

USA Dive Lines

It's always an adventure

Volume 30 Number 8

www.underseas.org

August 2002

Overseas Trips 2003

The August 1st program will be an advance summary of the 2003 trips, local and exotic. Come and be prepared to exercise your earliest chance to sign up for these trips. Presentations will include photos, brochures and possibly videos of the 2003 sites.

Dinner will be at the Avian Restaurant in the Ramada Inn, Deerfield Beach, with an "early bird" till about 6:15.

Ray McAllister
VP of Programs



Underwater Video

We plan to have an underwater video show in October. To be successful we need video from 10 or more people with UW video. Please let me know if you will consider selecting 3 to 5 minutes of your best video for projection in October. We have the projector; now we need the video. So far I have Matt Barton and

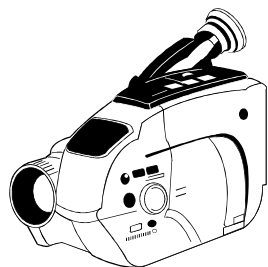
myself, possibly Larry T and Bob Weybrecht. Surely there are some other videographers out there. Tell me who they are and I will twist some arms.

What a great chance to see the amazing stuff you may have.

Ray McAllister, VP Programs

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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

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	cseaflower@aol.com	
WebMaster/Newsletter	Matt Barton	561-338-9846
	bartonmg@bellsouth.net	

President's Waves

Why was UNDER SEA ADVENTURERS formed? A group of diving friends wanted to travel around the Caribbean together and take advantage of discounts. The January program soon became the annual presentation of the Overseas Trips for that year. There would be a mad rush to sign up because space was limited. Of course a typical stay at a Caribbean dive resort cost about \$400 to \$800 in the mid Eighties and all our computer-associated members had jobs. Well, one thing you can always depend on is change. Prices have increased over time and many of us have been retired by those great computer companies. Those who have good jobs want to take exotic vacations to distant lands, and others need short affordable trips.



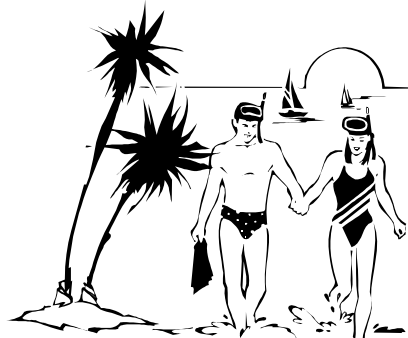
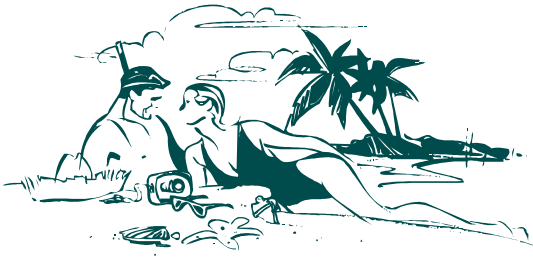
For our August program Nils Jacobsen, your VP of Overseas Diving, will introduce the 2003 trips. Why are we doing this in August? The boats we charter now want large deposits up front, and we need to gauge your interest early so we know if we should hold all the spots or perhaps only half. Also, by starting your installment payments early, the monthly amount can be easier on your budget.



I know how difficult planning these trips is because I did that job for several years. Pricing at this distant time can only be approximate. Minor details change. Nils will be in contact with the agents regularly and will keep you up to date. Come to our sneak preview and see what you think of your Dive Committee's choices for next year. I feel the Bonaire price is an outstanding value. Read the trip leader's articles and see if any of these plans tempt your urge to travel. But, don't wait too long to sign up or you may find the trip is full.

Traveling with our club is a unique experience. You will make many new friends and have great memories of your vacations. You will also have a pre-trip party and a post-trip party. Take a group of USA divers anywhere and they will have a good time. Even layovers can be fun as Sean Horin showed when he led our Brazil group in Yoga exercises at the airport. Don't miss another adventure with USA.

*Kathi McCutcheon
USA President for 2002*



USA Overseas Dive Program 2003

This newsletter and the August program are dedicated to cover the 2003 overseas program. We have created a program based on what you told us, the overseas dive committee, what you wanted: Live-Aboard with/without land, a land-based trip with 2 daily dives, a lobster trip and a short local trip. The trip leaders will be introducing the trips at this months program, or see the announcements in this newsletter. Please try to attend the August meeting so that you can be assured of getting a spot on the trips of your choice. To ensure a spot in one of the trips it is essential that you signup in the initial signup period, from August 1-15. After that spots are handed out on a first come basis, only.



We have in recent years moved the signup period up by several months. One reason is necessity: Very often you need to be out there more than a year in advance to ensure room on a popular Live-Aboard. Another reason is convenience: If we pick a popular land destination and sell out early we might be able to add more spots if we just try early enough. And also if we fail to fill a trip we need to know early so we can mitigate any cost impact to the club, by canceling early. I hope you all understand and appreciate the necessity of these steps.

One minor side effect of this is that at present our airfares are still floating, hence many of our trips have estimated prices (we have tried to be conservative and estimated high).

If you are unable to attend the August meeting, you can see the announcements in this newsletter or on the web, and mail in your signups.

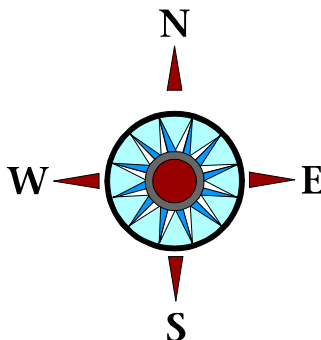
Bonaire, Land-based: 6/21-28

Bimini, Easy Goin': 7/17-7/20

Seahawk/Grenada: 8/2-12 (or 8/2-9)

Dry Tortugas (9/25-9/29)

*VP Overseas Diving
Nils Jacobsen*



BONAIRE

Buddy Dive Resort, June 21-28, 2003



Where can you enjoy daily boat dives combined with unlimited shore dives? With your fellow USA'ers in Bonaire this coming June 2003, that's where.

Bonaire is well-known for it's shore dives, having most fringing reefs within 30 feet of the shore, and visibility typically in the 100+ foot range, with a comfortable 80F water temperature. The Bonaire Marine Park surrounding the island boasts of more than 80 listed dive sites.

Join us for a week of spectacular diving and activities at Buddy Dive Resort, a PADI 5-Star resort, complete with two bedroom / two bath ocean view condos with full kitchen, breakfast daily, a Toyota double-cab pickup per quad for island exploring, and drive-thru tank fill facilities.

Divers will enjoy searching for any of the 364 species of fish that reside in the local reefs. According to REEF, Bonaire has the highest recorded fish species diversity in the Caribbean. Bonaire is also known as the macro capital of the Caribbean, a delight for underwater photography and videography. Daily boat trips are made to the nearby island of Klein Bonaire, a short 10 minute boat ride away. Guided night dives are also available.

For the non-diver, other activities include:

- snorkeling
- cave exploration
- kayaking
- sport fishing
- mountain biking
- windsurfing
- just good ol' rest and relaxation



Your package includes:

- 7 nights stay
- 11 two tank boat dives over 6 days of diving
- unlimited shore diving
- full breakfast daily
- Toyota double-cab pickup per quad
- airfare plus tips

Price: \$1445 diver, \$1121 non-diver

Be sure to visit their website at

<http://www.buddydive.com>
<http://www.searchbonaire.com>
<http://www.bonairewebcams.com>

Trip Leader: Matthew Barton
(561) 338-9846, bartonmg@bellsouth.net



GRENADA AND THE GRENADINES

LIVE ABOARD AND LAND BASED

August 2 - 12, 2003

Fly to Grenada - Board the "MV Sea Hawk" for a 7 day / 6 night upmarket live aboard experience. Per USA'er Greg Galland, "The Sea Hawk is the best live aboard that I have ever been on". This 87' newly remodeled vessel has 6 double cabins each furnished with both a single and double bed, private head and shower, and full A/C. The diving should be very good with both wrecks/reefs and, hopefully lots of large critters. Manta's seem to be very common. Water temperature in the mid 80's. Normal vis is 60 - 120 feet.



The Sea Hawk is also conveniently docked at the resort where we will spend the 3 day land portion of the trip. We'll have 3 full days to relax and snorkel on the beaches of this beautiful resort. Grenada is a good sized island (12 miles wide by 22 miles long) - containing large areas of rain forest, waterfalls etc.

We have tours scheduled for each of the 3 land days:

Day #1 - Full day island tour,

Day #2 - Half day hike in the rain forest,

Day #3 - A 2/3 hour tour of the markets and gardens of St. George, the capital city

The package includes:

- Round trip air fare from Miami.
- 7 days / 6 nights on the MV Sea hawk
- All meals/beverages
- 5 dives/day, tanks + weights
- 3 nights at the Rendezvous beach Resort
- Full breakfast
- Transportation to and from the airport

An upgrade to a larger room that features a queen rather than 2 single beds is available.

Nitrox is offered at an extra charge



For further information:

www.rendezvousresort.com
www.seahawkcharters.net

Estimated price:

- Round trip air fare and live aboard - \$2195
- Add on 3 day land package - \$450

Trip Leader:

*Robert Horin
(954) 418-0620
rhorin@bellsouth.net*

BIMINI-LIVE-A-BOARD

Paradise Charters – Easy Goin’ July 17-20, Summer 2003



Trip is \$715 + Bahamas taxes \$55, total of \$770.
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 Goin'. 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, 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 home Sunday evening. The price for this trip is \$770.00 per person/double occupancy. Included: meals, snacks, taxes and tip.

There is an option to this trip if we all agree: add one extra day, start Wednesday night, add an extra 5 dives and the ability to go further south for \$195, including tips

Departs:

Thursday, July 17,
7:00pm (Bahia Mar area)

Returns:

Sunday, July 20

Package Includes:

- 3 nights on M/V Easy Goin' (double occupancy)
- 3 days diving (12 dives)
- Tanks & weights included
- All meals, snacks, soft drinks
- Beer or wine with dinner



Website: <http://www.paradisecharters.com>

PLEASE SIGN-UP EARLY

Trip Leader

Nils Jacobsen: 954-783-1667 or 954-723-4598 at work



DRY TORTUGAS

SEPT. 25-SEPT 29, 2003

SPEARFISHING - LOBSTERING

Please come and join myself and 10 other divers. The boat is the "MV Playmate" a luxury 60-foot yacht USCG inspected. The boat offers central air-conditioning, satellite TV, VCR, stereo, four separate staterooms, shower facilities inside and out, spacious sun deck, two below deck electric air compressors, DNAX NITROX, fresh water maker, lots of shade, easy water access and most importantly, personal attention. Owned and operated by Bob and Kimberly for over 12 years. The boat is docked at Stock Island in Key West.



We board the boat after 6:00pm on Thursday, September 25. They leave the dock on Friday 26 at 5:00am and start diving around 9:00am. We dive all day Friday, Saturday, Sunday and 3 dives on Monday. We will average "6" dives a day. We'll return on Monday 29 around 3:30pm. Please feel free to bring your own sodas, beer, wine, or liquor.

Price includes:

- All meals, snacks, iced tea or lemonade,
- Live aboard accommodations,
- Dive tanks (aluminum 80's 3000PSI),
air fills, weights and belts.

Not included:

- Towels, sodas, and alcoholic beverages.

Also bring a large appetite. I have heard that Kim is a gourmet cook. They offer food items such as, Caesar Salad, Coquilles St. Jacques, Jamaican Jerk Chicken, Bahamian Conch Salad, Lobster Tails, Grilled Grouper Sandwiches, Steak, Onions and Cheese Strudel, and Beef Stroganoff. This is just a sample of the great food you will enjoy. Not to mention the fantastic desserts.

All of this for \$990 including Tip. Nitrox users \$1090 including tip. (Please note that this is still 2002 prices, we will not get the final price until September). The boat only holds a total of "11".

See their Website at: <http://www.diveplaymate.com>

Trip Leader

Nils Jacobsen 954-783-1667 or 954-723-4598 at work



BIMINI 2002 Trip Report

"4" USA Divers went on the boat "Easy Goin" to Bimini the weekend of the 12th. We have been on this boat several times before, but this was my first trip; and it certainly will NOT be my last. It holds up to its name Easy Goin. The location where the boat is docked, is very easy to get to, diving from the boat, sleeping and eating on the boat all made Easy by Chuck and Peg. And of course let's not forget JB. This boat is the home of Chuck and Peg, and they make you feel like you are their guest. It seemed like Peg never left the kitchen preparing us all our meals and snacks. She even makes her own bread for dinner and desert every night. Thank goodness we were getting some exercise by diving with JB. JB has a pet "nurse shark" that actually seems like she loves him. You will have to go diving with him to see what I mean. We left on a Thursday night, dove Friday, Saturday and two dives on Sunday for a total of "12" dives. Diving with the Easy Goin is the best price in town for diving, eating & sleeping arrangements. Out of "7" divers 5 had cameras. Chuck made sure that we had plenty of fresh water in a large container for the cameras. We have another trip with them next year, so I would encourage you to sign up for a GREAT time.

Ronnie Farr



LOCAL DIVING with Linda G



Saturday July 27th dawned hot and steamy....a beautiful sunrise greeted Mike S, Theresa P, Leigh Ann J, Bob J, Bonnie C, Kurt K, Ann S, Dianne J, Steve M, Kim N, Jerry G and I as we headed off to Pompano Beach to board the *Coral Princess*. Once all gear was stowed we shoved off and headed for the inlet and out to find a clear, warm Atlantic Ocean. After the mate had tied us into the *Sea Emperor*, we jumped in and pulled ourselves down the line. There was a pretty stiff surface current, but below 15 feet it was great! As we descended we were greeted by a large stingray that was gracefully swimming across the deck, sliding over the side only to reappear moments later coming back over the opposite side of the deck. He continued repeating this graceful loop throughout our visit to his home. Beneath the deck a Goliath Grouper was trying to hide....we found him and as well as another smaller Grouper. Some folks spotted a 4-5 foot nurse shark and the resident green moray teased us from his hole, but wouldn't come all the way out to play! After an enjoyable surface interval basking in the sun, discussing our dive and eating some yummy goodies, we suited up for our second dive. Our drift dive was very enjoyable....lots of lobster were spotted - guess they new mini-season was over! A remora was swimming over the reef at about 35 feet....guess he was looking for a home but we wouldn't accommodate him! Lots of colorful parrots, a school of Atlantic spadefish, a couple of bristle worms and colorful corals and sea fans all there to view.

Saturday, August 17th we'll again do a local dive departing from the Sands Harbor Marina, Pompano Beach, aboard the *Aqua View* and dive the Lost Ledge. Dock time is 7:30 am, boat leaves promptly at 8:00 am; cost is \$40.

IT'S ALMOST HERE Saturday, August 10 - the UnderSea Adventurers Raft Up! It's going to be a great day for diving and having fun! Captains and potential crew mates, hope you have your plans made for meeting. Don't miss it!

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

Lost and (Hopefully?) Found

I lost a dark blue denim shirt that goes to a set at the MAY meeting. I'm sure someone has it for "safe keeping" and I would REALLY like to have it back. *Katie S. (katie96_is@yahoo.com)*

2003 Overseas Dive Trips Payment Schedule

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

2003 DESTINATIONS	DATE	Dep	Sep	Oct	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
Bonaire, Buddy Resort	6/21-6/28	100	193	192	192	192	192	192	192	1445
Bonaire, Non-diver	6/21-6/28	100	146	146	146	146	146	146	145	1121
Bimini, Paradise Charters	7/17-7/20	100	112	112	112	112	111	111		770
Seahawk/Grenada	8/2-8/12	100	366	364	364	364	364	364	364	2650
Seahawk/Diving only	7/17-7/20	100	300	300	300	300	300	300	295	2195
Dry Tortugas-Playmate w/Nx	9/25-9/29	100	144	141	141	141	141	141	141	1090
Dry Tortugas-Playmate w/air	9/25-9/29	100	128	127	127	127	127	127	127	990

To ensure the highest priority you must mail you deposit by 8/15

RAFT UP!!!

Calendar

Saturday, August 10

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

August 1st, Thurs

6:00pm Dinner @ Avian
7:30pm Social
8:00pm Meeting
2003 Overseas Trips

Program:

August 8th, Thurs

7pm, Board Meeting
at Linda Caldwell's

August 10th, Sat

RAFT UP!!!

August 17th, Sat

7:30am, Local Dive
Aqua View, Sands Harbor
Marina, Pompano Bch.

August 28th, Wed

Newsletter Deadline

Matthew Barton
6114 Woodbury Road
Boca Raton, FL 33433

FIRST
CLASS

eMail
Delivery



2003 USA OVERSEAS DIVING TRIP REGISTRATION

Register and include payment with a \$100 deposit per trip. You may mail this form with your deposit to Linda Ianniello or bring it to the meetings. Applications must be received by August 15, 2003 to be included in the initial sign-up. The priority for applications received in the initial sign-up follows these rules: first voting members of the Board of Directors who hold an elected or appointed position and who have served a minimum of one year on the Board of Directors at any time in the past. Board priority is based on the number of years on the Board. Then the general membership according to length of membership. All applications taken after the initial sign-up will be prioritized by the date received without regard to being on the Board of Directors or length of membership.

DESTINATION	DATES	PRICE-DIVER
Bonaire	June 21 – June 28, 2003	\$ 1,445.00 (est)
Bonaire (non-diver)		\$ 1,121.00 (est)
Bimini	July 17 – July 20, 2003	\$ 770.00
Grenadines (Seahawk)/Grenada	August 2 - August 12, 2003	\$ 2,650.00 (est)
Grenadines (Seahawk) diving only	August 2 - August 9, 2003	\$ 2,195.00 (est)
Dry Tortugas	September 25 – September 29, 2003	\$ 990.00 (est)
Dry Tortugas, Nitrox	September 25 – September 29, 2003	\$ 1,090.00 (est)

Members must pay their 2003 dues before trip departure.

100 Minimum deposit per trip

Total Deposits \$ _____

CHECK AMOUNT _____ CASH AMOUNT _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Name _____ Home Phone () _____

Address _____ Work Phone () _____

City/State/Zip _____

GUEST FEES: At the time a guest signs up for any overseas trip, guests must either submit their completed application for membership, including a copy of their C-Card, the \$10.00 initiation Fee and the prorated Dues, or pay the \$40.00 Guest Fee. If the guest pays the Guest Fee and subsequently submits a completed application for membership within 60 days, but prior to the start date of the trip, the Guest Fee may at the discretion of the Membership Coordinator, then be applied toward their Initiation Fee and prorated Dues, with any remaining balance applied to their trip.

Cancellation Policy. ANY PERSON WHO HAS A TRIP PAYMENT THAT IS 45 OR MORE DAYS OVERDUE IS SUBJECT TO BEING REMOVED FROM THE LIST OF TRIP PARTICIPANTS WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE and refunds will be handled the same as cancellations. Cancellations must be made in writing to Nils Jacobsen and refunds will be made within 10 days except for funds for which the club is at risk. At risk funds will be held until after the trip. Club losses will be subtracted from the at risk funds held, and the remainder will be returned. I agree to this policy.

SIGNATURE _____

SIGNATURE of the inviting member (for guest signups only) _____

USA policy requires that all members and guests be respectful of and sensitive to the fragile reef systems and their inhabitants. Members and guest will strive to maintain neutral buoyancy and will keep their gauges, fins, camera equipment, and bodies from contacting all living parts of the reefs. In a spirit of cooperation, members and guests will remind each other of their infractions to this policy. Members and guests will receive these reminders in the spirit they are given. As a condition to joining USA trip, I agree to this policy and will take all reasonable precautions to avoid negatively impacting the underwater environment while diving on USA sponsored trips.

SIGNATURE _____

MAIL TO: Linda Ianniello 359 Cottonwood Lane Boca Raton, FL 33487 561-999-9820