



March
2007

Down Under Dive Club

Since 1984

March's DUDC Monthly Meeting is Wednesday, March 14th @ 7:30 p.m.

Due to a scheduling conflict the program for Mar is undecided for the March meeting and we may just listen to the political debates preceding our election of Club officers for the next CY (Club Year)!! However, for April we expect to have the recovery team from Kennedy Space Center talk about the Solid Rocket Booster recovery process. They make an interesting presentation as some of the club "old-timers" will remember from about 4-5 years ago. They were talking then about some changes in gear and techniques for the in-water portion of the process. It will be interesting to see how those have gone or if they have.

Also on the horizon is a program from the Harbor Branch Institute. They have a number of programs that will interest and involve diving and the underwater environment.

If you have any suggestions for future programs don't hesitate to forward them to the Board.

It's that time again — our annual election of the Board of Director's is upon us. This year's nominee's are:

President – Michael Wheat
Vice President – Rochelle Hood
Membership – Bill Allen
Treasure – Bob Carmichael
Safety – Dale Purchase
Dive Coordinator – Tom Croonquist
Secretary – John Dockendorf.

Come to the March meeting and cast your vote!!!

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Visitors Welcome!!!

Our monthly meetings are held every month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the

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



DUDC Event & Activity Calendar

Event		Time	Member's Cost	Coordinator Phone # / E-mail	
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 3/14/2007 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
Jupiter Club Dive		Saturday, 3/24/2007 @ 9 am	\$50 pp + tanks	Michael Wheat	michael@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Board Meeting		Tuesday, 3/27/2007 @ 7 pm			info@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 4/11/2007 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Board Meeting		Tuesday, 4.24/2007 @ 7 pm			info@downunderdiveclub.com
Pompano Club Dive		Saturday, 4/28/2007 @ 9 am	\$45 pp + tanks	Michael Wheat	michael@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 5/9/2007 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@downunderdiveclub.com
Jupiter Club Dive		Saturday, 5/19/2007 @ 9 am	\$50 pp + tanks	Michael Wheat	michael@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Board Meeting		Tuesday, 5/22/2007 @ 7 pm			info@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 6/13/2007 @ 7:30 p.m	Free	Bill Allen	info@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.)

President's Message – March 2007

WOW! The fiscal year for your 2006 board has just flown by us. I can't believe it is already time for elections again. I would like to take a moment and share some of our accomplishments this year and give my personal thanks to the 2006-07 board! **Bob Carmichael** (Vice President), **Bill Allen** (Membership), **Rochelle Hood** (Treasure), **Laurel LeFavor** (Secretary), **Dale Purchase** (Safety), **Russell Bremmer** (Dive Coordinator), and **Debi Buck** (Past President) have been nothing but professional and a true pleasure to work with. Next time you see them, please take a moment to thank them for all of their efforts. The time and energy they put into the club make us the successful and growing club that we are.

Just to name a few of the many accomplishments for this year. Our first goal of the year was to get our finances in order. In prior years, we had started to have higher expenditures than income and our invoicing process had become error prone. The first thing we did was to establish a budget for the club. The second step was our financial records. We corrected our prior year's books and created a new set of books for the club. As part of this, we created a much more simplified accounting structure. This has led to better reporting and less errors on our invoices. As a result of our belt tightening in our finances, we do not have to raise dues this year! We still have some work to do in this area, but we are well underway!

The board also spent a great deal of time on evaluating our communication methods. The two primary projects that came out of that analysis was the decision to upgrade the web site and also redo our membership and liability forms. As you can see if you visit our club web site (www.downunderdiveclub.com), we have completed the roll out and we hope that you will find it easier to get information from and also easier to stay informed about the club and our activities.

Over the last two months, the board has spent a lot of time and energy updating both our membership and liability forms. One of the things that became evident early this year was that we needed to consolidate our forms. We actually had several versions of the forms floating around out there. We also discovered that we did not have many of the completed forms for our current members on file. So we took this as an opportunity to update both forms and rebuild our membership database. A special thanks to Bill Allen for pulling this effort together the last few months! We will be rolling this out as part of our renewal drive in March and April. This is going to be an invaluable tool as we move forward. Bill Allen is already working on ideas for a membership directory that we could share with all members!

One of the things I am most excited about has been the growth of the club over the last year. We have had a record year for dive trip opportunities and the number of divers who signed up for trips. We have also seen an impressive 10-15% jump in membership and the number of people at the monthly meetings!

As you can see, we have had an exciting year and I believe the best still lies ahead of us!

See you down under!

Michael Wheat

michael@downunderdiveclub.com

About the Down Under Dive Club

The Down Under Dive Club is located in Melbourne on the sunny east central coast of Florida. Formed in 1984 by a group of enthusiastic divers, DUDC currently has about 100 members. Our mission is to promote safe, organized dive events, provide a social setting comfortable to everyone, and encourage environmental responsibility among the diving community. Our past dives have covered the Atlantic ocean, from Georgia to Bonaire. We organize all types of dives: drift dives, wreck dives, shore dives, live-aboards, spring dives, and even shark dives! Our members include a diverse group of divers. There are men, women and kids, ages from 11 to 65+ with all certification levels from new Open Water divers to Instructors.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Indian River Lagoon House, Located just south of University Blvd. on US1 in Melbourne. Door prizes are awarded each month and we book a fascinating assortment of guest speakers. We invite everyone interested in SCUBA diving to stop by for some stimulating conversation, meet our group, and have some fun! If you have any questions, you can E-mail us at info@downunderdiveclub.com

Board of Directors

President :	Michael Wheat	michael@downunderdiveclub.com
Vice-President:	Bob Carmichael	bcarmichael@downunderdiveclub.com
Treasurer:	Rochelle Hood	rhood@downunderdiveclub.com
Secretary:	Laurel LeFavor	laurel@downunderdiveclub.com
Membership:	Bill Allen	ballen@downunderdiveclub.com
Safety Officer:	Dale Purchase	dpurchase@downunderdiveclub.com
Dive Coordinator:	Russell Bremmer	rbremmer@downunderdiveclub.com

MEMBERS AT

Newsletter Editor:	Debi Buck	dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com
Concession Master:	Tom Butler	tbutler@downunderdiveclub.com