

The Wet Zone

South Florida Divers, Inc. Hollywood, Florida November 2001

General Meetings First Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM **GUESTS WELCOME!**

NOVEMBER 7 MEETING

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

PROGRAM: Joe Froelich, **Underwater Photojournalist**



Joe was scheduled to be our August program presenter, but he never showed up! We found out later that he had a good excuse, though. He was in the hospital with a broken leg! We didn't want to miss Joe's incredible slides and humorous commentary so we invited him back. (Joe: be careful now!!!)

If you saw Joe Froelich's slide show of Australia and the Galapagos last year, or if you caught his program at Ocean Fest, you know that you'll want to attend the November meeting.

Joe is a professional photojournalist, diver and underwater photographer. Over the past several years, his articles and photos have been seen by well over 50,000,000 readers in many diving/travel and mainstream publications. In addition to appearing in numerous magazines, newspapers, books, and brochures, his photos were also featured in a presentation promoting Florida at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan.



From your President Get ready to dive into the holidays!

Well, October was not what you would call a good diving month. Almost every weekend it has been windy and the seas have been up.



On Saturday, October 13, the 6th anniversary of Forty Fest took place on Rebecca Cooper's water taxi trip. I heard there was a lot of fun on the boat that night. Happy birthday to the Forty Fest group. Following that fun night, on Sunday, was a private boat dive, and even though it was little choppy, Dave Wills' happy crew on Recycled did get out to dive.

If this newsletter reaches you early, please remember the Halloween Picnic on Saturday, October 27, and Uncle Funny's on November 1.

Gerry Cowan has a Brew Night on November 16. If you are interested in brewing your own beer, this is the night for you. You can even choose your own special brew for the holidays. I have tasted Gerry's specially made beer, and it's really good.

Our annual Holiday Party will be held December 8 at the I.T. Parker Center in Dania Beach from 7 PM to 1 AM. This year the Toys for Tots will go to the kids at the Women in Distress Center. Last year we were the largest donators of toys, and they were so appreciative of our generosity to think of them. The kids were really thrilled with the great toys we gave them.

Elections for the E-board will be during the December meeting. Nominations for any of the E-board positions will be taken at the November meeting. If you are interested in a position, please contact a current E-board member at the November meeting.

The Christmas tree sinking will be December 15 or 16. The November calendar has a lot of social events and only one dive planned. We need some members to help us coordinate some dives on the monthly calendar. If you are interested in helping us run a club event, PLEASE see me.

Dive safely,



Masthead photo courtesy Dave Wills

November 2001



- October 27, time TBA: Halloween Picnic, Boater's Park, Jane McArthur.
- November 1, 8 PM: Uncle Funny's Comedy Club, 9160 State Road 84, Jeff Guzowski.
- November 3, 10 AM: Hollywood Beach biking and lunch on the Broadwalk, meet and park for free at Ann Kolb Nature Center on the South side of Sheridan Street just west of the Intracoastal. Jane McArthur.
- November 7, 7:30 PM: General Meeting and nominations for 2002 Executive Board, HoJo's.
- November 10, 5 PM: Sunset Fishin' at Dania Beach Pier, fish all night for \$3 and park for free! Pole rental \$6 or bring your own. Live and frozen bait available for purchase. Bring your own snacks and refreshments. Debby Auchter.
- November 12, 7:30 PM: Executive Board Meeting, Computers For Business, 2843 Pembroke Road. Members welcome!
- November 14, 6:30 PM: "Shoot 'em Up Night" at Big Al's Indoor Gun Range, 3300 Hallandale Beach Boulevard, Jeff Gu-

zowski.

- November 16, 6 PM: Brew Your Own at Brewmasters, 9948
 Pines Boulevard. Your batch will be ready for the December holidays! Gerry Cowen promises lots of fun.
- November 17, 1 PM dive, 2 PM picnic: Beach Dive/Picnic, 1/2 mile south of Dania Beach Pier next to Beach Grill, Jane McArthur.
- November 18, 8:30 AM: Private Boat Dive, John U. Lloyd State Park, Dave Wills.
- November 29, 8 PM: Uncle Funny's Comedy Club, 9160 State Road 84, Jeff Guzowski.
- December 1, TBA: Charter Boat Dive, coordinator needed...call any E-board member to volunteer.
- December 5: General Meeting and elections for 2002 Executive Board, 7:30 PM, HoJo's. FREE tank raffle ticket for all paid members who stay until the voting is over!
- December 8, 7 PM: SFDI Annual Holiday Party and Toys for Tots, I.T. Parker Community Center, Dania Beach.



SFDI Divers' Diaries

Guess who's coming to dinner? ~Story by Julie Taylor ~Photography by Dave Wills

It was quite by accident that Dave Wills acquired a new resident for his aquarium. While in the Bahamas, he picked up a few dead shells to decorate his tank. During a guiet evening about three weeks later, he jumped up from his chair pointing at the tank saying "look...it's an octopus!" This explained the recent disap-



pearances of some tank residents

The irregular makes appearances and alwavs provides great entertain-

ment. He (or she) has accepted food offerings that Dave places inside of a shell where the octopus quickly locates it. Dave says it has recently begun accepting pieces of fish directly from the long tongs he uses to feed some of the other residents.

After an impromptu Sunday dive trip where Dave caught a small Nimble Spray Crab that he was looking forward to having as a new pet,

he placed the crab in the tank and we were most surprised at the octopus's obviappetite ous for fresh crab. The poor crab didn't last more than 10 minutes



before the octopus came gliding out from his normal hiding place, enveloping it in his arms and munching down. There wasn't much of a struggle...the crab didn't have a chance.

> Send YOUR stories and photos to Debby@RaptureDivers.com



Recently released by the U.N. World Conservation Monitoring Center population centers, dive centers and protected areas; 280 color photo document and conserve the world's coral reefs, this book has everything you want to know about reefs from Costa Rica and Cuba to the Coral Sea and Cayman. This 424 page, full-color, hard bound volume lists for \$45. Buy it for \$31.50 from www.undercurrent.org and profits go directly to the Coral Reef Alliance (www.coralreefalliance.org). Click on *books*, then the Atlas' link, buy it from Amazon.com and CORAL gets the contribution. Written with divers in mind, it's an invaluable resource for global travelers. It includes 94 maps, including biodiversity, fish consumption, and threats. Buy this remarkable book global maps of biodiversity and reef stresses, regional maps showing



The wrecks we dive The Captain Dan ~ By Jeff Guzowski ~Photos courtesy Steve Somerville

In March of 1937, the Hollyhock, a U.S. Coast octopus Guard buoy tender, was built in Michigan. The Hollyhock's first assignment was maintaining buoys in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1959, she was moved to Detroit, Michigan, where she was used as an ice breaker in Lake Michigan.

> In 1962 she was stationed in Miami, Florida, where she was still used as a buoy tender, but obviously not as an ice breaker! She was also used in the Bahamas for refueling seaplanes for the U.S. Air Force.

> In 1982, the Hollyhock was decommissioned by the Coast Guard and was later purchased by a missionary and renamed the Good News Missionship, where she went from port to port spreading the Gospel. stranded in the Miami River due to mechanical problems, and with the help of the Boating Improvement Program Fund and the Pompano Beach Fishing Rodeo, she was purchased to become an artificial reef.

> In February of 1990, the ship was renamed in memory of Captain Dan Garnsey, a well-known Pompano Beach drift fishing boat owner.



The ship is 175 feet long and lies upright in a depth of 100 feet, 65 feet to the deck, off of Pompano Beach, a few hundred feet east of the third reef with plenty of marine life. Since the ship has a large interior, you can penetrate the wreck in many locations. This is one of the few shipwrecks that the interior was left intact.



'San-Ski Claus" and his helper Bring SFDI's joy to the kids Christmas 2000

Annual Holiday Party

She became Start watching the sales flyers now so you can stock up for the Annual South Florida Divers Toys for Tots holiday celebration! For many years our members have opened their hearts and their wallets to bring joy to the children of those less fortunate. Watch for your December newsletter for more details.

Beat the crowds! Renew your membership early!

Your membership expires on December 31 and it's hard to believe that it's almost 2002 now ... it seems like all the Y2K furor was just last month. Beat the big January crowd of renewing members and renew at the November or December meetings. Remember to bring your C-card and proof of diving insurance.

3-D bathymetry and high resolution maps showing reefs, mangroves, tographs, showing reefs, wildlife, people and places, including 84 photographs taken from space by Shuttle astronauts; text explaining the formation, structure and ecology of coral reefs, their various uses and abuses at the hands of humans, and the techniques used in coral reef mapping; text describing the distribution and status of coral reefs in every country; and data tables listing information on biodiversity, human use, and protected areas, including statistics on coral reef area, and get a copy for your best buddy's Christmas present.

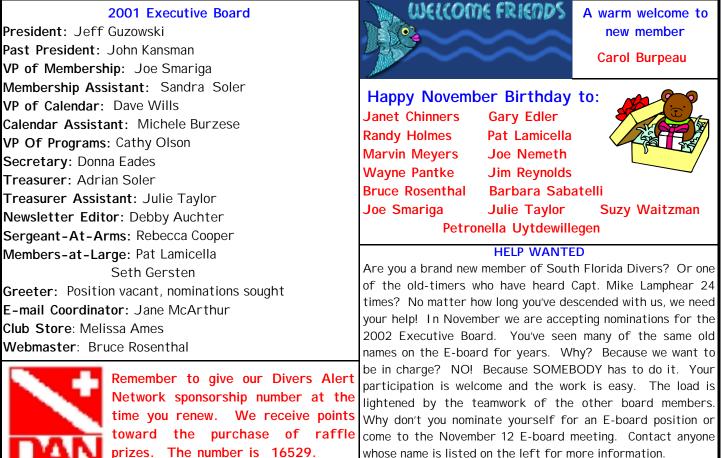
WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Dive the "tropics" on your next ski trip!

~ By Debby Auchter

If you are planning your Winter 2002 snow ski trip, you just might want to pack your mask and fins with your goggles and skis! Utah's Bonneville Seabase, 40 miles west of Salt Lake City, is home to more than 55 species of marine fishes. I magine diving with angelfish, groupers, nurse sharks, tangs, puffers, jacks, and damsels in an inland ocean at 4,220 feet above sea level! Although the water temperature in the various ponds remains in the 70s and 80s year-round in this natural saltwater hot spring in the desert, an "aquadome" shelters the

main staging and entry area from the Utah winter. The Seabase is not only a major training and recreational site, but has become something of a tourist attraction for visiting divers. Linda and George Sanders started Seabase back in 1988 when they came across the "hot pots" near Grantsville and dreamed of an area near Salt Lake City where people like themselves could dive year-round and open-water certify. The dream has slowly become reality with more to come. This is not a spoof, friends, this place really exists! If you can't visit them in Utah, visit them on the web at www.seabase.net and be astounded at the variety of tropical marine life in the most unlikely of places!



prizes. The number is 16529.



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