



LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB

News

July 2008



July Meeting

Beautiful, Bountiful Belize

Come to our July 8th meeting to learn about one of the Caribbean's best dive destinations - Belize. Chuck Brown and Terry Keeney enjoyed the Belize Aggressor with a gaggle of the KSC Barracudas and *Lockheed Martin Dive Club*.

Sleek tarpon, massive grouper, and elegant eagle rays are among the 500 species of fish that you may encounter while exploring Lighthouse Reef and Turneffe Islands. Belize's offshore barrier reef is the longest in the western hemisphere! Countless colorful cayes plunge deep into the Caribbean Sea. These sheer walls are decorated with giant barrel sponges, yellow tube sponges, and over 70 other types of hard corals.

On top of all that, Chuck and Terry just can't go diving without turning it into a game. Here's what they got up to this time:



The mission, should the divers choose to accept it, was to have fun finding fish creatures.

Come to the meeting to find out about the winners of the James Bond Fish I.D. Contest, and Team Nancy's unscrupulous behavior and subsequent disqualification!



See 'Belize', page 5 and 6

We'll be gathering at around 6:30 p.m., with the evening's presentation beginning at 7:00 p.m. Afterwards, we hold our "formal" meeting covering **CLUB** business and member trip reports, followed by our great door prizes.



WELCOME TO THE SHACK!

The meeting will be at Joe's Crab Shack, which is located at 4601 South Semoran Boulevard in Orlando [phone (407) 658-9299]. It's south of SR 408 (the East-West Expressway) on the east side of SR 436, between Pershing and Gatlin.

President's Column

Hello fellow divers,

Now that the dust has settled from the elections and the Board has completed its first meeting with the second one scheduled right around the corner, I took the time to review the **Club** Bylaws. What better way is there to make sure the **Club** is headed in the right direction?

Did you know that we have six objectives in the Bylaws for the **Club**? Some of the objectives include: a desire to create an interest in and to promote recreational SCUBA diving and related underwater activities, and to encourage the development of knowledge, skills, and habits to increase diver safety and enjoyment. But, we are also charged with promoting the development of good sportsmanship and friendship among the members.

As I reviewed the Bylaws (in essence our job responsibilities as Board members), I was thinking the only way these responsibilities could be improved was if we were paid to do them! Where else can you find objectives that basically tell you to go out and have fun, do it safely, make friends, and enjoy yourself in a recreational sport that almost everyone can participate in? I continued reviewing and soon realized these are the **Club** objectives, not the Board of Directors objectives.

As **Club** members, we are all bound by the Bylaws and charged with having a great time and helping to promote safe diving. The best way to do that is to get involved with the **Club** and our activities. In essence go dive more. Is this a great **Club** or what?

I would also ask that you, as a member, help us by actively participating in not only the activities created by the **Club**, but I also encourage each of you to get involved with the planning of future activities. Look around and see how you can improve your skills as an active diver and **Club** member. We are always looking for people interested in diving or becoming certified. Invite them or, better yet, offer to bring them to a **Club** meeting. You will find helping someone else experience the pleasure of SCUBA diving is rewarding itself.

Remember while you are looking for dive destinations, you don't have to go to the Caribbean or fly to some exotic destination to freshen up those safety skills. We have plenty of diving available locally. If you're pressed for time, money, or maybe both, try a local private spring or one of the State Parks. They are close and inviting!

In closing, I want to mention we are putting together a fantastic dive schedule for next year, and you are going to want to get in to shape before you get in to the water! In the meantime, we have some great trips going on through our sister club, the Kennedy Space Center Barracudas. Don't be shy about contacting them for any information on the trips they have on their schedule. You can view their calendar at by going to their web site at:

www.mindspring.com/~cudas/home.html

Keep diving and enjoy the adventure!

Jim Kennedy

Your Club Leadership

<p>President Jim Kennedy (352) 874-3305</p> <p>Vice President Wendy McCleskey (407) 273-6655</p> <p>Secretary Nancy Wileden (407) 971-8525</p> <p>Treasurer Denise Aldridge (407) 568-2060</p> <p>Director at Large Cherie Berry (407) 760-0906</p> <p>Board of Directors</p> <p>Chuck Brown (407) 856-0026</p> <p>Mike McCleskey (407) 808-6453</p> <p>Bill Paskert (407) 356-2290</p>	<p>Committee Chairs</p> <p>Activity Marie Frank (321) 945-4244</p> <p>Camera Art Beaulieu (407) 856-9088</p> <p>Communications Bill Paskert (407) 356-2290</p> <p>Equipment Bill Paskert (407) 356-2290</p> <p>Meeting Wendy McCleskey (407) 273-6655</p> <p>Membership Denise Aldridge (407) 568-2060</p> <p>Merchandise Al Wileden (407) 356-8954</p> <p>Safety and Training Bill Fidler (407) 658-4797</p> <p>Webmaster Stuart Gibson (407) 421-4164</p>
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2008 Activities

Below is information on several of our planned activities. Please refer to the following schedule for further details and contact information.

KSC Barracudas

KSC Barracudas is our sister club. We can participate in their activities on par with their members and they in ours. Their activity schedule is posted on their website; the link is shown on our schedule.

Lockheed Martin Dive Club 2008 Activity Schedule

Date	Event	Contact	Participants	Deposit Amount	Cut-off Date	Total Cost
Oct 24-26	Fantasy Fest, Key West mike.mccleskey@e-components.com	Mike McCleskey 407-808-6453	20	\$100	Aug 15	\$220
Nov	Snorkel with the Manatees cheryl.berry@lmco.com	Cherie Berry (o) 407-306-5919 (c) 407-760-0906	12	TBD	TBD	TBD
Dec 7	Holiday Party wendy@maid4u.net	Wendy McCleskey 407-273-6655	40	\$0	Nov 30	\$25, est.

For information on dive trips by the KSC Barracudas Dive Club, please see their website:

<http://www.mindspring.com/~cudas/home.html>



Raptorial jaws in the throat help moray eels swallow large prey

Nature 449, 79-82 (6 September 2007)

Rita S. Mehta & Peter C. Wainwright

Most bony fishes rely on suction mechanisms to capture and transport prey. Once captured, prey are carried by water movement inside the oral cavity to a second set of jaws in the throat, the pharyngeal jaws, which manipulate the prey and assist in swallowing. Moray eels display much less effective suction-feeding abilities. Given this reduction in a feeding mechanism that is widespread and highly conserved in aquatic vertebrates, it is not known how moray eels swallow large fish and cephalopods. Here we show that the moray eel (*Muraena retifera*) overcomes reduced suction capacity by launching raptorial pharyngeal jaws out of its throat and into its oral cavity, where the jaws grasp the struggling prey animal and transport it back to the throat and into the oesophagus. This is the first described case of a vertebrate using a second set of jaws to both re-

strain and transport prey, and is the only alternative to the hydraulic prey transport reported in teleost fishes. The extreme mobility of the moray pharyngeal jaws is made possible by elongation of the muscles that control the jaws, coupled with reduction of adjacent gill-arch structures. The discovery that pharyngeal jaws can reach up from behind the skull to grasp prey in the oral jaws reveals a major innovation that may have contributed to the success of moray eels as apex predators hunting within the complex matrix of coral reefs. This alternative prey transport mode is mechanically similar to the ratcheting mechanisms used in snakes—a group of terrestrial vertebrates that share striking morphological, behavioural and ecological convergence with moray eels.

See video at:

www.nature.com/nature/videoarchive/jaws/index.html



Posterior placement of the pharyngeal jaws in relation to the skull. The arrow points to the pharyngeal jaws.



Pharyngeal jaws in their protracted position. The arrow points to the upper pharyngo-branchial.

Lockheed Martin Dive Club Does Cozumel

Eleven **Club** members (George McGuire, Don Russ, Eric Davies, Art Beaulieu, Russ Niewold, Charles and Jean McKenry, Warren and Matt Musacchia, Sue Rauckman, and Marie Frank) and three non-divers (Mickey Niewold, and Karla and CJ Musacchia) recently enjoyed a week of diving and fun in Cozumel, Mexico. Coming from various locations on diverse flights, they arrived in Cozumel on Saturday, June 7, and left a week later.



Don and black grouper get acquainted - ggm
Photo by George McGuire

In this time of generally rising prices at dive destinations, Cozumel remains one of the best values around. It had been 4 years since the **Club** last went to Cozumel. The wonder is that we didn't go back sooner. Hopefully we won't wait so long to return.



Scuba Club's front door - edd
Photo by Eric Davies



Caribbean reef octopus - ggm
Photo by George McGuire

The trip featured 7 days room and board at Scuba Club Cozumel and 5 two-tank boat dives. The dives took place along the beautiful Palancar Reef on the west side of Cozumel. Visibility was great, water temperature was in the low 80's, and the current was ever present. When they weren't engaged in the package dives, trip participants enjoyed a number of other activities, including:

Shopping for bargains.

Additional diving – night boat diving, wreck diving on the *Felipe Xicotencatl* (C-53), and diving the “Devil’s Throat”, as well as unlimited shore diving in front of Scuba Club Cozumel.

Exploring Cozumel, including its wild east side.

Climbing to the top of the 126-foot high Nohoch Mul pyramid at Coba, the tallest in the Yucatan.



Don reaching the top of the pyramid at Coba - ggm
Photo by George McGuire



Photo by Art Beaulieu



Photo by Eric Davies

I will present a slide show of pictures from the Cozumel trip at the August meeting. I expect to have pictures from the trip posted to my website (www.octoeight.smugmug.com) by the end of July.

George McGuire

Belize, from page 1



Photo by George McGuire



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-93
- E-mail at work: william.paskert@lmco.com; or at home: wpaskert@cfl.rr.com

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) 306-5020 and leave a message!

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

Beneath the Blue Heron Bridge

A dive beneath the Blue Heron Boulevard Bridge over Lake Worth in Riviera Beach almost always reveals a rare creature. This month's picture is of a longsnout seahorse. According to the book Reef Fish Identification, these seahorses are rare in Florida. This one lives happily beneath the bridge.

George McGuire



Belize, from page 1



LOCKHEED MARTIN DIVE CLUB

MP-93

1249 Sunflower Trail

Orlando FL 32828

(407) 306-5020

www.martindiveclub.org

Upcoming Events

Jul 8 **Meeting:** Belize - Chuck Brown and Terry Keeney

Aug 12 **Meeting:** Cozumel - George McGuire

Sep 9 **Meeting:** TBD

Oct 14 **Meeting:** Diving Myths - Alex Brylske, DAN

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