



The Wet Zone

South Florida Divers, Inc. Hollywood, Florida
October 2001

General Meetings

First Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM

GUESTS WELCOME!

OCTOBER 3 MEETING

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



PROGRAM:

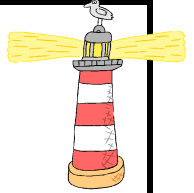
Steve Waters

Sun-Sentinel Outdoors Writer

For eleven years, Steve Waters has covered fishing, diving, boating, powerboat racing, sailing, hunting, camping and a variety of environmental issues ranging from Everglades restoration and manatees to shark feeding and boating safety. He writes at least three days a week, Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday, and you can visit www.sun-sentinel.com/sports/outdoors to find his stories online. Certified as a diver five years ago, most of his diving has been off Broward, and his preference is to lobster and to dive wrecks/artificial reefs. Don't miss him at the October meeting as he tells us all about the "hardships of covering the outdoors in South Florida!" Seriously, Steve will discuss some memorable on-the-job experiences, how readers can help shape the coverage in their newspapers, and answer all your questions about the newspaper business, like why certain stories are on the front page and who writes the headlines.

From your President

God Bless America



Autumn is here, like you noticed the difference. It seems like summer just flew by this year. We did have an eventful September.

The annual Seafood Fest had great weather, plenty of food and lots of great company. Unfortunately, the dive was canceled, but I still noticed a lot of lobster, fish, a few salmon fillets and fresh oysters that people brought. The freezers must still be stocked up. Thanks to all of you who came out and made the party a success. And also, thanks go to all our great chefs for cooking everyone's entrée to perfection, members who helped to set up before, and members who stayed to clean up after the party.

On September 13, our night out at Uncle Funny's turned out to be just what all of us needed after the horrific terrorist attack on September 11. Uncle Funny's gave everyone free admission, since the main act was canceled due to flying restrictions. They used a comedian (who was a last minute fill-in from HBO) who was so funny our whole group never stopped laughing during his whole act. Just ask Cary and Lydia Solomon...Lydia had tears in her eyes from laughing so hard.

There was a great turn out, about 20 people, for Jane McArthur's beach dive/cookout on September 22. Thanks, Jane, for supporting this event.

Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to all the victims, families, and friends who have been impacted by the terrorist attacks on September 11.

Dive safely,

~ Ski



Link to our website
www.sfdi.com












October 2001



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



Calendar photography courtesy Sandra Soler

September 30  YO-YO (You're on Your own)	1	2	3  General Meeting 7:30 @ HoJo's	4	5  Columbus Day Regatta Weekend	6 
7  Columbus Weekend	8 <i>Columbus Day</i> 	9	10	11	12	13 Water Taxi Social Night 
14 Private Boat Dive 	15	16	17	18	19	20 Private Boat Dive 
21 Charter Boat Dive 	22	23	24	25	26	27 Halloween Picnic 
28  YO-YO Fort Lauderdale Int'l Boat \$how	29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i> 	November 1 Uncle Funny's Social Night 	November 2	November 3 Bicycling on Hollywood Beach 

- ◆ **October 3:** General Meeting, 7:30 PM, HoJo's.
- ◆ **October 5-7:** Columbus Day Regatta Weekend @ Elliott Key, Captains' Choice, Joe Smariga.
- ◆ **October 8, 7:30 PM:** Executive Board Meeting, Computers For Business, 2843 Pembroke Road. Members welcome!
- ◆ **October 13, 7 pm:** Water Taxi Social Night, Rebecca Cooper. Departs from Las Olas Riverfront at 7:30, to the left of the Riverfront Cruises boat and the music pavilion. Parking available in the garage across the street. Bring whatever you're drinking and snacks to share. Rumor has it there will be a cake to celebrate the 6th anniversary of Forty Fest. \$20 due at the October 3 meeting.
- ◆ **October 14, 9:30 AM:** Private Boat Dive, location in Dania Beach TBA, Debby Auchter.
- ◆ **October 20, 8:30 AM:** Private Boat Dive, John U. Lloyd State Park, Dave Wills.
- ◆ **October 21, 8 AM:** Charter Boat Dive on Lady Go Diver, \$37 includes tip. Docked at The Cove in Deerfield Beach. Donna Eades.
- ◆ **October 25-29:** Fort Lauderdale International Boat \$how, Six locations, including Bahia Mar and Broward County Convention Center. Visit www.showmanagement.com for more details.
- ◆ **October 27, time TBA:** Halloween Picnic, Boater's Park, Jane McArthur.
- ◆ **October 28, 12 AM:** Daylight Savings Time ends, so sleep in!
- ◆ **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 Intra-coastal. Jane McArthur.
- ◆ **November 7:** General Meeting and nominations for 2002 Executive Board, 7:30 PM, HoJo's.
- ◆ **December 5:** General Meeting and elections for 2002 Executive Board, 7:30 PM, HoJo's. FREE tank raffle for all paid members who stay until the election is over!

REEF BRIEFS



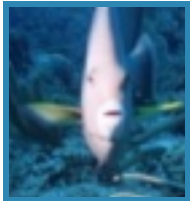
Labor Day Trip Report

Easin' into the Keys

-Story and photography by Julie Taylor

Sometimes you have to just go...with the flow. Labor Day was one of those times. Arriving at the dock I was told that the seas did not look favorable for a crossing to the Bahamas, and plans were changed to go to the Keys. No problem!

We had a couple of really nice dives. Off Alligator Light we did a really nice drift dive. We saw 3 nurse sharks, and all the usual reef fishes. The second drift dive was off Crocker reef. We had a fourth dive buddy join us... a very aggressive and photogenic gray angelfish.



She was so aggressive I had trouble keeping her in photo distance. Such a ham!!!

We saw a really nice photogenic moray. Then a fifth buddy joined us. An octopus, out for an afternoon walk. He had at least a five-foot arm span. He was very cooperative posing for at least a half a dozen pictures. We were very surprised to not see even ONE lobster...No "surf and turf" dinner...But, like I said, you go...with the flow.



"Protect Our Reefs" Specialty License Plate



Sarasota's Mote Marine Laboratory, a non-profit organization dedicated to excellence in marine sciences, seeks to establish a specialty license plate (see design above) with proceeds designated to benefit Florida reef research, education and protection programs. The Florida Reef is the only barrier reef system in the continental U.S., and like other reefs, suffering tremendous decline. It is imperative to understand the causes of this decline, and find solutions to improve reef health. This survey is required as part of the application process for the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Fifteen thousand registered vehicle owners need to state that they intend to purchase this specialty license plate, if offered.

For this survey to be valid and counted by the DMV, registered vehicle owners will need to provide their name, address and vehicle license tag number. All information will be kept confidential. To participate, visit Mote's website at www.mote.org/reef-plate-form.phtml and complete the survey in order to continue Mote Marine Laboratory's application process for the new "Protect Our Reefs" specialty license plate.

Donating Blood:

What's the "surface interval?"

-Special thanks to Sandra Soler

After the terrible tragedy of September 11, thousands of Americans endured long lines in order to give blood. At the Seafood Fest, some of us wondered aloud how long you must wait after donating until you can dive safely. The very next day, which was a Sunday, San-

dra Soler took the initiative to contact DAN via e-mail...and was astounded to receive an answer early Monday morning! Sandra's reaction? "You know, it really amazed me how fast DAN replied on a not really urgent message. Great service!"

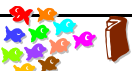
So, what IS the recommended surface interval after phlebotomy? According to DAN, "Although blood volume will return to normal shortly following blood donation, a lower red blood cell count may contribute to undesirable signs and symptoms such as fatigue and dehydration. Such conditions are well known to increase one's risk for a dive accident or possible decompression sickness. Medical standards for divers, as defined in a clinical study by the Undersea Hyperbaric and Medical Society, states divers should not dive for at least 48 to 72 hours after blood donation. DAN routinely recommends 72 hours. We hope that you are supporting DAN with your membership and insurance. Safe diving. Sincerely, Divers Alert Network"



Memories from the Dive Log Why dive elsewhere?

-by Debby Auchter

Recently, a merry band of divers made their back rolls off the Rapture to Mine Car Reef near Hollywood. As buddies Adrian and Sandra Soler and I rounded the "corner" of a ledge, we encountered schools of fish so thick that we actually had poor visibility! From bait fish to snappers to grunts, dozens of large schools swam in formation so close to us that I actually became disoriented. I was reminded of the club's trip to Roatan in 1996. Roatan was incredibly beautiful, but my dive log shows this entry written a month later following a dive in Biscayne National Park. "Beautiful wall dive...saw a GIANT jewfish then a huge ray with a big shark-like fish...a cobia? A remora on steroids? I spent all that money to dive in Roatan and look what's right here in my back yard!"

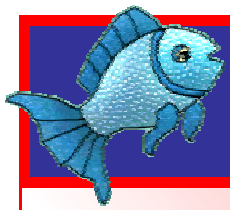


Book review: Hook, line, and...fork?

-by Debby Auchter

South Florida Fishing School instructor Captain Tom Beck recommends two books to his students: Complete Book of Baits, Rigs & Tackle and Sport Fish of Florida by Vic Dunaway. I found Dunaway's books to be so informative that I added his From Hook to Table to my personal library. Packed with angling how-to's and excellent illustrations, these inexpensive paperbacks are small enough to tuck in your tackle box. The first book has the latest in rods, reels, lines and terminal tackle, the hottest in rigged baits, live baits and lures, and the strongest and easiest knots, leaders and special rigs. The second, packed with beau-

tiful color drawings, answers questions like "What is this fish?" "Is it good to eat?" and "Is it a record?" Dunaway writes of each fishes' range, habitats, and fishing methods. The drawings and descriptions are so good that non-angling divers may wish to purchase the book in order to identify the mystery fish from their last dive. During a recent trip to Key Largo, Rick and I found the third book to be very useful after catching several juicy mangrove snappers. It showed us how to clean and cook the evening's dinner, and we'll use it later for the recipes, fish storage tips, and a diner's "Guide to Hook-and-Line Table Fish." We really enjoyed our tasty fish dinner, but relaxing at anchor with rod and reel, live bait, and cold drinks was priceless!



SFDI Seafood Fest 2001



Images From
**TROPICAL
NIGHTS**



Photography by Julie Taylor

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Fishing around for some good clip art?

~ By *Debby Auchter*

Many club members have commented on the clip art appearing in recent issues of The Wet Zone. It's time to give credit where credit is due! Your editor uses a variety of CD-ROM clip art programs, but some of the more intricate and colorful tropical-themed art comes from the web. Debby Rapp, a graphic artist who travels to Florida and the Caribbean extensively, has created dozens



of coordinated sets with names like *Seafoam Dreams*, *Angels of the Deep*, and *Dancing Dolphins*. There are animated graphics including an aquarium and a hula dancer, and tropical holiday sets are also available. Your December newsletter will most certainly contain clips from her "Sea-sons Greetings" and "Warm Christmas Greetings" sets! Debby's graphics are copyrighted, but free for use on personal home pages. Graphics and sets are available for commercial use at competitive rates. If you need any tropical or nautical graphics, or if you just want to visit a beautiful and creative website, surf into the watery web world of www.designheaven.com/~tropnights.

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: Position vacant, nominations sought
E-mail Coordinator: Jane McArthur
Club Store: Melissa Ames
Webmaster: Bruce Rosenthal

October Birthday Babies

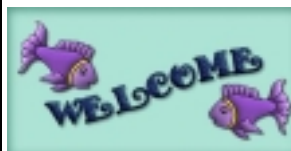


Debby Auchter **Rick Auchter**
Annie Baugh **Pam Munsey**
Diana Rudnik **Cary Solomon**
Lydia Solomon **Roger Styles**
 Cindy Wills

Joe Smariga: Seafood Fest Chef Extraordinaire



Photo by Julie Taylor



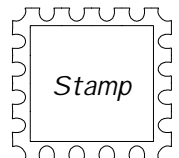
We extend a warm welcome
 our newest members:

Estela Diaz **Richard Faust**
Wayne Pantke **Eddie Yarbrough**



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

The Wet Zone



South Florida Divers Inc.
 P. O. Box 222091
 Hollywood, Florida 33022-2091



Address Label