



MARTIN DIVE CLUB

News

May 2001



Christine DiRienzo at May 8th Meeting

“Dolphin Behavior and Its Meaning”

Come join your **MARTIN DIVE CLUB** friends at Johnny Rivers' Smokehouse restaurant on Tuesday, May 8th, to hear Christine DiRienzo tell us of her experiences working with marine mammals, specifically the *Tursiops Truncatus* (Bottlenose dolphin). As usual, the gathering will kick off at 6:30 pm with socializing and happy hour.

Christine, currently with the Dolphin Research Center and Theater of the Sea in the Florida Keys, will speak to us about:

- The anatomy and senses of dolphins
- Dolphin behavior and its meaning
- How dolphins are trained
- The Marine Mammal Protection Act.



Ms. DiRienzo holds a bachelor's degree in marine biology. She has interned and worked at marine mammal stranding centers in the Northeast and currently works as a trainer at the Dolphin Research Center and Theater of the Sea. There she is responsible for training new behaviors, maintaining current behaviors and husbandry criteria, and

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establishing show and swim standards. Christine's extensive background includes internships at various dolphin facilities in Florida, Hawaii, and Mexico and participation at many marine mammal conferences and seminars throughout the U.S. She has been a member of the International Marine Animal Trainers Association for 3 years. Her diving experience includes certifications (through PADI) in Open Water, Advanced Open Water, Enriched Air, Rescue, and Deep Diving specialties.



At 7 pm, Johnny's will be serving a 'Gospel Feast' dinner for \$10 per person, including tax and tip. You will be served a platter of some of our favorites: spare rib, pulled pig, 1/4 chicken, bread, cole slaw, and baked beans. Your drink orders will be handled separately; please pay your server accordingly. Drinks are at happy hour prices until 7 pm.



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.

President's Column

Hello Fellow Divers!

Last month we had Tom Berkery as our speaker. Tom is the owner of the Florida Dive Center in Orlando and the CEO of Oceans Unlimited, a commercial diving venture. Tom related his experiences concerning both 'Skippering' and being the Dive Safety Supervisor for *National Geographic* magazine as well as his experiences as Head Divemaster at the Walt Disney World's EPCOT Living Seas. Tom's presentation was quite entertaining and provided many insights into the world of commercial diving. Door prizes were generously provided by Greg Holt of *ScubaRadio*.

This month the **CLUB** welcomes Christine DiRienzo of the Dolphin Research Center and Theatre of the Sea located in the Florida Keys. Christine will be speaking on the topic of Dolphin Behavior and Its Meaning. Christine promises to be a very entertaining and informative speaker.

REMEMBER! Your annual \$20 membership renewal to the **MARTIN DIVE CLUB** is now due. Your continued support makes it possible for **MDC** to sponsor great diving experiences to divers here in Central Florida! Please plan on paying your dues at this May meeting or contact Jim Streeter, our Treasurer, at (407) 356-2377. Thanks!

In April, **MDC** was diving around Little Cayman on a trip led by dive-veterans Wendy and Mike McCleskey. I am looking forward to hearing their trip report at the meeting!

There are a number of exceptional **MDC** dive trips imminently approaching in the next few months. Marie Frank is leading a dive trip to Looe Key from May 11th through 13th. Bill Paskert is heading up the trip to Ocean Fest in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, which will take place from May 18th through 20th. Jim and Karen Streeter are leading the way on a Shark Tooth Hunt at Venice Beach on June 22nd and 23rd. Grace Hampton is leading a trip to Bonaire from June 30th through July 7th. July 7th and July 8th will also see Marie Frank leading a trip to Key Biscayne. There are many exciting dive trips at exceptional value underway this year through the **CLUB**! Get in touch with the individual trip leaders to determine how many openings exist on the trip or trips you would like to accompany. Additional details concerning these and other **MDC**-sponsored dive trips are located in this newsletter!

I look forward to seeing each of you at the May 8th meeting at Johnny Rivers!

Bob Grapentine

Your Officers and Staff

President Bob Grapentine	(407) 306-6914	Activity Chairperson Mike McCleskey	(407) 273-6655
Vice President Marie Frank	(407) 356-8256	Meeting Chairperson Karen Streeter	(407) 351-1514
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Ginnie Springs Camping Trip



Was that where we were suppose to turn?!?! Hey Dean, this is what the sign looks like!



The Rolape's Chalet



Dean's bachelor pad



Nick and Josh's dormitory



They really don't shop together!



The Before Shot!



Nick left washing the dishes!



*The After Shot!
NO MORE
LEAKING MASK!
(Clue: check out
the moustache)*



*Chuck invited us over to "gear-up"
before the dive*



Nothing like a nice campfire!



*Okay, it's not REAL camping unless
it rains!*

*Ed. Note: Thanks to
Gwen and Ralph Rolape for these
photos and captions*



Boynton Beach July 21-22



What is missing from these pictures?

You, of course!!



Join the **CLUB** for some tranquil drift diving in Boynton Beach, Florida. Boynton Beach is south of West Palm and north of Fort Lauderdale. It is about a 3-hour drive from Orlando. It is not as far as the Keys, and the diving is better.

This trip includes a two-tank dive Saturday afternoon, one-night accommodations, and a two-tank dive Sunday morning. A continental breakfast courtesy of the Holiday Inn Express is also included. Tanks are not included but they are available for rent. Both air and nitrox are available.

We will be diving with Splashdown Divers (<http://www.splashdowndivers.com>) and staying at the Holiday Inn Express (<http://www.boyntonbeach.com/frames/guide2.html>) at I-95 and Boynton Beach Blvd.

Where: Boynton Beach

When: July 21-22, 2001

Cost: \$140 per diver

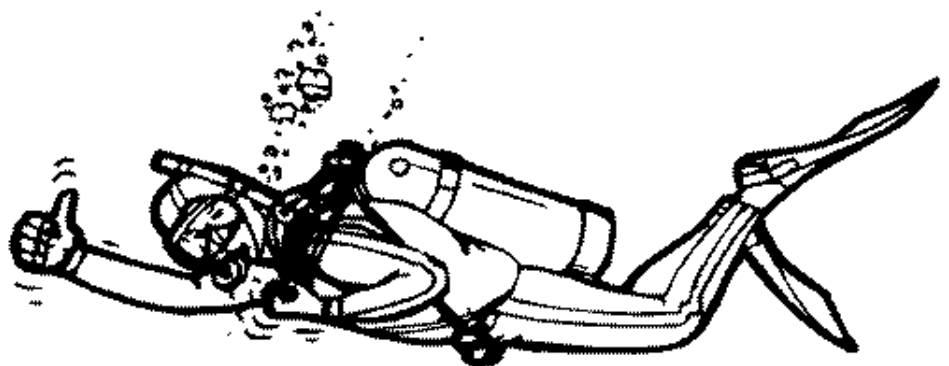
Deposit: \$50, due June 22

Contact: Chuck Brown

charles.d.brown@lmco.com

(407) 356-8038 (W)

(407) 856-0026 (H)



Tom Berkery at Our April Meeting

National Geographic Diving Expeditions

We started last month's meeting with a little business. First, we greeted some guests - Don Phillips, Lee Hood (with Jeff Thomason), and Don Russ. We acknowledged Lockheed Martin's sponsorship of our **CLUB** and \$300 donation. Gwen and Ralph Rolape gave a trip report of their camping and diving trip to Ginnie Springs (see photo coverage elsewhere in this issue).

Greg Holt, the originator and principal at ScubaRadio told of the latest developments on the "World's First Radio Show Devoted to Diving." It's expanding to 2 hours and moving to 3 pm on Saturday afternoon on WFLA 540 AM. Greg and his crew will be at Ocean Fest for a live, remote broad-

but grew to a commercial diving business taking on jobs like the marine survey required for the construction of the new Interstate 4 bridge over the St. Johns River. It also trains Orange County Sheriff's Department Search and Recovery divers.

Tom told us of some of the adventures the *National Geographic* crew had in cruising the Caribbean, including tales of modern-day pirates, for real.

At the close of his discussion, Tom announced that the Florida Dive Center is giving **CLUB** members a 15% discount at the store.



cast and our members tripping to Lauderdale-by-the-Sea for that weekend are welcome to drop by the *ScubaRadio* booth.

Then our speaker for the evening, Tom Berkery, told us his experiences working with *National Geographic* magazine film expeditions and Walt Disney World's EPCOT Living Seas.

Tom is the owner of Florida Dive Center and CEO of Oceans Unlimited. Tom is a Florida native, who began diving on vacations in Miami. He was certified when he was 16 years old. He has been diving for 13 years, logging almost 2000 dives.

Tom was a boat captain and dive safety supervisor for *National Geographic* magazine and was also head divemaster at EPCOT Living Seas. He had fond memories of his early days of diving - ranging from 'grunt' diving for a Mexican shell collector to his first assignments on some of Walt Disney World's aquatic transportation services.

Oceans Unlimited started as a snorkel trip service for tourists visiting the Central Florida area,

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Last, but certainly not least, we had our famous door prize event. Our thanks to ScubaRadio, and remember to mention the **MARTIN DIVE CLUB** when visiting our local dive merchants.

Winner	Prize
Karen Streeter	Galapagos Agressor CD
Ariel Berkery	Galapagos Agressor CD
Lee Hood	SeaVision mug
Paul Phillips	Agressor Fleet video
Bob Grapentine	Agressor Fleet video
Jim Streeter	Collection bag
Joshua Hayes	T-shirt
Dean Hayes	T-shirt
Shelly Hayes	T-shirt
Jeff Thomason	T-shirt
Mark DuBiel	T-shirt
Don Russ	Habitat Curacao hat
Wendy McCleskey	Wipe Away Pain
Ralph Rolape	Wipe Away Pain
Sheila Grapentine	Wipe Away Pain
Joanne Rowley	Wipe Away Pain
Chuck Brown	Wipe Away Pain
Bill Paskert	Wipe Away Pain



In the Monthly Raffle, Gwen Rolape and Sheila Grapentine won bottles of fine wine.

Let's Check out 'Ocean Oasis' at the Orlando Science Center

Join the **MARTIN DIVE CLUB** for dinner and a Cinedome screening of "Ocean Oasis" at the Orlando Science Center on Saturday, June 9th. We will meet at Chapters Book Shop and Cafe in College Park for dinner, and then head over to the Science Center for the 7 pm show.

"Ocean Oasis" is a stunning, giant-screen film featuring the Baja California peninsula and the Sea of Cortés, one of the world's richest and most beautiful ecosystems. It explores the nutrient-rich cool waters inhabited by gray whales, manta rays,



moray eels, sharks, and brilliantly colored corals; coastal communities of enormous elephant seals, and gulls and terns by the tens of thousands; desert conditions so dry that some animals have developed adaptations that allow them to survive without ever drinking water; and snow-covered mountains that soar nearly 2 miles into the sky.

Please contact Wendy McCleskey at (407) 273-6655 for more information.

Scuba Equipment Check List

	Pre-Check	Final Check		Pre-Check	Final Check
Mask			Dive Tables		
Snorkel & Keeper			Log Book		
Fins			Certification Card		
Dive Skin			Dry Box		
Wet Suit			Backpack		
Boots			Goody Bag		
Dive Socks			Fishing License		
Gloves			U/W Camera & Film		
Hood			Regular Camera & Film		
Weight Belt & Pockets			Flash Strobe		
Weights			Batteries		
Buoyancy Compensator			Slate		
Whistle			Spare Parts Kit		
Tanks (Filled)			Swim Suit		
Regulator			Towel		
Alternate Air Source			Sunscreen		
Pressure Gauge			First Aid Kit		
Depth Gauge			Money for Emergency		
Compass			Money for Air Fills, Food, Tips		
Dive Computer			Tootsie Roll Pops & Candy		
Watch or Timer			Passport		
Knife, Scissors, or Line Cutter			Lobster Nets		
Thermometer			Tickle Stick		
Mask Cleaner			Lobster Gauge		
Mask Defog			Vaseline		
Dive Light & Batteries			Calamine Lotion		
Strobe or Chemical Light			Insect Repellent		
Dive Flag			Motion Sickness Medication		
Directions to Dive Site			Medical Prescriptions		
Sunglasses					
Hat					

Contributed by Gwen Rolape

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Safety Chairperson

You've Lost Your Mask —Now What?

—by David Taylor

Mask skills? Haven't practiced them since open-water class? Know this—one day your world is gonna get very blurry. And then?

We toss them unprotected into gear bags as if they were mere trifles, leave them facedown on rough, salty boat decks as if they were wreck reels. In reality, our windows on the liquid world are a delicate and essential piece of gear. They create an air space that allows our eyes to focus and a pocket for our nose to allow an equalizing snort that prevents the dreaded raccoon eyes of mask squeeze. And here's the deal: mistreat them long enough, bad enough, and one day your underwater world will suddenly become very blurry. When it does:



Step 1: Don't panic

Remember, you need your mask to see clearly, 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. Many police officers have never fired their side arm in self-defense. But they still must regularly qualify on the pistol range. Never take emergency skills for granted.

Step 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 to break the seal, the strap coming loose or breaking, or the strap buckle failing.

Step 3: Replace and clear it

In most instances, you will be able to reposition the mask on your face and clear it using the appropriate technique for your mask type (purge valve/non-purge valve; high volume/low volume). 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. Don't forget to make a safety stop, if practical.

Step 4: Get guidance

If your mask has become non-functional due to cracking of the faceplate, a torn skirt or unplanned trip into the inky depths, signal your buddy for assistance to make a controlled ascent. Again, if practical, include a safety stop.

Step 5: Use your spare mask

Unless you have one, your diving day is probably over. You do carry a save-a-dive kit, don't you?

Pro Tips

- If you buy your mask at a professional retail store, you should have a hard case. Keep it and use it in your travel kit and your onboard gear bag.
- When you and a buddy are practicing your mask skills during your next training dive, try this old pro trick: Give your mask to your buddy. Cup your hands below your eyebrows and around your eyes. Now, exhale bubbles into your cupped hands and look down. When done properly, you can displace enough water to create an air space to allow your eyes to focus.
- Oh, that black stuff that gets on your mask's silicone skirt? It's called "mold," or "the fungus among us." Try some Soft Scrub or toothpaste to clean up your act, and make sure your mask is completely dry next time before storing it—in its hard case, of course.

Gwen Rolape

Information for this article was obtained from:

<http://www.scubadiving.com/training/DLAP/aug99.shtml>

MDC 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) 306-5020 and leave a message!

Check out this newsletter on our **CLUB** home page at: <http://www.martindiveclub.org> or behind the Lockheed Martin firewall at: <http://www.mis.orl.lmco.com:2424/mdc/mdchome.html>

Editor's 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 (407) 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: wpaskert@cfl.rr.com
- Fax (please call before sending) at work: (407) 356-7337; or at home: (407) 678-5311.

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2001 Dive Schedule

Date	Location	Contact*	Cost
Feb 15-16 (Th-F) OR Feb 16-17 (F-Sat)	Manatees - Crystal River Snorkeling	Mike McCleskey	\$55/65/pp
Mar 23-25 (F-Sun)	Ginnie Springs Campout and Dive	Ralph & Gwen Rolape	\$90/pp
Apr 13-20 (F-F)	Little Cayman Beach Resort	Mike McCleskey	\$1900/pp
May 11-13 (F-Sat-Sun)	Looe Key	Marie Frank	\$167/pp
May 18-20 (F-Sat-Sun)	Ocean Fest - Ft. Lauderdale	Bill Paskert	\$100/pp
Jun 2-3 (Sat-Sun)	Riviera Beach - Rampage	Phil Stasik**	\$100/pp
Jun 22-23 (F-Sat)	Venice Beach	Jim & Karen Streeter	\$50/pp
Jun 30 - Jul 7 (Sat-Sat)	Bonaire	Grace Hampton**	\$1145/pp
Jul 7-8 (Sat-Sun)	Key Biscayne	Marie Frank	\$135/pp
Jul 21-22 (Sat-Sun)	Boynton Beach	Chuck Brown	\$140/pp
Aug 2-5 (Th-F-Sat-Sun)	Marathon	Gwen & Ralph Rolape	\$250/pp
Aug 11 (Sat)	Boynton Lobster Dive	John Lawlor**	\$60/pp
Aug 30 - Sep 6 (Th-Th)	Cozumel (from Orlando)	Marie Frank	\$995/pp
Oct 26-28 (F-Sat-Sun)	Fantasy Fest, Key West	Mike McCleskey	\$155/pp

* Questions? Call Mike McCleskey, our Activity Chairperson

** KSC Barracudas trip



MARTIN DIVE CLUB

MP-006

4021 Seabridge Drive

Orlando FL 32839

(407) 306-5020

Upcoming Events

May 8 - Meeting: Dolphins, Christine Di Rienzo

May 11-13 - Trip: Looe Key

May 18-20 - Trip: Ocean Fest 2001, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea

June 12 - Meeting: Greg Holt, *ScubaRadio*

June 22-23 Trip: Venice Beach, Shark Tooth Hunt

