

# The Wet Zone

South Florida Divers, Inc.

Hollywood, Florida

March, 2001



## General Meetings

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

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

### March Speaker:

Lance Jordan

Nova Southeastern University  
Oceanographic Center



Come on out to hear Nova graduate student Lance Jordan tell us about the reef ball program, the studies being done on Broward's reefs, and what needs to be done to save them.

## St. Patty's Picnic at Boaters' Park

~By Jane McArthur

I found out about this park from Dave Wills. It is a Broward County Park that is only accessible by water in boats under 30 feet. Dave says it's never crowded... whenever he has been there, he has been the only one. We checked it out last Sunday and found out Dave is right!

I thought it sounded like a nice change of locale for a cookout so I am planning to host one for St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17th starting at 11 AM.

It is located on the north side of the Dania Cut-Off Canal, west of Ravenswood Road near the Rustic Inn. You can check it out at their website <http://www.sunny.org/pri04802.htm>.

There is parking across the canal from the park, and you can get across in a canoe or inflatable if anyone has one of those. Otherwise, there will be at least one boat to do the ferrying.

They have picnic tables, grills, shelters and restroom facilities and fishing is permitted from the dock. The park closes at 6 PM. Beer and wine are permitted. Disorderly conduct is not permitted, so on second thought, I guess that lets us out.

## Message from the President



## Last Chance for Langosta

Well it's March again and for all you lobster lovers you know what that means...lobster season closes on March 31<sup>st</sup>, and doesn't open until the end of July, which means four long months without lobsters. This month will be your last chance to fill your freezer with as many lobsters as you can to hold you over 'til next season. The club calendar this month has planned three private boat dives and one charter dive to make sure you get your limits.

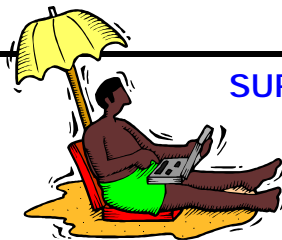
Besides all those dives, we have also planned a lot of other non-diving activities you might be interested in. You might like the bike trip on Hollywood Beach, the Jazz Brunch at Riverwalk, and a Saint Patrick's day picnic at Boaters' Park. There is also a fish count for Ocean Watch on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

This month's calendar is pretty full and versatile. I hope you take advantage of the many activities that were planned for you.

Remember final payments are due for the June Keys Weekend.

Thanks to Barry Kulick for another entertaining and interesting evening with a slide presentation of his photo highlights for '2000'.

~ Ski



**SURF INTO OUR WEBSITE!**

**[www.sfdi.com](http://www.sfdi.com)**






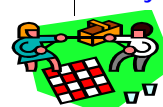









Remember to give our DAN sponsorship number at the time you renew. We receive points toward the purchase of raffle prizes. The number is 16529.



# March 2001



## Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

February 25 Yo-Yo (you're on your own) 	February 26	February 27	February 28	1	2	3 Bicycle Hollywood Beach 
Jazz Brunch Las Olas Riverfront 	5	6	7 7:30 PM General Meeting HoJo's 	8	9	10 Private Boat Dive 
11 Yo-Yo (you're on your own)	12 7:30 PM E-Board Meeting At CBI Members Welcome!	13	15	16	17 St. Patty's Day Picnic @ Boaters' Park 	
18 Ocean Watch Fish Count 	20 First day of Spring 	21	22 Bluewater Adventure Program @ the Library 	23	24 American Dream Charter 	
25 Private Boat Dive 	26	27	28	29 See you in July!! 	31 "Last chance for Lobster" private boat dive	
April 1 Jazz Brunch Las Olas Riverfront 	April 2	April 3	April 4 7:30 PM General Meeting HoJo's 	April 5	April 6	April 7 Water Taxi Booze Cruise 

- ♦ **March 3, 10 AM:** Hollywood Beach bicycling and lunch, Jane McArthur. Meet at Ann Kolb Nature Center on the South side of Sheridan Street just west of the Intracoastal (free parking).
- ♦ **March 4, 11 AM:** Jazz Brunch on Las Olas Riverfront, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **March 10, 8:15 AM:** Private Boat Dive, John U. Lloyd State Park, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **March 17, 11 AM:** St. Patty's Picnic in the Park, Jane McArthur. *SEE PAGE ONE.*
- ♦ **March 18:** Ocean Watch Fish Count. *SEE NEXT PAGE.*
- ♦ **March 22:** 6 PM Murphy's Law Pub, 7:30 Bluewater Adventure Program at Broward County Main Library in Fort Lauderdale, Debby Auchter. *SEE NEXT PAGE.*
- ♦ **March 24:** American Dream charter boat, \$35, Julie Taylor. Meets at Martha's near the Dania Beach Boulevard. Bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway.
- ♦ **March 25, 8:15 AM:** Private Boat Dive, John U. Lloyd State Park, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **March 31, 8:15 AM:** Private Boat Dive, John U. Lloyd State Park, Joe Smariga.
- ♦ **April 1, 11 AM:** Jazz Brunch on Las Olas Riverfront, Dave Wills.
- ♦ **April 1:** No fooling: Daylight Savings Time begins.
- ♦ **April 7, 7 PM:** Water Taxi Booze Cruise, Rebecca Cooper.

# Trips, Treks, and More



## One fish, two fish, red fish, blue fish...

The Ocean Watch Foundation offers monthly two-tank reef dives for only \$15 to divers willing to be trained to count and report on our local marine critters.

Meet at Nova Southeastern University inside John U. Lloyd Park at 9 AM on Sunday, March 18. Your day starts with a 2-1/2 hour course on identifying and counting reef fish, corals, and marine invertebrates. After lunch, ride out to the reef on the charter boat "American Dream" for a two tank dive, actually identifying and collecting valuable scientific data on the animals you have just learned about. Imagine a whole day of learning and fun all for only \$15!

Ocean Watch has six "monitoring points" along the Broward County coast that will be visited on a quarterly basis. The data collected from each dive will be made available to all members of the scientific community and environmental awareness organizations. The fish-monitoring project is being done using the Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) Roving Diver Technique. This project was developed in 1990 with support from The Nature Conservancy and guidance by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The REEF Fish Survey Project allows volunteer SCUBA divers and snorkelers to collect and report information on marine fish populations using a fun and easy standardized method. The data is housed in a publicly accessible database on REEF's website (<http://www.reef.org>) and is regularly used by a variety of resource agencies and researchers.

Your day will begin with a class from 9 AM to noon. Lunch is from noon to 1 PM, and

the boat leaves the dock (behind Martha's near the Dania Beach Boulevard bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway) at 1:30 PM. Volunteers may either bring their lunch or buy something at one of the nearby restaurants.

A \$15 donation covers the course and a spot on the boat. Divers need to supply ALL their own gear. This is not being run as a South Florida Divers event, so anyone interested in signing up should contact Ocean Watch at (954) 467-1366.

The Ocean Watch Foundation, Inc. (<http://www.oceanwatch.org>) is a 501-C-3 non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of the local coral reef ecosystems in Southeast Florida. They are involved in several waterway, shore & reef cleanups throughout the year as well as participation in the monitoring of coral reefs & the mooring buoy system in Broward County and developing educational programs.

## Suicide by Sailboat

March is Marine Month at Broward County Main Library. Join us on Thursday, March 22, for a FREE Bluewater Adventure Program sponsored by Florida Center for the Book. Meet Debby Auchter at Murphy's Law pub at Las Olas Riverfront a little after 6, and we'll walk to the library in time for the program. Derek Lundy, author of the bestseller *Godforsaken Sea: The True Story of a Race Through the World's Most Dangerous Waters*, will present a talk and slide show in the Auditorium at 7:30 PM.

*Godforsaken Sea* tells the true tale of sixteen sailors (fourteen men and two women) competing in the 1996-1997 Vendee Globe, a 27,000 mile non-stop, single-handed, around the world yacht race, that begins and ends at Les Sables-d'Olonne, France. Lundy's modern classic of adventure about the world's

most demanding and dangerous sailing race gives readers the adrenaline rush of what he calls "apocalyptic sailing."

Derek Lundy has sailed since age twelve and is an experienced amateur sailor. His experience includes a two-year cruise to the Caribbean and South America with his wife. A lawyer by training and a writer by profession, he is the author of *Scott Turow: Meeting the Enemy*. Copies of *Godforsaken Sea* will be available for sale and signing.

While you're there, check out the library's expanded collection of nautical books and videos.

## Mark your Calendar!

- ◆ April 19-22: Dania Beach Marine Flea Market
- ◆ April 28: Pig Roast (CHANGE)
- ◆ April 30-May 4: Fleet Week
- ◆ May 5-6: Air and Sea Show
- ◆ May 13-20: Belize Trip, \$1,700, Donna Steiner
- ◆ May 18-20: Ocean Fest
- ◆ June 6: SFDI Swap Shop
- ◆ June 8-10: Marathon Key Weekend, \$200, John and Janet Chinners
- ◆ 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

**What on earth are "Artificial and Natural Reef Fish Assemblages?" Come to the March meeting and find out!**



## Book review: *Deadly Depths*

-By Debby Auchter

*The Last Dive: A Father and Son's Fatal Descent in the Ocean's Depths*, by Bernie Chowdhury. HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 2000.

This real-life story is a "must read" for all aqua-holics, especially advanced divers. It is the story of father-and-son dive team Chris and Chrissy Rouse, avid cave and wreck divers who ultimately perished from the bends while trying to discover the identity of a sunken German submarine off the New York coast. You won't be able to put this action-packed story down once you pick it up—it is more exciting than any adventure fiction I've ever read.

Chowdhury, a friend of the Rouses, an avid wreck diver, and a survivor of a nearly fatal bends hit, has melded many different stories into one. You will get to know the Rouses, who became so obsessed with diving that they advanced from quarry divers to technical divers in less than four years. You will learn about the history of diving, from Aristotle's diving bell to Sheck Exley's mixed gasses and exotic gear configurations. The effects of pressure and various gas mixtures on the body are covered in detail, but written in layman's terms. The book is a veritable "Who's Who" of technical divers and "What's What" of famous wrecks, like the Andrea Doria and the U-352. This exciting book, which includes several photographs, will make you look at diving safety in a whole new light. The Website of the Month column on page 4 features many related websites.

# WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

This month we take a virtual visit to the Mount Everest of wreck dives, the **Andrea Doria**, as well as some other sites most divers only visit in their dreams. While reading *The Last Dive* (see page 3), I wanted to see even more photos of the wrecks they dove. *Andrea Doria: Tragedy and Rescue at Sea* (<http://www.andreadoria.org>), created by a crash survivor, includes information on the ships involved, the collision, officers, crew, passengers, and rescue of the survivors. Newsday's site, *Death and Diving on the Doria* (<http://www.newsday.com/doria/doria.htm>), tells the deadly story of three highly trained divers who perished despite years of preparation. This site includes maps, graphics, video, and more. Nova Online's site, *Hitler's Lost Sub*, is dedicated to the sub that ultimately killed the Rouses (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/lostsub>). This site includes a Flash tour of the sub and a Shockwave interactive sub-sinking game. Finally, if the book and the websites don't frighten you enough to send you scurrying back to the shallow end of the kiddie pool, visit the official website of the Dive Vessel Seeker (<http://www.deepexplorers.com/seeker>). Click on their "Undersea Expeditions" link and explore many pages of fascinating photos of New Jersey wrecks. Go ahead and book a trip with them, but don't run it as a club dive!!!

~ Debby Auchter

## Your Elected 2001 E-Board

**President:** Jeff Guzowski  
**Past President:** John Kansman  
**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

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 Debby or call Jane.*

**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.

**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.

## Wish a Happy Birthday to:

Bart Brownstein	Deborah Gutierrez
Susan Judah	Keith Knollman
Don Lawrynuik	Ray Remillard
Carol Schurtz	Marcel Smets
Adrian Soler	Sandra Soler

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



Stamp

# The Wet Zone

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Address Label