



The Mouthpiece

Our Web
www.activedivers.org/

June 2007 THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JUNE DIVE SCHEDULE

June 3 PM Islamorada
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 10 PM Pennekamp
All the great sites Pennekamp has to offer. Great Reefs, lots of fish.

June 17 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.

June 24 PM Palm Beach (*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 30 AM Elliot Key & BBQ BBQ \$10
Sites may include: Rocky Reef, Elkhorn Forest, Ball Buoy, Far Out Reef, Cuda Ledge. Usually no currents, massive corals, small caves. **BBQ after dive, see article this issue.**

JULY DIVE SCHEDULE

JULY 7 PM Conch Wall (ADVANCED) \$50
See page 2 for details.

JULY 7 NIGHT Tavernier (NIGHT DIVE)
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 tropicals, unusual pillar corals We'll teach you how to night Dive!

JULY 14 PM Pompano
Perhaps a wreck or perhaps some reefs. All good diving. Maybe even some large sea turtles or a shark or two.

JULY 22 PM N. Key Largo
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 28 AM Biscayne Nat'l Park & BBQ BBQ \$10
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', vies 30-60'. **BBQ after dive, see article this issue.**

Oceans For Youth Foundation

Volunteer Opportunities

by Roy D. Wasson

For the third consecutive year I recently participated in Career Day at my son Michael's Middle School (Michael is an ADA member too). Instead of boring these 12 to 15 year olds with talk about being a lawyer or working a desk job, I hooked-up a scuba tank (rental donated by Austin's Dive Center) to a BC and regulator, passed out underwater photos, and showed some professional videos about the undersea world. You can really get a kid's attention with a question like: "How many jobs can you think of where you get paid for wearing a swimsuit to work?" This Career Day presentation—"Careers in the Undersea Environment"—introduced 6th, 7th and 8th graders to career ideas ranging from marine biology to salvage diving, from underwater photography to seafood harvesting, and beyond. The students' visit to my presentation (they rotated in groups from one classroom to another in half-hour segments) was much more fun than going to hear spiels about selling insurance or careers in bookkeeping (no offense meant to the green eyeshade-wearing readers out there). The video part of my Career Day presentation was provided at no cost by Oceans For Youth Foundation ("OFY"), a non-profit foundation designed to encourage underwater education for youth. Many ADA members know (of know of) Wayne Hasson, founder of the Aggressor Fleet of dive liveaboards. Wayne also is the President of OFY. Using a variety of educational tools, OFY uses specific programs to help young people become more aware and interested in the underwater environment. The DVD produced by OFY includes chapters called "Rainforests of the Sea," "Marine Mammal Rescue," "Sharks and Rays," "Gallapagos Adventure," "Destroyer at Peace," and ten more interesting titles. It always is hard picking only a few chapters to show the students in each group. Wayne and I would like to encourage other ADA members to become OFY volunteers. In addition to speaking at schools, volunteers can work with Boy and Girl Scout troops, civic clubs, and otherwise work to interest and prepare youth for the joy and excitement of exploring and protecting the underwater world. It is OFY's belief that a young person introduced early to the wonders of the oceans, will naturally become much more environmentally aware and practice a lifelong attitude of ocean conservation and protection

Interested ADA members and friends should pay a visit to the OFY website www.oceansforyouth.com to volunteer, or just enjoy the materials and information available. You will be impressed with what you see there. If you would like a free copy of the OFY DVD and related materials in a hurry, copies are available by calling Roy Wasson at (305) 284-0032 or 519-8897, or by email to roywasson@bellsouth.net . Let's work together to plant seeds of interest in the next generation of divers.



Conch Wall

One of the few places in the Florida Keys where the reef forms anything resembling a vertical wall, Conch Wall is a nice change of pace. Dropping steeply from 60 to 90ft, this is one of the deepest living reefs in the Florida Keys. The wall is festooned with deepwater sea fans and several species of barrel sponges, including giant, leathery and green barrel sponges. You'll see lots of red and purple finger sponges, too.

Angelfish, parrotfish, wrasses and other reef fish are plentiful along the wall, but it's the possibility of seeing larger animals that cranks the excitement of diving here up a notch. Big jacks, like the speedy crevalle jacks, are nearly always around. Greater amberjacks and permits show up from time to time, while you'll likely spot several species of grouper, including black, Nassau and yellowfin groupers.

Drift dive Conch Wall when a current is running—which is most of the time—and you'll feel like you're flying. Choosing your entry point and timing your descent can be tricky, but then you can relax and go with the flow. Toward the end of your dive, you can either ascend directly to a safety stop or head up a prominent sand chute to shallower water atop Conch Reef.

Biscayne National Park May 5th



Nick, Keeley, Connie



Pre-Dive Briefing



Apres-Dive Good Cheer



Cynthia & Daniel

PROUDLY WEAR YOUR ADA T-SHIRT!!!

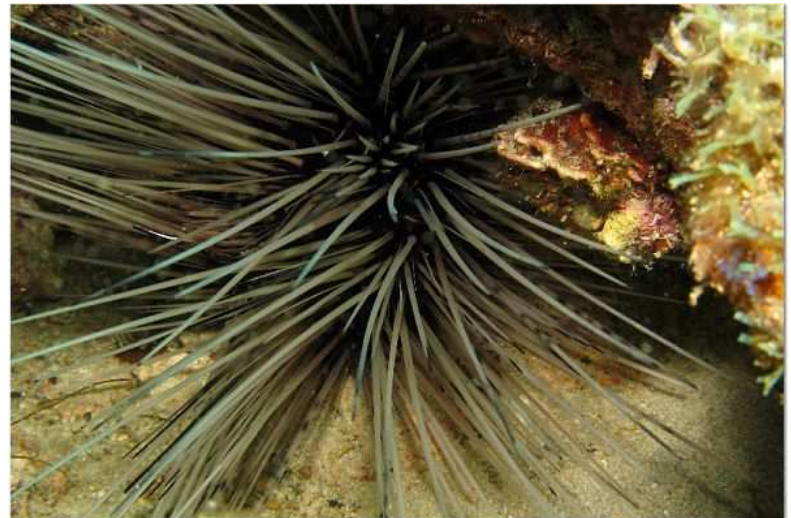
You will earn 5 raffle tickets by wearing your ADA t-shirt at all ADA dive briefings. We want to see a sea of RED ! This a great way to tell everyone you are a member of the Biggest, Baddest, Boldest, Bravest, Bestists, bunch of divers on the face of the earth!! Everyone will ask, "Who are these red wonders?" It is also a good way to recruit new members and earn 20, that's right TWENTY RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THE BIG Free Drawing in October

FISH IMPLANTS TRACK MOVEMENT

Marine Biologist James Lindholm, with the Pflieger Institute of Environmental Research in California has been trapping fish in the Florida Keys and implanting them with a tracking device. 45 fish in the last two years have been fitted with this device. Acoustic receivers along the Keys will help researchers to track the movement of the fish. Within the next year, the study is expected to give the Marine Sanctuary managers a better understanding of the movement of hogfish, grouper, parrot fish, and snapper.

STATE OF FLORIDA PURCHASES KEYS PROPERTY

Recently the state obtained 51 acres with 3950 feet of waterfront property as part of a plan to preserve almost 12,000 acres along the 106 miles of islands. The Florida Keys Ecosystem Florida Forever project stretches from South Key Largo to Boca Chica Key. The habitats support more then 60 rare and endangered plants and animals. This project also helps protect th waters of the Florida Keys and the coral reefs. More than 5,181 acres of the project are already in public ownership. Good news for divers.
(in part from the Scuba News magazine)



Both Pictures by J Nicholas Boyd

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.

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!

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.



ADA FREE RAFFLE 2007

Prizes to be awarded:

First prize- one dive 5 pac for 2008

Second prizes- ten single dives

Third prizes- your choice in the grab box until all items gone.

How to earn raffle tickets:

1 ticket for attending any ADA function.

5 ticket for proudly wearing ADA T-shirt.

5 tickets for winning the mini-raftles.

10 tickets for being the BBQ chef.

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



ADA DIVE PACS 2007

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

Single purchase two tank local dives \$39

5 pacs-5 local two tank dives for \$165

Prices are for boat tickets only.

You may purchase a pac and later decide which dives you wish to reserve.

Specialty dives are at higher prices, will be announced.

**ALL DIVE PACS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE,
NON-TRANSFERABLE AND MUST BE USED IN 2007**



Photo Gallery

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, Dan Baeza, Nick Boyd, and others.

Send your photos, taken any time any where, to Nic. We will post, space permitting. See newsletter for instructions on how to send.

Good job guys!!



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 *June 2007*

Dive Trips/Return Address:
Lon Von Lintel (305) 251-4975
13374 SW 46 Terrace Miami, FL 33175

Membership:
Frank Young
1115 Country Club Prado
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305-903-1113
Membership@activedivers.org

Conservation:
Jerry Kosakowski (954) 680-1642

Social:
Patricia Hackett (305) 387-0015

Newsletter:
Steve Herz (305) 606-6331
Newsletter@activedivers.org

Website: www.activedivers.org
Email: info@activedivers.org