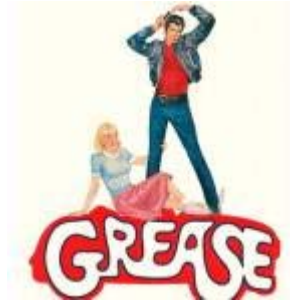


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What's the word?

GREASE is the word!!!

See this month's Social Activities for all the details.

Submit your photos for the Page One Shot to newsletter@usadiveclub.com

Program for September 4th

Sea Turtles

Dr. Kirt Rusenko, Marine Conservationist from the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton, will share with us information about the Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program conducted by the Center. Through the years, the Center has monitored nesting habits of sea turtles along the beaches of Boca Raton, and implemented programs to improve the survival rates of the hatchlings.

Larry LePage
VP of Programs
programs@usadiveclub.com

President's Waves

Our September General Meeting will be September 4th.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at the Emma Lou Olson Pompano Beach Civic Center. This month we will begin the meeting at 7:00 PM. Our Social Butterflies will be opening the Hospitality Hut about 6:30 so that we can begin socializing and enjoying a few treats and cold sodas.

This month our program is on turtles and is presented by Dr. Kirt Rusenko, a Marine Conservationist from Gumbo Limbo. Those of you that went on the turtle walk got to meet him that night.

I am working on getting some information on the Broward County portion of the annual International Coastal Clean-up. Here is a link to the Palm Beach County portion. <http://www.keeppbcbeautiful.org/fcc2008.htm>

I remember one year when I did this event I was in Ohio and did the Put-In-Bay clean up. That was good. I am spoiled now being in South Florida and I enjoy doing my part to give a little back to our environment that I enjoy on a regular basis. I did the Annual Reef Sweep and Beach Clean up in June this year with a group of our USA Divers. We had a good time and were able to help our environment in the process. It was the 20th Annual for that event. I know many USAers do not limit this to events and that is a wonderful thing.

Hope to see many of you at the September meeting.

Glada Blench
President for 2008
president@usadiveclub.com

Local Diving

With Larry Baum

Saturday, September 6th
Starfish Enterprise
Lantana
Show @ 7:30 AM, Go @ 8:00 AM
Cost \$55



Ten of us had a fantastic local Club dive last Saturday, August 2, on the Starfish. The consensus is, Why mess with success? Plus, being the lazy guy that I am, all I have to do is change the date from August 2 to September 6, and I've scheduled our next dive (and I can get back to my nap).

So.....Saturday, September 6 with the Starfish at 8:00am with our good friends at Starfish Dive Charter and the Starfish Enterprise,

<http://www.idivestarfish.com>. Starfish remains, if I may be so bold, the Club's favorite dive boat. The crew, Capt Craig and DiveMaster Linda, always providing a safe and entertaining morning.



With just 14 divers the good news is that it's always a comfortable dive. The bad news is that this charter always sells out quick. So, let me know ASAP if you'd like to join us. The 2 tank dive is \$55 which includes tax and goodies, but as always, the tip is up to each diver. Tips are not included in our Club price. Please remember to make the checks out to the Club, not me (shucks). Boat leaves Lantana at 8:00 AM, so it's a 7:30 AM show. Most folks are familiar with the Starfish, but if not, please take a look at their site or yell with any questions.

Look forward to diving with everyone on early August!!

Larry Baum
VP of Local Diving
localdiving@usadiveclub.com

Social Activities



If you enjoy social activities, indoors or outdoors, and you have an event that USAers might find interesting, contact the Social Butterflies. Check USA's Calendar web page for a complete listing of club events for 2008. Click on any listed social event link for additional details and photos.

Saturday, August 2nd, ten USAers gathered at the Old Key Lime House in Lantana following an early morning local dive aboard the 'Starfish Enterprise'.



Larry Baum, Gary Sharp, Deb Devers, John Ficarra, Glada Blench, Jon Spiegler, Julie and Russ Manhold, Claudia Barrington and Ken Burgner enjoyed a tasty lunch while reliving two of the best local dives in recent years. These post-dive gatherings are becoming very popular among USAers and guests. VP of Local Diving Larry Baum reports fourteen USAers are signed up for the September 6th local dive, again on the 'Starfish Enterprise' in Lantana. That means, of course, we can expect fourteen USAers for lunch again at the Old Key Lime House on September 6th. Hope to see y'all there.

At the August 7th USA dive club meeting, USA's social butterflies formally announced the theme for our October 18th Fall Party. What's the word? 'GREASE is the Word!'



That's right... we're going back to the fabulous 50's to visit Rydell High and the 'T-Birds' including Danny Zuko (John Travolta), Keneckie, Putzie, Doody and Sonny.



Hanging around the 'greasers' were Rydell's 'Pink Ladies' including Sandy (Olivia Newton-John), Rizzo, Frenchy, Marty and Jan.



Be ready to rumble at Ellie's 50's Diner in Delray Beach on Saturday, October 18, 2008.

Arrive wearing your hair swept back in greasy coifs, motorcycle jackets, pegged pants, and turned up collars with cigarette packs secured under rolled up sleeves. And ladies, don't forget those beehive hairdo's, pierced ears, pedal pushers, white bobby socks, cinch belts, long felt skirts and crinolines.

Tickets are just \$37 and include dinner and dancing to a 50's DJ, contests and prizes, including a special prize for the best boy, and best girl, GREASER.

If you enjoyed 'Gilligan's Island' in 2007, you'll be 'Hopelessly Devoted' to 'GREASE is the Word', October 18th at Ellie's 50's Diner in Delray Beach.



August 14th, three USAers and one guest met at Bonefish Mac's Sports Grille in Lighthouse Point for dinner and drinks before attending USA's monthly board meeting, hosted by USA Hall of Fame member Ray McAllister at his residence in Lighthouse Point.

In the near future, you'll see USA's Social Butterflies, and others, helping to keep the streets of Broward County trash free. The USA dive club is joining forces with the Broward County Adopt-A-Street program to campaign for a cleaner, greener America.



Four times a year, USAers will gather to remove trash and discarded items from Broward streets. In return, Broward County and participating cities, coordinate with volunteer organizations to select a specific section of roadway or highway that is named for the group, i.e., the USA Dive Club. In addition, once a year Broward's Adopt-A-Street program coordinates with the Marine Industries Association of South Florida to conduct a massive Waterway Cleanup. Last year, over 3,000 volunteer workers, on land and water, cleaned nearly 67 tons of trash from approximately 300 miles of waterways in Broward County. Interested persons should contact USA's Social Butterflies for more details.

Don't forget to bring your checkbook to the September 4th USA Dive Club meeting at Emma Lou Olson Civic Center in Pompano Beach. USA's Social Butterflies will be there to promote USA's Fall Party, scheduled for October 18th at Ellie's 50's Diner

in Delray Beach. If you can't attend the September meeting, look for e-mail promotions, announcing party details, in the days following.

Upcoming social events include:

- October 18 (Sat) [USA's Fall Party](#), The Flamingo Room at Ellie's 50's Diner, Delray Beach

DINNER BEFORE THE MEETING:

Pat's Place Sports Bar & Restaurant
635 East Atlantic Blvd.
Pompano Beach, FL
@6:00 PM

Russ Manhold
VP Social Events
social@usadiveclub.com

Hospitality Hut



Greetings to all from the Hospitality Hut.

Now that Tropical Storm Fay has finally decided to "go away", we hope that everyone has been able to enjoy some good diving.

Unfortunately we had no guests at the August meeting, but we're sure we will resume our normal arrival of guests in September. Once again we invite you, as members, to visit "The Hut" and help us greet our guests and make them feel welcome.

We would like to remind you to click on the [calendar](#) button for details regarding our club's upcoming events. You can also take a look at some of our past events, social and diving, by clicking on the [photo gallery](#) button. Club members have been adding new photos of recent overseas trips. So please take a look.

"Happy Diving"



Julie Manhold & Clare Anthon
Hospitality Coordinators
hospitality@usadiveclub.com

USA's Overseas Diving

The 2008 program is over with 4 successful trips – even though we still have a few trip reports to come. The single word that summarizes what we did in 2008 is “Weather”.

We went 9 people on Utila Aggressor, Honduras, had a great trip, great crew and great service. Most of the time we had some kind of adverse weather with high winds and had to dive the leeward side of the day. Due to the rough seas we were only able to pursue Whale sharks (unsuccessfully) a few times.

12 members dove Kadavu (Fiji) in atypical rainy conditions. During our first week the main island of Fiji evacuated low laying areas due to inland flooding. Despite the rain, the reef was spectacular. The second week we were 14 on Nai’a. We spent most of the first day dealing with a generator problem and the remains of the rain from the week before but after that we were out in deep water, that fully lived up to Fiji’s diving reputation. We also visited the locals a few times and got exposed to “Kava”. Both on land and on the boat, the crew and support staff did an excellent job.

18 divers and one non-diver went to San Salvador Bahamas, see separate report. They had as typical for the destination - but as an exception for this year’s club trips - good weather.

We had 8 people go to Dry Tortugas for the annual hunting trip. Besides running home early from Tropical Storm Fay, we got affected by other local weather systems out there and we ended up cutting the trip first to 2 days and later to a day and a half (3 dives the last day). In the end safety is the most important part of the trips and the crew and our divers in full agreement decided to cut it short. We left the Keys by car Sunday night – had an easy drive home, as we left under evacuation orders after all the other Key’s tourists.

For two of the trips, Utila and Fiji we could have taken more members on the trips if our members could have decided earlier and signed up while we still had the opportunity to reserve the spots for them. Unfortunately the way the dive industry works it is risky, and expensive, for the club to hold on to spots without knowing if

they can be successfully sold to our members or guests. We often lose the option of adding divers to the reservation 9-15 months before the trip begins. Most of the time when I get late requests I have to disappoint the divers asking. For the future trips please consider timely, early, signups.

2009

The single word that describes 2009 (and future?) travel is "Fuel Costs". Fuel is impacting our trips both as increased prices for the boats or as fuel surcharge and as higher airfare or fuel surcharges on airfare. There is not much to do about that. The good news for Belize is that the Aggressor Fleet for our trip explicitly eliminated the risk of a fuel surcharge, and included that in the annual price increase.

When we travel as a group we get predictable company and better terms and conditions. All the trips have some kind of bonus arrangements, free spots and/or group discounts. These benefits will be shared with the members upon return. In 2008 all 4 trips paid out refunds to the travelers on return. Also please remember that all our trips are priced "all inclusive". If you try to compare our prices and don't see the club benefits, please come see me and I will explain.

If you plan to travel on your own using one of our traditional vendors, please see me first. I will be happy to make the booking for you. That way, I can keep current contacts with as many vendors as possible. Note that we do require DAN or similar accident insurance on all trips and that we recommend that you also consider additional travel insurance: cancellation, interruptions, etc.

Only one trip is on the program for 2009, ready to be booked (see Belize summary below and a separate announcement). For the rest of the program for 2009 we will shortly have an overseas committee meeting. The meeting will be announced in the newsletter and via the e-mail list (this is one good reason to put your name on the e-mail list). If you want to participate you are welcome or you can send proposals to me or other board members. We will also discuss the next potential Exotic destinations and of course how to anticipate the impact on our overall trip program from the fuel costs.

Cayman and Belize are the two primary and most pricey liveaboard destinations in the Caribbean (priced the same, each growing in cost by \$100 a year, etc.). Hence the boat cost for Belize for 2009 is the same as we would have paid to do a Cayman trip. We have done Cayman more often than Belize and decided it was time to go back to Belize.

I am still working on additional options.

2009 Program:

- Land Based
 - our committee will work on this

- [Belize Aggressor July 18-25, 2009](#)
 - Deluxe cabin, Boat, Airfare, Port and Park fees, Taxes, Tips: \$3500;
 - Without airfare: \$2600
 - Click for [Trip Sign Up Form](#)
- Land extension July 25-28
 - No prices yet
- Dry Tortugas, August 2009
 - Not yet confirmed

2009/2010 Exotic:

- Our overseas committee will meet soon to chose the next interesting destination(s)

Any questions give me a call.

Nils Jacobsen
 VP Overseas Diving
overseasdiving@usadiveclub.com

USA Calendar

- **September 4th - Regular Monthly Meeting @ 7:00 PM**
 - Emma Lou Olson (Pompano Beach) Civic Center
 1801 NE 6th Street
 Pompano Beach, FL
- **September 6th - Local Dive @ 7:30 AM**
 - Starfish Enterprise - Lantana



Birthday greetings in September to the following club members:

Bruce A, Deborah B, Bob L, Julie M, Michael M, Steve M, Miriam P, Barb S, Judy T, Larry T

HAPPY BIRTHDAY from your friends in diving!!!

Contact Info:

Under Sea Adventurers web site: www.usadiveclub.com

Meetings: First Thursday of each month at:
Emma Lou Olson Civic Center
1801 NE 6th Street, Pompano Beach, FL
Social: 7:00 PM, Meeting: 7:30 PM

Board of Directors

Elected Officers - Title	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Glada Blench	president@usadiveclub.com
VP of Programs	Larry LePage	programs@usadiveclub.com
VP of OS Diving	Nils Jacobsen	overseasdiving@usadiveclub.com
VP of Social Events	Russ Manhold	social@usadiveclub.com
VP of Local Diving	Larry Baum	localdiving@usadiveclub.com
Secretary	Robert Shearer	secretary@usadiveclub.com
Treasurer	Judy Townsend	treasurer@usadiveclub.com
Appointees - Title	Name	E-Mail Address
Audio/Video Coordinator	Roger Styles	avguy@usadiveclub.com
OS Dive Accountant	Chary Lynn	diveaccountant@usadiveclub.com
Membership Coordinator	Mary LePage	membership@usadiveclub.com
Hospitality Coordinator	Clare Anthon Julie Manhold	hospitality@usadiveclub.com
Photographer/Scrapbook	Carol Schurtz	awards@usadiveclub.com
Promotions	Linda Ianniello	promotions@usadiveclub.com
Safety Coordinator	Kurt Kohler	safety@usadiveclub.com
Mini Trip Coordinator	Ronnie Farr	minitrips@usadiveclub.com
Newsletter/Webmaster	Bob Weybrecht	newsletter@usadiveclub.com

Membership Dues - - - \$40 Yearly

[Download the Membership Packet from our website.](#)

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Comments regarding the newsletter should be sent to:
newsletter@usadiveclub.com



