



# **Lockheed Martin Dive Club**

## **May 2022**

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### **Mark your calendars - Dive Club Meeting May 10th**

**Location - Buffalo Wild Wings  
10761 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32821**

#### **Presidents Message**

Happy May divers! We are looking forward to another great month of diving. We just had a great club Bar-be-Que and dive at the Blue Grotto and what an awesome day that turned out to be. We cooked up some brats, hamburgers, and chicken and double dipped the spring for a wonderful 80 degree and sunny day in Williston (John Laga Posted a video on the Lockheed Martin Dive Club Facebook Page). If you were unable to make it, we will plan another get together soon so keep it eye out on the Facebook page and the Newsletter as well.

I'm planning to make my first cruise since Covid started, and I'm headed to Roatan, Belize, and Mexico later this month. I hope to find as much time in the water as I can and will plan to share at the June dive club meeting if you are interested.

This month is our planned elections and I'm planning to stay as your Club President (PS. You need to vote for me). Many others have opted to move on from club duties which makes me a bit sad, but it does open up some spots to help with planning and organization efforts. Keep in mind the Martin Dive Club was formed in 1985 to help divers meet other like minded divers to be their dive buddy or a group that helps when you are in need. I have stood behind that as president and would love to make sure our dive club is more of a family instead of just a group.

The new social nature of the club has also reduced the official presentation schedules for various reasons, but in short, businesses in the Orlando area don't typically have meeting rooms like they did in 1985.

This month we plan to meet at Buffalo Wild Wings by Sea World again. Tuesday's tend to be a good day for BWW and the club because it's not typically that busy, we can utilize their offshoot room, and they offer beer and wing discounts.

I look forward to seeing you! Bring your vote (or vote by Email if that's still available). Stay safe and Stay Wet!

#### **Meeting Location**

This month we are going to meet for a club elections and a social event at Buffalo Wild Wings, 10761 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32821 (407-985-3400), on May 10th at 6:00 pm.

## **Dues are Due**

The LMDC Board has approved a reduction in dues for the April 2022 to March 2023 club year. Dues will be \$5 for the current year. Dues can be mailed (checks only) to Keri Pitts, 3075 SE 156th PL Rd, Summerfield, FL 34491 or brought to the club meeting (cash or check). Made checks payable to Martin Dive Club.

Your dues must be current to vote in the upcoming election.

## **Dive Club Elections**

LMDC Elections will be held at the May club meeting for the club officers. The election will be for the following officers:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Board Members (3)

The nominating committee has proposed the following candidates for office:

President - Michael Smetana  
Vice President - open  
Secretary - open  
Treasurer - Wendy McCleskey  
Board of Directors - Mike McCleskey  
Board of Directors - Joshua Childs  
Board of Directors - Bob Claudy

Prior to the election nominations will be accepted from the floor.

**To vote in the election the member must have paid their dues for the April 2022 to March 2023 club year.**

## **Communication Chair and Webmaster Needed**

As if June 1st I am resigning as Communications Chair and webmaster.

In practical terms the Communications Chair sends out the newsletter and meeting notices. The chair also updates or has a webmaster to update the website. If anyone is interested in filling this vital club position contact myself at [tkeyknee@yahoo.com](mailto:tkeyknee@yahoo.com) or Michael Smetana at [michael.smetana@lmco.com](mailto:michael.smetana@lmco.com).

## **Committee Chair Positions Available**

Committee Chairs/Members are need for the following vital areas:

(Multiple people can participate in a committee, You don't have to do it alone!)

**ACTIVITY COMMITTEE** To publish the annual Activity Schedule including scheduling and pricing dive trips, as well as other Club social activities.

**MEETING COMMITTEE** To plan interesting, informative meetings.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** To publish and distribute information in a timely manner to inform all members of upcoming meetings, events, newsworthy items and committee reports.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (HISTORICALLY FILLED BY THE TREASURER)** To recruit new members and maintain all membership records including Club roster and dues collected. Run annual Membership Drive in March and April. Promote socializing during Club meetings and activities, welcome new and prospective members, answer questions and promote Club services.

Additional Committee Chair/Member opportunities are:

**Safety and Training Committee** - To promote safe diving practices and advanced education within the Club. To maintain and loan Club safety equipment.

**Camera Committee** - To maintain and loan Club camera equipment, provide basic and advanced training for members, and organize activities to promote camera use.

**Equipment Committee** - To inventory, maintain and loan all Club owned equipment excluding the camera and safety equipment. Submit suggestions for new equipment to the Officers and Board of Directors with prices and proposals. Promote Club services and equipment to members and prospective members.

**Merchandising Committee** - To maintain inventory of all Club merchandise meant for resale. To sell merchandise at all Club functions. To sell merchandise to individual Club members at the convenience of the Committee. Design and research new merchandise.

## **KSC Barracuda Little Cayman Trip**

Our sister the club, The KSC Barracudas traveled to Little Cayman in April. This trip was originally scheduled for Sept. 2020. Here is their trip report.



Finally! At long last, after delay after delay after delay, 12 intrepid Barracudas ventured out on April 9 for a week of diving on Little Cayman Island. Steve and Carol Auer, Dave and Ginger Ballou, Pam Bybee, Linda James, Terry Keeney and Chuck Brown, Robbie and Pam Klein, Bill Little, and John Stonewall flew from Tampa International Airport to Little Cayman for a long-awaited journey to one of the club's most favorite dive locations.

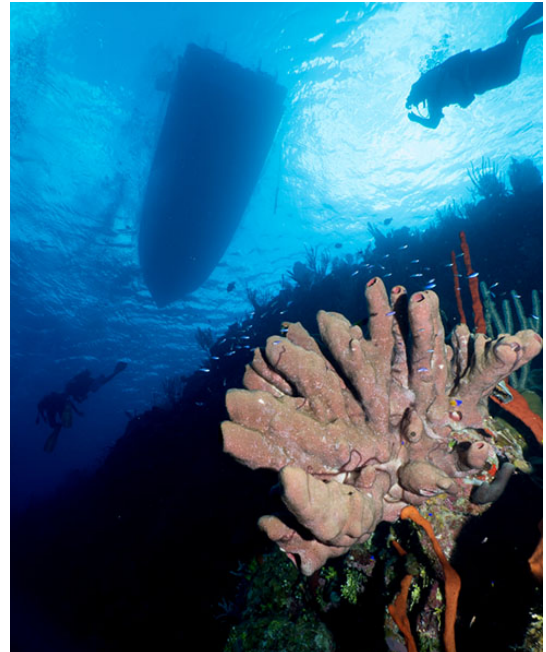




The Little Cayman Beach Resort and Reef Divers dive shop were up to their historical standards. The accommodations were first rate, the food was to die for, and the valet diving lived up to its world class reputation. We were set up on the Little Sister dive boat with captain Adam who, bad jokes aside, did a superlative job getting us to and from the dive sites. Our deck hand and dive guide, Brad, was also first rate.

That is, he was until on the fourth day he slipped and dropped a fully loaded tank on his big toe. Thankfully, the toe wasn't broken, but the injury did take him off the boat and out of the water for the duration.

Fortunately, his replacements Chris and David kept up the quality of care for us that we had come to expect.



As for the diving....

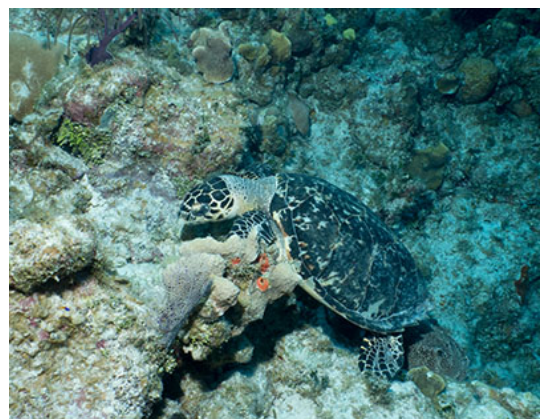
The truth is that the first three days were pretty miserable. A constant, ripping wind out of the east had the surface seeing some sets of swells of up to four to six feet, the visibility less than the 60+ feet Little Cayman is famous for, and currents and surges that made diving no fun. Conditions were bad enough on the third day that Adam cancelled the

second morning dive, and a number of us sat out the afternoon dive. Very un-Cayman-like.

And we won't talk about the 80 to 82 deg. water temperature that had a few of us bathtub divers shivering by the end of each dive.

Thankfully, the winds subsided and the sea lay down for us on the fourth through sixth days, and the Little Cayman diving we've all come to know and love returned. Randy's Gazebo, Great Wall West, Bus Stop, Great Wall East, Ringer's Wall and others delighted us with sheer walls, abundant life, and effortless diving that made up for the first three days and then some! Nobody left disappointed.

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[www.martindiveclub.org](http://www.martindiveclub.org)



One final note: none of this trip could have happened without the superhuman efforts of our trip coordinator Dave Ballou. Through all the delays, postponements, and changes in airline, U.S. government, and Cayman government policies brought about by the pandemic, Dave stayed on top of it all and kept us all informed. Dave guided us through the maze of paperwork, COVID testing requirements, and schedule changes, both minor and major. Our sincerest thanks to Dave for weathering two years' worth of moving targets to make this trip

possible!

## Conservation Conversations

The informative Conservation Conversations webinars continue into 2022!

Dates: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month

Time: 6:00 pm

Format: ~30-minute presentation followed by a Q and A session.

Webinar Schedule:

May 11      Awesome Opossums.

Previous winter/spring episodes of the "Conservation Conversations" Webinar Series have been posted to YouTube. They can be viewed at the following links:

1/12/22 - [Impacts of Artificial Lighting on Sea Turtles](#)

2/9/22 - [The Incredible Horseshoe Crab](#)

3/9/22 - [Green Energy in Florida](#)

4/13/22 - [At Home Native Landscaping](#)

To register for any (or all) of the webinars, please go [here](#).

For more information please contact [azangroniz@ufl.edu](mailto:azangroniz@ufl.edu)

## Items For Sale or Wanted

This space is available for members to sell or look for dive related items. Please email Terry ([tkeyknee@yahoo.com](mailto:tkeyknee@yahoo.com)) with input.



## Lockheed Martin Dive Club 2022 Activity Schedule

Date	Event	Contact	LMDC/Barra cudas	Participants	Deposit Amount	Cut-off Date	Total Cost
4/30/22	Blue Grotto Dive and BBQ	Michael Smetana, michael.smet ana@lmco.c om	LMDC	no limit	\$0	-	\$35/diver \$6/non diver

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### Upcoming Activities

5/10/22 - General Meeting (Elections!)

6/14/22 General Meeting

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