

The Mouthpiece



OCTOBER 2001

THE ACTIVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER DIVE SCHEDULE

OCT 7, SUN AFTERNOON ⇌ W. PALM (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

Drift diving at it's best. Usual to see turtles, sharks, eels, jewfish and other big animals. Depths 80-100', visibility usually 60-80'. Sometimes cold thermalclines, bring your wetsuit. **See advanced criterion this issue.**

OCT 14, SUN 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.

OCT 20, SAT MORNING ⇌ BISCAYNE NATL PARK

\$ 5.00 (Tanks Incl.) (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.**

OCT 28, SUN AFTERNOON ⇌ BOYNTON BEACH (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

Drift dive with currents, reef or wreck, big animals. Average depth 80', visibility 40-60'. **See advanced criterion this issue.**

NOV 4, SUN AFTERNOON ⇌ DUANNE WRECK (ADVANCED)

\$35.00

Our favorite Coast Guard Cutter, upright in over 100 feet of blue water. It DOES count even when you don't touch bottom! OUR LIMIT 100 feet! **See advanced criterion this issue.**

NOV 11, SUN MORNING ⇌ BISCAYNE NATL. PARK (ADVANCED)

\$ 5.00 (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.**

NOV 18, 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.**



A MOMENT OF SILENCE



The ADA dive on Sept. 16 was preceded by a moment of silence to honor the victims of the recent attacks on our society. The dive was considered necessary to began our attempt to return to normalcy and as therapy for the shock of these events. The blue skies, white clouds, and calm seas seemed to be more appreciated than usual and were indeed therapeutic. Everyone agreed it was good.

ADA DIVES WITH NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

by Lon Von Lintel

The ADA dive Sept. 9 was a good dive as usual. But this day had some surprises. The local controversy on shark feeding and shark attacks has attracted the attention of the international media, including the world-renowned National Geographic Magazine and a newspaper from Great Britain. Both sent film crews and/or reporters to Key Largo this day to see first hand what the fuss is all about. By coincidence, Captain Slate of Atlantis Dive Center scheduled us and the journalists to share a boat for his famous "Creature Feature" where he feeds cudas, eels, and sharks. Before, during and after the dive, the reporters filmed Captain Slate and ADA members, conducted one-on-one interviews and took pictures. The dive came off without incident as usual. Slate stated "You are among 70,000 others who have enjoyed this experience and no one has been bitten." One reporter from Great Britain, a novice diver on his first dive, was really pumped- he was allowed to hold a 6 foot nurse shark in his arms! National Geographic plans to air their report in September and the British paper will publish their report on the web. ADA will send e-mail to our members when details become available.

2001 FLORIDA KEYS ADOPT-A-REEF CLEAN UP PROGRAM

EXPERIENCED DIVERS NEEDED

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:

October 8, Sunday - Arrive at shop 12:00 PM (Noon)

Captain Slate's Atlantis Dive Center, Key Largo (MM 106)

\$25 per diver

Number of participants: 25

Reservations: 305-451-3020 or 1-800-331-DIVE

www.pennekamp.com/atlantis

October 13, Saturday - Arrive at shop 12:00 PM (Noon)

Aqua-Nuts, Key Largo (MM 104.2)

\$30 per diver, includes tanks and weights, 50% off rental equipment

Number of participants: 32 divers

Reservations: 305-451-1622 or 1-800-226-0415

www.aqua-nuts.com

DOT WARNING

The U.S. Department of Transportation has issued the following press release-

"The RSPA is advising the public of potential dangers involving improperly tested scuba tanks...The RSPA has determined that Underwater Adventures (a scuba shop near Orlando) marked and certified an undetermined number of tanks as being properly tested. The tanks were marked with a Retester ID Number that belongs to another company. These tanks may pose a safety risk to the public. Anyone who has a tank that has been serviced by Underwater Adventures and that is marked with RIN numbers B095 or B059 should consider the tank unsafe." For more info call Debbie Hinz at 202 366 4831

October B-Days	
Ramzi Koussa	1
Alicia Soule	2
Rhonda Spath	2
Henry Befeler	3
William Whitehurst	4
John Royer	5
Vivian Carvajal	8
Robert Fox	9
Mark Kosakowski	10
Antonio Govela	11
Enrique Gonzalez	13
Carl Blencowe	15
Heidi Befeler	16
Diane Davis	16
Sharon Miles	16
Stephen Herz	19
Maria Schellhase	19
Ignaccio Medir	21
Rosemary Wood	21
Carol Morris	22
Maria Zarceno	22
Jeanine Woll	24
Abby Siegel	25
Thomas Davis	26
Michael Oertel	27

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

Oct 20 - BNP & Nov 11 - BNP

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.

New! ADA T-SHIRTS & TANK TOPS

Show Your team spirit and pride to belong to one of the largest and oldest dive clubs in the USA!
On sale at most ADA activities
 \$10 each.

OFF SEASON DIVING

By JIM KIERNAN

As most of the members know, our season as a club ends this year on November 18th.

Many have asked why we don't continue with scheduled club dives into the winter months. The reason is the uncertainty of weather, resulting in many weather-related trip cancellations. This makes it very difficult to administer.

However, during the off-season, Lon and I do dive almost every weekend, weather permitting. Frequently, others have asked us to let them know when we do go, so they can join us.

This off-season, if you wish to be made aware of such dives, let me know. I will keep a list of those wishing to be notified, and will call each week we're going out, early in the week, and give you the opportunity to go with us.

These dives however, are **NOT** Club Sponsored, so each person will call the appropriate shop that week to make his or her own reservation. There will be no ADA Safety Officer on duty and ADA assumes no liability or responsibility.

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

ADVICE TO OLDER DIVERS

Through Project Dive Exploration DAN is trying to answer questions about aging and diving. Using Doppler to detect venous gas emboli over the heart of divers, they found that 30% more bubbles was found in divers at age 57 than those at age 33, and 20 % more in males than females. They concluded that "If we are cardiovascularly fit, exercise regularly, not more than 20% overweight, and have no serious potentially incapacitating disease, we shouldn't stop diving. BUT as we age beyond 60 we might consider limiting our diving to shallower depths...." For complete info on this subject see "Alert Diver" July 2001.

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.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE THE 7TH

ADA Members who wish to submit articles, pictures, ads, stories, etc., must mail such items to me (your editor) by the 7th day of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter. We welcome all bits and pieces of interest. Submitted items cannot be returned, so send copies if you want to keep the originals.

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.

 <p style="text-align: center;">CORAL REEF SCUBA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jeremy Earnest <i>INSTRUCTOR • SALES • REPAIR</i></p> <p>4984 N University Dr (954) 748-5105 Ph Lauderhill, FL 33351 (954) 748-6208 Fx www.coralreefscuba.com dive@coralreefscuba.com</p>	<p>JUDY B. WILLIAMS AGENT 11205 S. DIXIE HIGHWAY NATIONS BANK BUILDING, SUITE 220 MIAMI, FL 33156 BUS: (305) 278-8600 FAX: (305) 278-0830</p> <p style="text-align: right;">STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES HOME OFFICE: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px;">Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®</p> 
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BUSINESS CARD ADS

Space Available

5 Issues → \$50
10 Issues → \$75

To Place Your AD Please Contact:
Chris Wood (305) 754-6882



**Captain Slate's
ATLANTIS DIVE CENTER, INC.**
• YMCA - PADI - CMAS - NAUI •
Instruction, Reef Trips, Rentals & Air

PH: 305-451-3020 / 451-1325 • U.S.: 800-331-DIVE • Fax: 305-451-9240
E-Mail: dive@captainslate.com • Website: http://www.pennekamp.com/atlantis
51 Garden Cove Drive • Mile Marker 106.5 • Key Largo, Florida 33037

RSD's Top 10

Top 10 Signs You Need to Practice Better Buoyancy Control

- 10) You rely on the silt trail you always stir up to find the anchor line at the end of your dive.
- 9) You insist to the divemaster that you never use fins because it makes it more difficult to walk on the bottom.
- 8) The only place you can hover is at the surface.
- 7) Your nickname is "Yo-yo."
- 6) Six Flags asks if they can model their next roller-coaster after your dive profile.
- 5) On ascents, your entire body clears the surface of the water.
- 4) You use 500 psi for breathing and 2,500 psi for your BC.
- 3) You're certain you went for one dive but your dive computer has logged it as three.
- 2) Small boats of tourists appear in the area to watch you "breach."
- 1) You think that being neutral in the water means that you don't fight with your buddy.

SAVE WILD FLORIDA

Over the last five years, Defenders' Florida Program staff have become some of the strongest, most prominent conservation advocates in the state, focusing mainly on:



- Protection of the **Florida black bear** and its habitat
- Protection of endangered species like Florida **panthers, manatees** and **dolphins**
- **Transportation** planning for wildlife protection
- Protection of forests and habitat from destructive **Off-Road Vehicle (ORV)** use
- Protection of endangered habitat, like upland scrub, from **sprawl** and development
- Florida's **Growth Management**

With our **action alerts Florida activists** can receive information about:

- [Florida's growth management](#)
- [Habitat and Highways Campaign](#)
- [Habitat For Bears Campaign](#)
- [Florida Bear Newsletter](#)
- updates on Florida wildlife including [manatees](#), [black bears](#) and [Florida panthers](#)

Activists can also find out more information about important places like the [Everglades](#) and the many [National Wildlife Refuges](#) that exist throughout the state.

For information on this program please visit

(<http://www.defenders.org/habitat/savewildflorida/>)

Inside this month's issue you'll find:

- **Trip Report: ADA Dives with National Geographic**
- **Check out the October-November Dive Schedule**
- **New Family Fun Activities - Including Kayaking, Picnics, Camping, BBQ's, and more!**
- **Environmental & Local Issues**

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October 2001 Issue

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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.*