



Lockheed Martin Dive Club

May 2020

MAY MEETING CANCELLED

Mark your calendars - Dive Club Meeting June 9.

Presidents Message

May is usually a very exciting time for the club members as we are typically executing our annual Keys trip where we explore the reefs and deep water wrecks, but unfortunately the social distancing continues and we are limited to max group sizes of 10, meaning this just wasn't possible. As we are very hopeful for the return to normal, we once again are going to need to cancel this months dive club meeting, as we cannot and should not attempt a group meeting until next month. Additionally, our normal election cycle would be held in May, but because of social distancing, and the club bylaws, that too will wait until next month. Which means, if you would like to get off the sidelines and make a difference with planning, scheduling, accounting, or even presenting we could use your help and would love for you to let us know so we can pencil you in. As described in last month's newsletter we have a few presentations just waiting. Please keep a lookout for the webinars on Meetup where you can learn about coral reef restoration from the comfort of your own computer. Stay safe and get wet!

\$\$ Dues are due! \$\$

It's that time of year again. Lockheed Martin Dive Club dues are due in March. Due to the recent meetings being cancelled the deadline has been extended. You'll want to get your dues in early so you can enjoy all the exciting dives and activities that the Club has planned for you this year.

Dues are still only \$25 per year (\$20 if you are a current DAN member). Dues may 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, 5299 Southeast 92nd St, Ocala, FL 34480.

Call for Nominations

The dive club elections in have been delayed until June since the club May meeting has been cancelled due coronavirus. Elected officers consist of President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. Three members are elected to the Board of Directors. A Director at Large position is filled by the immediate past president.

Currently the elected positions are being filled by the persons shown below. Mike Smetana (President), Chuck Brown (Vice President), Bob Claudy (Director), Joshua Childs (Director) and Terry Keeney (Director) have agreed to continue in their current positions.

If you would like to volunteer to fill the Treasurer or Secretary position in the club please contact Carol Comstock, (cstock520@gmail.com).

Table 1 Martin Dive Club Officers 2019-2020

Position	Name
President	Mike Smetana
Vice-president	Chuck Brown
Secretary	Mike McCleskey
Treasurer	Keri Pitts
Director at Large	Carol Comstock
Director	Bob Claudy
Director	Joshua Childs
Director	Terry Keeney

“Conservation Conversations” Free webinar series continues

The Florida Sea Grant Extension office in partnership with Miami-Dade County ECO Adventures is offering a free weekly webinar series called “Conservation Conversations.” on Fridays. It will feature presentations given by ECO Adventures staff and the Florida Sea Grant Extension office staff about topics that are local and relevant to Florida.

This week, Friday May 8th “Conservation Conversations” is traveling inland. Please join Nick Nuñez of Miami EcoAdventures as he presents an invasive species focus on feral cats. Learn about why these animals can be problematic, and what you can do to help!

Sign up on the UF / IFAS Extension Miami-Dade County Sea Grant Extension office [Facebook](#) page

The UF / IFAS Extension Miami-Dade County Sea Grant Extension office will post the topic and registration links to the week’s webinars every Monday on their social media pages ([Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)).

These webinars will be about 30 minutes total and offer the opportunity for educational interaction. If participating via phone, you will have to download the Zoom app. If you are on a desktop or laptop, all you should have to do is click “Open Zoom Meetings/Launcher” when that dialogue box pops up.

Last Months "Conservation Conversations" Webinar Series have been recorded on Zoom. They can be viewed at the following links:

Date	Topic/Recording/Sign-Up	Presenter
4/10/20	Lionfish Recording of 1 pm session (Lionfish), start at 3:15	Ana Zangroniz
4/17/20	Sea Turtles Recording of 5 pm session (Sea Turtles), start at 19:38	Ed Pritchard
4/24/20	Marine Debris Recording of 5 pm session (Marine Debris), start at 00:13	Cristal Espinosa

5/1/20

Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease
[Recording of 5 pm session \(SCTLD\), start at 00:07](#)

Ana Zangroniz

Ana Zangroniz
Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent
Please follow me on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram!](#)

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Virtual Dives

Since social distancing has made life virtual how about trying a virtual dive from our friends at NOAA

Immerse yourself in the ocean and your national marine sanctuaries without getting wet! These virtual reality voyages use 360-degree images to highlight the amazing habitats, animals, and cultural resources you can find in each national marine sanctuary.

<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/vr/>

Thanks to Norm Donkersloot for this website link.

Blue Heron Bridge diving with the Martin Dive Club

Phil Foster Park is currently closed. Due to the uncertainty of when the park will be reopened by Palm Beach County the June 5th dive has been cancelled.

Join the Martin Dive Club for an excursion to the world-famous Blue Heron Bridge (BHB). The dive at BHB is a shore dive originating from Phil Foster Park in Palm Beach County. Dives are best conducted at high tide. Dives at high slack tide take advantage of mild currents and better visibility.

Divers in Florida must display a diver down flag when in the water. BHB is no exception. Come prepared. If you need to purchase a flag or any other gear, the Force-E SCUBA Center at 155 East Blue Heron Blvd Riviera Beach is available. Pura Vida Divers at 2513 Beach Ct, Riviera Beach, is also there to provide for your needs.

The beach area at Phil Foster Park closes at sunset. Special provisions for night dives are arranged through the local dive shops, Force-E, and Pura Vida.

Blue Heron Bridge References:

<https://www.puravidadivers.com/dive-blue-heron-bridge-phil-foster-park>

<https://www.force-e.com/go-diving/shore-dive-sites/blue-heron-bridge-at-phil-foster-park/>

<https://www.tdisdi.com/sdi-diver-news/diving-the-blue-heron-bridge/>

<http://discover.pbcgov.org/parks/Locations/Phil-Foster.aspx>

If you are interested in joining the Martin Dive Club for a BHB dive contact the coordinator shown in the activity schedule.



Lockheed Martin Dive Club 2020 Activity Schedule

Date	Event	Contact	MDC/Barra cudas	Particip ants	Deposit Amount	Cut-off Date	Total Cost
3/5/20	Disney EPCOT DiveQuest	Marie Frank mariefrank2010@gmail.com	MDC	12	\$100	2/11/20	\$106.50
6/5/2020 cancelled	Blue Heron Bridge Night Dive, High Tide 9:16 PM (8:07 PM to 9:45 PM), Full Moon, 8:11 PM Sunset, Force-E Scuba Center	Michael Smetana michael.smetana@lmco.com 321-720-9694	MDC	No limit	\$0	-	\$0
6/26/20	Blue Heron Bridge Day Dive, High Tide 1:10 PM , Backup Date 7/10/2020 (12:55 PM)	Chuck Brown cbrown4664@cfl.rr.com 407-267-6511	MDC	No limit	\$0	-	\$0
7/24/20	Blue Heron Bridge Day Dive, High Tide 12:01 PM	Chuck Brown cbrown4664@cfl.rr.com 407-267-6511	MDC	No limit	\$0	-	\$0

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) with inputs

Upcoming Activities

5/12 - General Meeting Cancelled

6/9 General Meeting
