
The Mouthpiece

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2002

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



THANK YOU ADA VOLUNTEERS 2002

ADA is an entirely volunteer organization that strives to provide economical dive adventures for our members. Each year dozens of members offer their time and talents to make this a reality. They volunteer to do the countless jobs and duties that are necessary to make ADA hum. They expect nothing in return but we all owe them our thanks for a job well done.

Jim Kiernan- membership chair (our biggest job), board member, BBQ chef
Chris Wood- newsletter editor, board member, internet guru.
Pat Hackett- Secretary, board member, social co-chair.
Julio Raimundez- board member, kayak leader, Safety Officer, social co-chair.
Dan Baeza- board member, Safety Officer, internet guru.
Maria Zarceno- Treasurer, board member
Lee Wood- board member, Safety Officer.
Jerry Kosakowski- board member, conservation chair.
Enrique Gonzalez- board member, newsletter assistant.
Robert Fox- Safety Officer.
Nic Boyd- newsletter photographer.
Sheila Solen - newsletter photographer.
Carol Cox - newsletter photographer.
Connie Crowther- social host.
Sharon Miles- BBQ chef.
Daryl Johnson- BBQ chef.
Tom Davis- BBQ chef.

To anyone we may have overlooked,
our apologies and thanks.

Lon Von Lintel, President

November Dive Schedule

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. **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**



November B-Days	
Frank Taylor, Jr.	4
Terry Avick	6
Denise Downing	8
Dafne Martinez	10
Kelly Brooks	22
Bill Schultheis	26
Walter Fass, Jr.	29
Nelson Benedico	30
December B-Days	
Fred Schlafly	4
Ricardo Amelin	6
Mike Lefkowitz	6
Shelby Hartman	7
Loretta Marshall	9
Cynthia Holden	10
Tom Jones	10
Emily Christian	12
Marta Raimundez	12
Marcella Nemece	16
Jerry Kosakowski	22
Terry Whatley	22
Jon Spath	23
Chuck Porter	27
Peggy Christian	30
R. Dan Nafe	31

Correction:


Oops! Last month's Local Dive Pictures were incorrectly credited to Sheila Solen. The actual photographer was Carol Cox. Sorry Carol & thanks for the pics! (Nick Boyd also submitted pics & was correctly credited)

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

END OF DIVE SEASON

Nov. 17 is our last scheduled dive of the year. This is due to the weather patterns of the "winter months". But a few die-hard divers continue to dive when a window of good weather pops up. These last minute dives are not ADA dives, ADA does not provide a Safety Officer or assume any liability for them. If you would like to be notified of them call Jim at (954) 931-4923.



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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.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Members with credits from cancelled dives or BBQ's have two options at the end of the dive season:

- **OPTION 1** - Call Lon to request a refund.
- **OPTION 2** - Apply monies to 2003 membership. If the credit is greater than membership dues, the difference will be refunded.

Note: Option 2 will be implemented unless a refund is requested by December 21, 2002.

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.

LAST NEWSLETTER OF 2002 – Happy Holidays!

Ada does not publish a newsletter for December or January. The erratic weather and holidays prevent us from making regular dives during this period – thus the hiatus. We will back in February though so watch for us then. Also read the articles "Weekday Diving" & "End of Dive Season" to learn about dives with other ADA members during the winter – however, these are NOT club sponsored dives. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

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.

ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END

It has been my extreme pleasure & privilege to bring you the ADA Newsletter for the past four years. I don't have an exact number of articles, pictures, news and reviews I've edited, but suffice to say I've worn out a few keyboards in the process. Workload constraints have caused me to reign in some of my extra-curricular activities and it's always good to put a new infusion of ideas and enthusiasm into any project. So come February of next year, I will be turning the "keys" over to another ADA member, Steve Herz. I would like to thank Steve in advance for taking on the job, as it is a substantial amount of work, but I know Steve will be up to the task. I will continue to be active in the club as a Board Member. And, as Co-Internet Guru for our website (with Dan Baeza), I look forward to having more time to infuse into Web-Design for ADA.

No job as large as the newsletter can be completely done by one person. So I would like to thank everyone who over the years has submitted Articles, Pictures, Trip Reports, News, and a myriad of other info that went into the newsletter. And a special thanks goes to Enrique Gonzalez (and previously Sharon Miles & Steve Brooks), for Printing, Folding, Stapling, Stamping, Addressing & Mailing the newsletter to everyone each month – Thanks Enrique. And a special, special thanks to Lon Von Lintel who was & continues to be one of the biggest contributor's to the newsletter. Lon checks for typos each month, submits all the dive schedules, writes trip reports, and too many other things to mention. And for those of you who may not know, Lon has responsibilities with all of our other Chairpersons as well as planning & running many of the dives. You won't see his name on the list of volunteers on the Front Page but those volunteers, this newsletter and the ADA Club could/would not exist without his support – Thanks Lon for all your help.

I Bid you a Fond Adieu, Your editor, Chris

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- **Articles** – Weekday Diving, End of Dive Season,
- **Environmental** – Reef Fish ID Course
- **Diving** – November Dive Schedule (Last Dives of the Season!)
- **New Family Fun Activities** – Including Kayaking, Picnics, Camping, BBQ's, and more!

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November-December 2002 Issue

Dive Trips/Return Address:
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Conservation:
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Newsletter:
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Website: www.activedivers.org
Email: info@activedivers.org



THINKING ABOUT MOVING? ☎ DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET!

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