

The Wet Zone

South Florida Divers, Inc. Hollywood, Florida
April 2001

General Meetings

First Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Guests welcome!

APRIL 4 MEETING:

Howard Johnson's Hotel, Hollywood Beach
Penthouse Suite
A1A between Sheridan Street and
Hollywood Boulevard



Speaker: **Theresa Davis**
Save the Manatee Club
www.savethemanatee.org



The Save the Manatee Club was established in 1981 by former Governor Bob Graham and singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffett. SMC was started so the public could participate in conservation efforts to save endangered manatees from extinction. SMC is a membership-based, national nonprofit organization. Funds from the Adopt-A-Manatee program go toward public awareness and education projects; manatee research; rescue and rehabilitation efforts; advocacy and legal action in order to ensure better protection for manatees and their habitat. Join us April 4 to learn more about these gentle giants and how you can help protect them.



Paddling in Paradise

-By Jane McArthur and Glenn Orihood

Join us for kayaking on Blue Cypress Lake on April 14th. We will kayak through a cypress forest on a beautiful freshwater lake west of Vero Beach. The four-mile trip has a moderate rating.

This is a bird watcher's/photographer's dream trip with ospreys and other birds in abundance. It is not uncommon to see otters working in the many streams that feed the lake. There are also alligators. This is a perfect time of the year to experience and photograph some great stuff.

For \$60 per person, the kayak company will provide individual kayaks and all gear, instructions on how to use them, cold drinks and a gourmet lunch. Some of you have gone with me on other kayaking trips and can attest to the excellent trips they run and the great lunches.

Payment is due at the April 4th meeting where Glenn will have the lunch menu and the directions via I-95 or the Turnpike. You can call Glenn Orihood for information.

Message from the President

Your Club's on the Move!



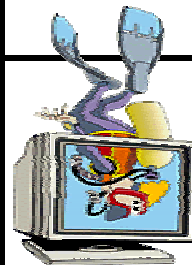
It's April and time for a party. Our annual Pig Roast will take place on Saturday, April 28th at the Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club. This is a great opportunity to spend a night with fellow dive club members, while eating some of the best roast pig and chicken, prepared by Master Chef Joe Smariga. So don't forget to bring one of your favorite homemade covered dishes.

Our May Dive Shop Night has been moved to the June General Meeting, since our May 2nd meeting will not be at Howard Johnson. The club's new temporary home will be at the Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club, in their meeting room. The May meeting will be a used Dive Equipment Flea Market, so dust off all that dive gear that you never use, and bring it to the meeting, who knows, somebody just may want to buy it from you.

So don't forget, April's General Meeting will be at the Howard Johnson, and the May to November General meetings will be at the Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club. If you have never been there, maps will be provided at the April General Meeting.

We would like to thank Lance Gordon, from Nova Southeastern, for being our March guest speaker. Hope to see you at the April meeting.

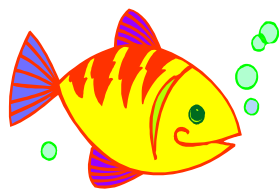
~ Ski



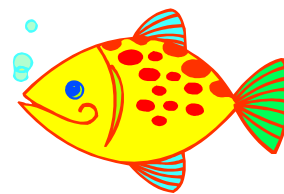
TAKE A TRIP TO
OUR WEBSITE!
















www.sfdi.com

Remember to give our DAN sponsorship number at the time you renew. We receive points toward the purchase of raffle prizes. The number is 16529.



April 2001



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Jazz Brunch Las Olas Riverfront 	2	3	4 7:30 General Meeting HoJo's 	5	6	7 Water Taxi Social Night 
8 Private Boat Dive 	9 E-Board Meeting CBI 7:30 PM Members Welcome!	10	11	12	13	14 Kayak Blue Cypress Lake 
15 Easter Sunday 	16	17	18	19 	20	21 Yo-Yo (You're On Your Own) 
22 Ocean Watch Fish Count 	23	24	25	26	27	28 Pig Roast 
Dania Beach Marine Flea Market				Fort Lauderdale \$pring Boat \$how		
29 R & R 	30 Fleet Week Begins 	May 1	May 2 7:30 General Meeting LAUDERDALE ISLES YACHT CLUB	May 3	May 4	May 5  Bicycle to Air and Sea Show
Fort Lauderdale Spring Boat Show						
May 6 Jazz Brunch Las Olas Riverfront 	May 7 E-Board Meeting CBI 7:30 PM Members Welcome!	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12 Private Boat Dive 

- ♦ **April 1, 11 AM:** Jazz Brunch on Las Olas Riverfront, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **April 7, 7 PM:** Water Taxi Social Night, \$20, Rebecca Cooper.
- ♦ **April 8, 8:30 AM:** Private Boat Dive, John U. Lloyd State Park, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **April 14:** Kayak trip and gourmet lunch at Blue Cypress Lake, 10 AM-3:30 PM, Glenn Orihood. Details on page 1.
- ♦ **April 22:** Ocean Watch Foundation Fish Count on Fathoms O' Fun, \$15 for class and dive. For more information, call (954) 467-1366 or click on <http://www.oceanwatch.org>.
- ♦ **April 28, 5 PM:** Pig Roast at Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club. See details on page 3.
- ♦ **May 2:** Dive Club Swap Shop and Social Night at LIYC.
- ♦ **May 5:** Bicycle to the Air and Sea show. Details TBA.
- ♦ **May 6, 11 AM:** Jazz Brunch on Las Olas Riverfront, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **May 12, 9 AM:** Private Boat Dive, location TBA, Jane McArthur
- ♦ **May 13-20:** Belize Trip, Donna Steiner.
- ♦ **May 18-20:** Ocean Fest, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.
- ♦ **May 26-28:** Memorial Day Weekend private boat trip to Bimini, Captains' Choice.
- ♦ **June 6:** Dive Shop Night at LIYC.
- ♦ **June 9:** Ocean Watch Foundation Annual Reef Sweep.
- ♦ **June 8-10:** Marathon Key Weekend, \$200, John and Janet Chinnners.
- ♦ **July 11:** General membership meeting (no meeting July 4).
- ♦ **July 25-26:** Lobster Mini-Season.
- ♦ **August 6:** Lobster Season opens.
- ♦ **August 17-19:** Looe Key Weekend, \$200, Adrian and Sandra Soler.
- ♦ **December 8:** Christmas Party

Trips, Treks, and More



WILL WORK FOR FUN

How would you like to have some fun, meet some new people, and help your club all at the same time? Volunteer to work a shift in our dive club booth or be a show volunteer at Ocean Fest May 18-20 in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea. It's a great way to make new friends, and to bump into old ones. The show is a real blast so don't wait, call Donna Eades today to volunteer!

THE OTHER WHITE MEAT



Don't miss the annual Pig Roast on April 28, starting around 5 PM at Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club. The club has hosted this annual event for decades and it's a great way to relax and socialize while stuffing yourself silly. Your club underwrites most of the cost of the event, including pork, chicken, paper goods and beverages. Members supply the side dishes, so show off and bring your tastiest treats! Admission is \$5 for members, \$5 for the first guest and \$10 for each additional guest. Get directions at the April meeting, or click on Mapquest.com and type in your home address and the Yacht Club's address: 2637 Whale Harbor Lane, Fort Lauderdale, 33312. Lost? Call them from your car at (954) 583-7422.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: General meetings will be moving temporarily to Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club beginning in May. The April meeting will be the last one at HoJo's for a few months until remodeling is completed. Attend the April meeting to get a map and directions.

The Wrecks We Dive THE ROBERT EDMISTER

-By Jeff Guzowski

The Robert Edmister was commissioned in 1953 as the 95 foot Coast Guard cutter Cape Gull. It was stationed in Miami and in 1989 the Cape Gull was decommissioned and sold at federal auction. It was purchased by Dale Scutti, the father of Jay Scutti, and renamed in memory of a longtime friend, business associate and fellow diver.



The cutter was sunk, by the Broward Sheriff's Bomb Squad, in December 1989 and now rests in 72 feet of water off Fort Lauderdale Beach. The cutter landed upright, listing slightly to the starboard side 1000 feet south of the Jay Scutti. The top of the mast is in 38 feet of water and main deck is at 58 feet.

EVER DREAM OF BEING PUBLISHED?

Don't waste money buying *Writer's Market* or *Photographer's Market*...getting published is easy! Your Editor is extending you the opportunity to showcase your talents. OK, so we're not *Skin Diver*, but we are a captive audience. Don't know what to submit? Here are a few ideas: seafood recipes...gear reviews...safety tips...underwater photography or videography how-to's...photos of parties, trips, or pretty fishies...diving related websites...lobstering tips...aquarium advice...book reviews...boating

tips...best beach dives...fishing angles...travel stories...even your ocean-related artwork is welcome. Don't worry about spelling or grammar...you write it, I'll clean it. You'll get a by-line or photo credit to make your mom proud. "Tanks a lot" to those who wrote articles for this and other editions of *The Wet Zone*.

REEF BRIEFS

- ◆ Your club has volunteered to assist the Ocean Watch Foundation with its quarterly mooring buoy inspection program. Get details at the April meeting and in future editions of *The Wet Zone*.
- ◆ DEMA, the mother of all dive industry trade shows, is coming to the Broward County Convention Center in early 2002.
- ◆ Are you a new club member? Or have you misplaced a past newsletter? Get an electronic copy of any 2001 newsletter by e-mail.
- ◆ Somehow another dive club obtained our e-mail address list and spammed the members who had asked to be on the e-mail address list that is e-mailed only to others on the list. Your dive club does not sell, rent, or lend your e-mail address to anyone. It is obvious that one of our club members made this list available. This is unacceptable. (Note: this is **NOT** the list we use to e-mail the newsletter.)
- ◆ Speaking of e-mail addresses, Jane McArthur is the club's E-mail Coordinator. To change, add or delete your e-mail address from the list that is made available to other members, or to the newsletter list, e-mail Jane or give her a call.



Book review: A "Consumer Reports" just for us!

-By Jane McArthur

Are you tired of over-hyped reviews of land-based and live-aboard dive operations in all the glossy dive magazines?

Perhaps you don't know about the *Undercurrent* newsletter... or perhaps you have heard of it but never read it. They call it 'the Private, Exclusive Guide for Serious Divers'...and it is.

I have been a subscriber for many years and I know that others in the club are also subscribers.

The editors travel world-wide to resorts & live-aboards, pay their own way and do not get comped for anything. Their subsequent reviews are "warts and all" evaluations of their experiences. They hit the high and low points of each destination and rate the diving, food, accommodations, service & attitude and overall money's worth. This

information can be invaluable to the diver planning to spend a small fortune on that exotic destination. You will know what questions to ask and what to expect.

In addition to the editors' trip reviews, they have articles about gear, both sport & technical, and a fascinating series called "Why Divers Die" citing accident information gathered from DAN and other sources. They also keep you up to date on what's happening in the dive industry, articles about dive safety and results of court cases around the world.

Once a year, they publish a book, *Travelin' Divers Chapbook*, which is compiled from reviews written by divers like you and me about their trips in the states and all over the world. It can be pretty interesting reading when you are checking out a place to go. I have had my reviews published in the past and I know that Ski has, as well.

It's not cheap...\$78 per year but it is the only publication I still subscribe to. I got tired of all the other ones.

You can check out their website at www.undercurrent.org. They have a free on-line newsletter, and an on-line subscription for about \$15 per year where you can access all past articles and reviews.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Be opinionated on this interactive site

~ By Bob Barr, DiveRaters.com and SFDI club member

Dive In to the underwater world of Southeast Florida with the help of DiveRaters.com. The purpose of this site is to catalog the scuba diving and snorkeling hot spots of this region as a quick reference for planning your next trip.

What's new about this site, is that we invite you and your fellow divers to tell us what you think. You rate the dive sites, the boat operators and dive shops, hotels, resorts, and restaurants from

your own experiences. This continuously updated information will provide you a much better idea of where to go on your next diving adventure. No matter what you find, come back and tell us all about it. In this way, our ratings will provide current information and recent opinions on scuba diving and snorkeling in Southeast Florida.

Check it out now! This site is for your benefit, but we need your input. Fill out our online surveys after you dive or travel in the region and tell your friends to do the same. Share the fun, the thrills, or the terror of your last diving adventure. Visit DiveRaters.com today!

2001 Executive Board

President: Jeff Guzowski

Past President: John Kansman

VP of Membership: Joe Smariga

Membership Assistant: Sandra Soler

VP of Calendar: Dave Wills

Calendar Assistant: Michele Burzese

VP Of Programs: Cathy Olson

Secretary: Donna Eades

Treasurer: Adrian Soler

Treasurer Assistant: Julie Taylor

Newsletter Editor: Debby Auchter

Sergeant-At-Arms: Rebecca Cooper

Members-at-Large: Pat Lamicella
Seth Gersten

Greeter: Lori Rocco

E-mail Coordinator: Jane McArthur

Club Store: Melissa Ames

Webmaster: Bruce Rosenthal

A hearty **THANK YOU!** to all the members who agreed to receive *The Wet Zone* via e-mail. You saved your club 60 cents this month. That's \$7.20 a year! Your e-mail newsletter is in full color, looks better, and is received earlier to give you more time to plan. Reading this on paper? Want to save some trees? Let us know!

FREE CLASSIFIEDS!

Classified advertising is FREE to SFDI members! E-mail or call Debby .

Something for everyone: Jane's friends stopped diving and WOW, does she have a bunch of their stuff to sell! TOO MUCH stuff to list, it would take the entire newsletter! All gear is high quality and brand new, with tags, or gently used. A tiny sampling includes masks, fins, snorkels, gloves, weight belts, bags, skins, wetsuits, bc's, regulators, spear gun, sling, and much, WAY too much, more to list. Call Jane for details.

Stay warm: Henderson 1/4" wetsuit, Size XL, farmer john and long sleeve shorty. Lycra with terrycloth lining. Asking just \$150 or best offer! Call Jack Bertman .

Happy Birthday Wishes!

Bert Abell
David Burnett
Donna Eades
Frauke Hamann
Lauren Oblak

Do we have your birthday in our membership rolls? Let us know!



Stamp

The Wet Zone

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