

The Mouthpiece



JUNE 2001

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JUNE-JULY DIVE SCHEDULE

▶ ▶ ▶ For the yearly schedule please visit www.activedivers.org ◀ ◀ ◀

JUN 2, SAT AFTERNOON S. KEY LARGO \$29.00 (BBQ \$7)

Sites include: Molasses, Spanish Anchor, Hole-in-wall, French, Pickles. Average depth 35-40', average visibility 50-70', expect currents and high voltage action. High profile corals. **BBQ after dive, see article this issue.**

JUN 2, SAT NIGHT S. KEY LARGO (NIGHT) \$35.00

Sites include: Molasses, Spanish Anchor, Hole-in-wall, French, Pickles. Average depth 35-40', average vis 50-70', expect currents and high voltage action. High profile corals. **Free Mini Night Dive Course - before dive, don't forget your lights.**

JUN 3, SUN MORNING (9:00 AM) KAYAK & SNORKEL TRIP FREE (Kayak Rental Extra)

See Kayak article this issue.

JUN 10, SUN AFTERNOON POMPANO (ADVANCED) \$29.00

Scheduled site "The Sea Emperor" home to giant jewfish, stingrays, eels and sharks. Professional guide hand feeds as we watch from a safe distance. Depth 70', visibility 40-60', strong currents. **See advanced criteria this issue.**

JUN 16, SAT MORNING BISCAYNE NATL PARK \$45.00 (Includes Tanks)

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'.

JUN 24, SUN AFTERNOON N. KEY LARGO \$29.00

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, moreys, cudas.

JUN 30, SAT AFTERNOON ISLAMORADA \$29.00

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.

JUL 8, SUN MORNING MIAMI BEACH (ADVANCED) \$29.00

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.**

JUL 14, SAT AFTERNOON DANIA BEACH \$29.00

Sites include Tracy, Jay Scutty, The Caves, Sunrise Ledges, The Peter, Oakland Ledges, Hog Heaven, Average depth 40-60', visibility 30-50', usually mild currents.

JUL 22, SUN MORNING BISCAYNE NATL.. PARK (ADVANCED) \$45.00 (Tanks Incl.) (BBQ \$7)

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

JUL 28, SAT AFTERNOON S. KEY LARGO

\$29.00

Sites include: Molasses, Spanish Anchor, Hole-in-wall, French, Pickles. Average depth 35-40', average visibility 50-70', expect currents and high voltage action. High profile corals.

JUL 28, SAT NIGHT S. KEY LARGO (NIGHT)

\$35.00

Sites include: Molasses, Spanish Anchor, Hole-in-wall, French, Pickles. Average depth 35-40', average visibility 50-70', expect currents and high voltage action. High profile corals.

JUL 29, SUN MORNING N. KEY LARGO

\$29.00

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, moreys, cudas.

2001 FLORIDA KEYS ADOPT-A-REEF CLEAN UP PROGRAM

E X P E R I E N C E D D I V E R S N E E D E D

As a diver, how can you help preserve the beauty of the Florida Keys reefs. One way you can do this is by participating in the 2001 Florida Keys Adopt-A-Reef program. The purpose of this program is to encourage and support the preservation of coral reefs by organizing a series of reef clean-ups throughout the year. In return for your help, you receive discounted diving rates for the following dives:

June 9, Saturday - Arrive at shop 8:00 AM

Holiday Isle Dive Shop, Islamorada (MM 84)

\$35 per diver (includes tanks and weights), 50% off rental equipment

Number of participants: 12 divers & 6 snorkelers

Reservations: 305-664-4145 or 1-800-327-7070 Ext. 644

www.holidayisle.com

June 9, Saturday - Arrive at shop 1:00 PM

Dive Key West, Inc., Key West

\$50 per diver, includes tanks, weights, and belt, 20% off rental equipment

Number of participants: 16

Reservations: 305-296-3823 or 1-800-426-0707

www.divekeywest.com

Regulator Recall (This was in the Herald "Action Line" on Saturday April 21)

Submitted by ADA Member Carol Kelley

Some Atomic Aquatic regulators are being recalled because of springs breaking, which restricts airflow. The regulators have a black body with either a gray, blue, red or yellow faceplate. Printed on them are the words Atomic Aquatics; Titanium; and the model number T1, T1x, B1 or Z1. The regulators were manufactured between May and October 1999 and have serial numbers that range from A07751 to A11276. They were sold between May 1999 and February 2000. The Atomic Aquatics phone number is 1-888-270-8595.

Stop The Beeping - (From Rodales Scuba Diving www.scubadiving.com)

There are few things more annoying than an incessantly beeping or flashing dive computer, especially when it's unnecessary. Our recent gear survey showed that the dive computer characteristic cited as "most annoying" by more readers than any other is an overly sensitive ascent rate indicator. (Other annoying characteristics cited in the survey included backlighting that is too dim and dive logs whose memories are too limited.)

Here's the deal: Many dive computer ascent rate indicators do not have a built-in buffer to keep the computer from setting off its alarms at the slightest quick movement, indicating that your ascent is too fast. For instance, if your computer is hanging at your waist and you pick it up quickly toward your mask to read it, the ascent rate indicator may go off. If the indicator is buffered (as it is on many models) it won't do that.

If your computer has one of those overly sensitive ascent rate indicators, it's best not to ignore it. Most computers won't penalize you for ignoring the alarm as long as you ascend at a reasonable rate, but some of them will. The best way to stop your computer from beeping or flashing its ascent warnings is to pause briefly whenever it does. Try to go as slow as you can, don't make sudden movements and if you have to, make your ascent in a series of pauses. Whenever the computer is unhappy with you about your ascent rate, simply pause and let the computer catch up.

June B-Days	
Michelle Dunaj	5
Sheila Solen	5
Tim Degrazio	7
Alex Piqueras	8
Marlene Potter	8
Gregory Lynn	11
Wendy Hayden	13
Jorge Cao	15
Doris Cuddebach-Jones	15
Connie Crowther	16
Fernando Espinoza	18
Donald Legault	19
Tony Maceo	23
Pedro Cintron	27
Julie Blankenship	28
Mike Surdyk	28

Earn Free dives & BBQ

Throughout the year, ADA will offer BBQ's after selected dives. You can enjoy both for free! All you do is volunteer to be the chef of the day - we provide a list of foods, you buy & bring to the dive. After the dive, you & the ADA Safety Officer cook & serve to the hungry divers. It's not too hard, and a great way to go for free! Call Lon & sign up. (ADA will reimburse monies spent for food).

Post-Dive BBQ's \$7

June 2 - S. Key Largo, July 22 - Bis. Natl Pk.

Last year our BBQ's were a great success. A hot delicious meal after an exciting dive is a wonderful way to punctuate the day. Cooking will begin just after we hit (not too hard I hope) the dock, and before you have stowed your gear, your choice of grilled meats will be ready for your enjoyment. Including:

- Grilled chicken, hamburgers, hotdogs
- Soda or beer
- Potato Salad, slaw, chips & condiments

When you make your dive reservation, indicate if you plan to join us (check the dive schedule first to make sure it's a BBQ dive) & include an additional \$7 with your dive schedule reservation payment.

REVERSE DIVE PROFILES

DANGEROUS OR NOT???

The following was published in the May 2001 issue of DAN's Alert Diver-

What is a reverse profile? It can be defined as two dives made within 12 hrs. in which the second dive is deeper than the first. (It is usually taught in basic scuba class to do the deeper first) At a recent DAN workshop more than 50 researchers in decompression theory concluded that there was "no convincing evidence that reverse dive profiles within the no-decompression limits leads to a measurable increase in the risk of decompression sickness" and "we find no reason for the diving communities to prohibit reverse

dive profiles...."

For complete details see Alert Diver. This information courtesy of the ADA Safety Officers Committee.

!!! NEW !!! ADA KAYAK TRIPS

www.kayakfloridakeys.com

To be held at Florida Bay Outfitters
in Key Largo, MM 103.
(305) 451-3018.

Half day - Kayak & Snorkel

Sunday June 3rd. 9:00 a.m.

Garden Cove & North Sound Creek. Meet at Florida Bay Outfitters in Key Largo. Rent or BYK and join us for a paddle to Rattlesnake Key through a mangrove canopy and into the North Sound Creek lagoon. Snorkel and explore the shallow reefs around the key. For more information call Julio 305-551-7545.

Full day - Kayak & Snorkel

Saturday September 8th. 9:00 a.m.

Indian Key State Historic Site.

(Possible snorkeling at the San Pedro underwater archaeological preserve - depending on seas and weather).

Rent or BYK and join us for a short paddle to Indian Key. Snorkel and explore the shallow reefs around the key. Indian Key history dates from the time of prehistoric Indians to the 1830's, when the key was the seat of the newly created Dade County. Jacob Housman bought the strategic key in 1831 and turned it into a busy port of wrecking. In 1838 Dr. Henry Perrine moved to India Key to pursue his interest in tropical botany where he was killed in an Indian attack in the early morning of August 7, 1840. Indian Key has remained uninhabited and Dr. Perrine's plants have grown over the ruins. For more information call Julio 305-551-7545.

Julio Raimundez, *Social Co-Chair*

(305) 252-7035 x3314

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**ADA will be offering more
Kayaking trips later this year.**



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

WEEKEND DIVE MANIA!! July 28-29 2001

Mark your calendars for two days and a night of non stop diving! First we travel to South Key Largo for afternoon dives on the many reefs of Pennekamp Park. Then back to shore for a little R and R before the night dive at a different reef. After the night dive just time to wash gear and hit the sack at any of the nearby motels. Early to bed, early to rise, drive to North Key Largo (its only 10 miles) the next morning for more diving on the offshore waters near the Elbow. You may mix and match any combination of any or all of the three dives.

Cost

July 28, pm dive	\$29
July 28 nite dive	\$35
July 29 am dive	\$29
All three	\$90

Motels - your choice, make your own reservations, Call Lon for suggestions. Room mates can be arranged.

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 \$29.00 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 2001.

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.

HELP FOR THE DIADEMA

An epizootic event swept through South Florida in 1983 that resulted in a mass mortality of Diadema (sea urchins). By the time it ended 97% had been killed and soon after our reefs began to experience a trophic shift from coral to environments dominated by macroalgae. To this day the sea urchin populations have not returned to pre-mortality densities and the reefs remain dominated by algae.

The Institute of Marine and Coastal Studies has theorize that the loss of the sea urchin and the decline of our reefs are connected. Their labs are currently researching the growth and development of sea urchin larval. They plan to release adult sea urchins on reefs in caged experiments to measure their ability to control algal growth. This could be an important first step in reversing coral decline on our reefs, we are crossing our fingers.

This information and more can be read in

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS - **BUSH ENERGY PLAN: Not on the Right Trac**

The Bush energy plan emphasizes increased burning of dirty fossil fuels rather than common sense efficiency and conservation. It rolls back environmental protections and results in more pollution of the air we breathe and the water we drink. The plan calls for building up to 1,900 new coal, gas and nuclear power plants over the next 20 years -- more than one a week -- and for exploiting millions more acres of our vanishing wilderness. John Walke, senior attorney at the Natural Resources Defense Council, said the plan "represents capitulation to an industry effort ... to weaken the Clean Air Act as they've been asking to do for quite some time." Defenders of Wildlife President Rodger Schlickeisen said, "There's a cleaner, cheaper, faster way to solve our energy problems. We need a balanced national energy plan that combines increased production with improved efficiencies and new technologies."

A BETTER WAY: The Bush-Cheney energy task force all but ignored a U.S. Department of Energy report that concluded that improved efficiencies and renewable power could meet 60 percent of the nation's need for new electric power plants over the next two decades. Increasing the fuel efficiency of cars and SUVs by only 3 miles a gallon, for example, would save more oil within 10 years than could ever be extracted from the Arctic refuge. And scientists at the country's five national laboratories have concluded that a government-led efficiency program emphasizing new technologies could cut growth in electricity demand in half without sacrificing our quality of life.

If you haven't already, go to www.DENaction.org to send a free message urging President Bush and Congress to support a plan that balances increased production with improved efficiency and conservation. If you are not a DEN member, please go to: www.defendenvironment.org/energypolicy

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- Check out the June-July Dive Schedule
- Trips: (June 3) Kayak / Snorkel Trip Details - (July 28-29) Weekend Dive Mania Trip
- Reports: Reverse Dive Profiles - Diadema Update
- New Family Fun Activities - Including Kayaking, Picnics, Camping, BBQ's, and more!
- Environmental & Local Issues, Regulator Recall

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June 2001 Issue

Dive Trips/Return Address:

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Robert Fox (305) 378-6733
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THINKING ABOUT MOVING? ☎ DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET!
Call Jim at Membership (954-752-6234) *It could save your newsletter.*