MARTIN DIVE CLUB

News

October 1999

Business and Pleasure at October Meeting

Sound Familiar?

Come join your ***MARTIN DIVE CLUB*** friends Tuesday, October 12th, at a new location, Johnny Rivers' Smokehouse restaurant and socialize with your fellow divers. As usual, the gathering will kick off at 6:30 with drinks. You can order snacks or dinner from the menu.

A short business meeting will start at 7:00. Bring your photo albums to show off your trips.

We'll have the photos and video from Marie's Cozumel trip, and maybe someone will bring their Fantasy Fest collections to entertain us. If Mike's Cozumel group is really proud of their camerawork, we may see their shots, too.

Drinks are at happy hour prices till 7 pm. Draft beer is $1 a glass all night however. The specials are outlined below:

Appetizers - about $6

Full dinners - about $9 to $16

Nightly dinner special for $12

Sandwiches - about $7

Long Island Ice Tea - $2 (I know, not for the faint of heart)

Well drinks - $1.25

Margaritas - $2

Drink specials all night

Draft beer (Bud and Bud Light) - $1.

The Smokehouse is located at 5370 W Colonial Drive just east of Kirkman Road on the south side of the street. Telephone (407) 293-5803.

Editor's Note: Unsolicited endorsement from an interested party:

"Wow, my mouth is watering already. Johnny Rivers' is my favorite restaurant!"

Wendy

Message from Our President

Fellow bubblers,

Everybody cross your flippers for better weather this month! Hurricane Floyd knocked us off schedule, but be assured that the ***CLUB***'s upcoming meeting will pick up where we left off, with discussions of annual dues and the upcoming DAN auction. There will also be plenty of war stories from Cozumel, Ocean Fest, and Lauderdale-by-the-Sea.

As of Sep 20th, we're finalizing plans for a new meeting place, so stay tuned to your e-mail for any changes. We will be voting on location preferences, so be sure to input your ideas.

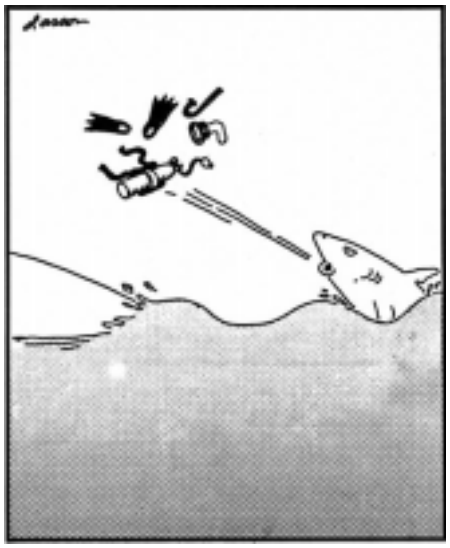
I can't resist one war story teaser . . . It's rumored that ***CLUB*** Safety Chairperson Sina DuBiel was manning the Scuba Radio booth at Ocean Fest, hangin' with Jean-Michel Cousteau and slandering your humble president with false accusations of sea-sickness during a turbulent and turbid treasure hunt! I will redeem myself at the next meeting. See you there!

Mark DuBiel

Leisure AdDITION

"Take the Plunge with the Dive Club"

That's the headline for the full-page article about our ***CLUB*** in the *Leisure AdDITION*, a new supplement to the *Vision*, the Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control - Orlando employee newsletter. The supplement is in the dispensers around the facility now and features leisure time activities for LM employees. Get your copy now!



Your Officers and Staff

President **Mark DuBiel**	356-5969	Meeting Chairperson **Wendy McCleskey**	273-6655
Vice President **Mike Witt**	356-3293	Camera Chairperson **Mike McCleskey**	273-6655
Secretary **Karen Streeter**	351-1514	Equipment Chairperson **David Henderson**	695-0875
Treasurer **Jim Streeter**	356-2377	Membership Chairperson **Jim Streeter**	356-2377
Board of Directors **Marie Frank**	356-8256	Merchandise Chairperson **Marie Frank**	356-8256
Board of Directors **Bob Grapentine**	306-6914	Safety Chairperson **Sina DuBiel**	356-1823
Board of Directors **George McGuire**	356-4284	Publicity Chairperson **Bill Paskert**	356-2290
Activity Chairperson **David Henderson**	695-0875		

Cozumel . . .
A Calm Corner of the Caribbean

Time: Oh Dark Thirty *Date: 4 Sep 99* *Place: Lockheed Martin parking lot* *Mission: Dive Cozumel*

Twelve lucky members of the ***Martin Dive Club*** trekked to the Miami Airport various ways to catch a flight to Cozumel last September 4th. The roughest part of the whole trip started when we tried to make the connecting flight from Cancun to Cozumel. For a while amid the confusion and cultural disconnects at the ticket counter, we thought we might have to take the ferry to the island. Even though eight of us got bumped to a later flight, we eventually made it to Cozumel.

Jason Tepes, Dorothy Chandler, Tim Cole, Marie Frank, Joanne Rowley, Carolyn Van Zant, Bill Paskert, Jerry Barone, and Ralph and Gwen Rolape

The diving sites were spectacular with great visibility and calm seas. Sometimes the current was strong, but some of us pretended we could fly and we kept passing each other in the current. The beautiful coral, fish, and critter life made up for the strong current.

You might be blue, too, if somebody blasted your night with light

Unidentified diver narrowly avoids being grouper bait

See 'Cozumel' on page 4

'Cozumel' from page 3

Tatiana Tyler, Tim, Carolyn, Jason, Jerry, and Marie enjoying lunch at Scuba Club Cozumel's restaurant, the Fat Grouper

One of several turtles . . . funny, they look so slow, but I never got ahead of them for a front view

The Scuba Club Cozumel resort really caters to divers. It is a beautiful place . . . the staff (waiters, office help, dive masters, and boat crew) were always friendly and helpful. We had three excellent meals a day, with a buffet for breakfast and a gourmet meal for lunch and dinner.

Some of us partied late in the night in the town of San Miguel . . . a usual spot

Yes, that's the Martin Dive Club logo on my towel!

Marie and Jason going over their party logs

*I know, it's not a sea snake, but it sure **looks** like a snake in the Caribbean Sea*

Angel of the reef . . .

Dorothy, Ed Spiegel, and Gwen and Ralph at the Mexican Feast on the Beach

was Carlos n' Charlies. "Some" of us may have partied too much . . . No, Jason, I don't think it was the bacon you ate for breakfast that morning. While others, like me, stayed close to the resort and crashed to our rooms early in the evening.

Other evening entertainment included night diving, either from the resort's dive boats or right off the shore behind the resort. They've placed quite a bit of fish- and critter-attractants close in to shore, so you were guaranteed of spying octopus, rays, etc., with a good shot at squid, lobster, and other critters.

Ed, taking the plunge . . . into the night!

There's that Martin Dive Club towel again!

Mimosas (not a dive day) on Ralph and Gwen's patio with Jerry, Dorothy, Marie, Jason, Carolyn, Ed, Joanne, and Bill

Our crew had a great time 'flying' on the currents that wash the massive coral structures and shallower reefs in the Palancar national marine park. It sometimes seemed that everybody had a strobe-equipped camera, so we should have some good shots for the Photo Contest. Tim Cole and Jason Tepes even caught some of our no-doubt finer diving moments on videotape. We'll see the incriminating evidence at our October meeting.

Marie Frank

Martin Dive Club

Come to Our Holiday Party!

We will hold our annual Holiday Party on Sunday, December 5

at Lee's Lakeside. Cost is only $20 per person. This is a great deal since the Club is subsidizing almost $15 per person.

For reservations and more info call Marie Frank at (407) 356-8256.

We will also have another exciting gift exchange. Each person should bring a wrapped gift worth around $10 (really).

Suggested items: fish or critter-related, SCUBA, or gag gift.

Hint: give a gift you would like to receive.

Our party will take place at Lee's Lakeside

on the south side of Lake Eola in downtown Orlando.

This will be an entertaining and fun evening and a great bargain for members

The party starts at 6:30 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM.

Member News

Mark and Sina Go to Ocean Fest '99

Does this sound familiar? Good food, great speakers, photo contest, and lots of dive buddies . . . No, it's not the monthly ***CLUB*** meeting. It's Ocean Fest '99 in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea.

Did we forget to mention Scuba Radio, Jean-Michel Cousteau, an underwater treasure hunt, a Navy Seals rescue demonstration, and a few hundred dive travel and equipment professionals? These are just samples of the many attractions at the country's largest outdoor scuba show and expo.

I couldn't get enough. I toured all the booths Friday night, entering all the raffles and giveaways. Hangin' with Spencer Slate from Key Largo's Atlantis Dive Center was a hoot! His video of face-feeding the barracudas was unbelievable. Registration for Saturday's photo contest and Sunday's treasure hunt completed the evening.

Diver Dick (left) and Greg 'the Divemaster' Holt (right) of Scuba Radio interview Jean-Michel Cousteau

Saturday we met up with ***CLUB*** member Michael Craun to watch Scuba Radios's live pool interview with Jean-Michel Cousteau. After a few photos and autographs, we headed for Slate's lecture

on the art of dive-mastering for resorts. He taught us how to talk people OUT of diving??? With no time to think too hard about that, I headed for the reef with a free camera and film provided by Kodak. Vis was almost ten feet thanks to hurricane Floyd, but I got a few shots off for the photo contest. Sina soaked up some sun while I swam ˚ mile back to shore. Too tired to walk, (or sit) (or breathe), I mizzzzzed Jean-Michel's lecture on Keiko (Free Willy).

Good eyes, Mark. Could this be the world's smallest ray?

Photos magically appeared Sunday morning, so we reviewed and submitted our best shots. Greg the Divemaster needed some help with Scuba Radio, so I volunteered Sina for celebrity status while Michael and I suited up for the treasure hunt. Michael found his token treasure coin only three minutes into the search! A half hour later I was coinless and queasy from the three-foot vis and strong surge. Nothing cures seasickness like a foot-long Italian sausage with onions and peppers! The afternoon consisted of prize collection and people watching, and the sights were better than the stash.

See 'Ocean Fest' on page 8

'Ocean Fest' from page 7

The diving was lousy and it rained the whole time (thanks to Harvey), but I can't remember when I've had so much fun! Who's going with us next year?!?

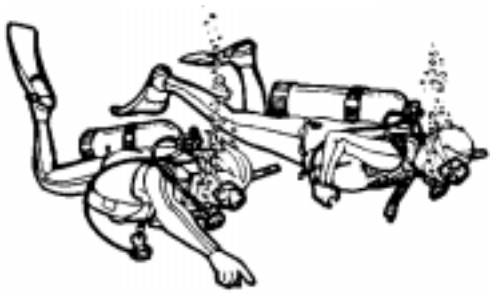
Mark DuBiel

Jean-Michel Cousteau and Mark

P.S.

To all the single people out there, this wasn't Ocean Fest, it was Hunkfest and Babefest! Being the "bubble-watcher" that I am, I wasn't so sure this would be much fun, but I enjoyed it! There was a wonderful assortment of booths (t-shirts, jewelry, equipment, dive packages), and plenty of beer! I also had the good fortune to meet Jean-Michel Cousteau and help out Greg the Divemaster with his Scuba Radio booth. I would recommend this to anyone!

Sina DuBiel



Safety Chairperson

Masks

We toss them unprotected into our gear bags and we leave them face down on rough, salty boat decks. In reality, our windows to the liquid world are a delicate and essential piece of gear. They should be protected as such. Buy a hard case and protect it! If your mask is looking a little grungy (mold or fungus), try using a little soft scrub or toothpaste to clean it up and make sure your mask is completely dry before storing it—in its hard case, of course.

Mask skills? Haven't practiced them since open-water class? Do you remember what to do if your mask floods? Here are a few reminders:

1. *Don't panic* - You need your mask to see, but you don't need it to breathe and you still have vision (albeit blurry) without a mask or with a flooded mask. If you haven't practiced swimming 20 to 25 yards without your mask in a pool or shallow water, then you probably aren't prepared for a major flood or loss of your mask. Practice this emergency skill.

2. *Find it* - After calming your breathing and ensuring you're still neutrally buoyant, determine if the mask is still present and functional. It probably will be. The most common causes of full floods are a current twisting the mask on your face, someone's fin dislodging it, bumping it against something, or the strap coming lose.

3. *Replace and clear it* - In most cases you will be able to reposition the mask on your face and clear it using the appropriate technique. If a part is broken and you must hold the mask in place to maintain a watertight seal, signal to your buddy and abort the dive according to your agreed-upon plan. Make a safety stop, if practical. If your mask has become non-functional due to a torn skirt or a cracked faceplate, signal your buddy for assistance to make a controlled ascent. Again, if practical, include a safety stop.

4. *Use your spare mask* - Unless you have one, your diving day is probably over. Always consider taking a spare mask, or look into "save-a-dive" kits.

Sina DuBiel

** Information for this article was obtained from the August 1999 issue of Rodale's Scuba Diving*

MDC Annual Photo Contest

Our annual ***MDC*** Photo Contest will conclude with awards to be presented at our November meeting. Last year, winning members walked away with great new dive gear, travel prizes, clothing, and more. It is not too late to get out and take some pictures for your entries.

See the rules below and note that there are plenty of opportunities for EVERYONE to win! Call Capt Mike, Camera Guy, at 273-6655 with any questions or to submit an entry.

The deadline for photo entries will be at our meeting on Tuesday, October 12th. Watch for a later mailer with more details of available prizes. Joe Froelich, professional underwater photographer, graciously agreed to judge our entries. Joe gave us his insights into looking at things from a different perspective at our April meeting. His column "Joe's Journal" in *Florida Scuba News* is a great reference for aspiring photographers.

Rules

All contestants must be ***CLUB*** members in good standing as of the date of entry. Winners will be announced at the November 9th ***CLUB*** meeting. Photos may be entered in the following categories:

Separate Print and Slide Categories:

- Underwater, normal or wide angle
- Underwater, close-up and macro

Combined Print and Slide Categories:

- Underwater, fixed focus (Ikelite AquaShot or similar)
- Most unusual, unique subject matter
- First-time entry
- Above water, dive related
- Most likely to embarrass
- Most interesting, having absolutely nothing to do with diving (the photo must include a ***CLUB*** member).

Entries must be submitted no later than the October *CLUB* meeting on the 12th.

Fine Print

A photo may be entered in only one category. Each contestant is limited to two photos per category, six photos for the contest. Any category with a single contestant will be eliminated. Photos must have been shot since September 30, 1998, by the contestant.

Format Limitations:

- Photos must be no larger than 5 by 7 inches, unmatted and unframed.
- The contestant's name must not appear on the picture or slide.
- Photos may have titles.
- Photos will be returned the night of the awards.
- The decision of the judges is final.

Last Call for Fantasy Fest 1999

The dates for this year's ***MDC*** Fantasy Fest trip are October 29 - 31. This is Key West's annual Halloween street festival. Our trip includes no diving, but guarantees many photo opportunities and stories to tell the folks back home. The trip is for adults only; there are many behaviors seen on the streets that are not kid-friendly, some of it by our own members and officers (you know who you are!). The cost of $130 includes two nights at beautiful Sugar Loaf Lodge and an invitation to the exclusive ***MDC*** Bloody Mary Morning-After Carpet Golf championship.

Don't miss out on this one! To secure your spot, send a $30 per person deposit to Mike McCleskey, 8683 Renova Court, Orlando FL 32825. If you have questions, call me at (407) 273-6655.

Capt Mike

Check Out the Online Version of the *MDC* News

For all of you with Internet connections, we publish this newsletter on the World Wide Web. You can view it if you have an Internet connection and a current Web browser. See it on our ***CLUB*** home page at:

http://www.netwide.net/users/mccleske/mdchome.html

or behind the Lockheed Martin firewall at:

http://wwwmis.orl.lmco.com:2424/mdc/mdchome.html

Bookmark this site for current ***MDC*** and general SCUBA news.

Editors Corner

Thanks for all your help. You've been great at getting articles to me by the 15th of the month. Please get them to me in one of the following ways:

- Call me at 356-2290 and sneaker-net your text and graphics on disk to me at MP 031
- E-mail at work: william.paskert@ lmco. com or at home: wpasker9@idt.net
- Fax - work: 356-4632; home: 678-5311 (please call before sending).

Missives from the Meeting Chairperson

As you may have heard, Jose's Mexican Restaurant, our prior meeting place, has closed its doors for good, and we are on the road again. We have several options and I would really like your input and suggestions.

Johnny River's BBQ: We will hold our October meeting here and give it a try. Jim Streeter has a contact there, and he didn't even know it was my favorite restaurant. It is on Hwy 50 just East of Kirkman. My concerns about this place . . . is it too far, are the prices too high, is the room private enough? Good things: $1 draft, $2 margaritas, excellent food, good service, free room.

Denny's: They are conveniently located off the East-West Expressway (SR408) on Highway 436 just south of Lake Underhill. They have domestic beer and wine, cheap food that is good, and a totally private room that is very nice. Concerns: They charge $45 for the room unless we ring up a bill for $150.

Friday's Front Row: Mark is checking on this location, it is near the west side plant. Concerns: Is the room private enough, and do we need to move closer to the east side for a while?

If you have an idea of a place, please give them a call and check the following criteria before bringing it to the meeting on October 12th. We need a room big enough to hold 40 people, private for guest speakers, able to be dark for slide shows, serves alcohol, no fee for the room use, individual checks, reasonably priced food, convenient to both east and west plants. Trust me, it's not that easy!

E-mail (mccleske@netwide.net) or call me at 273-6655 with any input you have. I did notice a "Lease Pending" sign on the old Chi Chi's the other day. Maybe that will be an option for us in the future. The location and price were certainly great there!

Wendy McCleskey

MARTIN DIVE CLUB
MP 60
2924 Crystal Creek Blvd
Orlando FL 32837

Upcoming Events

October 2-9 - Dive Trip: Scuba Club Cozumel, Sold Out
October 12 - Meeting: Social, Business, Cozumel Trip Show & Tell? at Johnny Rivers' Smokehouse
October 29-31 - Non-Dive (Party) Trip: Fantasy Fest, Last Chance!
November 9 - Meeting: Photo Contest
December 5 - "Not a Meeting": **Holiday Party** at Lee's Lakeside