



# The Mouthpiece



October 2009 THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



## FREE RAFFLE, FREE BBQ, FREE DIVE !! SUNDAY OCT 11

Who- ADA members and family

Where- John Lloyd State Park

1.5 miles north of Sheridan St. on A1A, Dania, Fl. The Jetty pavilion.

When- Beach dive at 9 am, raffle and bbq at noon.

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN RAFFLE PRIZES.

MUST RSVP TO WIN PRIZES

Call Lon, 305 251 4975 deadline Oct 5.

More info-

For beach diving, bring all your own gear and a dive flag if you have one. The reef is

about 100 yds. off shore. The pavilion has covered shelter, very nice bathroom, showers,

and changing room. We will have the bbq and raffle rain or shine, unless a hurricane threatens.

BBQ will include burgers, dogs, chicken, extras and all drinks.



Oct. 3 am	October Free Beach Dive (See article page 3)
Oct 4pm Sun	Miami Wreck (Advanced).\$49 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. <b>See advanced criterion this issue.</b>
Oct.10 pm Sat.	Hollywood (Advanced). \$49 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.
Oct.18 pm Sun	Tavernier Basic Reef, \$49 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 morays, schooling tropical's, unusual pillar corals.
Oct 25 am Sun.	BNP Basic Reef. \$59 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'.

## A Goliath Of a Dive

On August 22, 2009, ADA returned to JASA, in Riviera Beach and our first dive was the "Corridor". I have always loved this dive because it gives so much "bang for your buck". On one dive you can see as many as 5 wrecks and a small patch of reef in between, depending on your air consumption and deco time. It is one of my favorite sites to dive when I am up in the Palm Beach area.

On this day though, we got to see a sight that few, if any divers get to see, and this diver in particular had never seen. When our group dropped down to the first wreck we drifted right into a "school" of approximately 25 Goliath Groupers. No this is not a typo, I said **25 GOLIATH GROUPERS**. We just suspended there in awe at the sight of these giants en masse. Although, the vis was not spectacular, these giants were hard to miss. Now generally, a diver is lucky to see one maybe two Goliath Groupers on one wreck and I have even seen three or four at one time, on one wreck, but never in my wildest dreams did I expect to see a swarm of them on one wreck.

The crew and captain of the "Deep Obsession" could not have been more accommodating. Capt. Shawn got word from another captain of this unique gathering and dropped us down in the "Corridor" to see this spectacular sight and for that I am forever grateful. It definitely made the dive a WOW dive for the day for me. Captain Shawn explained that it was "spawning season" for these gentle beasts.

But that wasn't all we saw while diving the "Corridor". There was a curious green moray, various tropical fish, a lizard fish just resting on the sand and a shy spotted moray hidden from the view of most. The current was steady so we didn't have to expend a lot of energy to get from one wreck to another. Although, a storm blew in during our second dive and the vis was not great, the first dive remained in our minds as so spectacular that it couldn't put a damper on our dive day. I am glad I was there to witness such an awesome sight.

Andrea Gundersen



## November

1 Sun. pm

Tavernier \$49 (Advanced. Drift Dive)

Possible sites are Conch Wall, Molasses Reef, Victory Reef. Depths are 60' - 90' vis. 50—80 feet. Divers will team up in groups of 4—6, one carries the flag. Let the current carry you. What a way to dive! **See advanced criterion this issue.**

8 Sun. pm.

Miami \$49 (Advanced)

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.**

14 Sat pm

Pompano \$49

A basic reef dive with lots of reefs to explore and even more fish to follow.

22 Sun. pm

Eagle \$49 (Advanced)

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.**



### ADA FREE BEACH DIVES, Oct. 3rd

Jerry K, an experienced beach diver, will be on hand to instruct and lead the dive.

Directions- go east on Commercial Blvd, in Ft. Lauderdale, to the ocean. Turn right on El Mar Dr. Go one block south to Datura Ave.

Turn left, look for dive flags, drop off equipment, park near by.

Meet at 8 am, in the water at 9 am, one hour+ dive, out at 10:30 am

Parking is meter or pay lot.

Bring all your own gear, and a dive float and flag, if you have it.

It is about 50 yards swim out to the reef.

Dive shops are nearby for air fills and rentals.

Many of our beach divers do two or three dives a day.

Call Jerry the night before for weather conditions and expected waves. 954 990 9534

## MAN KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

SEPT. 5, KEY BISCAIYNE, FLORIDA

Key Biscayne, Florida. Sept. 5,

12:10 pm. ADA members assemble for  
dive on local reefs with dive shop, Divers Paradise.

12:15 pm Ominous clouds forming, near Soldier Key,  
about 1 mile to the south.

12:20 pm. Omar, owner of Divers Paradise, summons  
Lon, ADA Safety Officer assigned to this dive, to his office.

12:25 pm. After studying the radar, both agree, conditions unsafe for diving.  
Trip canceled, divers urged to depart in the safety of their vehicles.

Later that week, the Miami Herald reports that a 37 year old man was struck by lightning, standing  
in a small aluminum boat near Soldier Key, on Sept 5.

The call for help

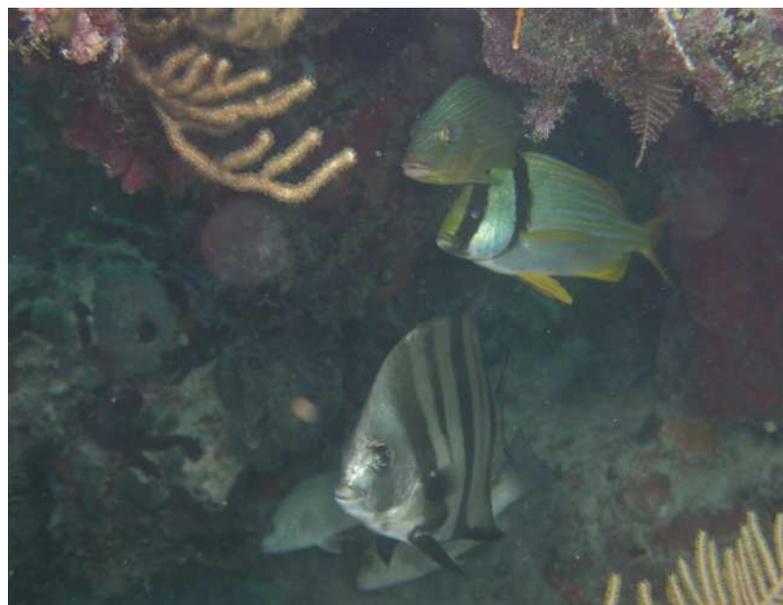
came in at about 1 pm, indicating the accident happened sometime before then.

His friends, swimming nearby, were unhurt.

consider:

1. When thunderstorms approach, seek shelter.
2. Avoid being the tallest object during a storm.
3. ADA Safety Officers study weather carefully, will cancel dives if unsafe.

*Dr. Daniel M. Baeza, PhD PE*



## Buoyancy Compensators

By: Julie Miller – Divers Den Miami

The BC of today is not your BC of yesteryear. Thank Goodness the BC has undergone major changes over the years. Although designs and features have changed, the intent of the BC is still the same: to provide the diver with neutral buoyancy at depth, to allow for positive surface flotation and to aid in ascents.

Fit is one of the most important issues when selecting a new BC. The BC should fit fairly snug so it doesn't ride up while you are under water, however it must fit big enough to provide adequate lift on the surface. You should decide what your intended use is then select an appropriate BC. If you want a BC that provides less drag, and packs well for traveling, you would want to select a smaller, low-profile model, it will work good in warm water diving but is not suited cooler water, you will have a hard time fitting it over a heavy wetsuit or dry suit.

Your BC should be washed inside and outside with fresh water after each use. Slosh water around inside your BC to make sure it cleans every corner. Be sure to flush the dump valve and power inflator thoroughly. Your BC should then be dried completely as to prevent the inside from producing mold, to dry your BC, fully inflate it and hang it upside down with the dump valve at the lowest point. You should occasionally pull the dump valve to release any water that builds up around the dump valve during the drying process.

Your BC should be stored only after it has been completely rinsed and dried. Partially inflate the BC and hang it on a wide, plastic hanger. Store your BC in a cool, dry closed out of the direct sunlight.

Do not attempt to do any repairs to your BC, if you are experiencing any problems take it to an authorized equipment dealer for service, like Divers Den Miami, remember your BC is a piece of your life support equipment and should be treated as such.



Just 2 issues left ....

Send me your articles so your newsletter will truly yours!



## Post Dive BBQS

Cost \$10.00 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 \$10 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 KEEPING DIVE COSTS DOWN

1. We do not plan to raise our local dive prices this year.
2. We are offering free beach dives this year in the metro area. No need to drive long distances to dives.
3. Our prices are still the lowest in town.

Examples:

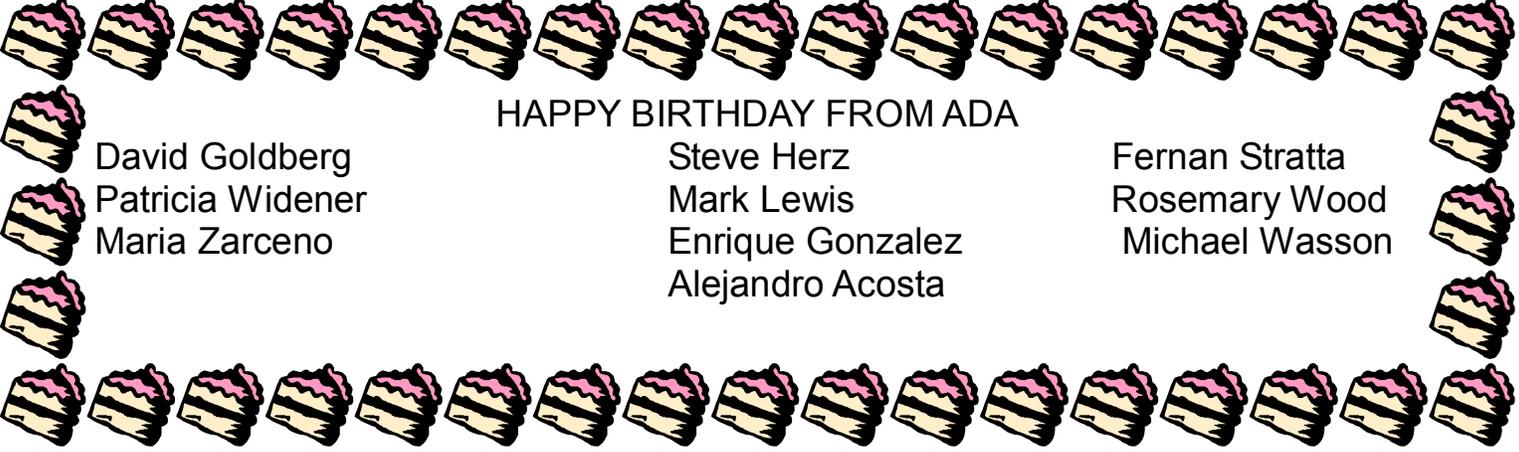
Dive shop A- walk in divers \$99

Our price same shop \$59

Dive shop B- walk in divers \$80

Our price same shop \$49

4. Free dives and free food. See article this issue for details.
5. We are offering a frequent-diver discount. Pay for any 5 local dives and get the 6th FREE.  
You can't beat that with a stick.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM ADA

David Goldberg

Steve Herz

Fernan Stratta

Patricia Widener

Mark Lewis

Rosemary Wood

Maria Zarceno

Enrique Gonzalez

Michael Wasson

Alejandro Acosta

Are you on Facebook? Join the ADA page here:

<http://www.facebook.com/ActiveDivers>

We can post your photos and share dive stories!

## 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.

### 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.

1.

### HOW TO MAKE DIVE RESERVATIONS

1. Check this newsletter or the annual calendar for upcoming dives.
2. Call Lon (305) 251-4975 to make a reservation. Please do not leave a message on the 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 report. See important weather information in this and every issue)
5. Make your check payable to ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION. Not to any individual, and mail to :  
**Lon Von Lintel , 13374 SW 46 Terrace Miami, FL. 33175**
7. Itemize dates of dives in the left hand corner of your check.
8. REMEMBER! That family members must have completed individual documentation to register as ADA members.

## ADA CHECK-IN TIMES !!!

Ours are different than the dive operators.  
When making dive reservations or during the all important  
**WEATHER CHECK.**  
Inquire about the **ADA CHECK-IN TIME.** Please arrive on  
time, or better yet, a bit earlier and chat with new friends and  
old buddies.

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### The Mouthpiece ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER *October 2009*

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Social:  
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