



LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB

News

March 2010



March Meeting

SCUBA GEAR SALE

For our March 9 meeting, we are borrowing an idea from our sister dive club in Brevard County, the KSC Barracudas.

You are invited to bring any unused items to the meeting at Joe's Crab Shack on March 9th to sell, swap, or deal on. Need something? Place a 'Wanted' ad before the meeting and see if someone shows up with what you need. We will socialize, do some deals, and if you absolutely don't need anything, we will view some videos.



Wanted:

Dive computer, working condition, cheap!

Torey McCleskey, torey@cfl.rr.com

For Sale:

TUSA split fins, size M – ML, red and blue, ready for heavy current swimming

MX-10 Sea and Sea underwater camera (film, 35 mm)

YS-40 Sea and Sea strobe

Dive knife, also known as a dive tool

Hoods (2)

Men's 3-mil full wetsuit, size M

Al Wileden, fwileden@cfl.rr.com

See 'Gear', page 8



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



The meeting will be at Joe's Crab Shack, which is located at 4601 South Semoran Boulevard (SR 436) in Orlando [phone (407) 658-9299]. It's south of SR 408 (the East-West Expressway) on the east side of SR 436, between Pershing and Gatlin.

If you would like to let people know what you have or what you need, contact me with a 'For Sale' or 'Wanted' ad at wendy@maid4u.net. We will send out several e-mails listing the items available or wanted. Or, you can just show up to buy, sell, and swap on that night. We expect to see a lot of wetsuits (they shrink you know), tanks, fins, cameras, etc. Have anything you just want to give away? Mark it 'FREE' and bring it along. Here is a sample of what will be available:

President's Column

Hello Fellow Divers,

The **Lockheed Martin Dive Club** has started the year off with a “Giant Stride.” So far we have had some great dives complemented by good weather. The January dive found lemon sharks off the coast of Jupiter and February found ancient fossils located just 70 to 80 feet below the surface at Paradise Springs. We intend on having continued dives throughout the year that may fit your particular diving style or location so keep a look out at the activity calendar and plug one of the dives into your electronic scheduling device.

Our February meeting was all about the opportunity of living and diving in Kauai. Amanda Bryant presented a program that highlighted manta rays off the coast of Kauai, which is rare for that particular island. Water temperature may not be what it is off the East coast of Florida, but the varied marine life that inhabit the cooler waters are well worth the added neoprene. Thanks to Amanda for sharing her experiences off the coast of the only US state that did not get snow this year.

Well this month is something different. The members of the **Club** will have the opportunity to set up a garage sale at Joe's Crab Shack. Have you been wanting to get rid of those Force fins or what about that medium-sized wet suit that shrunk over the Winter? Now is your opportunity to do so. Join other members of the **Club**, and clean out that dive locker and bring out the gear that needs a good (new) home. I know someone is in the market for a “state of the art” underwater film camera. Join us at Joe's Crab Shack in March for some swapping, bartering, or just good conversation.

March also has some diving opportunities as well. Jim Kennedy is leading a Disney Epcot Dive-Quest adventure, while Nancy and I are off to see what prehistoric treasures lie at the bottom of Devil's Den. Check the schedule in the newsletter for date and price.

Until next time, see you “down under”,

Al Wileden

Meeting Chair

April 13th Meeting: SCUBA Ranger Program for Kids 8-12 – Bring your kids and grandkids!

Wendy McCleskey

Your Club Leadership

Your Club Leadership			Committee Chairs		
President	Al Wileden	407-971-8525	Activity	Jim Kennedy	352-874-3305
Vice President	Mike McCleskey	407-808-6453	Camera	Art Beaulieu	407-888-5775
Secretary	Nancy Wileden	407-971-8525	Communications	Bill Paskert	407-356-2290
Treasurer	Denise Aldridge	407-568-2060	Equipment	Bill Paskert	407-356-2290
Director at Large	Jim Kennedy	352-874-3305	Meetings	Wendy McCleskey	407-273-6655
Board of Directors			Membership	Denise Aldridge	407-568-2060
	George McGuire	407-677-4242	Merchandise	Al Wileden	407-971-8525
	Bill Paskert	407-356-2290	Safety and Training	Darrell Seale	817-308-9764
	Darrell Seale	817-308-9764	Webmaster	Stuart Gibson	352-978-4191

Lockheed Martin Dive Club 2010 Activity Schedule

Date	Event	Contact	Partici- pants	Deposit Amount	Cut-off Date	Total Cost
Jan 23	Lemon Shark Jupiter	George McGuire	8	Closed	Done	\$65
Feb 20	Paradise Spring, Belleview	Al Wileden 407-616-6270 407-616-6272	8	RSVP Feb 12	Done	\$30
Mar 12	Disney Dive Quest	Jim Kennedy 352-243-2425 jimkennedy@cfl.rr.com	12	\$95	Mar 5	\$95
Mar 20	Devil's Den, Williston	Al Wileden 407-616-6270 407-616-6272	No Limit	RSVP by Mar 12	Mar 12	\$27
Apr TBD	Ocean Fest	Bill Paskert 407-678-5311	No Limit	TBD	TBD	TBD
Apr 24 - May 1	Scuba Club Cozumel Cozumel (does not include air fare)	Marie Frank 301-548-2366 marie.s.frank@lmco.com	12	\$200	Now	\$871
May 8-15	Aqua Cat	Grace Hampton (407) 737-8999 gracphil@palmnet.net	Full	\$500	Wait list	Est \$2500
May ??	Tavernier, Marathon, Key Largo	Open		TBD	TBD	TBD
Jul 4th	Amy Slate's Key Largo	Open	10			Est \$450
Jul 10-11	Steve's Reef Ball North Miami	Ginger Ballou - KSC* cudas@mindspring.com	8	\$50	Jun 17	\$180
Jul 16-23	Hotel Cozumel Cozumel (includes food, drinks; but not air fare)	Beth Shaffer - KSC* (321) 453-6522 cudas@mindspring.com	8	\$200	Now	\$970
Jul 28	West Palm Beach	John Lawlor - KSC* cudas@mindspring.com	8	\$35	Jun 17	\$65
Jul ??	Scalloping Crystal River	Mike Gracey 407-356-5752	Open	TBD	TBD	TBD
Aug	Wrecks North Carolina	Dan Seale 8173089764	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Sep 18-15	Buddy Dive Bonaire	Max Farley - KSC* cudas@mindspring.com	16	\$200	TBD	\$1,650
Sep 18 - Oct 2	Buddy Dive Bonaire	Max Farley - KSC* cudas@mindspring.com	8	\$200	TBD	\$2,450
Oct 29-31	Fantasy Fest	Mike McCleskey 407-273-6655	20			Est \$ 220
Nov 13-14	Tampa Area Aquariums – Mote Marine & Florida	Bill Paskert 407-678-5311	12	\$45	TBD	Est \$90
Nov ??	Manatee Dive Crystal River	Mike McCleskey 407-273-6655				Est \$145
Dec ??	Holiday Party	Nancy Wileden 407-616-6272	40			Est \$30
Dec 31	New Years Eve Weeki Wachee	Al Wileden 407-616-6270 407-616-6272		TBD	TBD	TBD

Return to Cozumel

April 24 - May 1, 2010

Last Chance: Need One More



World-class diving at Scuba Club Cozumel (www.scubaclubcozumel.com): 200-foot visibility, lush coral reefs and walls, and exotic sea critters large and small. And, you'll be close enough to walk to town with many options for mainland excursions.



*The price per diver is \$871, double occupancy, and 12 divers. This covers seven nights lodging and all meals at Scuba Club Cozumel, five 2-tank boat dives, and unlimited shore dives. It does **NOT** include airfare, drinks, tips, or exit fee. Airfare is not included because there is no price benefit for doing so and there are advantages to booking flights individually.*

Deposit: \$200 - Due NOW. Make check payable to Marie Frank, and send it to her at 19007 Highstream Drive, Germantown MD 20874. Balance due: March 1, 2010.

For more information, contact Marie at (work) 301-548-2366, (cell) 321-945-4244, marie.s.frank@lmco.com.



Disney's EPCOT DiveQuest

March 12, 6:30 - 9:00 PM

Prepare for a totally unique diving experience! "The Living Seas" features a 6-million gallon aquarium. Imagine a salt-water dive with 200 feet of visibility and over 4,000 animals native to the Caribbean swimming with you in every direction. Tropical fish, sharks, sting-rays, giant green sea turtles, and plenty of coral for you to enjoy is just part of the fun. In addition to this unique scuba experience, you will actually become part of the show.



The entire volume of the aquarium is filtered approximately every 2 hours.

Duration: 2 1/2 hours with a behind-the-scenes tour and the in-water experience lasting 40 minutes

Cost: \$95 per guest (includes all gear and a limited-edition T-shirt); parking is \$14 per car

Reservation Deadline: March 5; we need 12 divers to book this trip

Payment: Due in full at time of booking; please make checks payable to Jim Kennedy

- Any questions call Jim Kennedy, (352) 874-3305 or email Jim at jimkennedy@cfl.rr.com
- Theme park admission neither required nor included for this event
- Guests ages 10 and up welcome to participate and must have a SCUBA certification, guests between 10 and 14 must to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian
- All required equipment provided, including mask, fins, tank, buoyancy compensator, regulator, weight belt, and a 2.5 mm shorty wetsuit (ONLY prescription masks can brought to use)
- Comfortable changing rooms with showers are provided

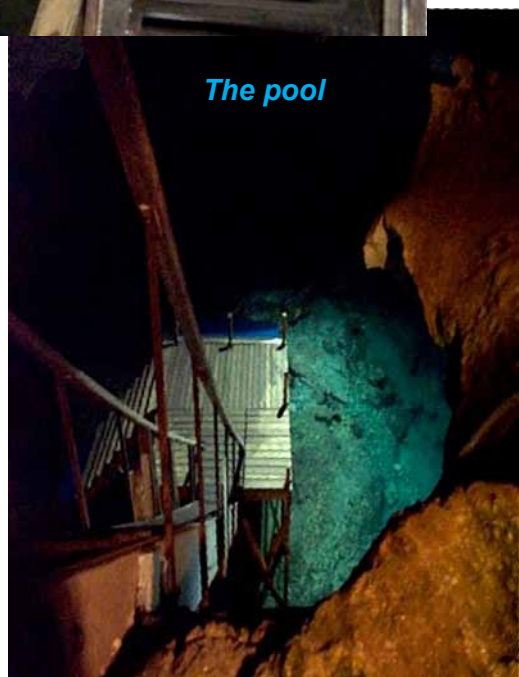


Lockheed Martin Dive Club Does Devil's Den

March 20, 2010



Stairs leading down to the pool



The pool

Devil's Den is a very interesting and fun dive to do. It is located only 2 miles West of Williston, Florida, on US 27A. Divers need only open water certification to dive the springs.

A fern draped sinkhole offers a really unique geological setting. There is a dramatic view from topside, and on chilly days in winter when fog lifts off the water down below, it does bear resemblance to its name.

The overhead opening of 40 feet opens to over 100 feet wide at water level. Gear up and with fins and camera in hand, head down the stone and wooden staircase to the pool.

Large Open Cavern

- o Equipment rentals*
- o 200 foot visibility*
- o Underwater platform at 20 feet*
- o Air fills*

o Dressing and rest room.

No deposit required for diving, but RSVP needed by March 12th.

Cost \$27 per diver (unlimited dives)

Dives will begin with a diving orientation at 9:00 am, and we'll have a picnic lunch after the dives at the Den. Lunch will include sodas. Bring your own adult beverages, if desired.

For more information, contact Al or Nancy Wileden at 407-616-6270 or 407-616-6272.

Lockheed Martin Dive Club Does Paradise Springs

What a great way to start a weekend. Eight members of the **Lockheed Martin Dive Club** and a few friends ventured just North of Belleview, Florida, to a little known dive spot called Paradise Springs. The first to arrive was Jim Kennedy who was holding our place in line as we approached the dive headquarters (house). Not far behind were the other members of the Club intent on diving this pre-historic site in search of fossils that line the walls of the cavern (or so they say). Soon to arrive was Matt Spears and our newest member of the **Club**, his son Anthony. Anthony, a senior from the University of Florida in Gainesville, had gotten up early on a Saturday to go diving with us. Welcome to Anthony. Not far behind was Mike Gracey with gear ready to go. Gary and Carol Comstock arrived shortly after with Gary's sister and husband, Linda and John Oley (non-divers) but in search of a woodsy environment.



Carol Comstock, Mike Gracey, Nancy Wileden, Jim Kennedy, Gary Comstock, Anthony Spears (new member), and Matt Spears

With all of us present and accounted for, we signed all our forms and were directed to the dive briefing which included a short video on a 10 inch TV. After the video, with no questions from the group, we proceeded to the dive site. Luckily for us, only two divers were ahead of us, so there was not too much concern about silt.

At the site, we geared up and began the short hike down to the spring pool. The opening appears to be small, but once underwater the cavern opens up on both sides allowing all of us to go in with no problems. As we checked the site, it appeared that there would be no current or surface waves to

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contend with, so as each diver got into the water the only thing that was an issue may have been the water temperature. At the dive briefing, we had been told that the water temperature was 74 degrees, which actually was what I noted on my computer.



Matt Spears, Mike Gracey, and Jim Kennedy

First in - Jim Kennedy and Mike Gracey. Others went in behind them, and Nancy and I took up the rear to make sure no one got lost on the way down. Fortunately no one lost their way, and we all managed to see Dino the Dinosaur at least. The cavern opens up at about 60 feet, and as your eyes become adjusted to the light, you begin to realize how big this is compared to some other caverns in Florida. Lights are a necessity, but if you turn them off and look back at the opening, you are welcomed by a ray of sunlight above and realize what a big part our underwater water system plays in our daily lives. Just for a moment, it is a great feeling to be part of the underwater world that makes up our source of water.



Gary Comstock, Matt Spears, and Anthony Spears

See 'Paradise', page 8



Carol Comstock, Jim Kennedy, and Nancy Wileden

OK, so now we are cold and hungry. Everyone back and accounted for, we headed off to the Ocala National Forest and a picnic lunch at an authentic log cabin. The drive became a maze as we went deeper and deeper into the forest, but fortunately everyone had a GPS. We all made it to the cabin and enjoyed a nice lunch and great conversation while we relaxed for a few minutes before we headed back to civilization.

What a great dive and thanks to all that made it possible.

Al and Nancy Wileden

Women's wetsuit, size 5, medium long

Full farmer john and jacket, custom zippers in ankles and wrists

Wendy McCleskey, wendy@maid4u.net

Aluminum 80, blue, recent hydro tested

Oceanic BCD with regulator, inflator

Art Beaulieu, art@artbphoto.com

Accessories for Nikons:

2 Strobes

Misc wide-angle and closeup slip-on lenses

Nikonos O-ring sets

Phil Hampton, gracphil@palmnet.net

Send me an e-mail with your write-up if you would like it pre-published. Send a picture of the item, or not; we're looking for low-stress fun here! We expect a fun evening of dive gear and stories. We expect we may even see some antique gear from some of our members!

If anyone knows of a local group that might like donated dive gear items, please contact me. There are several programs at foreign dive destinations, but it is hard to get gear there due to the airline weight restrictions. If there is somewhere local, we can take any leftover and/or donated items to them after the sale.

Wendy McCleskey

Meeting Coordinator



February Meeting

Diving in Kauai, Hawaii, by Amanda Bryant

At our February 9th meeting, we experienced Kauai diving with Amanda Bryant, who lived on and dove the island for over a year.



Spanish Dancer



Amanda had the opportunity to transfer with Lockheed Martin to Kauai in support of the THAAD (antiballistic missile) flight test program. It was while on this assignment that she was able to fulfill her dream of becoming a certified SCUBA diver.

LMDC 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: www.martindiveclub.org.

During a recent visit, Amanda had the unique opportunity to snorkel with 15-foot manta rays



while on a dive trip. Manta rays are RARELY seen off Kauai, so this was truly a 'once in a lifetime' experience. Other highlights of the trip were seeing a Spanish dancer nudibranch, white tip reef sharks, Hawaiian green sea turtles, and an unusual frogfish.



Orlando Sentinel, February 19, 2010

State to ban harvest of lemon sharks

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission has approved a rule to prohibit all recreational and commercial harvest of lemon sharks from Florida waters.

The commission took this action Thursday to protect lemon sharks because they have a high potential to be overharvested. The rule takes effect March 23.

Lemon sharks are often found near shore in shallow water, especially in southeast Florida. They are slow-growing and have a low reproductive potential.

- The Associated Press

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-93
- E-mail at work: william.paskert@lmco.com; or at home: wpaskert@cfl.rr.com

Photo Chairman's Report

I love EBay. The epitome of capitalism. I put the **Club's** Nikonos V underwater camera up for sale and sold it for \$227! Amazing for an old film camera.

The **Club** is down to one camera – a mediocre one at that. The board, in its enlightened leadership, has asked me to make some suitable recommendations. So I've looked, searched, read, and surfed. Here are my recommendations:



For cheap thrills: Liquid Image Scuba Series HD Dive Mask Camera:

- * 5 megapixels
- * jpeg only
- * HD video
- * Mask-mounted lights available
- * Cost: under \$300
- * Cheap and fun.



My Recommendation: Sea & Sea DX-1200HD Underwater Digital Camera and Housing Kit:

- * 12 megapixels
- * RAW and jpeg
- * HD video
- * Includes flash and case
- * Cost: \$939.

Now the bad news - I also recommend that the club charge a small fee for use of the **Club** camera. If nothing else, it will help pay for the next camera as well for any maintenance. What would you be willing to pay to use this camera for a week in Bonaire? I say \$20. What say you?

Art Beaulieu

Your Camera Chairman



LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB

MP-93

3173 Battersea Way

Winter Park FL 32792

(407) 306-5020

www.martindiveclub.org

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| March 9 | Meeting: Gear Sale |
| March 12 | Trip: Disney DiveQuest - Jim Kennedy |
| March 20 | Trip: Devil's Den - Al Wileden |
| April 13 | Meeting: SCUBA Rangers - Marta Mullen |
| Apr 24 - May 1 | Trip: Cozumel - Marie Frank |