



DOWN UNDER DIVE CLUB

NOVEMBER

2008

SINCE 1984

DUDC Monthly Meeting is Wednesday, November 12th @ 7:00

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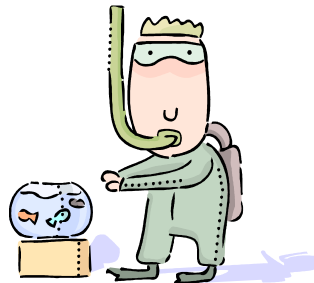
Topic: Diver Safety It's All About the Details

The subject of Dive Safety includes many topical areas critically important to enjoyment of the sport. Each area could easily provide enough content to be a stand-alone presentation.

This overview of Dive Safety topics will

be presented, touching on each of the following:

- ◆ The buddy system
- ◆ Self awareness
- ◆ Safety equipment
- ◆ Overhead environments
- ◆ Marine life
- ◆ Water and air temperature
- ◆ Sea conditions considerations
- ◆ Decompression and no decompression diving
- ◆ The use of dive computers
- ◆ Keeping yourself fit
- ◆ Air versus NITROX use

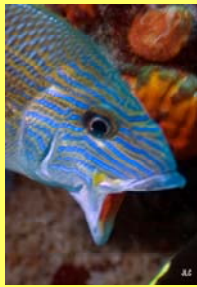


In addition, a show-n-tell of proper use of safety gear, will accompany the November club meeting presentation. Bring your questions about Dive Safety, for the Q&A at the end.

BIO: Dale Purchase has been actively diving since 1958, logging over 4200 dives. He has been a dive instructor with SSI-YMCA as well as a cave instructor with NSSCDS. Active in underwater photography since 1964, Dale has spent lots of time exploring and documenting ship wrecks in the Great Lakes while living in Michigan. Since moving to Florida six years ago, most of his diving has been offshore Florida as well as numerous Caribbean locations. He has a passion for helping others enjoy the sport of SCUBA diving safely.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:

- Tom Tremblay: Finger Reel
- Mike Walsh: Scuba Tool
- David Slonim: Dry Box
- Marvin Mardock: Zipper Care



DUDC Event & Activity Calendar

Event	Time	Member's Cost	Coordinator Phone # / E-mail	
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House	Wednesday, 11/12/08 @ 7:00 p.m.	Free	Bill Allen	ballen@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Board Meeting **Meeting place TBD	Monday 11/24/08 @ 7 p.m.	Free		Contact any Board Member to Attend
DUDC Christmas Party	Wednesday, 12/10/08 @ 7 p.m.	Pot Luck Sides	John Dockendorf	jdockendorf@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. NON-MEMBERS ADD \$5.

(This calendar is tentative and subject to change.)



Photo by Jeri L. Curley

Moorish Idol

The Moorish Idol (*Zanclus cornutus*) is indigenous to the Indo-Pacific. This fish is one of the most sought after aquarium fish because of its unique shape and bright colors. It is also the most difficult to keep alive in captivity. This Moorish Idol has made a home on Paul's Reef, south of the Lake Worth

Inlet. He is sometimes very shy. I am told that at other times he appears to be hamming it up for the camera. He was in a shy mood when I encountered him. This is the only non-butt shot. —Jeri Curley

November is a time for giving thanks and celebrating traditions. I would like to extend my personal thanks to several members of our club. First, I'd like to thank the Board members for their efforts to continuously strive to find ways to give back to our members. From maintaining our web site, tracking the 50/50,



shopping for door prizes, running our Quick-Books to seeking out interesting speakers and exciting new dive sites, the Board keeps the club running. They give their time, talents and support to ensure we have a fun and growing organization.

I would also like to give special thanks to Jeri Curley for taking on three roles this year. She has served as Secretary on the Board, our newsletter editor/publisher and concessionaire. One job is big enough, much less three. Jeri has been a long term member and has given back to the club in many ways and has served in numerous roles over the years.

Other special thanks go out to Dianne Bryant. Dianne is normally one of the first members to arrive each month and she immediately asks, "How can I help?" She jumps into action, unfolding chairs, carrying in boxes, setting up food and laying out tablecloths. Thank you to all the members who have recommended our club and brought guests to share the experience of what our group has to offer. These efforts help our club continue to thrive, grow and bring new ideas, experiences and diving friends to enjoy.

During our November meeting, I'd like to challenge each of you engage in an old holiday tradition I cherished with a dear friend from Nebraska. We'd take time at our Orphan dinner (singles without family in town) to tell each of attendee why we were thankful for the gift of their friendship. Please reflect on some diving memories and friendships you've developed from our club and take the time to share your thanks.



Dive Safe, Dive Often!!!

Dive Safe, Dive Often!!!

Rochelle



DUDC Fall Picnic



Photo by Jeri L. Curley

Saturday, October 25th, the annual Down Under Dive Club picnic was held at the Sebastian Inlet State Park, pavilion area. While the day started out partly cloudy, the morning forecast was for 60% chance of rain. The possibility of seeing water wouldn't stop the hearty diver from a picnic, especially when a covered pavilion and the possibility of good food are offered.

Starting late morning, just about time the grill was ready for tube steaks and burgers, members and their significant others started

arriving. Surprisingly, everything came together such that most everyone was able to sit down and eat together. Since the pavilion had the best view of the inlet, we enjoyed watching the fisherman from the shore. Jet Skis zipping about and fishing boats heading in or out of the inlet. About the time lunch was finished, in blew a rainstorm for about 30 minutes. While it looked bad, we could see the worst was north of us towards Melbourne and south towards Vero Beach. After the rain passed, like any other typical Florida afternoon shower, skies cleared and activities resumed.

Given the season, one might have thought that politics would be

the topic of choice. Not a chance. Other important topics such as what's the latest in underwater photography equipment, when was the last time you were diving, how was the diving on the club Keys trip in September and who's going diving in the next week were just a few of the conversations I remember.

While everyone was encouraged to bring their toys, including games, kayaks, fishing pole, etc., everyone was apparently more interested in food and good conversation.

Did I mention that Bill cooked some awesome hamburgers? Or how about that freshly homemade guacamole we enjoyed? Fortunately, good food and common interests was all it took. See you at the picnic next year.

John Dockendorf.



Photo by Jeri L. Curley



Photo by Jeri L. Curley



Photo by Jeri L. Curley

A Vision of My World



Photo by Jeri L. Curley

I squint my eyes against the bright white of a thousand tiny suns reflecting off the rolling waves. I breathe deeply of the salt filled air and smile. It's a secret smile meant only for the sun and water and my soul. This is where I belong; this is where I live. I check my gear once again as the boat slides down the trough of a large wave. It's a bit rough today, but the water calls to me as nothing else could. I look around the boat at my dive buddies. I see my own passion reflected in their eyes. For those few of us, diving is Life and everything else is just a surface interval with annoying forays into work.

We have new divers on board. Apprehension fills their wide eyes. But excitement and anticipation win the day as they prepare to jump into my world. Oh, to see the reef through their eyes...everything new...everything unexpected. Sigh...

I ready my camera and don my gear. I stand on the back of the boat waiting for the signal. I run through my "what if" list. What if my buddy runs out of air? What if my equipment malfunctions? What if we get separated from the flag?

My camera begins to feel heavy and I shift hands. A large wave rocks the boat and someone nearly falls. I hear the boat crew call out "Set us up, Captain!" My heart skips—"A hammerhead today or maybe the elusive whale shark."



Photo by Jeri L. Curley



Photo by Jeri L. Curley

Finally, the call comes down—"Dive, Dive, Dive." I fall back into the water and it flows across my face and down my wet suit. Brrr. I close my eyes and embrace the sensation for a second.

With my buddy beside me, I vent the air from my BC and descend. I feel the pressure change immediately. I'm entering an alien world that can either enchant or destroy me. It's a world that abhors complacency; a world that punishes mistakes. It's a world filled with alien creatures, so vastly different from me. It's a cold world where only the strong survive.

I look for that dark line along the horizon that marks the reef. I check the settings on my camera and wait for that first glimpse of the reef. Today will be a macro day. The sponges are spawning and little bits of life fill the water column. It's going to be a great dive.

There it is! I pop down over the ledge. I'm not disappointed. I'm never disappointed. There is always something cool to see and photograph. This is my world. Welcome to it! —Jeri L. Curley

\$\$\$\$\$ Cleaning House \$\$\$\$\$

Bring your cash to the November meeting. We'll be having a DUDC logo item sale with dirt cheap prices for our remaining items. Most of the items remaining are t-shirts in odd sizes (more smaller sizes) or colors. We'd rather sell all the items off for garage sale prices, than keep storing and moving them around. Please bring cash and come ready to shop.

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 7:00 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 :	Rochelle Hood	rhood@downunderdiveclub.com
Vice President:	John Dockendorf	jdockendorf@downunderdiveclub.com
Treasurer	Bob Carmichael	bcarmichael@downunderdiveclub.com
Secretary:	Jeri L. Curley	jcurley@downunderdiveclub.com
Membership:	Bill Allen	ballen@downunderdiveclub.com
Safety Officer:	Dale Purchase	dpurchase@downunderdiveclub.com
Dive Coordinator:	Tom Croonquist	tjcroonquist@downunderdiveclub.com