



The Mouthpiece



May 2013 THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

ADA's Band of Coral Reefers

By Roy D. Wasson

The Active Divers Association continued its years-long collaboration with the Coral Restoration Foundation during the weekend of April 6-7, 2013, with two days of classroom education, diving and social activities. Many thanks go out to CRF President Ken Nedimyer; CRF's Science & Education Director Jessica Levy; and CRF staff members Kayla Ripple, Pam Hughes, and Lois Hatcher for their guidance and leadership over the weekend, on and off the water. ADA Board Member/Special Events Coordinator Connie Crowther organized the weekend. ADA Vice President Lee Wood stayed ashore but graciously opened his waterfront home in Tavernier for several divers to stay over the weekend and allowed the rest of us to enjoy social events featuring gourmet meals. But the best part was helping the reefs.



The activities started with a hearty breakfast at Lee's home early Saturday morning. We then traveled up to Key Largo for classroom training at CRF's new Education Center, a permanent dedicated facility next to the Pilot House restaurant, which is subsidized by the Pilot House. Open only since February, the dedicated classroom, with a 500-gallon aquarium hosting growing corals, has full audio-video capability and colorful, informative panels throughout. The Center is a huge improvement over the training facilities used in prior years when CRF trained volunteers in borrowed space at the local high school. Saturday's classroom lessons concentrated on the causes of damage and diseases to the Keys' coral reefs, and educated our divers about the methods of growing baby staghorn and elkhorn coral in CRF's offshore nurseries.

Following the day's first classroom session (which included hands-on training in looping monofilament line around baby corals to hang them on underwater "trees" where they can grow and develop), we broke for lunch and then re-grouped at Florida Keys Dive Center, which had provided a special ADA rate for the diving and generously donated the tanks for both days' dives. ADA Board Member/Safety Officer Rachel Davis provided our pre-dive briefing, with her usual focus on preparing to deal with the unexpected and making sure that we all enjoy a safe dive.

After checking-in and loading the boat, our buddy teams—each of which was matched-up with a CRF staff member--set out for an afternoon of diving. The water was cool (as usual in early April), but the visibility was good and there was very little current, so our Saturday chores were made easier by favorable conditions. Our work included tagging (so each species of coral can be monitored) and hanging more than 100 baby corals on the branches of the nursery's trees. For those of our members who participated in our work with CRF several years ago, we no longer plant the baby corals on concrete discs fixed to the ocean bottom, but hang them from trees suspended by lines and buoys, to allow the corals to swing back and forth with the current in order to protect them from damage.

Saturday night featured a barbecue meal of grilled chicken, salmon, burgers, brats, a gourmet Caesar salad, and all the fixin's back at Lee's Tavernier home. Our friends from CRF joined us for the meal and for some enjoyable conversation about our shared interests in diving and protecting the coral reefs of Florida.

After another hearty breakfast at Lee's house the next day, Sunday morning's classroom and lab session included a presentation on coral restoration methods, elaborating on CRF's outplanting method and the other restoration techniques being used by other concerned groups. Then came the second day of diving. Our Florida Keys Dive Center boat took us first to the nursery, where CRF divers recovered the tagged coral stock for transplanting. We then cruised to Conch Reef to plant the baby staghorn corals. The diving conditions on Sunday were, as compared to Saturday, very challenging, with a strong surge washing us back and forth as we tried to clear off locations to plant the corals with epoxy on a deteriorated reef. We persevered and dives that afternoon allowed ADA members to put our newly learned skills to work and help CRF outplant 30 staghorn corals onto Conch Reef.

ADA members interested in restoring Florida's coral reefs to the beautiful state some of us older members recall (before more than 90% of the living coral was depleted) should check with Connie, watch the website at www.activedivers.org, and otherwise stay tuned for future opportunities for the ADA to work with the Coral Restoration Foundation. You will find the diving enjoyable and the contribution to the marine habitat personally satisfying. ADA is planning another mid-summer weekend of classes, instruction and diving at the Coral Restoration Foundation. We are also planning more dives with CRF for those who have already been trained this year in the tagging, hanging and outplanting. Anyone interested in either should contact Connie Crowther at 305-710-3773 or connie_crowther@msn.com.



"It was well worth it." Says Juliana Bach

"The educational experience was very informative, while the diving experience was a challenge...i.e. Working with small gadgets...nylon wire, aluminum crimps and tools. I felt like I accomplished something and now I'm part of the bigger picture." Lenora Bach

"It was an amazing and unique experience working with the coral trees in the nursery and learning how to mount them to the reef. I totally would want to do it again!" Chris Hand



MY CAMPING TRIP FROM HELL!

by Lon Von Lintel

The ADA coral restoration weekend was originally scheduled for the end of April so we planned a camping trip for April 5-6. Now I had a problem, lose camping fees, disappoint our grand children and go diving, or go camping. I chose camping BIG MISTAKE!

Day 1- It rained 30 minutes prior to arriving at camp. Could not set up tents. It rained for the next 18 hrs.

Spent the first and most of the second day in a hotel room, watching the rain.

Day 2- finally sent up camp late afternoon. Then learned our second car had major tire problems, losing air on at least two tires. Nothing to do (tire shops closed) except watch the air slowly leak out. Had dinner. Later during the night, my air mattress went flat also. It must have decided to join its big brothers.

Day 3- Called AAA who came and inflated tires enough to make it to closest tire shop. They were very helpful and informed me 3 of the new tires, installed by Firestone in Miami, had been damaged during installation beyond repair. They scrambled and found 4 tires to fit our car. Then came the negotiations between me, and the two Firestone stores to settle who was at fault. I got 3 new tires, no charge, but it ate up the day. Later during the night sleeping, or trying to sleep on my deflated air mattress, I developed a horrific coughing spasm. Due to sleeping on the ground?

Day 4- My coughing was better during the day. Broke camp and drove back to Miami. Arrived exhausted from no sleep and the vigor of camping. Went to bed. But by 1 am, the coughing spasms were back with a vengeance. So severe and forceful, I feared something, like a broken rib could result. Maria drove me to the Baptist emergency room. Chest x-rays proved negative for broken ribs, just a potent viral infection. The doctor prescribed a cocaine based medication which depressed the cough control in the brain. It worked, but for the next week I was a junkie.

My question- Did Poseidon, Greek God of the seas, punish me for not diving?

Trumpet Fish

Thanks Carol Cox for the Pic



Blue Tangs



Change of Address or E-Mail

Are you getting your Active Divers Association eNews, our eMail newsletter of current activities? Are you receiving your print version of the monthly Active Divers Association Newsletter? If the answer to any of these questions is "no", the solution is as close as your computer or phone. Please email or call our membership chair Dan at:

Dr. Daniel M. Baeza, PhD, PE

Active Divers Association

Membership Chairman

Third Annual Scuba Skills Tune-Up Event and Membership Drive

Saturday, May 18, 2013: Help us generate awareness of ADA and encourage new members to join as we reach out to the community and provide an opportunity for scuba divers who haven't been in the water for a while to brush up on their skills in a relaxed, friendly environment. The session will be at the heated [AD Barnes Pool](#) 3401 SW 72 Ave. Miami, FL, with poolside sign-in and classroom instruction provided by ADA Safety Officers from 8:30am to 11:00 a.m. and in water instruction from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free to current paid-up ADA members; \$25 one-day-only ADA membership promotion for certified divers wishing to join ADA at the event. This offer is available to new members only. Note: This is not the official PADI scuba refresher course and participants do not receive any sort of certification for this event. Spread the word! E-mail [Rachel Davis](#) or call her at 786-316-9852 to register or for more details.



July 6-10, 2013: Be one of the 10 ADA divers on an extraordinary dive trip to Utila, Honduras, home of large pelagic fish, myriad tropical, turtles, and the elusive whale shark. You will be escorted by ADA Safety Officers Dan and Daryl for an amazing five days and four nights at the beautiful [Deep Blue Resort](#), located on the southwestern side of Utila Island off the coast of Honduras. You will enjoy three days of three-tank boat diving and unlimited beach diving in the pristine waters off the coast. Utila has an extensive reef system with more than 130 buoyed sites around the island, including sheer walls and drop-offs, with amazing coral growth on top of the walls. Dolphins, manta rays and many other large pelagic creatures that inhabit the Caribbean, including of course, the largest of them all, the whale shark, make their home in Utila.



All of these dive shops on this page and page 4 were generous contributors to our free raffle held last October. We THANK YOU!

DIVERS COVE
Your Ticket to Another World™
PADI 5-STAR DIVE CENTER

2335 South University Drive
Davie, FL 33324
954-473-1220
www.diverscovefl.com

The Scuba Center

Lee Pickens
John Pickens

SALES
SERVICE
INSTRUCTION



885 S. E. 6th Avenue
Delray Beach, Florida 33483

Website: SCUBADELRAY.COM
E-mail: INFO@SCUBADELRAY.COM
Voice: (561) 278-7020 Fax: (561) 278-9143



677 SW 1st Street
Miami, FL 33130

Phone: 305.548.3483
Fax: 305.548.4199

E-mail: info@oceansafari.com

DIVERS DEN
Julie Miller
Owner

Phone: (305) 595-2010
Fax: (305) 271-4641
julie@diversdenmiami.com

12614 Kendall Drive, Miami FL 33186



GARY THOMAS
Manager

P.A.D.I. Course Director
100 Ton Licensed Captain

Pompano Beach 954-943-3483
Boca Raton 561-368-0555
Riviera Beach 561-845-2333
www.force-e.com

May Dive Schedule

- 5- 5 Sun pm Miami reef \$49
What a great place to dive. Reefs galore. Get out the cameras and send the newsletter editor some pics.
- 5-12 Sat. **AM** Ft. Lauderdale \$49
Nice and easy does it. Many reefs to choose from. Great reefs and terrific picture taking opportunities.
- 5-19 Sun. pm Molasses reef \$49 BBQ \$10
A favorite among the easy does it set. Beautiful reef, plenty of fish, and a great place to stretch the scuba legs. Come for the dive and stay for the great BBQ food.
- 5-25 Sat. pm Hollywood reef \$49
Bring along your camera, I heard the fish like to smile and pose for you. So do some of our ADA divers. It's fun and a great way to spend that warm May day, underwater without a care in the world.

June Dive Schedule

- 6-2 Sun pm W. Palm (*Advanced*) \$49
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.*
- 6-8 Sat pm Islamorada \$49
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.
- 6-15 Sat pm BNP \$49
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'.
- 6-23 Sun pm USS Eagle (*Advanced*) \$49 BBQ \$10
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 on this issue. The nite dive is not advanced.
- 6-29 Sat pm N. Key Largo \$49
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, morays, cudas.

Would you like your gas paid for on any Saturday dive? I live near the Tamiami airport in W. Kendall. My wife can drop me off at your house if you live in the area or we can meet somewhere near the freeway. That way she can have the car for the day. Thanks.

Roger Smalling

HOW TO SAVE OUR PLANET, BIT BY BIT

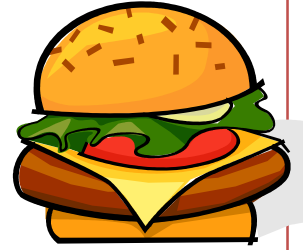
THE THREE R's OF BEING GREEN

- Reduce- consumption of electricity, gas, water, non-renewable resources, waste.
 - Reuse- plastic bags, boxes, paper, bottles, cans, containers and donate items.
 - Recycle- plastics of all types, paper, cardboard, glass, metals, if you can't reuse them.
- You can do these each day, every day.

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.

For Now, all ADA dives in 2012 will remain \$49. **Boat Ticket only!** Except the BNP dives which are \$59.

These prices may be changed without notice.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM ADA



MAY

Lee Wood

Clive Hew

Ricard Auger

Thomas Obermeier

Gustavo Albor

Javier Aparisi

Allen Smith

Margaret McAlister

Jerry King

Rachel Hancock

ADA RULES & REGULATIONS

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

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 budded 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

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.

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 insur-

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.



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:
Jerry Kosakowski, 298 NW 83 Lane Coral Springs FL 33071-7439 You may also pay online via PayPal on the "Dive Schedule" page.

Are you on Facebook? Join the ADA page here:

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

We can post your photos and share dive stories!

Send your pics and info to Helen at:

activediversassoc@gmail.com

The Mouthpiece

ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

May 2013

Dive Trips/Return Address:

Lon Von Lintel (305) 251-4975

13374 SW 46 Terrace Miami, FL 33175

Membership:

Dr. Dan Baeza

7592 Parkview Way

Coral Springs, FL 33065

954-752-3682

Membership@activedivers.org

Newsletter:

Steve Herz

Newsletter@activedivers.org

Website: www.activedivers.org

Email: info@activedivers.org



AUSTIN'S DIVING CENTER, INC.

**ALL TYPES OF DIVING EQUIPMENT
SALES • RENTALS • REPAIRS • HYDRO TEST**

LANCE YOUNG • TOM ELSBREE
DOUGLAS, Manager • DENNIS, Asst. Manager

BRETT - DEAN - PAUL - MIKE - CHRIS

10525 S. Dixie Hwy. Opposite K-Mart, Miami, FL 33156

(305) 665-0636 • Fax: (305) 665-0789

E-Mail: diving@austins.com Web Site: www.austins.com



M. M. 90.5,

Phone: 1-800-433-8946

Local: 305-852-4599

Fax: 305-852-1293

E-mail: