry there. The swimming was great and water temperature delightful!

Those who have visited Indian Key before directed us to the opposite side of the key for some good snorkeling. It was great – many, many sea urchins (they're on their way back), school of juvenile barracuda, yellow tail snapper and schools of minnows. All of this sea life was located near the shore among the large rocks. This was a very nice diversion after our paddle to Indian Key.

It was then back to our kayaks to stow our snorkeling gear and get out our lunches. We shared the dock with a group who came over by boat to picnic on the dock. There are no amenities at Indian Key, so you must clean up lunch wrappings, plastic water bottles and bring them back to the mainland with you. It is very pristine so most people obviously help keep the key clean.

The trip back to Lower Matecumbe Key was quick as the current was with us. Those ADA members who weren't able to join us certainly missed a fun day, but there's always next time!

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



Moral of the Story:

"Don't bite off
More than you
Can Chew!"

Picture submitted by:
Nick Boyd



Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- **Articles** – Weekday Diving
- **Environmental** – Reef Fish ID Course
- **Diving** – Special Spiegel Grove Dive (October 20) & October-November Dive Schedule
- **New Family Fun Activities** – Including Kayaking, Picnics, Camping, BBQ's, and more!
- **Reports** – Kayak trip on September 7

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ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOC
NEWSLETTER

October 2002 Issue

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newsletter@activedivers.org

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Email: info@activedivers.org



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