

The Wet Zone

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
SOUTH FLORIDA DIVERS SCUBA CLUB, INC.
JANUARY, 2001



General Meetings

Join us at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Every meeting, the club presents a program on various aspects of diving, including guest speakers, slide shows, and safety lectures. Meetings are open to the public, and we encourage you to meet us at:

Howard Johnson's Hotel
A1A, Hollywood
Penthouse Suite

The hotel is located on A1A between Sheridan Street and Hollywood Blvd.

YOUR elected (chad-free) 2001 E-Board

President: Jeff Guzowski
VP of Membership: Joe Smariga
Membership Assist.: Sandra Soler
VP of Calendar: Dave Wills
Calendar Assistant: Michele Burzese
VP Of Programs: Cathy Olsen
Secretary: Donna Eades
Treasurer: Adrian Soler
Treasurer Assistant: Julie Taylor
Newsletter Editor: Jane McArthur
Newsletter Assist.: Debby Auchter
Sergeant-At-Arms: Rebecca Cooper
Members-at-Large: Pat Lamicella
Seth Gersten

Greeter: Lori Rocco
Club Store: Melissa Ames
Webmaster: Bruce Rosenthal

Presidential Address

Happy New Year to all. I want to thank all of you who made it to our Holiday Party. The covered dishes you made this year were outstanding. I heard a lot of compliments on all the great dishes and desserts. I especially want to thank those who brought a toy for our Toys for Tots drive. This year we donated our toys to the Women in Distress. They couldn't have been more excited to receive these gifts from us.

Our annual Christmas Tree Sinking dive was held on December 16th. There were twelve dedicated divers who did the dive the in 3' to 5', with occasional 7' seas. This year we christened the Jay Scutti with the Christmas tree. The Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel featured a photo in their Thursday, December 21st issue. Thanks goes out to those dedicated divers who made this possible.

The E-Board would like to hear from club members on what we can do to improve our club. So for the next couple of months, take some time to think about what you would like see the club put together for trips e. g., 3, 4, & 7 day trips, where (locations) and time of year to run them. Also give some thought on local dives or events that you would like to see on our club calendar for the year. We will be distributing a questionnaire to the club members, in an upcoming meeting. This will be your opportunity to give us your ideas or suggestions that you would like to see happen. Remember, you as a club member, can also help or coordinate any club trip or event. Have a Safe and Happy New Year!

January is membership renewal month!

Remember to bring a PHOTOCOPY of your c-card and your diving insurance with you if yours is not already on file. Bring the membership application that you received in the mail, and make sure that each member of a family membership has signed their own application. Let us know if you have a new address or phone number, and what month you celebrate your birthday. Application forms will be also be available at the meeting.



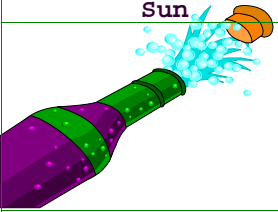




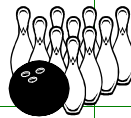
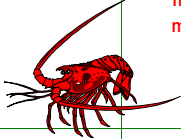

SURF INTO OUR WEBSITE!

www.sfdi.com



January 2001



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|
|  1 Happy New Year! | 2 Happy New Year! | 3 General Meeting HoJo's 7:30 pm | 4 | 5 | 6 Bike Fort Lauderdale 9:30 a.m. Rebecca Cooper  | |
| 7 "Yo Yo" (You're on your own) | 8 E-Board Meeting 7:30 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 "Yo Yo" (You're on your own) |
|  14 Private Boat Dive Lloyd State Park 8:15 a.m. Joe Smariga |  15 MLK Day | 16 | 17  | 18 Uncle Funny's 8 p.m. Adrian Soler | 19  | 20 Bowling 7:30 p.m. University Lanes John Kansman |
| 21 "Yo Yo" | 22 | 23 | 24  | 25 Just six more months 'til mini-season! | 26 | 27 "Yo Yo" |
| Super Bowl XXXV  | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 February 1 | 2 | 3 Bicycle Shark Valley 10 am Jane McArthur  |
| 4 Commercial Boat Dive \$35 American Dream @ Martha's Dania Beach Blvd. Bridge NEEDS A COORDINATOR | 5 | 6 | 7 General Meeting HoJo's 7:30 pm | 8 | 9 | 10 "Yo Yo" (You're on your own) |

January is not typically the best time to dive, but you can see that there are several non-diving opportunities for you this month. Non-diving outings are a great way to get to know other South Florida Divers, and you can bring your non-diving significant other.

Mark your calendar for these future trips, and come to the January meeting for more information on these, and other future trips!

- Livigno, Italy Ski trip, February 2001, Keith Knollman, Susan Judah & Glenn Orihood
- Belize, May 2001, Donna Steiner
- Hawaii, May 2001, Jeff Guzowski

Letter FROM the Editor(s)

Welcome to the first SFDI "McAuchter" newsletter! That is, the first newsletter by your new Editor, Jane McArthur and new Assistant Editor, Debby Auchter. You may call us "the McAuchters," but do NOT call us "Jebby!"

Anyway, we thought it would be fun to try some new things with the newsletter, but we need your help! What would you like to see more of in future issues? Less of? Different?

Some ideas we have include book reviews, cool websites for divers (besides our OWN cool club website, www.sfdi.com), trip reports, gear comparisons, and photos. We are open to suggestions and we want to make the newsletter fun for us to create and fun and useful for you to read. Write away! Heck, if you don't contribute, then you have to read OUR drivel.

Give us a call... our phone numbers are on page 1... or e-mail us (no spam, jokes or forwards please!)

Trips and Treks



Ski Livigno, Italy

Keith Knollman, Susan Judah and Glenn Orihood will hit Italy's slopes February 2-10, Livigno is a duty free town near the Swiss border. \$1,220 includes airfare, hotel, breakfast and dinner daily, taxes, and transfers. A 6-day lift pass is about \$150. This trip is NOT being run through the dive club. Contact Keith, Susan or Glenn, or call Alpine Adventures.

South Water Caye, Belize

has been described as Belize's most idyllic caye, perfect for those who want an out-island experience. Donna Steiner has scheduled this trip for May 13-May 20, a good time to spot whales and whale sharks. \$1,700 includes accommodations, 2-3 dives per day and all meals.

Aloha! Hawaii in May

Join SFDI president Jeff "Ski" Guzowski in three of the Hawaiian Islands. This 11-day, 10-night trip is May 18-28. The price, approximately \$1,750, includes round trip airfare, lodging in condos, a rental car and eight dives.

What's next?

Where do you want to go this year? Or next year? What non-diving activities do you enjoy? Let's fill the 2001 calendar with fun and exciting adventures, underwater and topside, sporting and social.

Get involved!

To do this, we need your help. It's not that difficult to run an event, and any member of the E-board will be happy to get you started! We can't guess what you want to do... WE schedule what WE like to do. Do you have a favorite charter boat or dive destination? Get it on the schedule! (Singles note that this is a GREAT way to make new friends!)

Fore! (?)

Here's something the club has not done in at least 18-1/2 years... golfing! Debby's husband Rick would like to organize a day of golfing in or around May, but there needs to be sufficient interest. If you're a golfer or even if you want to take a swing at it, see Debby at the meeting.

Book review: Have you read the "bible?"

Rick and I spent nearly two weeks in December camping and diving the Florida Springs. The indispensable resource we used to find our way was Ned DeLoach's *Diving Guide to Underwater Florida*. Now in its Tenth edition, this book is a MUST for anyone who dives the Sunshine State. Containing maps and directions for 600 of Florida's best ocean and spring dives, this 352-page "bible" is packed with details, including the lat and long of our local favorites. You only need to spend \$19.95 of your Christmas money to add this invaluable reference book to your collection.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

How many times have you gotten back on the boat, or the beach, and wondered "just what the heck kind of fish WAS that?" While Paul Humann's book *Reef Fish Identification* is a perennial favorite, some of us like surfing the web nearly as much as we like diving. www.eNature.com is your online field guide for fishes, seashells, seashore creatures, and more. Clicking on "parrotfishes and wrasses," for instance, displays eight to choose from. Click on the photo that looks like your mystery fish to read about its family, latin name, description, related species, habitat, range, and more. Still stumped? Click on "Ask an expert." You can send your fish as an e-card or add the fish to your "life list," a record of species you have seen. Exploring the seashell and seashore creatures field guides shows that the website is not an exhaustive collection of every sea critter you might see, but it provides quick access to the most common marine life, and the photographs are stunning. Watch your wrasse!

Say
"Happy
Birthday"
to:



Regina Brown

Brad Vogelbach

Too bad, so sad...we don't have everyone's birthday in our membership rolls! We want to greet you in your special month, so let us know... You don't even have to tell us the year!

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

FREE CLASSIFIEDS!

Classified advertising is FREE to SFDI members!

FOR SALE: Henderson 1/4" wetsuit, Size XL, farmer john and long sleeve shorty. Lycra with terrycloth lining. Price? Best offer! Call Jack Bertman.

The Wet Zone

Stamp
here

South Florida Divers Inc
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