

It's always an adventure

USA Dive Lines

Volume 30 Number 5

www.underseas.org

May 2002

RAFT UP!!!

Mark your calendar - **Saturday, August 10** is the UnderSea Adventurers Raft Up!!! Captains - sign up your crew now! Potential crew mates (non-boat owners), start lobbying for a spot. Dust off your favorite recipe in preparation of a day of diving and camaraderie.

After a morning dive, we'll meet in Lake Boca for an afternoon of fun. For you new members, a raft-up is when those boat owners in the club fill up their boat with club members for a morning dive. After diving, boats will meet in Lake Boca, tie together for the afternoon, where folks can go from boat to boat to eat, drink and be merry, lounge on the deck and/or cool off in the water.

If you know a boat owner - call them!

If you don't know one, let me know you're interested and I'll pass your name on to one.

Linda Grist

VP Local Diving (561) 369-1286

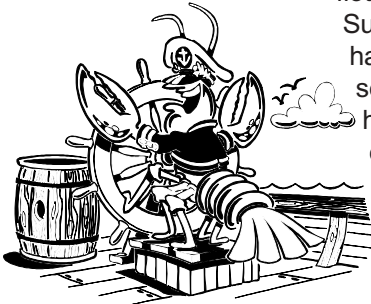
June Program

Things That Go Bump

Our speaker for June is Steven Bass from Gumbo Limbo Nature Center who will speak on "Things that go bump on the Beach", i.e.

flotsam and jetsam.

Sue Fish says she has heard him several times and he is very entertaining.



*Ray McAllister
VP Programs*

Inside

Phone Numbers	2
President's Waves	3
2002 Bimini Live-A-Board	4
2002 Saba / St Kitts	5
2002 Dry Tortugas	5
2002 Costa Rica trip	6
Local Diving with Linda G	8
Sweetie's May Dive Trip Report	9
USS Spiegel Grove	10
4th of July Beach Bash	11
Trip Payments	11
Ocean Watch Reef Sweep	12
Calendar	12

UnderSea Adventurers website:

www.underseas.org

DAN website:

www.diversalernetnetwork.org

Meetings:

First Thursday of each month at

Avian Restaurant

1401 S.Federal Highway

Deerfield Beach, FL

Dinner: 6:00 PM, Early Bird until

6:00PM

Social: 7:30 PM, Happy Hour 6-8PM

Meeting: 8:00 PM

Come Join Us!

At the Avian Restaurant, four blocks
South of 10th St. on the West side,
in front of the Ramada Inn.

USA Hall of Fame

Alan Barrows	Ray McAllister
Mary May Barrows	Kathi McCutcheon
Joe DellaFera	Carl Meyer
Esther Drury	Jerry Millspaugh
Jim Dunn	Kathy Millspaugh
Anne Dupont	Carl Nolting
Ronnie Farr	Hank Paurowski
Sue Fish	Sue Revie
Chuck Goby	Gary Sharp
Gerry Greene	Robert Shearer
Nancy Greene	Larry Townsend
Paul Guyon	Marie York
Dianne Johnston	Marilyn
Patrice Marker	Van Valkenburg

Board of Directors: Officers

President	Kathi McCutcheon	954-432-1960
	kathianandsteve@aol.com	
VP of Programs	Ray McAllister.....	954-426-0808
	dinodivr@bellsouth.net	
VP of OS Diving	Nils Jacobsen	954-783-1667
	TGM349@email.mot.com	
VP of Social Events	Mary LePage	954-917-3082
	muskymama@mediaone.net	
VP of Local Diving	Linda Grist	561-369-1286
	LJG247@hotmail.com	
Secretary	Linda Caldwell	561-391-0080
	lindalou34@juno.com	
Treasurer	Judy Townsend	561-391-4364
	judytowns@aol.com	

Board of Directors: Appointees

Audio Coordinator	Larry LePage	954-917-3082
	lplepage@attbi.com	
Hospitality Coordinator	Dianne Johnston ..	954-781-9439
	djohnston323@yahoo.com	
Membership Coordinator ..	Karen Goodman ...	561-963-4173
	kgoodman49@worldnet.att.net	
Membership Database	Patrice Marker	954-577-7919
	patmarker@aol.com	
Mini-Trip Coordinator	Ronnie Farr	954-783-1667
	farr@planetautomotive.com	
OS Dive Accountant	Linda Ianniello	561-999-9820
	Lindai@us.ibm.com	
Photographer	Carol Schurtz	954-746-5578
	madnurse@aol.com	
Promotions Coordinator	Theresa Shaner	561-493-0600
	tshaner@aol.com	
Safety Coordinator	Roger Styles	954-436-9922
	rogstyles@aol.com	
Scrapbook/Awards	Chary Lynn	561-330-7490
	cseaflower@aol.com	
WebMaster/Newsletter	Matt Barton	561-338-9846
	bartonmg@bellsouth.net	

President's Waves

WANTED: a USA dive club member with Public Relations, Marketing or Advertising experience to fill a new position on the Board of Directors. We would like someone to contact local newspapers for free mention of our guest speakers and upcoming events. We envision this person forming contacts with other dive clubs and inviting their members to our meetings. Frequent visits to local dive shops and distribution of our business cards could increase our membership and develop relationships for future needs. Are you the person we need? You don't really need experience so much as initiative, an outgoing personality and the ability to make contacts and friends. Call me at (954) 432-1960 or any board member. Our names and numbers are in the front of the newsletter. Yours could be there too! Being on "the Board" is fun and you get a nice dinner each month at the home of the host for that meeting.



Have you serviced your dive gear this season? Did your wetsuit shrink and need replacing? Is your DAN insurance paid? Then why aren't you diving? Sometimes it seems our dive club is mostly a social club. That's nice too but we put a lot of work into planning dives and we sure would like to see more participation. Consider your last club dive. Didn't you have a great time? I'm sure you did. You're just too busy and I know all about that. Maybe some of my friends and some friends to be would like to join me for the June 15th dive. This beautiful boat is the IBIS and it leaves from Dania. Come on down!

Thanks to all those who contributed to our Annual Auction / Flea Market at the May meeting. Members sold gear they no longer needed and then we auctioned off new items donated by local business. Paradise Charters very generously donated a full day of local diving aboard the Easy Going. Jim Abernathy's Scuba Adventures gave a certificate for a 2-tank dive out of Riviera Beach. Diver's Outlet of Deerfield pitched in two beautiful beach towels that were a hot item. Carol Schurtz framed a photograph she had taken of a sea horse and that was bid up nicely. Force E of Pompano Beach donated a card of 25 air fills. Force E of Boca Raton gave a card of 10 air fills. Marine Scientist, Rob Meyers donated a book he wrote on Micronesian Fish. Our many friends help make these programs successful and we can't thank them enough. The best way for us to show our appreciation is to patronize those businesses that are so good to us.

*Kathi McCutcheon
USA President for 2002*

BIMINI LIVE-A-BOARD Paradise Charters



Summer 2002
July 11-14

WAITING LIST ONLY

Trip is \$660 + Bahamas taxes \$55, total of \$715. Cheaper if we get a full boat of 7 divers.

We plan to go to Bimini one or more times in the summer. This trip only holds 6-7 divers. It is on a 62' Foot boat called "Easy Going". The boat is equipped with the latest in navigational, communications, and safety equipment. It also has a full galley where delicious meals and snacks are prepared, two guest heads, and a comfortable dining area where you can kick back and enjoy your meals. And when it's time for bed you'll sleep comfortably in air-conditioned quarters (double occupancy accommodations). For your enjoyment they also offer satellite TV, VCR, and stereo, or for the more energetic guests-an Ocean Kayak. The boat leaves on Thursday night and travels to Bimini/Cat Cay area. We dive all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning, arriving Sunday evening. The price for this trip is \$660.00 per person/double occupancy. All meals snacks included, and tips.

Departs: Thursday, July 11, 7:00pm (Bahia Mar area)

Returns: Sunday, July 14

Package Includes:

3 nights on M/V Easy Goin (double occupancy)

3 days diving

Tanks & weights included

All meals, snacks, soft drinks

And beer or wine with dinner

Port charges \$55.00

PLEASE SIGN-UP EARLY.

Browse their website at: <http://www.paradisecharters.com/>

Call Nils Jacobsen: 954-783-1667 (home)
or 954-723-4598 (work)



M/V CARIBBEAN EXPLORER LIVE-A-BOARD: SABA/ST.KITTS - JULY 20-27,2002

WAITING LIST ONLY

Explorer Ventures Ltd. has been pioneering liveaboard diving in the Eastern Caribbean since 1987. To offer the most enjoyable vacation possible, each trip aboard the Caribbean Explorer is run with special attention to detail, providing the most professional and personalized service.

Price: \$1,425.00. Does NOT include Airfare.

The boat holds 16 divers.

www.explorerverventures.com

or www.divesaba.com

Ronnie Farr 954-783-1667, 305-774-7690

X307, 305-774-7699 (fax),

farr@planetautomotive.com (mail)



Photo by Michael Lawrence

DRY TORTUGAS: SEPT. 26-30, 2002

WAITING LIST ONLY



Due to GREAT Success, we are going again. You only have to take Friday and Monday off from work. Please come and join myself and 10 other divers. The boat is the "MV Playmate" a luxury 60-foot yacht USCG inspected boat is docked at Stock Island in Key West.

See their website at: <http://diveplaymate.com>

Not included: Towels, sodas, and alcoholic beverages.

Bring ribbon to identify your catch.

Price \$990.00 and \$1,090.00 for Nitrox,
tip included in both prices.

Contact Ronnie Farr

954-783-1667

305-774-7690 X-307

farr@planetautomotive.com

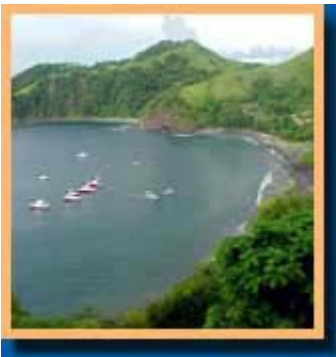


COSTA RICA - NOVEMBER 23-30,2002

TAKE A THIRST FOR PARADISE

SPOTS OPEN!

It's no coincidence that Costa Rica means Rich Coast in Spanish. Mother Nature has endowed the country with a virtual treasure trove of beaches, each one of which has its own special charms. Those coastal jewels range from sheltered coves where a crescent of white sand separates the verdure of the rainforest from the ocean's aquamarine waters, to long beaches washed by frothy surf and lined with lanky coconut palms. In Costa Rica, tropical nature has reached its greatest expression. Located in the tropical latitudes, between the giant biological influences of North and South America and bordered by two oceans, mountainous Costa Rica enjoys an immense diversity of climates and environmental regions. Active volcanoes vividly remind visitors of the awesome power contained in the earth's thin mantle. With Costa Rica's vast natural resources and established reputation as an outstanding ecotourism destination, it might seem that sport diving is but an afterthought or add-on attraction. Not



so. While less than a decade ago its underwater assets were virtually unknown. Today Costa Rica's marine world is become recognized as one of its major assets and a world-class diving attraction. Costa Rica's primary underwater assets are original and potentially very different from other diving experiences. Compared to other Central American countries with established reputations in warm-water diving, Costa Rica's primary dives areas are located off the Pacific coast of the country. You will find an astounding parade of marine life of every form, including a variety of schooling fish, the size of the schools, an outstanding variety of solitary fish and a wide selection of invertebrates; all as a result of the abundant plankton that thrive in these waters nearly year-round. You will dive the Catalina Islands were schools of Pacific cow-nosed rays swarm in the thousands. It is the rich, plankton-filled waters of the Eastern Pacific that produces the exceptional marine life common to the area. You will also dive Bat Islands where you will

see Bull Sharks, giant Manta Rays, Eagle Rays and large schools of four or five different species of fish simultaneously. The Arenal Volcano, together with the surrounding tropical rain forest, provides a breathtaking setting unparalleled in the world. In the middle of all this, natural splendor, Tabacon Resort offers you a warm and beautiful heaven, where you can enjoy an unforgettable relaxing experience. The minerals waters, running at a soothing temperature of 102F, flow through exotic tropical gardens, forming cascades and pools. Rafting on Costa Rica's wild and scenic rivers is perhaps the single most popular adventure sport in the country.



Package includes:

- Airfare:** From Miami to Costa Rica
 - Tours to:** Canopy Tree tour
Arenal Volcano
Hot springs
White Water Rafting
 - Hotel:** 3 Nights stay at Hotel Arenal Resort
3 Nights stay at Hotel El Ocotal Resort
1 Night stay in San Jose
 - Diving:** 2 days diving, at Bat and Catalina Islands
 - Price:** \$1,625.00 (for all of this)
- Please Browse the web sites for more information:

www.Ocotalresort.com
www.Tabacon.com

Contact Greg Galland and reserve your spot today. 954-



LOCAL DIVING with Linda G



June brings us two diving opportunities. On Saturday, June 15, we'll be at the Royale Palm Yacht Basin, Dania Beach, on the Ibis. Dock time is 8:00am; cost is \$45 (includes snack, tax & tip). We're plan to dive on the Mercedes which sits at about 100 feet (to the sand) followed by a drift dive on the reef. For those who wish to enjoy lunch with the group, we'll meet at the Kings Head Pub, a British Pub on the corner of Dania Beach Blvd and 5th Avenue (across from the Jai Lai).

June 29 we'll be with Sun Star Aquatic Services, Deerfield Beach, on the Diversity. We plan on diving the Ancient Mariner, which sits in 65 feet, followed by a reef dive. Dock time is 7:30 am; cost is \$40 (includes snack, tax & tip).

June 29 Ronnie Farr will host a **USA CLUB POOL PARTY** after the dive at her house. For an extra \$6, Ronnie will prepare and serve a luncheon of chicken sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans and sodas (BYOB if you wish). If you're not able to dive, meet us at Ronnie's around 12:30 - 1:00 pm. (Don't forget your towel.) Where can you go for \$6 and get a home made lunch with great friends....and a pool (with volleyball net) to play in too!!! Please contact Ronnie (954) 783-1667 or me to RSVP for the pool party ... deadline to RSVP June 19th!

I'll be on vacation May 29-June 12. Contact me ASAP to reserve your spot for the June dives. Ronnie will also take reservations for the June 15th dive.

send checks payable to **USA** to:
Linda Grist
 5557 Boynton Place
 Boynton Beach, FL 33437

Date	Shop/Boat	Cost
Jun 15 (Sat AM)	Royal Palm Yacht Basin on IBIS, Dania; dock time 8:00 AM	\$45
Jun 29 (Sat AM)	SunStar Aquatic Services on Diversity, Deerfield Beach; dock time 7:30 AM	\$40
July 13 (Sat Night)	Night Dive led by Linda Ianniello on Starfish Enterprise	contact Linda I.
July 27 (Sat AM)	South Florida Diving on Coral Princess, Deerfield Beach dock time 8:30 AM	\$40
Aug 10 (Sat AM)	RAFT UP!!!!	
Aug 17 (Sat AM)	South Florida Diving on Aqua View, Pompano Beach, dock time 7:30 AM	\$40



May Dive Trip Report

Hi, my name is Sweetie. I came down from Columbus, Ohio, with my friends Dennis, Doug, Dave, George and Teresa to visit and dive with former club members, Linda and Jerry G. They told us all about their new dive club and how great the diving is in southern Florida.

We boarded the Starfish Enterprise early Saturday morning and headed for the Caster - which was great - we could see it sitting on the bottom as Craig positioned the Starfish overhead so Paul could drop down and tie off. We dropped down in the

clearest blue water I've seen outside of the Caribbean - and explored the Caster. It was covered in the most beautiful purple coral, Christmas tree worms, several barracuda, sergeant majors, yellowtail snapper....more fish than I could identify. I looked around for one of those 'USA divers'...but couldn't spot one. Then Craig dropped us on the Sea Gates reef...where I saw some of my favorites - damselfishes, parrot fish, goatfish, angels, an eel, couple of 3-4 foot nurse sharks and loggerhead turtle. Still no luck spotting a 'USA diver'. Visibility on these dives was 50-60 feet, water was a warm 78 degrees. Some folks dove in shorties - Paul just dove in his T-shirt and swim trunks!

Sunday morning started out a little overcast, but didn't slow us down. We did the Fingers first and then Boynton Ledges. Paul suggested we go up and over each finger as you get more relief, nooks and crannies to explore - and boy was he right! Got up close to a 6-7 foot nurse shark - George said he got some good video footage...we'll just have to wait and see! Saw some lobster, crab, more beautiful, colorful corals....reds, greens, blues, pinks ... sea fans, sea rods, sponges, flower coral....and lots and lots of yummy fish! Two more great dives, warm water, 45 foot visibility - couldn't ask for more...except perhaps spotting one of those elusive 'USA divers'. Oh well, maybe next year!

We enjoyed the diving, exploring the area...had some exceptional meals at the Bizarre Avenue Cafe, Two Georges and the Cohiba Restaurant. I'll bet some of us Buckeye Divers will be back again next year....hope to see you then!

*Your dive buddy,
Sweetie*

Work to Right Spiegel Grove Resumes



May 28, 2002 from <http://www.keylargo.org/spiegel/>
Efforts to reorient and fully sink a retired Navy ship in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary resumed Monday, after a three-day delay due to high winds and seas that made salvage operations untenable for divers.

The 510-foot Spiegel Grove sank upside-down Friday, May, 17, hours before crews had planned to scuttle it to create an artificial reef. The ship is in about 130 feet of water, its bow protruding above the sea, six miles off Key Largo.

Divers aboard the Lana Rose, a 100-foot-long salvage vessel owned by Resolve Towing and Salvage, worked Monday to identify locations to attach giant inflatable lift bags, said Joe Farrell, president of the firm that has been contracted by the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce to finish the project.

Farrell said in all that he was expecting to employ enough lift bags, including four that are 24 feet high, to surface about 600 tons of dead weight. These are to add to the buoyancy that is to be achieved when air is injected into port (left) ballast tanks.

Farrell plans to lighten the port side of the vessel, and using at least two tug boats, roll the vessel on her starboard side.

Cost to the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce, whose board of directors approved the contract with Resolve, is estimated to add another \$250,000 to the \$1 million already expended.

"We know we have a very valuable resource and that the Spiegel Grove will be the best artificial reef," said Stephen Frink, a project organizer and a board member of the Key Largo Chamber. "We're going to invest what we have to, to make this ship right." Frink added.

Frink said several local groups, including the Ocean Reef Community Association on North Key Largo, have pledged additional financial support. He said the chamber is also counting on additional revenue from the sale of Spiegel Grove commemorative medallions.

Because the ship is anchored on the sandy bottom and was stripped of all contaminants, it poses no environmental threat to the ocean or nearby natural coral reefs, according to Lt. Commander Dave Score, Upper Keys region manager for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Wreck diving experts have said the ship is the largest ever intentionally sunk to create an artificial reef. Such reefs attract underwater wildlife and are popular with scuba divers, who already are a \$33 million per year industry here.

The Spiegel Grove - named for the Ohio home of President Rutherford B. Hayes - was decommissioned in 1989. It was an almost eight-year project for the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce Artificial Reef Committee to acquire, cleanse and tow the ship to Key Largo.

Andy Newman, Florida Keys TDC

4th of July Beach Bash

Come and enjoy the beach, barbecue, fireworks and socializing at our annual 4th of July party!

When - Thursday, July 4th.

Please plan on arriving between 4 and 5:30PM.

In prior years the bridges have been closed at 6pm!
 The fireworks display is normally finished at about 9:30.
 Given the traffic situation, plan on enjoying the beach, moon and stars until about 10-10:30.

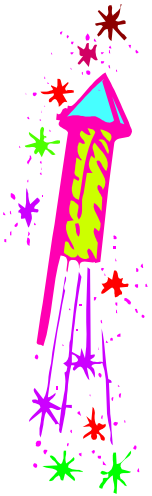
Where: Sean Horin's house - 1223 Hillsboro Mile,
 unit 8, Hillsboro Beach.

Directions: I-95 to Hillsboro Blvd.(exit 37) - east to A1A - south(right) 6/10s of a mile. On the left, just south of the "Royal Flamingo" signs.

Parking: Car pooling would be appreciated! Pull up directly to the front door, unload, and a parking volunteer will direct you to a parking spot.

Bring: bathing suit, towel, chair. Please call Sean at 954-418-0620 as to food + drink.

Anticipate: Another great, memorable 4th of July party!



2002 Overseas Dive Trips Payment Schedule

Please mail Payments to Linda Ianniello, 359 Cottonwood Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33487

DESTINATIONS	DATE	Paid	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Bimini, Paradise Charters	7/11/14	429	143	143			715
Caribbean Explorer + your own air !	7/20-7/27	1425					1425
Dry Tortugas-Playmate w/Nx	9/27-9/30	808	141	141			1090
Dry Tortugas-Playmate w/air	9/27-9/30	736	127	127			990
Costa Rica	11/23-11/30	975	175	175	175	125	1625

Your paid in balance, as of the May 2nd meeting, should match at least the "Paid" column. If not you are delinquent and could lose your spot. The June payment is due 6/2/02.

Ocean Watch Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup

Saturday, June 8th, the daylong event includes removal of debris from the ocean environment by both scuba divers and beach walkers. Charter dive boats will depart from various Broward and Palm Beach County locations with an estimated 300 divers searching for trash that endangers the delicate reefs. Beach divers can participate at 2 piers that will close for the event. Private boaters can drop off garbage at 2 marinas and beach walkers can participate from the shore at 1 of 6 sites.

For more information on participating, see their website at www.oceanwatch.org

Matthew Barton
6114 Woodbury Road
Boca Raton, FL 33433

FIRST
CLASS

Calendar

June 6th, Thurs	6:00pm Dinner, 7:30 Social, 8:00 Meeting
June 8th, Sat	Ocean Watch, Reef Sweep
June 13th, Thurs	7pm, Board Meeting
June 15th, Sat	Local Dive , Ibis, 8:00am Royal Palm Yacht Basin
June 25th, Tues	Newsletter Deadline
June 29th, Sat	Local Dive , Diversity 7:30am, Deerfield Beach 1:00pm, After-Dive Party at Ronnie and Nils

eMail
Delivery

