



LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB

News

April 2017



April Meeting

Fiji Adventure by Gwen Hagar

Please join us at our April 11th meeting to hear and see our own Gwen Hagar present an adventure in Fiji. It has to be on most divers' bucket list!



Conditions and underwater sights vary greatly here and while some places are tranquil and great for learning, most sites will enjoy some current, ranging from barely perceptible to very strong. It is this presence of current that makes the diving in the Fijian Islands so rich.

See 'Fiji', page 4



Fiji is a tourist destination with so much to offer: hiking, nature, fabulous beaches, and wonderful local people, that sometimes the quality of its diving can be overlooked. Anyone who has been on a dive trip here, however, will tell quite a different story. From luxury resorts and remote eco-hideaways to fabulous liveaboards, Fiji scuba diving really does offer something for everyone.

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Dues were Due!

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See 'Dues', page 10

President's Column

Hello Fellow Divers!

I hope all is well with you and you are taking advantage living in Florida and diving "all year long".

Please review our **LMDC** Activity Schedule in this newsletter, which also includes the Kennedy Space Center Barracudas Dive Club. We hope you will join us on this year's upcoming dives.

Bob Claudy has just taken a few of us to a pleasant day at Alexander Springs on April 1st.

My trip to Amy Slate's Amora Dive Resort is sold out, so ten lucky Club members will be enjoying wonderful Key Largo diving May 5th through 7th.

Then we have two really special visits to Palm Beach's Blue Heron Bridge. Gwen Hagar will be taking us on a night dive on June 23, and Mike Parrish's will be a fantastic educational opportunity with a three-day seminar on July 13 through 16.

Make sure you have sent in your **Club** dues to Keri Pitts.

See you on future dives and the second Tuesday of the month at Logan's.

Marie



From the Internet on YouTube

4 free-diving tricks to play on scuba divers at 100-ish feet . . .

While free-diving to 100-ish feet and beyond, I have some fun with those who require bottled air (scuba) to explore those depths.

https://youtu.be/_JIKNLdEJ-s



Your **Club** Leadership

President Marie Frank	321-945-4244	Committee Chairs	
Vice President Carol Comstock	407-924-6112	Activity Open	
Secretary Grace Hampton	407-737-8999	Camera Jamie Dachtler	407-356-1374
Treasurer Keri Pitts	321-297-3366	Communications Bill Paskert	407-579-6215
Director at Large Bill Barney	407-274-3873	Equipment Jamie Dachtler	407-356-1374
Board of Directors Mike McCleskey	407-808-6453	Meetings Wendy McCleskey	407-273-6655
Mike Parrish	407-356-0065	Membership Keri Pitts	321-297-3366
Bill Paskert	407-579-6215	Merchandise Open	
		Safety and Training Gwen Hagar	863-397-6304
		Webmaster Terry Keeney	321-784-3382

Lockheed Martin Dive Club 2017 Activity Schedule

170410 Date	Event	Contact	LMDC/ Barra- cudas	Partic- ipants	Deposit Amount	Cut- off Date	Total Cost
Apr 1	Alexander Springs Dive and Picnic Altoona FL	Bob Claudy 407-405-8814 bclaudy@cfl.rr.com 1438 Spring Ridge Drive Winter Garden FL 34787	LMDC	Open	\$10	Mar 8	\$10
May 5 - 7	Amy Slate's Amoray Dive Resort Key Largo	Marie Frank 321-945-4244 mariefrank2010@gmail.com	LMDC	10 Full	\$150	Apr 1	\$300
May 20	Jupiter Dive Center Jupiter Beach	Bill Little 321-720-7201 littlewl@mindspring.com	KSC Barra- cudas	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Jun 23	Blue Heron Bridge Full-Moon Night Dive West Palm Beach	Gwen Hagar hagar33805@yahoo.com	LMDC	Open	\$0	-	Tank rental
Jul 13 - 16	Blue Heron Bridge Photography Workshop West Palm Beach	Mike Parrish mike_j_parrish@bellsouth.net	LMDC	6 - 9	\$100	Mar 7	\$450
Jul 17	Jupiter Dive Center Jupiter Beach	Bill Little 321-720-7201 littlewl@mindspring.com	KSC Barra- cudas	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Jul 26	WPB Lobster Dive West Palm Beach	John Lawlor 321-543-4408 jlawlor@cfl.rr.com	KSC Barra- cudas	TBD	\$200	TBD	TBD
Jul 27	WPB Lobster Dive West Palm Beach	John Lawlor 321-543-4408 jlawlor@cfl.rr.com	KSC Barra- cudas	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Aug 8 - 16	St. Lawrence River Trip Canada	Gary Comstock seabase195@aol.com	LMDC	Full	-	-	\$1700
Aug 12	Riviera Beach	John Lawlor 321-543-4408 jlawlor@cfl.rr.com	KSC Barra- cudas	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Sep 9 - 16	Buddy's Dive Bonaire I	Max Farley 321-223-5294 maxfarley798@gmail.com	KSC Barra- cudas	8	\$400	TBD	TBD
Sep 9 - 16	Buddy's Dive Bonaire II	Max Farley 321-223-5294 maxfarley798@gmail.com	KSC Barra- cudas	16	\$500	TBD	TBD
Oct 21	Lady Luck Wreck Dive Pompano Beach FL	Bill Barney william.j.barneysr@gmail.com	LMDC	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Nov 2	Epcot Divequest Disney's The Seas with Nemo & Friends	TBD	LMDC	12	TBD	TBD	TBD
Nov 7, inputs due Oct 10	Annual Photo and Video Contest	TBD	LMDC	Open to members	None	Oct 2016	None

See 'Activity', page 4

Activity, from page 3

170410 Date	Event	Contact	LMDC/ Barra- cudas	Partic- ipants	Deposit Amount	Cut- off Date	Total Cost
Nov 18	Blue Heron Bridge Full- Moon Night Dive West Palm Beach	Gwen Hagar hagar33805@yahoo.com	LMDC	Open	\$0	-	Tank rental
Dec 3	Annual Holiday Party	TBD	LMDC	All are wel- come	TBD	TBD	TBD

Fiji, from page 1



Currents are the lifeblood of Fiji's reefs, kick-starting the food chain by sweeping nutrients to both corals and fish alike. Fiji is known as "The Soft Coral Capital of the World", and when the current flows the corals bloom into fabulous displays of colorful splendor. The currents also affect the water's visibility, which can be the best around, with incoming currents bringing clear seawater into the lagoons and outgoing currents removing any cloudy lagoon water.



Lagoons are a feature of the islands and often the water remains shallow until some distance from shore. This means that most of the diving is conducted from boats and also that the shorelines are great for adults and children alike to go snorkeling and swimming.



We gather at 6:00 p.m. Afterwards, we hold our "formal" meeting covering **Club** business and member trip reports, followed by our great door prizes.

We will meet at Logan's Roadhouse again. It's located at 3060 Sand Lake Road, Orlando 32819, 407-351-4599.

For a look at the menu, click:

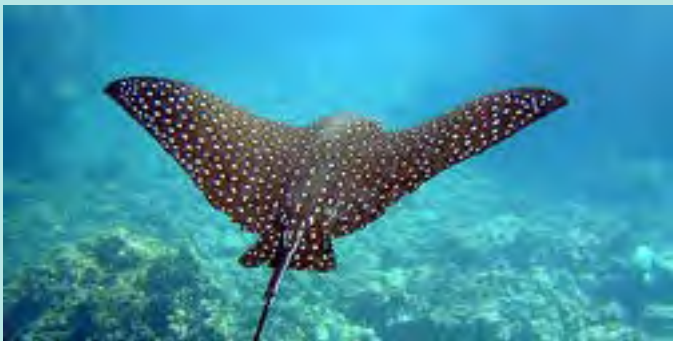
<http://logansroadhouse.com/menu-alt/>
LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB 'News'

Amy Slate's Amoray Dive Resort

Key Largo

May 5 - 7, 2017

Enjoy a weekend in the Florida Keys. Two-tank dives on Saturday and Sunday morning for \$300 per diver. Reef or wreck diving. Diving on Spiegel Grove Sunday, so Advanced OW is required. The **Club** will furnish breakfast and juice, and drinks for the boat.



Award-winning dive resort: A PADI - National Geographic Gold Palm Resort and rated by Scuba Diving Magazine Best in the Florida Keys in 2008

www.amoray.com

All rooms have a refrigerator and a microwave.



Ten divers.

Payment schedule: \$150 due at sign-up; sign-up deadline is April 1. Balance due April 11.

Make your check payable to Marie Frank, 321-945-4244

mariefrank2010@gmail.com



Blue Heron Bridge Night Dive - West Palm Beach

Friday, June 23, 2017



Blue Heron Bridge is one of the premier shore dive sites in Florida. It is relatively nearby, the parking and access to the water is convenient, and the price is right - **FREE!** Rare and exciting wildlife seen there by past **LMDC** divers include flying gurnard, batfish, seahorse, octopus, mantis shrimp, sea robin, and all the usual tropical critters found in Florida's waters. See a great video at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_vCIMrWXPQ



We dive according to the slack high tide, so we will be meeting at 8:00 pm and hitting the water at 8:20 pm. Max depth is around 20 fsw, so we'll have a nice, long (about 1 hour), relaxing dive. Participants need to provide all their own gear, and buddy groups

will need a floating dive flag, **with illumination**. The **Club** has several dive flags, but we may need more.



We'll plan for a meal afterwards, and some divers may be spending the night.



Contact: Gwen Hagar, hagar33805@yahoo.com.

Details will be distributed a few days before the dive, along with a dive-flag list

Where: Phil Foster Park, beneath the bridge

Time: Be rigged to go by 8:20 pm; drive time from Orlando is about 2.5 hours

What to Bring: Everything you think you will need, including air (one tank). Tanks and other equipment are available for rent from a dive shop near the park.

Facilities and Rules: Phil Foster Park is a very nice county park with all the usual facilities and rules; check

www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/parks/locations/philfoster.htm#.UVIJxRI1FV4

Blue Heron Bridge PHOTOGRAPHY Workshop by Reef Photo

July 13-16, 2017



Take advantage of one of the finest macro photography sites in the world at Blue Heron Bridge (Phil Foster Park), located in West Palm Beach, FL. This three day workshop focuses on **macro photography**, and there may not be a better setting anywhere to hold this kind of class. Blue Heron Bridge dive site includes seahorses, frogfish, pipefish, sea robins, batfish, stargazers, nudibranchs, etc.

Classroom topics: Starting with macro camera settings, focus strategies, and exposure tips. Once you've got a grasp on the basics, more advanced lighting, composition, and creative effects can be explored. Reef Photo staff use Adobe Photoshop Lightroom for image cataloging and editing, and a thorough digital workflow introduction is included.

Example Schedule:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Thursday Evening	6:00- 8:30 PM	Camera Check, Slideshow, Orientation and Dive Site Briefing, (Reef Photo store location, Fort Lauderdale)
Friday	08:00 - 5:45 PM	Workshop hours
	09:00AM - 11:00 AM	Dive (time is approximate)
Saturday	09:00 - 5:45 PM	Workshop hours
	10:00AM - 12:00 PM	Dive (time is approximate)
Sunday	09:00 - 5:00 PM	Workshop hours
	11:00AM - 1:00 PM	Dive (time is approximate)

Cost: This 3-day workshop by Reef Photo is priced at \$450, including instruction, diving, 80 cubic foot aluminum air tanks equipped with yoke valves (DIN available upon advanced request), air fills, and weights.

What to Bring:

- All of your dive gear other than weights & tank
 - A cutting device (for fishing line) and a compass
 - Laptop with Adobe Lightroom software installed for classroom sessions (Adobe has a free 30-day trial)
 - Your diver certification card
 - **Your underwater camera gear and Memory card(s) for your camera.**
- Contact Reef Photo if you want to rent underwater camera equipment <http://reefphoto.com/>

Hotel: Days Inn West Palm Beach, Approximately \$70 per person per night double occupancy including all fees, taxes.

Total Cost: Reef Photo Workshop \$450 + 3 nights hotel x \$70 = \$660 per person

Reservation: Confirmation and \$100 deposit due by March 7, 2017. Remaining balance is due by June 1, 2017.

Contact: Michael Parrish, 321-202-0870, mike_j_parrish@bellsouth.net

March Meeting

Understanding Seahorses by Nancy Pham Ho, Disney World

I hope you made it to our March 14th meeting at Logan's Roadhouse to enjoy an entertaining and educational presentation on our local seahorses. We hosted our special guest Nancy Pham-Ho, a researcher at the Vero Beach Marine Laboratory.

We gathered at 6:00 p.m. Afterwards, we held our "formal" meeting covering **Club** business and member trip reports, followed by our great door prizes.



World's "The Seas with Nemo and Friends". Afterwards, Nancy obtained her M.S. degree at Florida Institute of Technology (FIT), studying seahorses.

Her current work focuses on seahorse conservation. To further this, she coordinates with a variety of government and non-government organizations to evaluate seahorse populations in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

Nancy's program was interesting, informative, and unique. We learned a little more about seahorses and how we can participate and help.



Nancy's passion for aquatic life and education started early. Her first jobs in high school included being a tutor, swim instructor, and water polo coach. After receiving a B.S. degree in Animal Science and Management from the University of California, Davis, she came to Florida as an intern at Disney



Election of Officers

Greetings fellow **Dive Club** members!

It's time to help guide your friendly neighborhood **Dive Club** into the future by nominating and voting for next year's officers and directors.

Be on the look out for an email on or about April 24 with your very own official **LMDC** ballot, which will be mailed to every **Club** member of record.

Please ensure you have paid your dues, and that Keri Pitts (unixchik@gmail.com) has your current email address. We will have a full slate of volunteers for each office, and a space to nominate yourself or someone of your choice.

You can even volunteer during the meeting.

Don't be shy! If you would like to nominate a **Club** member, please contact me by April 14 to get them on the ballot.

Make sure you have your nominee's permission; no involuntary draftees please!

You will be able to email your ballot to me prior to the May meeting at william.j.barneysr@gmail.com or vote in person at our regular gathering on May 9.

There will be extra ballots at the meeting if you don't get a chance to vote via email.

The votes will be tallied, and the winners announced during the meeting. Remember, the **Club** is dependent on our members' participation.

Just like everything in life, you get out of it what you put into it.

Support your local **Dive Club**!

Bill Barney

LMDC Connections

We have a telephone voicemail account. Got a question about the **CLUB**? Want to let us know that you'll be attending a **CLUB** meeting? Just call 407-579-6215 and leave a message!

Check out all the great dive information on our **CLUB** home page at: www.martindiveclub.org.

2017 BALLOT OF OFFICERS

President	Marie Frank Other _____
Vice President	Carol Comstock Other _____
Treasurer	Keri Pitts Other _____
Secretary	Grace Hampton Other _____
Board Members	Joshua Childs Mike McCleskey Mike Parrish

Undercurrent, March 2017

Scuba Diving In His Living Room?

Undercurrent has taken a position for years against saltwater aquariums, because virtually all the fish in them are captured on reefs.

So we are not pleased with Eli Fruchter, who has built the ultimate aquarium within his home in Haifa, Israel. It holds a massive 30,000 liters (8000 gallons) of water, and he has stocked it with 50 tropical fish of 30 different species, together with a range of live corals, all of which have been gathered from living reefs. He even scuba dives in it.

A decade ago, Fructer had a 1,000-gallon fish tank, but it broke and flooded his home. No doubt those fish died a nasty death. Undaunted by the experience, he constructed another aquarium, this time with the new house built around it. If the new aquarium breaks, he'll be able to scuba dive in his living room, too. Pity the poor fish.

Editor's Corner

Thanks for all your help. You've been great at getting articles to me. If you've got ideas for articles, get them to me by phone at 407-579-6215; email at billpaskert@martindiveclub.org; or sneaker-net your text and graphics to me at 3173 Battersea Way, Winter Park FL 32792-8137

Dues Were Due

It's that time of year again. **Lockheed Martin Dive Club** dues were due in March. Get your dues in so you can enjoy all the exciting dives and activities that the **Club** has planned for you this year.

Dues are still only \$20 per year (\$15 if you are a current DAN member), with an extra \$5 if you want the newsletter by snail mail instead of email.

Dues can be paid by cash or check. Make your check or money order out to "Martin Dive Club" and mail it to our Treasurer:

Keri Pitts
9360 SE 119th Lane
Bellevue FL 34420.

Remember that your **Club** membership expires on March 31. If dues are not received by April 30, your membership will expire, and you will not be eligible for membership again for 1 year without paying a Lapse Penalty Fee of \$10 plus 1 year's prorated dues.

PLEASE!! Since things change for members, the Board is requesting that you fill out a registration form this year when you pay your dues.

Please take the time to download the membership form (www.martindiveclub.org/resources/forms/membershipform.pdf) and complete it, and get it to Keri at with your check, or email it to her at:

unixchik@gmail.com

Thanks for your assistance in making sure our database is the best it can be.

Marie Frank



LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB

3173 Battersea Way
Winter Park FL 32792
(407) 579-6215
www.martindiveclub.org

Upcoming Events

Apr 11 **Meeting:** Fiji Adventure - Gwen Hagar

May 5-7 **Dive Trip:** Key Largo Amy Slate's Amoray - Marie Frank

DUES WERE DUE

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Membership dues - March 31st