



DOWN UNDER DIVE CLUB

JUNE 2005

SINCE 1984

The June DUDC Meeting is Wednesday, June 8th @ 7:30 p.m.

We have another great presentation scheduled for this month's meeting. Our speaker will be Brian Hunter. Brian Hunter has been diving since 1977. He originates from Texas but you cannot catch that in his dialect, after serving fifteen years in the military his speech has become all-American. Brian served as a military diver. He obtained admission in the British Sub Aqua after six months of training. A far cry from our American version of dive lessons. He has been rated a dive Leader, our version of a dive master per his training.

He has done the majority of his wreck dives in the North Sea. The North Sea temperatures range 55 degrees. His diving experience obviously is deep and cold. He has artifacts from a 200 year old 3 Masthead Sailing barge, \. He also has dove off Normandy beach and has a helmet from that particular dive. He does not bring any artifacts such as bullets, as his job was disarmament... and does not feel that is a proper public safety message. Brian is the only diver in his family, but his wife is his "boat buddy". He works for Porsche-Audi of General Motors.

Last Month's Open House was a great success!. Thanks to everyone who chipped in an helped make it happen. This club is where it is today because of the great people that we have in the club.

D. Buck

Jim Stewart was one of our most fascinating speakers... His experiences of wreck diving enthralled our group. Add that together with the visual artifacts he was kind enough to bring... just amazing. To think, we have a man in our town that has dove down into the Andrea Doria brought up some remarkable items and lived to tell the story. That is a case in point, he did give very good advice to would be wreck divers... and those who heard of his near fatal accidents must agree. That before you embark on that particular type of diving... Become fully trained and have some very close dive buddies.



K. Uhland

Table of Contents

Open House	Page 1
DUDC Dive & Event Calendar	Page 2
West Palm Beach 5/14 Trip Report	Page 3
5/21 3 tank trip Report	Page 4
Community Dives Activities & Announcements	Page 5
BCD Maintenance	Page 6
May Raffle, Door Prize & 50/50 winners	Page 6
May 28 Night Dive Trip Report	Page 7
Answer to Dive Quiz	Page 8
Peak Diving Season & Summer Diving Events	Page 9



Board of Directors

President & DUDC Newsletter Editor:	Debi Buck
Vice-President:	Kelly Uhland
Treasurer:	Ed Given
Secretary:	Laurel LeFavor
Membership:	Marty Munnich
Safety Officer:	Al Audet
Dive Coordinator:	Michael Wheat
Members At Large:	
Webmaster:	Shannon Anderson
Concession Master:	Tom Butler

DUDC DIVE & EVENT CALENDAR

Event		Time	Member's Cost		Coordinator Phone # / E-mail	
			Tier 1	Tier 2		
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 6/8/05 @ 7:30 p.m.	Free		Martin 253-4713	info@downunderdiveclub.com
DIVE FEST Jupiter Dive Center 5 dive trips—3 days <i>6/17—3 tank dive</i> <i>6/18— a.m. & p.m. 2 tanks dives</i> <i>6/19—am 2 tank dive</i>	Average depths - 70-90ft	June 17th-19th	3 tank trip— \$65 + tanks 2 tank trips— \$35 + tanks	3 tank trip—\$75 + tanks 2 tank trips—\$45 + tanks	Michael (321) 727-1028	Mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Board of Director's Meeting		Tuesday, 6/21/2005 @ 7 p.m.	Free - open to all members	Free - open to all members		Contact Any Board Member to Attend
West Palm Beach Dive Pura Vida Divers	Average depths - 60-90 ft	Saturday, 6/25/2005 @ 8:30 a.m.**	\$42 + tanks	\$47 + tanks	Debi 728-7243	dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com
4th of July Night Dive	Average depths - 70-90ft	TBD	TBD	TBD	Michael (321) 727-1028	Mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com
DUDC Club Meeting Indian River Lagoon House		Wednesday, 7/13/05 @ 7:30 p.m.	Free	Free	Martin 253-4713	info@downunderdiveclub.com
West Palm Beach Dive Pura Vida Divers	Shallow profile requested ~60ft	Saturday, 7/16/2005 @ 8:30 a.m.**	\$42 + tanks	\$47 + tanks	Russell Bremmer 698-1278	
Aquacat Bahamas trip 7/23/05 through 7/30/2005			Sold out			
West Palm Beach Dive Pura Vida Divers	Average depths - 60-90 ft	Saturday, 7/30/2005 @ 8:30 a.m.**	\$42 + tanks	\$47 + tanks	Debi 728-7243	dbuck@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.)

You can pay for your Club dives, membership fees and merchandise with your credit card. For more details, talk to the dive coordinator or call Ed Given at 255-5587.



5/14 Pura Vida/WPB Dive Trip Report

Location: West Palm Beach, Florida
Charter Boat: Pura Vida Divers
Date: May 14, 2005



May brings the typical start of the summer diving season and this month is not any different. The day started with sunny skies and flat seas. DUDC divers today included: Laurel LeFavor, Shannon Anderson, Al Audet, Bob Carmichael, Russell Bremmer, Bill Allen, Michael Walsch, Gary and myself.

Since several of our divers were doing their advanced open water checkout dives, our first stop of the day was North Double Ledges with a maximum depth of ~ 90 ft. A Great dive with lots of ledges to look under for critters. Lobsters were abundant, several of them very large (guess they know when the season is). Visibility was around 50 ft. Water temps were 79-80 degrees depending on whose computer you were looking at.

Second site of the morning was 4th Window, a great reef off of Breakers Hotel. The advanced students were doing their fish id specialty on this dive. This was great site for that since this reef is always replete with a large variety of marine life. We saw everything from flamingo tongues to numerous varieties of grunts, tomtates, porkfish, and a green moray eel. An absolute great dive that, of course, ended all too soon.

Congratulations to the new AOW divers in the club: Laurel LeFavor, Shannon Anderson & Russell Bremmer.



D. Buck

**To see photos of this dive and previous trips go to: <http://www.downunderdiveclub.com/photoalbum/>



Dive Quiz by Al:

The primary first aid for decompression illness (DCI) is:

- A. to elevate the patient's legs.
- B. to have the patient return to the water for recompression
- C. to administer oxygen.
- D. All of the above.

Answer on page 8

May 21 – DUDC Private 3 Tank Charter

For the second straight year, we kicked off the beginning of prime diving season with a 3 tank private charter. For those of you that did this trip in the past or joined us this year, you know this is always a GREAT experience. There is nothing like having the entire boat just to your group and going where you want to go. For this year's trip, we headed out with Jupiter Dive Center.



Special thanks go out to **Tom Butler, Sandy and Tom Mephram, Steve and Faun Leachman, Dale Purchase, Steven Ray, Russell Bremmer, and Bob Jensen** who joined the club for the adventure!

Tom and I had headed down that morning to get a quick two tank dive in before the club dive. We were rewarded with INCREDIBLE dive conditions. Weather was beautiful outside, seas were flat, and the viz was the best I had seen in a LONG time. Even from 90 feet you could look up and see the boat on the surface.

Once we got back to dock we were all excited to be heading out in such pristine conditions. Although we did find that once we got back out the visibility was already starting to decline. For the afternoon we probably only averaged 50-60 feet. Normally I would kill for that kind of viz, but after the morning trip I must admit I was a little disappointed. But out least the seas were still flat and the weather was perfect.

We headed over to Area 51 for the first dive. We didn't see any little Martain people running around. But I am reminded that they do use their clocking system from time to time. Matter of fact, I was wondering where all the Black tip sharks were that I always see on this site. I keep scanning the ledge and out into the sand to check for signs. But after that fruitless endeavor, I headed up to the top of the ledge. Ahhhh... there is Dale off in the distance on top of the ledge taking pictures. What does he see??? Why of course, 3 Black tips swimming. Two were in front of him posing for pictures while a third was hiding off to the side trying to get his makeup JUST RIGHT. I also usually see lots of Jew fish on this site, but this time only one. He was a small one and was dancing along the bottom of the ledge looking for a place to hide.

About midway through the dive, I guess our friend Tom got a little tired from all the diving that day. As he found a white patio chair off to the side of the ledge. Dale Purchase was kind of enough to take a picture of the incriminating evidence. As if drift diving isn't lazy enough - Tom figured out a way to do it sitting down :-)



For the second dive we had a change of plans. We were going to do another 90 foot reef called Captain Mike's. But as a group we decided to change our profile and do something a little shallower. So we headed over to a dive site called Loggerhead. You just have to love the flexibility of private charters! During the dive briefing, the Dive Master talked about the site being good for shells. So we spent a lot of the early dive off in the sand looking for them. I know Steve Leachman found a couple, but it looked like in general the site had been picked over pretty good. This also made us miss a good portion of the reef. And that was a **MISTAKE**. We had done this site on the morning trip and spent the entire time on the reef. This is a beautiful site when done right. I love doing Breakers in WPB, but this site blows it away. I've spent so much of my diving in Jupiter enjoying the deep HUGE ledges that I have been missing this site and others like it. What a mistake. The variety of coral and marine life here is amazing. I know I found one large boulder (probably 10 feet by 10 feet) that was just slightly off the main ledge. I could have spent my entire dive right there and been happy. I'm still doing research trying to figure out half of the new species I saw. I've got to get a digital camera!!!! Either that, or maybe Debi will let me borrow her new fancy camera for club dive trips J Come on Madam Prez – it is for the club :)

For our third and final dive we headed over to one of my favorite sites – Tunnels.

The highlight of this site is always the first 5-10 minutes. You drop off in the sand and drift into the beginning of the ledge. If you like large critters (i.e., Sharks and Jew Fish), right there is usually some of the best 5-10 minutes of diving in the area. And today was no disappointment - as soon as we hit the tunnel there were even MORE sharks than normal. There had to be at least 6-8 black tips swimming around in CLOSE proximity. I tried to swim through the tunnel, but saw a shark coming through the opposite direction. Let's just say I gave him the right of way and swam OVER the tunnel. On the other side there were several Jew fish and HUGE schools of grunts. I swear, one of this days I am just going to spend my ENTIRE dive at this site. Although, I am glad I didn't on this dive. All along the dive we were seeing large turtles. Mostly loggerhead, but Tom also mentioned that he saw a Green Turtle. I'm told this is VERY rare for this area.



Afterwards we thanked the crew of Jupiter Dive Center for taking such wonderful care of us and showing us a GREAT time. We then headed over to RJ Gators for one of the best parts of club dive trips – sitting around a table with good friends, good food, and GREAT stories!

M. Wheat

COMMUNITY DIVES , ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC.

10% Discount for DUDC Members with Pura Vida Divers.

Pura Vida Divers in Singer Island is offering a discount for all DUDC members. Pura Vida offers daily scuba diving charters, instruction, open water referrals, dive vacation packages, and scuba diving and snorkeling equipment sales, service, and rentals as well as enriched air (nitrox) and air fills. Contact Pura Vida Divers at (888) DIVE WPB (348-3972) or e-mail at info@puravidadivers.com. Check out the website: www.puravidadivers.com

Hatt's Diving Headquarters offers a 10% discount for DUDC members. Stop by the shop at 2006 S. Front Street Melbourne, FL. (321) 723-5932 and ask for details.

Discount for DUDC Members from Narcosis Dive Charters. Mention that you are from the Down Under Dive Club (and pay in cash), and you can get the club rate of \$45/pp on your personal dives. Check out their website at <http://www.narcosisdivecharters.com/>

HELP WANTED: Sea Level Scuba in Melbourne.

Sales help — Must have some dive experience and friendly. Someone who would like to dive and travel with the store. Hours need to be flexible 25-40 hours available. Would like someone willing to grow with them and learn the entire business. Also looking for dive instructors. Contact Sea Level Scuba at (321) 255-1825 or stop by the store and pick up an application.

Aqualung BCD—sz Lrg

Like new condition and has only 20-30 dives on it. This BC won the 2003 Rodales award for best entry level BCD. The jacket style Maverick BCD is a fully weight integrated system. Paid over \$300 for it brand new. Willing to sell it to a good home for \$199. If you are interested or have any questions , please call Michael Wheat @ 543-7758

If you have a dive trip or other activity (cleanup, daytrips, etc.) or other information that you would like to announce to the club members, send an e-mail to dbuck@downunderdiveclub.com with all the pertinent details and it will be put in the next newsletter.

Congratulations!!!!

to Kaytlin Bremmer, Russell Bremmer's 11 year old daughter, for winning the AWARE Kids Art Contest with her meticulous representation of a tropical underwater environment.

For more information go to:

<http://www.projectaware.org/kids/html/artcontest.asp>



BCD Maintenance

One piece of equipment we trust with our life, but we frequently forget to maintain is our Buoyancy Control Device (BCD). What can go wrong with it? It's nothing but an air bag. With proper maintenance at the end of every dive and an annual servicing at your local dive shop, you're BCD will last you a long time.



A good washing at the end of every dive is the most important thing you can do.

Salt and sand can get into a lot of areas in your BCD that can cause you problems later on. First of all, you want to really flush out your power inflator. Salt and sand can cause your power inflator to stick, and that's the one of the last things you want to happen to you during a dive. Fill your bladder with fresh water, and rinse it out. It's not only important to flush your bladder after a salt water dive, but you should definitely flush it out after a fresh water dive. Fresh water has more undesirable critters floating in it. Also, when you're flushing your BCD, drain water through all the dumps including the oral inflator. This will flush out any sand/salt that could cause an undesirable leak.

An annual servicing is also a good idea. You want to make sure your power inflator is serviced regularly. Also, the corrugated hose will dry rot on you. If you stretch it out and look between the ridges, you might find cracks in it. I've had two of them fail on me, and fortunately I was in the pool each time. Can you imagine what would have happened if I was in the middle of the ocean during one of those long waits for the boat?

One skill you should practice is disconnecting your low pressure inflator hose. If your inflator ever gets stuck, you'll know how to quickly disconnect it. Another good thing to remember is your deflator lets air out faster than your inflator can let in. So, if your inflator does stick, depress your low pressure inflator and disconnect the hose.

A. Audet

May's Prize Winners

Congratulations to the winners of our Raffle:

- Jeri Curley & Dermot Quinn both won a two tank dive with Pura Vida Divers.
- Ed Given won a book on the locations and history of the shipwrecks of Florida.

Door Prize Winners:

Fred Gynan—Anti-fog

Mike Walsch—Light

Kenneth Daub — Electronic EDRP

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

50/50 Winner(s):

\$3— Bob Hummel

\$2— Dermot Quinn

\$1 — Chris Kiley

NO JACKPOT WINNER—

\$\$ ROLLS OVER TO MAY!!! The Jackpot is up to \$175 with only 19 cards left, the odds are getting better that someone will be \$175+ richer soon!!!

May 28 – Jeri Curley 29 and a half Birthday NIGHT DIVE

Jeri was kind enough to allow the club to celebrate her birthday with her. And what better way to spend a birthday for a diver then with other divers underwater!

Special thanks go out to **Laurel LeFavor, Shannon Anderson, Al and Jack Audet, Keith Caldwell, Tuyet Mintz, Bill Allen, and of course the birthday girl herself – Jeri Curley.**

Our first dive was a twilight dive at a site called Scarface. I was excited to be doing this site. It was my first time there and I had heard it was a very pretty site. After doing the dive, I must concur. It really reminds me a lot of Area 51/Captain Mike's - just on a smaller scale. During the dive briefing the Dive Master mentioned that the sand was at 70 feet - well, I did find 80 at the beginning. But overall, it is a 60-70 foot dive. And I can see where the site gets its name. It does look scared along the edge at places. But that just gave you places to swim between the ledges. Which of course is a blast!

For the second dive we headed back over to Loggerhead. As I mentioned in my May 21 dive trip report – this is a beautiful site; as long as you are not exploring for shells. Well, the site did not disappoint. It was incredible. This time showing us all of its hidden treasures that it normally hides from us during the day. Lots of shrimp, octopus, and squid. Not to mention tons of the usual variety of Logger head turtles, nurse sharks, and huge schools of grunts and spade fish. I missed him, but Jeri even mentioned seeing a large Jew Fish hiding under a ledge. How I missed seeing him; considering I was looking in the same hole, I have no idea. But how about we just write it off as he was coming out to get her a birthday present.

As for the conditions for the day – well, it was WONDERFUL on the boat. Temperature was in the mid 70's and the seas were flat. But visibility was only around 30 feet and the current was RIPPING!!!! I know I had to spend a lot of time doing the dives backwards so I wouldn't just FLY down the reef line. But it was about the only way to stop and look at anything.

After the dive trip we headed over to a restaurant/club called Quarterdecks. It is a really nice place with a great atmosphere. We all stopped for dinner and drinks before the ride home. It also gave us a chance to wish Jeri a happy birthday and celebrate with cake and ice cream!

M. Wheat



Attention Coffee and hot beverage drinkers. The Club has its own coffee mug.

Made of finely crafted, high-grade ceramics. The club logo is displayed front and reverse blue on white. The DUDC mug will hold your favorite hot beverage and confirm your membership in Melbourne's best dive club.



For sale now at \$4.00 each. Only a few left.

Call Marty at 321/253-4713 to reserve your mug, and pick it up at June's meeting.



DUDC Welcomes the following new Members:

**Susan Kiley and her son,
Chris Kiley both OW
Robert Senton DM
David Slonim OW.
Mike Walsh, OW**

Answer to Dive Quiz:

Answer:

Decompression illness (DCI) is a blanket term for DCS and lung overexpansion injuries used in describing first aid and treatment, which is identical for both conditions. Provide the patient with the highest percentage of oxygen available.

Peak Diving Season and Summer dive Events

By Michael Wheat

The months of June through September are the best for ocean diving. Visibility and water temps are at their peaks and the seas tend to lay down more. As we enter this prime diving season, the dive club has set up several diving opportunities. By diving with the club, not only do you get to dive with friends, but also at heavily discounted charter rates. So now is the time to break out that dive gear, refresh those skills if need be, and get WET! Or if you are crazy like some of us and dive year round – it is time to throw the 6mm in the closet and get the skin out.

Over the next two months I have two events planned in Jupiter. First let me say this, if you haven't tried diving in Jupiter yet, do yourself a favor and give it a try. Jupiter is the hidden jewel of Florida reef diving. I have dove up and down the coast line and I have yet to find anything that compares to the aquatic life variety, size, and numbers. And the ledges themselves will simply amaze you. Some of the deeper ledges run as big as 20-25 feet in height. But at the same time do be aware, diving in Jupiter does tend to be more advanced diving then your typical diving in West Palm Beach. Depth on most sites range in the 70-90 foot range and currents tend to be stronger then West Palm Beach. And just to mention a few of the nice features of the charter we use (Jupiter Dive Center). Jupiter is about 10-15 minutes closer then West Palm Beach, and the boat does not depart until 9am. So no more having to be on the road by 5:30 to catch the morning charter. I usually don't leave my house until around 7am. Personally, I love that extra sleep. The charter also does a good job of taking care of you while at the same time giving you the flexibility to dive YOUR profile and limits.

DIVE FEST 2005 – June 18-19

I don't know about you but sometimes when I drive all the way down to Jupiter for a morning jaunt it never seems quite enough. And with the price of gas what it is, why not leverage our time and make a weekend out of it and dive our hearts out! So to help satisfy that thirst, we have dives schedule all weekend. We will start off that Saturday morning (June 18th) with a morning charter. After that, we have dives schedule for that afternoon and evening. So just for that Saturday, you can get 6 dives in. Then we will finish off Dive Fest that Sunday morning with another two tank adventure. The dives are al la carte – meaning do the dives you want to do and skip the others! For those of you that want to spend the night in Jupiter, let me know and I will make hotel arrangements. I know I will be staying down there! Sign up by June 11th and get a special discounted rate of \$35 dollars per dive you sign up for. Come join the festivities!

July 4th Night Dive and Firework Show

I had an awesome time last year when Debi ran this trip and just had to do it again this year. We will be heading out that Monday evening for a two tank twilight/night dive followed by watching the Firework SHOWS from offshore on the boat. One of the neat things about watching the shows this way is that you get to watch all the shows for each town. I know last year we got to watch 4 shows at the same time – all of them running from Lantana and north to Jupiter. It was a really neat experience. Since many of us will have to work on the following day, we will move the departure time up a bit. Last year we watched the firework shows during our surface interval. This year I am going to try and get the two dives in BEFORE the shows. That way we can all try to be home by midnight..

CHECK OUT THE CALENDAR FOR THESE AND OTHER DIVE EVENTS . . .
CHECK OUT THE CALENDAR FOR THESE AND OTHER DIVE EVENTS . . .

**There are lots of great upcoming dive events.
Something for everyone. The season is here . . . Dive, dive , dive!**

WANTED

New Dive Coordinators that Want to

Dive For FREE!!!

Contact Michael Wheat
for Details (321) 727-1028

Or

mwheat@downunderdiveclub.com



DOWN UNDER DIVE CLUB

PO Box 360105
Melbourne, Florida 32936-0105
www.downunderdiveclub.com

