



JULY
2006

DOWN UNDER DIVE CLUB

SINCE 1984

July's DUDC Monthly Meeting is Wednesday, June 12th @ 7:30 p.m.

Join us for our Annual Ice Cream Social!!!! There will be lots of ice cream and all the toppings for everyone. There will also be a presentation about the DUDC's June fabulous trip to Bonaire!! Don't miss this meeting and bring your appetite!



Dive Quiz by AI

Which of the following Nitrox mixtures is most commonly used by divers to stay within the recommended depth limit of 100 ft without exceeding a PO₂ of 1.4 atmospheres?

- A. EAN36
- B. EAN32
- C. EAN40
- D. All of the above.

Answer on page 6

Visitors Welcome!!!

Our monthly meetings are held every month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the

Indian River Lagoon House
3275 Dixie HWY. NE
Palm Bay, FL 32905

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Want to go Diving????

Check out the Club Calendar — we have some great dives coming up!

Board of Directors

President : Michael Wheat

Vice-President: Bob Carmichael

Treasurer: Rochelle Hood

Secretary: Laurel LeFavor

Membership: Bill Allen

Safety Officer: AI Audet

Dive Coordinator: Russell Bremmer

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Newsletter Editor: Debi Buck

Webmaster: Shannon Anderson

Concession Master: Tom Butler



DUDC Event & Activity Calendar

Event		Time	Member's Cost	Coordinator Phone # / E-mail	
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House & ICE CREAM SOCIAL		Wednesday, 7/12/2006 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
Jupiter 2 tank Night Dive Jupiter Dive Center	Average depths 70-90 ft	Saturday, 7/22/2006 @ 9am	Contact Michael Wheat for details	Michael 727-1028	Mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com
West Palm Beach Dive Pura Vida Divers	Average depths 60-85 ft	Saturday, 8/5/2006 @ 8a.m.	\$45.50 + tanks (\$5 air /\$10 nitrox)	Debi (321)728-7243	Dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 8/9/2006 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
Jupiter DIVE FEST 2006 Morning, Afternoon & Night dives		Saturday 8/19/2006	Contact Michael Wheat for details	Michael 727-1028	Mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com
West Palm Beach Dive Pura Vida Divers	Average depths 60-85 ft	Saturday, 9/9/2006 @ 8a.m.	\$45.50 + tanks (\$5 air /\$10 nitrox)	Debi (321)728-7243	Dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 9/13/2006 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Annual Key's Trip		9/23/2006	Contact Michael Wheat for details	Michael 727-1028	Mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com
West Palm Beach Dive Pura Vida Divers	Average depths 60-85 ft	Saturday, 10/7/2006 @ 8a.m.	\$45.50 + tanks (\$5 air /\$10 nitrox)	Debi (321)728-7243	Dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 10/11/2006 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
Jupiter 2 tank Night Dive Jupiter Dive Center	Average depths 70-90 ft	Saturday, 10/21/2006 @ 9am	Contact Michael Wheat for details	Michael 727-1028	Mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com

Cancellation Policy for Club Sponsored Dives: Deposits will be refunded with **2 weeks notice** of the scheduled event or with a paid replacement divers. Refunds of money paid after the 2 week cancellation period is subject to **board approval**. All requests for refunds after this period **MUST** be made in writing. Money and deposits are refunded when dives are cancelled by the Charter or DUDC.

ALL DIVES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE DIVE.
(This calendar is tentative and subject to change.)

DUDC's June 10th West Palm Beach Dive

Location: West Palm Beach, Florida

Charter: Pura Vida Divers

Date: June 10, 2006

Anyone that knows me, knows that I love diving in West Palm Beach. Everytime I go, I am excited about the prospects of what I will see that day and this day was no different . It was a little overcast, but it was just right to keep us from roasting in the Florida summer sun. As it turns out, I would have rather had the blaring sun. As we loading up on Pura Vida's boat, *Sirena*, we were told that the water temps were in the low 70's. I was praying that they were wrong, I only dive in a skin during the summer months and didn't bring a wetsuit with me. It turns out that, of course, the water was cold.



Club members joining me today on this trip was: **Keith Caldwell, Tuyet Mintz, Bob Senton, Martin Munnich, Bob Jensen and Erika Johnson.** I want to thank them for coming out and diving in such cold winter (wait . . . summer) conditions with me and being such good sports about it.

First site of the day was Paul's Reef. This is one of the farthest sites that Pura Vida will do and also my favorite. I don't get to dive this site very often, because of the distance. It takes about 45 minutes just to get there. So I have to thank Captain Dean for going out his way and taking me to my favorite dive site. After jumping into the cold water (yep, I was reading 71 for most of the dive with the occasional 69), we made our way along the beautiful ledges on Paul's Reef. Unfortunately, upwellings like this tend to affect the visibility and we only had about 30-40 feet of viz. You could see the thermoclines coming—they look kinda shimmery and mirage like, but you couldn't run from them. I learned very quickly to follow the warm spots. Lots of the normal grunts, angel-fish and trumpetfish as well as several green moray eels and a nice little hawksbill turtle that just appeared right beside me and swam with me for several minutes.



The second site was Elevator Shaft, one of the sites on Breaker's Reef. This one wasn't any warmer than the last dive,

but still a nice dive. Visibility remained about the same. No major sighting but still a very pleasant dive with the plethora of fish everywhere.

While the conditions were not ideal (I really do prefer warmer water) it was still a nice trip with great people. Upwellings, unfortunately, are a phemoneon that we have to deal with once or twice a summer. It just makes you appreciate the great conditions that we normally have in West Palm Beach.



Thanks again to all the club members that joined me for the dive. I promise to try and get warmer water ordered for the next trip. I also need to thank the captain and crew of Pura Vida divers for taking such good care of us.

D. Buck

Man, this dive sucks!

June 18, 2006 – Jupiter Dive Center
by Michael Wheat



Now I normally like to start off these trip reports by thanking everyone who joined us on the trip. But maybe this time I should start off with an apology, because this was the worst dive conditions I have ever seen :-). The lucky souls on the trip were: **Debi Buck (yes, she got lost driving to WPB), Russ Cook (DM from Pura Vida), Hank Green, Dale Purchase, Jeri Curley, Russell Bremmer, Kaytlin Bremmer (pictured left), Ed Jewel, Bill Young, Bill Kluender, Rick Halcomb, and myself.**

The upwelling that Debi had mentioned on her prior weeks club dive in WPB was still hanging around. Water temp on top of the ledge was averaging about

70 degrees. But if you were brave enough to venture down a little further to the bottom, the temperature quickly dropped. I never stayed long enough to get a good reading, but I would estimate mid 60's. To make matters worse, visibility was at best 10 feet, and that was only ON TOP of the ledge. Off the side of the ledge, you literally found bottom by smacking into it! And of course, mother nature was bouncing us around on the surface with 3-5 foot seas. Needless to say, it was a far cry from "ideal" dive conditions :-). If I had been alone on this trip, it would have been the day from hell. But having eleven dive buddies from the club along for the trip made it much better. Things never seem so bad when everyone is able to laugh and joke about the situation!

Believe it or not, there was actually a positive about the trip. It was a GREAT day to practice skills. Especially your buoyancy and buddy system. If you could stay with your buddy in this mess, you did well. Of course, we had a range of different results sets. Some people got separated within minutes while others nailed it. Oh course, I would never mention any names of the people who got separated (Debi and Russ ☺). Matter of fact, we learned that some sea life need to do a better job on their buoyancy skills. While Dale and I are swimming along, Dale feels a bump on his side and figures another diver ran into him. But no... It is free swimming Moray Eel. How is that for a wake up call ☺



It really was an "interesting" experience for the day. Now mind you, I'm in no hurry to re-live the experience. But I will say this – it sure got us exited about our Bonaire Trip! Mid 80's water temp and 100+ visibility never sounded so good ☺.

After the dive, we made our normal run over to Quarterdecks for a quick bite to eat. As always, good food – GREAT COMPANY!

President's Message

Our next club meeting is July 12th and it is always one of our more fun meetings. We don't have a formal speaker for the evening, so it is a good opportunity for us to sit around, eat ice cream, and talk about diving. So if you have a friend that has been thinking about getting involved with the club, this is a GREAT one to bring them too. Ice cream also serves as a good temptation! We will be doing a short presentation on our club Bonaire Trip. Speaking of which, was INCREDIBLE! We had some "adventure" getting down there, but I will leave that story for Bill Young to tell. Only he can do it justice :-). The diving itself was fantastic. It took me literally ONE dive to decide I was hooked. I had never seen such wonderful conditions (which was a complete 180 from our 6-18 Jupiter Dive – see report in the issue). We will have several write ups in next months issue. Many of us are still on a high from the trip and not ready to collect all of our thoughts.

It was a pretty slow month for board activity. Oh course, the fact that we were IN BONAIRE during our monthly meeting time didn't help :-). But we are all back in town safely and ready to get back to work. One thing we are working on now is updating our membership application and liability forms. A follow up action on that will be ensuring that everyone has signed the liability form.

We have some great dives coming up. At the end of this month, we have a night dive in Jupiter on the 22nd. And then August is our annual Dive Fest. This is where we run three trips in one day (morning, afternoon, and night). You can do as many or few of the trips as you like. But I suggest doing at least two. And if you are crazy like Jeri, you can do all three. I did it with her last year (peer pressure is an ugly thing) and had a blast. But I sure was beat on the way home. Matter of fact, you are pushing your O2 limits on that sixth dive if you are diving Nitrox. Ironically, I found it was the O2 build up last year that I had to monitor more then the NDL (no decompression limit) on the dives. You can safely do it, just pay attention to your gauges!

Our annual Key's trip (Sept. 23rd) is also rapidly approaching. One thing we are doing a little different this year is that we are requiring Advanced Certification, Nitrox use, and computers on the trip. The bulk of this trip is on deep wrecks, and trying to do it on air with tables just isn't worth it. So start blocking off the weekend on your calendar and keep an eye out for the dive announcement. I'll start working on all the details here shortly. And of course, don't forget our monthly WPB dive trips. Pura Vida always runs a very customer friendly dive trip and takes good care of the club.

See you down under,
Michael

June's Prize Winners

Door Prize Winners:

Jeri Curley — \$10 off a club sponsored dive
Sandy Mephram — \$5 off a club sponsored dive
Hank Green— DUDC T-shirt

*Door prizes are given away at each club meeting.
Come to the meeting and sign-in to win.*

50/50

Marcia Barnes—\$3
Kaitlyn Bremmer—\$2
Marcia Barnes—\$1

The Jackpot is up over \$208 with 25 cards left !! Come to the June Club Meeting and have a chance to win some cash!!!

Dive Planning

I recently went up to Hal Watts' Forty Fathom Grotto to become a guide, and to complete the AOW deep dive with a student. During the guide orientation dive, the instructor explained our dive profile, and off we went. We dove a multi-level profile using 34% Nitrox down to 116 feet, then we slowly ascended to 45 feet, and we finished off with a long safety stop at 15 feet. Throughout the dive, I meticulously monitored my computer to make sure I didn't go into decompression. Everything looked great according to my computer.

After the dive, I looked at the dive on my computer, and I realized how long the dive was: 38 minutes. So, I tried using my computer to plan my next dive to 100 feet for 10 minutes. The computer kept telling me I was OK, but my experience kept telling me there's no way I could make a dive for any length of time to 100 feet. So, to be safe I drug out my surface interval (3 hours) until I felt I was OK to dive again.

When I got home, I downloaded my computer into my laptop and took a close look at my dive profile. I was down to 116 feet for only 9 minutes. We ascended to 45 feet for 19 minutes, and completed an 8 minute safety stop. So, I took out a tool that I only use to teach divemasters—the wheel. According to the wheel using air, I needed an hour surface interval to dive the 10 minute/100 foot profile. Since I was diving 34% Nitrox, I was ready to dive my profile, and my computer was correct. Whew!

We frequently dive according to the divemaster's profile. How often do we double check the profile we're briefed? I know I only check my tables when the divemaster briefs something that doesn't sound correct. Plus, I rely on my computer to keep me out of trouble. Did the Hal Watts' instructor take me on a safe dive profile? Yes, but he didn't know I had 3 more dives planned for that day. So, I had to be conservative.

What did I learn? I learned the importance of being able to calculate a multi-level dive without a computer. Yes, my computer was correct, but I would have had peace of mind if I would have had my wheel to calculate a multi-level dive. I'll definitely have it with me next time.

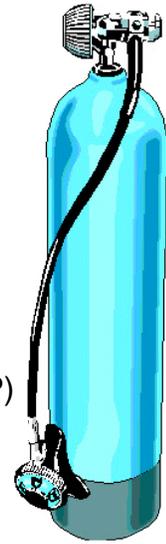
A. Audet

Answer to Dive Quiz:

Answer: B.

Congratulations!!!!

New Certification(s)



- **Debi Buck** - DAN Diving Emergency Management Provider (DEMP)
- **Tim Dempsey** - DAN Diving Emergency Management Provider (DEMP)
- **Al Audet** - DAN Dive Emergency Specialist (DES)
- **Tim Dempsey** - DAN Dive Emergency Specialist (DES)
- **Debi Buck** - DAN Dive Emergency Specialist (DES)
- **Heather Barnes** - SSI Enriched Air Nitrox (EAN)

Congratulations to Al Audet, Debi Buck, and Tim Dempsey for achieving DAN's Diving Emergency Specialist (DES) rating. This is a training recognition program designed to commend divers who have continued their education and training to obtain knowledge and be both better buddies and better divers. In order to achieve this rating, they had to complete the following courses:

- Oxygen First Aid for SCUBA Diving Injuries
- Advanced Oxygen First Aid for SCUBA Diving Injuries
- First Aid for Hazardous Marine Life Injuries
- AEDs for SCUBA Diving

They also had to be certified in CPR/First Aid and obtained the Rescue Diver (or higher) certification.

Have a recent certification?? Let us know by sending an e-mail to dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com and I'll put it in the newsletter.