



# MARTIN DIVE CLUB

## News

### July 2003



#### July Meeting

## Search and Recovery at the **NEW** Big Apple Buffet!

Our July 8th meeting will feature a presentation about underwater search and rescue, along with our NEW old meeting location. Our speaker will be Deputy Sheriff Sam Bean of the Orange County Sheriff's Office (OSCO) Marine Unit, Underwater Search and Recovery Team. He will be speaking about the OSCO Underwater Search and Recovery and Team Equipment.

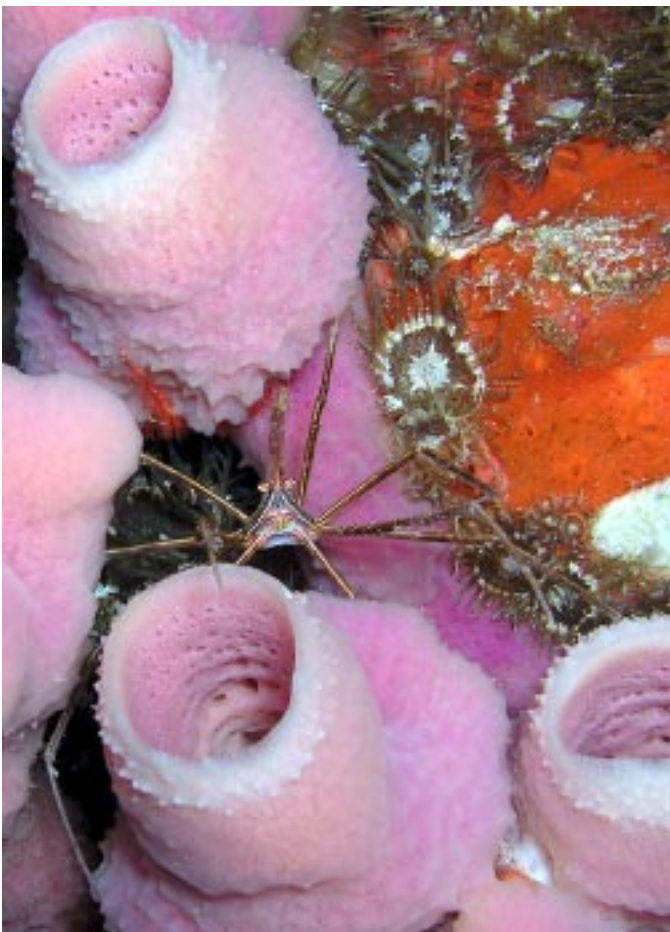
Deputy Bean has 22 years in law enforcement, 17 of which have been with OCSO (of which 14 have been with the Marine Unit and Dive Team). He is one of three OCSO Dive Team Leaders. Deputy Bean is an SSI Advanced Open Water Instructor, has been diving for over 14 years, and has logged well over 500 dives.

We'll be gathering and mingling at around 6:30 p.m., with the evening's presentation beginning at 7:00 p.m. Afterwards at about 7:30, we hold our "formal" meeting covering **CLUB** business and member trip reports, followed by door prizes and our fantastic "50-50" raffle.

#### The "NEW" Big Apple Buffet



We'll meet at the Big Apple Buffet, which is located at 198 S. Semoran Blvd (SR 436) in Orlando [phone (407) 382-7220]. It's just north of SR 408 (the East-West Expressway) on the west side of SR 436, behind the Sonic Burger drive-in restaurant. The price is \$8.99 for the regular buffet (including sushi) and \$11.49 if you want crab legs, clams, and oysters. There are tons of things on the buffet - Mongolian barbecue, Oriental, fried chicken, and Italian, along with salads and dessert!



## President's Column

Ahoy Mates!

Last month's meeting location change did not dampen a super turn-out of **CLUB** members and guests. Good food, good fellowship, and a great presentation by Don Paschal from ExtaSea Dive Center. His presentation "Making Exciting Underwater Video" hopefully stirred more interest in our potential videographers.

We are continuing to seek a volunteer(s) for Meeting Committee leader. The **CLUB** officers and directors have several ideas that we'd like to work with the lead in coordinating the presentations. Any volunteer(s), please contact any of the officers or directors. I would also like to invite the members ideas for presentations so if you have an interesting dive-related topic or a topic you'd like to know more about, please contact any of the officers or directors with this information.

We are still working on a July speaker, so for now we'll consider the presentation "in process." Hope to see you on Tuesday, July 8th, at the New Big Apple.

*Gwen Sandlin-Rolape*

## MDC Roving Reporter

Hey, here's the roving Red Sea reporter getting close with a large Napoleon Wrasse shore diving at The Temple in Sharm el Sheikh on the Sinai. He was looking for a handout, which I simulated with my "clacker".

*Mike Gracey*



## Classifieds

**Wanted:** MARES SETA dive mask. I only need the lens. If one lens is broken or the lip is split, I'll still take it. Call Phil Hampton at (407) 737-8999 or e-mail [gracphil@palmnet.net](mailto:gracphil@palmnet.net)

## Your Officers and Staff

President <b>Gwen Sandlin-Rolape</b>	(407) 306-1801	<b>Committees</b>	
Vice President <b>Al Wileden</b>	(407) 356-8954	Activity	<b>Mike McCleskey</b> (407) 273-6655
Secretary <b>Shelly Hayes</b>	(407) 275-6365	Camera	<b>Mike McCleskey</b> (407) 273-6655
Treasurer <b>Ralph Rolape</b>	(407) 306-7075	Communications	<b>Bill Paskert</b> (407) 356-2290
Director at Large <b>Marie Frank</b>	(407) 356-8256	Equipment	<b>Don Russ</b> (407) 356-1064
Board of Directors		Meetings	<b>Open</b>
<b>Dean Hayes</b>	(407) 306-3288	Membership	<b>Ralph Rolape</b> (407) 306-7075
<b>Ron Mann</b>	(407) 356-2135	Merchandise	<b>Marie Frank</b> (407) 356-8256
<b>Jim Streeter</b>	(407) 356-2337	Photo Contest	<b>George McGuire</b> (407) 677-4242
		Safety and Training	<b>Warren Musacchia</b> (407) 306-2773
		Webmaster	<b>Dean Hayes</b> (407) 306-3288

# Jupiter Dive Trip in June

On Saturday, June 7th, five **MARTIN DIVE CLUB** divers, one bubble watcher, and nine other divers who are potential dive club members enjoyed an afternoon of diving off Jupiter, Florida, with Jupiter Dive Charters. The trip featured two drift dives along a ledge with depths between 65 feet and 85 feet.



The weather that afternoon was not the best. There was a threat of rain and a wind that gave us 2- to 3-foot seas and a bit of a bouncy ride. Below the surface it was a different situation. Visibility was fair with some particulates in the water, stirred up by the stormy weather. The current along the ledge ranged from minimal to reminiscent of Cozumel. Water temperature at the bottom was about 80°F. We saw the usual assortment of South Florida reef critters: lobsters (they KNOW when it's not lobster season), turtles, a big nurse shark, filefish, queen angelfish, parrotfish, etc. One of our potential club member divers, a spear fisherman, bagged a large triggerfish that he said would be good eating.



**MARTIN DIVE CLUB** 'News'



After the dive, George and Patti McGuire, Ron Mann, Don Russ, and John Hansen treated themselves to a pleasant dinner at Jetty's restaurant. The restaurant is on the south side of Jupiter Inlet, next to the Crab House, with a view across the inlet to Jupiter lighthouse. Both Jetty's and Crab House are pleasant restaurants with good food at similar prices.



We had such a good time on the dive that we are going to do it again, on August 1st, an "off" Friday for Lockheed Martin's Sand Lake Road plant. Can you think of a better use of an "off" Friday than to spend it diving in warm salt water? Sign up now to ensure your place on the trip.

*George McGuire*

**MARTIN DIVE CLUB**  
*Afternoon Dive off Jupiter, Florida*  
*FRIDAY, August 1, 2003*



*2-tank Afternoon Dive*

*Dive boat "Temptation" - 18-passenger boat*  
*The reef off Jupiter is in about 80 feet of water*  
*Cost is \$53 per diver including tax & tip*  
*From Jupiter Dive Center, a full service dive shop with the usual assortment of rental equipment, as well as air and nitrox*



*\$20 deposit;*

*early deposits mean we can  
book the whole boat*

*Full payment due July 18th*

*Contact George McGuire*  
*9811 Lake Georgia Dr*  
*Orlando FL 32817*  
*(407) 677-4242*

*geopatmcghsd@earthlink.net*



*For pictures and other information about the dive operation, go to*  
<http://www.jupiterdivecharters.com/>



## *Experience the 25th Anniversary of Fantasy Fest*

*It's not too early to make plans for Fantasy Fest. This trip always fills up early, and due to the popularity of the weekend, we can never get additional space.*

*Capt Mike needs your deposit ASAP to hold your reservation.*

*Fantasy Fest is Key West's annual wild and whimsical Halloween street fair event. Think Mardi Gras with a Key West flair. **MDC** has been attending Fantasy Fest almost as long as we have been around. It has become tradition that **MDC** attendees carry the banner to lead the parade down Duval Street for the Saturday night main event, the Captain Morgan Fantasy Fest Parade. There are even pictures of last year's MDC crew on the Captain Morgan web site!! This year being the 25th anniversary of the event, it is expected to be bigger and better than ever. The theme is "Daze of Futures Past - 25 Years of Fantasy."*

*Check it out on the web at <http://www.fantasyfest.net>.*

***MDC's** trip includes two nights double occupancy in the scenic Sugar Loaf Lodge ([www.sugarloaf lodge.com](http://www.sugarloaf lodge.com)), beads, the annual Saturday morning "Hang-over Invitational" carpet golf championship, and picture opportunities that are guaranteed to be worth blackmail money from your friends for years to come. The trip costs \$160 per person, and an \$80 deposit holds your reservation. For more information, call Capt Mike at (407) 808-6453, or ask almost anyone at the next*

**CLUB** meeting.

*Mike McCleskey*

# Ultimate Getaway to the Dry Tortugas

As the trip from Orlando to Fort Myers started that Thursday afternoon, excitement and anticipation were the sentiments among the family. For four days we would be away from the leash of work and exchanging grins with fish seen only in the magazine articles. The Dry Tortugas was our destination; a destination never before visited.

The drive down had my mind filled with wonder of everything from the sights to having twenty divers stuffed into a 100-foot live-aboard boat. It was sure to be an experience. The preliminary weather reports had forecasted promising weather for the long weekend. The rain on the way down made me wonder just how exact of a science meteorology is. Nevertheless we continued onward. After a couple of timely naps in the truck, mostly to catch up on the sleep lost due to squeezing forty hours into three days, we arrived in Fort Myers. When we pulled into the harbor, the parking space was small, but the boat was big.



The 100-foot boat was just as advertised in the brochures. We pulled in and walked into the office to check in. We were greeted by Ms. Boat Captain (Sherry), her dog, and Arthur and Judy, who joined us for the trip from Tarpon Springs. They were an enjoyable couple that had been retired for years and spent their days doing nothing but finding great dive trips to enjoy. We registered ourselves: Ralph, Gwen, Ryan, and Scott, and for our trip we received a very nice thermal mug to use for our liquid refreshments. The office also offered souvenir T-shirts with designs of the boat and some of the dive sites on the trip. As we registered, several of the other divers began to file in. We were about an hour before departure, so we decided to unload our equipment and belongings before grabbing a bite to eat.

As we took our equipment onto the boat, the crew gladly offered a pull cart to ease the load. The first order of duty on the boat was to claim a bunk. There were two sleeping quarters on the boat, one in the rear and one in the front. The rear quarters were actually below the water level and slept twelve. The front quarters slept eight. Gwen and Ralph chose to settle in the rear quarters and Ryan and myself chose the two lone bunks in the front quarters. The front quarters were actually located through the galley and downstairs, directly underneath the anchor housing. There was a room that slept six in the front quarters and two separate bunks. Considering our height, which at least for me would pose a problem throughout the trip, our selection of bunks was the only solution. The facilities on board were small, but efficient; having a shower included in three of the rest rooms. It wasn't a luxury yacht, but for the uses we needed, it was more than enough. We staked our claim and proceeded to unload our dive equipment, sleeping bags, and necessities. The main area of the inside of the boat contained dining tables, chairs, and cushioned benches along the walls. There was room for meal presentation and condiments on the counter tops. There was a television, CD player, and DVD player for entertainment. There were also men and women's facilities at the entrance of the room. The back half of the boat was the staging area for the divers. There were four benches that would hold five divers each. There was an ice machine, fountain dispenser, and coolers containing tea and juice. There was a canopy that covered the staging area and racks and hangers for wet suits. The back of the boat contained a large dive platform equipped with two ladders. There was a seating area in the front of the boat that gave a great view.





After a small bite for supper, we all boarded the boat and waited to depart . . . and waited . . . and waited . . . and waited. There were some technical and mechanical difficulties due to the previous trip that the crew was sorting out. The 14-foot chase boat would be out of action for our trip. With the problems taken care of, the crew introduced themselves and stated their roles. The crew was an interesting mix. Rick, the captain, gave the rules of the boat and an overview of the upcoming dive potential. Nick, the first mate and dive master, was a younger guy who was also the boat's cook. His younger brother, Matt, was there to assist with dive-related issues. Jason was in charge of air refills and assisted in helping the divers back on the boat. Marco was in charge of the dive platform as well as with mechanical duties on the boat. Al, the veteran of the boat, was the general helper with whatever the guests needed. He was clear that if we had any problems with the facilities to alert him . . . and he would get one of the young guys to fix it. After the briefing, we cast off and left the harbor. In 12 hours, we would be at our destination.



The ride out was pleasant. The night was calm and somewhat clear. One by one, we all retired for the evening. The next morning, the captain had us sitting at the first dive site. Our first dive was a shallow ship wreck ship. It was a good way to start a long weekend of diving. Immediately I could tell this was unlike any other dive I had ever done. The fish were as varied as the fish charts I had gotten in the dive shop. We saw goliath grouper that dwarfed me. There were a few nurse sharks roaming around the reefs throughout the trip. We saw an abundance of colorful fish and eels. The first day of diving consisted of seven stops. I was lucky to have dived all seven that day. Each stop was a bit different than the last. The water was clear, the temperature was warm, and the current was mild. The coral structures differed from mounds to long stretches of coral. Each one contained surprises around each corner. The surf got a little rough at times, creating a rodeo of a ride to get back into the boat. The whole day had a backdrop of Loggerhead Key and Fort Jefferson. We were within a few miles of each and had a good view the entire day. The dives remained fairly shallow the first half of the day and got a little deeper towards the evening. Between dives, we were treated to snacks provided by the crew. The meals on board were surprisingly good. They were all cooked on the George Foreman Grill in the galley by Nick. The meals included barbecued chicken, smothered chicken, fried cheese sticks, shrimp, biscuits and sausage gravy, and steak on Saturday. After six dives on Friday, a few of us decided to go for a night dive. We dropped in at dusk and scoured the reef in darkness. It was my first night dive. A school of porpoises were playing around us as we went down. The nightlife was fairly active. There seemed to be more eyes poking out of the reef at night than there had been earlier in the day. As we climbed back aboard, we were greeted by the rest of the group



who had their ice cream and cookies in hand. A small price to pay for a great night dive. We took full advantage of the fresh water shower on the back of the boat, dried off, showered, and resurfaced to join the rest of the group. The ice cream was beginning to melt just a bit, but we enjoyed it and it brought a good ending to the day. As the night went on, the captain pulled us up to the fort and we anchored in still water for the night. It was a very clear and quiet night with a gentle breeze. It was very relaxing to look up at the myriad of stars, untainted by city lights. Again, one by one we all hit the sack for the night.



Saturday morning we were awakened by the captain telling us we had about 2 hours to visit Fort Jefferson before the Coast Guard kicked us out. The fort was built before the Civil War and was initially designed as a fort to protect the anchorage at Loggerhead Key, but later used as a prison. It was an interesting visit and had some good information about what went on there. After a group photo and crew photo where the words, "Show me sexy" rang out from a grassy knoll, we boarded the boat and departed for our next adventure. The first dive of the morning was supposed to be a fairly relaxing dive to start the day. Unknown to most of us, the current had really picked up and provided an interesting return to the boat. For three divers, 500 yards from the boat going against a strong current doesn't accomplish much. Thankfully, we all returned safely, gathered our heads, and strapped the tanks back on. The captain decided to make the next dive a drift dive considering the current we experienced on the previous dive. As irony would have it, the current had all but died down and there was very little drifting. Saturday's roster of dives was more of the same as the previous day. The depth of the dives had increased to around the eighty-foot mark on most dives. There were a couple of sites that had some really great ledges and swim-throughs and provided opportunities for those of us who are more daring to see how slinky we were. The Batcave, the most entertaining dive of the day, appeared twice by accident. The first time we "stopped" there, it was a mistake on the captain's part.



The mooring buoy was TER 10. We kiddingly referred to it as the "Oops" dive site, but officially christened it the **MARTIN DIVE CLUB** reef (or McOops). We would return there for the night dive. The night dive was much the same as the night before. We hit the water at dusk and continued as the light disappeared. Due to some difficulty finding the mooring line the night before, a better solution was discussed. Being the engineers that we were, we decided to illuminate the mooring line with a strobe and glow-sticks. What a great solution! The dive included many surprises, including a lobster that would feed a family. Squeezing through swim-throughs at night is a bit like stepping into the Twilight Zone. We surfaced, showered, and rejoined the rest of the group to enjoy ice cream and éclairs for the evening. After five earlier dives that day, most of us were pretty tired. Ralph and myself had dived all twelve sites up to that point.



We were five hours away from the first site of the next morning, so the captain started the engines and got moving. Apparently at some time during the night, he must have pulled the boat back into still water by the fort. The eight of us who were in the front quarters were awakened to the anchor being dropped. If you can imagine 15 seconds of being beaten in a metal garbage can, that is the sound we were hearing. You never know how good someone is sleeping until they are suddenly brought out of slumber. Some, half conscious, posed interesting questions as to what the noise was. Bright and early the next morning the captain pulled us up to the first site of the day. We would be diving our last two sites of the trip before breakfast. The first dive was the U.S. Baja California. This was a World War II ship sunk by a German U-boat. It was a true wreck. The ship sat in about 115 feet of water at its deepest point. There was a sharp thermocline around eighty feet where the temperature dropped to around 78 degrees. There were goliath grouper galore on this wreck. Some looked to be over 600 pounds. There were also many barracuda idling around. There were several schools of smaller fish that were moving in unison. It was a bit eerie knowing that the boat was sunk with men on board. It



### MDC Connections

We have a telephone voicemail account. Got a question about the **CLUB**? Want to let us know that you'll be attending a **CLUB** meeting? Just call (407) 306-5020 and leave a message!

Check out all the great dive information on our **CLUB** home page at: <http://www.martindiveclub.org>.

was a very interesting dive with a lot of big fish to see. The final dive of the trip was the L-Tower. This is a U.S. Air Force radio tower that is rooted at about 105 feet at the bottom. There was really nothing to see other than the pylons. It was a nice dive to end on and everyone in the group decided to get in. The attraction was just watching the sea life. A school of goliath grouper hovered around the bottom, with a few smaller grouper scoping us out at around 60 feet. There was a school of barracuda closely watching schools of smaller fish. It was a dive to look at the growth on the pylons and then just get buoyant and watch the show. A great end to a weekend of diving.

We all boarded the boat, cleaned off, and packed our stuff up. The boat ride in was a time to sit back and relax. We had some fun with the captain. He discussed his favorite questions asked during previous, and the current, trips. A good laugh was had by all. We returned to port, and reality, greeted by torrential rains. The crew was gracious to help us disembark and lent a hand with our bags. The office was a meeting point where several divers decided to purchase a T-shirt. The trip was over and we all parted ways. Some stayed for a little vacation, some went straight home; others decided to grab some food before heading out. It was 4 days of sun, fun, fish, and a lot of diving. The group had a great time and many talked of a return visit next year. The last question asked was, "What do you think about taking us to Fantasy Fest?"

*Scott Sandlin*



### Editor's Corner

Thanks for all your help. You've been great at getting articles to me by the 15th of the month. Please get them to me in one of the following ways:

- Call me at (407) 356-2290 and sneaker-net your text and graphics on disk to me at MP-031
- E-mail at work: [william.paskert@lmco.com](mailto:william.paskert@lmco.com); or at home: [wpaskert@cfl.rr.com](mailto:wpaskert@cfl.rr.com)
- Fax (please call before sending) at work: (407) 356-4694; or at home: (407) 678-5311.

## Safety and Training

### Asthma and Diving

Fred Bove, MD, PhD

Because of the changes in medical practice, new medications, a better understanding of the spectrum of asthma, and the growing awareness that many divers have some form of asthma and are diving safely, the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society held a workshop on diving with asthma in June of 1995. The proceedings and conclusions of the workshop have now been published, and they provide important new guidelines for managing the individual with asthma who wants to dive.

Several surveys have shown that 4-7% of active divers in the United States have asthma. Data collected by the Divers Alert Network has also shown that diving accidents are not markedly increased in individuals with asthma. The DAN data on asthma suggested that active asthmatics (someone who is short of breath and actively wheezing) may have a small increase in diving accident risk, either decompression sickness (DCS) or arterial gas embolism (AGE), but the increase is small and does not reach statistical significance. The only conclusion which can be drawn from the information is that there may be a slight increase in risk for a diver who has active asthma.

Both the DAN data and the data from a British sport diving survey failed to show a risk for pulmonary barotrauma in asthmatics. Indeed when reviewing the few cases of asthmatics who died while diving, it was apparent that failure to swim to safety on the surface was a major problem with these individuals.

The new guidelines take into account the need to have normal exercise capacity when diving. The consensus was that lung function must be normal before an asthmatic can undertake diving. If treatment results in normal lung function, the risk of a problem is eliminated, and the individual can dive. The workshop provides information on the measurements needed to determine that lung function is normal.

Obviously the asthmatic who is acutely ill, with difficulty breathing, wheezing, cough, or fever should not dive. The acute illness must be resolved and breathing function restored to normal before considering diving. Full recovery however would allow return to diving, again based on evidence that the breathing test is normal. Individuals who have permanent lung damage from long standing asthma, with chronic emphysema should not dive. It is also important to avoid smoking tobacco if you are asthmatic, as the smoke will sometimes aggravate the asthma.

*Warren Musacchia*



#### **MARTIN DIVE CLUB**

**MP-200 ESC**

609 Heron Bay Drive

Orlando FL 32825

(407) 306-5020

## Upcoming Events

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| July 8      | <b>Meeting:</b> Underwater Search and Recovery     |
| July 18-20  | <b>Venice Shark Tooth Trip:</b> Jim Streeter       |
| August 1    | <b>Jupiter Trip:</b> George McGuire, <b>FRIDAY</b> |
| August 11   | <b>Meeting:</b> TBD                                |
| August 15-7 | <b>Looe Key Trip:</b> Marie Frank                  |