



The Mouthpiece



June 2006 THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

June

June 3 Sat am Biscayne National Park BBQ \$7

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'. **BBQ after dive, see article this issue.**

June 11 Sun pm Islamorada

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.

June 17 Sat. pm Pompano (*Advanced*)

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.**

June 25 Sun pm Molasses Reef

Called the most popular site in the Keys, many fish, high profile corals, sometimes current. Average depth 20—40 ft. Vis 50'—100'

July

July 2 Sun am Elliott Key (*Advanced*)

Sites - The Wall, Anniversary, Rocky Reef, Elkhorn Forest, Cuda Ledge, Ball Buoy, Doc DeMilly. Expect currents, usually we drift dive the deep reefs. Depths 70-110', average visibility 40-80'. Only one commercial dive boat allowed in area. **See advanced criterion this issue**

July 8 Sat. pm N. Key Largo BBQ \$7

Sites may include 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.

July 8 Sat. Night dive! Minnow Caves

See page 2 for details.

July 16 Sun pm Miami beginners wreck

See page 2 for details.

July 22 Sat pm Tavernier

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.

July 29 Sat am BNP

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'.



N. Key Largo-BBQ-Night dive!

July 8

All three in one day! We will tour the reefs by day, two tanks, then shower and enjoy the BBQ right next to the docks, and then re-board for a one tank night dive in the famous Minnow caves. This trip was planned in July to take advantage of the highest concentrations of minnows seen all year.

Costs-
Day dive \$35, dive pacs may be used
Night dive \$35, dive pacs may be used
BBQ \$7



Keys Travel Delays 15-30 minutes.

Due to a large construction project on US 1, between Homestead and Key Largo, travel times to all sites in the Keys will be longer than usual. Plan to depart home earlier to avoid arriving late. Remember, divers must attend the briefing to be eligible to dive. Arriving late stresses everyone and detracts from your dive experience and enjoyment.



Miami Beginners Wreck Dive July 16

For inexperienced divers who don't qualify or who don't feel ready for an advanced dive to deep wrecks, we have planned a special dive. It will take place in the shallow waters (less than 60') off Key Biscayne. There are several wrecks, some very old, which have tons of fish and

interesting organisms in these waters.

The currents are usually mild and the wrecks present no special hazards. For experienced divers, you will appreciate the longer bottoms allowed in the shallower waters. We can dive two wrecks, or a wreck and a reef.

Good dives for all divers. Call Lon for reservations.

PROBLEMS CALLING LON?

Due to phone logistics at my end, some members have had difficulties calling me. I have not been avoiding you, but having only one line to handle ADA calls and the internet hookup, has made it problematic.

I am usually on line during the day, sending e mails, responding to your inquires, and researching new dive ideas.

Sometimes my fax is inadvertently left on, and you will get a fax signal. That is my fault, I will try to remember to turn it off. If the phone rings and rings, with no message, it means I am on line, try later.

THE BEST TIME TO CALL ME IS 6-10 pm, Mon thru Fri.

Of course, CALL FOR WEATHER CHECKS at times indicated on page 7 of the newsletter under "Important Weather Information".

Also, for various reasons, I do not usually take reservations by e mail.

Please call at the times indicated above.

Thanks and sorry for the inconvenience.....

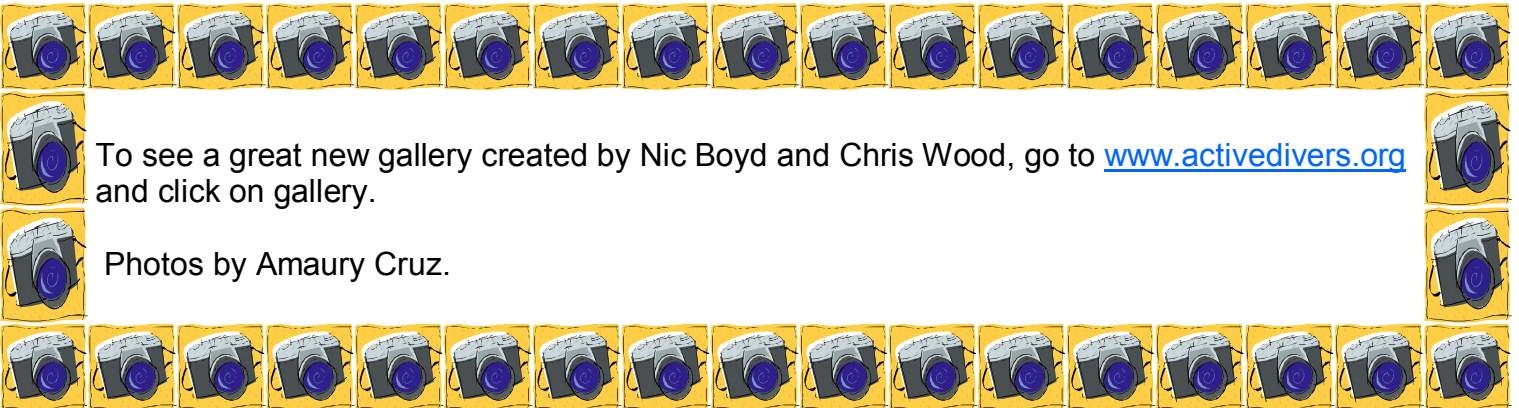
Lon

BNP LOOKING FOR DIVE MASTERS

Biscayne National Park has employment opportunities for divers certified as Dive Masters, or higher. It is part time and offers pay for diving.

How good is that!

Call 305- 230 -1100 and ask for Nestor, the manager.



To see a great new gallery created by Nic Boyd and Chris Wood, go to www.activedivers.org and click on gallery.

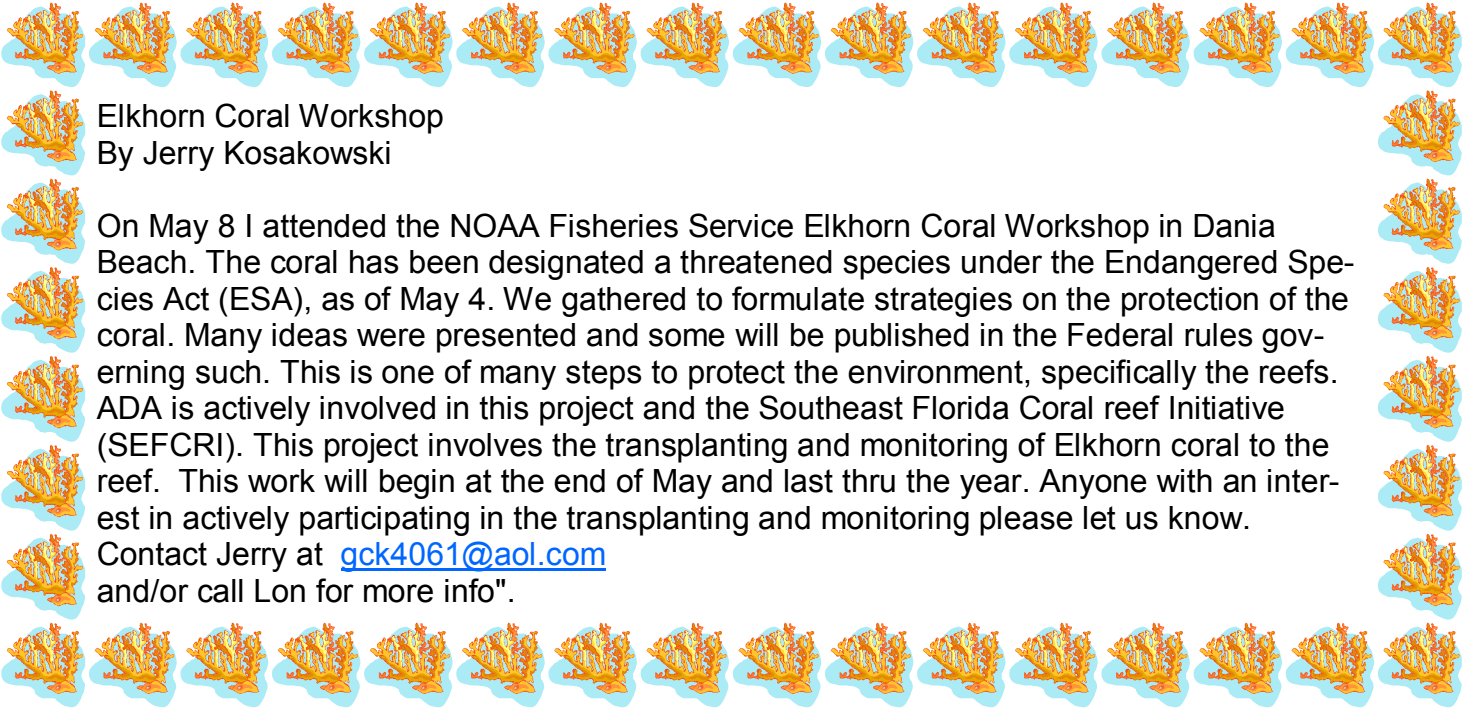
Photos by Amaury Cruz.

LOST CITY COMES TO MIAMI

Soon to be built in the off-shore waters near Key Biscayne, a re-creation of the Lost City of Atlantis will be of much interest for divers and serve as an artificial reef for marine creatures. Being 900 feet in diameter, it will be visible from the air and will take 2-3 years to complete.

ADA plans to monitor it's progress with our first dive scheduled for May 27. Watch the Mouthpiece for details.

For more info go to the Jan. 20 issue of the Miami Herald. www.atlantisreefproject.com



Elkhorn Coral Workshop
By Jerry Kosakowski

On May 8 I attended the NOAA Fisheries Service Elkhorn Coral Workshop in Dania Beach. The coral has been designated a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as of May 4. We gathered to formulate strategies on the protection of the coral. Many ideas were presented and some will be published in the Federal rules governing such. This is one of many steps to protect the environment, specifically the reefs. ADA is actively involved in this project and the Southeast Florida Coral reef Initiative (SEFCRI). This project involves the transplanting and monitoring of Elkhorn coral to the reef. This work will begin at the end of May and last thru the year. Anyone with an interest in actively participating in the transplanting and monitoring please let us know.

Contact Jerry at gck4061@aol.com
and/or call Lon for more info".





★ **ADA DIVE PACS 2006**

★ Many of our members took advantage of the convenience and big savings of purchasing dive pacs last year. ADA is again offering dive pacs for this year.

★ Prices-

★ 5 local dives for \$145 (that's \$29 per dive, a savings of \$30)

★ 15 local dives for \$375 (that's \$25 per dive, a savings of \$150)



★ Advantages-

★ 1. You write only one check !

★ 2. You mail only one check !

★ 3. You save \$\$\$!!!!!



★ **All dive pacs are non-refundable, non-transferable and must be used in 2006. Insurance may be purchased.**

★ All single-purchase local dives are \$35, unless otherwise noted. All prices are for boat tickets only.

★ Rentals, air fills, etc. are extra, prices set by each individual service agent.



E MAIL SPECIAL UPDATES

Sometimes last minute good deals, unique dives, and special events pop up before we can publish in the ADA newsletter. If you would like to be informed and in the loop, send me your e mail address and I will give you the latest info.

SEND YOUR E MAIL ADDRESS TO:

INFO@ACTIVEDIVERS.ORG

Thanks
Lon



Post Dive BBQS

Cost \$7.00 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 to join us for good outdoor food and telling tall fish tales. Please send \$7 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!





Photo By Carol Cox

PHOTOS WANTED!!!

Want to see your name in lights? Want to be the star of the show? Want to be rich and famous? Well...we can't promise that, but if you are a photographer we welcome your photos of your u/w adventures AND top-side shots of ADA and members at any and all ADA activities. We will publish your shots in our monthly newsletter THE MOUTHPIECE on a space available basis. "Please send electronic (one meg or less) or film (with self addressed envelope if you want them returned) pics of this year's dive/activities to:

Nic Boyd
One S. Ocean Blvd # 204
Boca Raton, Fl. 33432
or email to: nboyd@oceanlandinc.com

Include your name and names of other people, if you know them, and location."
Send your photos, taken any time any where, to Nic. We will post, space permitting. See newsletter for instructions on how to send.

ADA FREE RAFFLE 2006

Prizes to be awarded:
First prize- one dive 5 pac for 2006
Second prizes- ten single dives
Miami University Football Tickets (donated by Roy Wasson)
Third prizes- your choice in the grab box until all items gone.

How to earn raffle tickets:
1 ticket for attending any ADA function.
1 ticket for proudly wearing ADA T-shirt.
5 tickets for winning the mini-raffles.
10 tickets for being the BBQ chef.

20 TICKETS, THAT IS RIGHT, TWENTY FOR SIGNING UP A NEW MEMBER!!!

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.



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, 13374 SW 46th Terrace Miami, FL 33175
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.
8. REMEMBER: That family members must have completed individual documentation to register as ADA members.



COPY Experts

Carlos Paz

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ADA CHECK-IN TIMES !!!

Ours are different than
the dive operators.
When making dive res-
ervations 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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June 2006

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