

**JACKSONVILLE REEF RESEARCH TEAM (JRRT)
MONTHLY MEETING**

DATE/TIME

Wednesday, 17 June 2009, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

LOCATION

Jacksonville Public Library – Southeast Regional Branch, 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd,
Jacksonville, FL 32256

ATTENDEES

Sue Wilcox, President	Joe Kistel
Phil Harville, Public Relations	Dana Morton, City of Jacksonville
Bill Lindholm, Treasurer	Anna DeLoach
Larry Davis, Dive Safety Officer	Gene Langeman
Mike Barnes, Training Coordinator	Scott Schlueter
Mason Cooper	Katina Zaros
Aaron Rouse	

PUBLIC RELATIONS (PHIL HARVILLE)

- Banner – 3 x 5-feet. Would be on vinyl, with a red dive flag as the background.
- John Perkner had asked to keep one of the JRRT flags with his boat. It was agreed that would be fine.
- Adopt-a-Highway
 - 01 August 2009
 - This will be our 4th required quarterly cleanup for the contract year.
- International Coastal Cleanup
 - Saturday, 19 September 2009
 - http://www.oceanconservancy.org/site/PageServer?pagename=icc_home
 - JRRT will be the “site captain” for this event at the Little Jetties in Mayport.
- Florida Sportsman Show – 07-08 November 2009.
 - Based on last year’s experience, occurring in the fall does not seem worthwhile.
 - Perhaps have just a few team members walk around to give JRRT exposure.
- Right Whale Festival
 - December 2009 at the Beaches.
 - Sue will follow up with Elizabeth Carwell on a booth for the JRRT.
- Certificates of Appreciation from the City of Jacksonville
 - St. Johns River Cleanup
 - Let It Shine ’09 – Adopt-A-Highway
 - Sue will scan the certificates so we can post them to the JRRT website.
- JaxSpots book – no recent activity.
- Great Annual Fish Count
 - 8 July 2009
 - Anna volunteered to head the planning committee.
 - Maybe have an end of month party to celebrate.

TREASURER (BILL LINDHOLM)

- \$18,500 in account.

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- Our last grant proposal (March 2009 application) was \$14,000 – this amount needs to be set aside for the grant work.

DIVE SAFETY OFFICER (LARRY DAVIS)

- Make sure you have dive insurance.
- Get medical forms in to Larry. No forms, no diving.
- Get your equipment serviced.

TRAINING COORDINATOR (MIKE BARNES)

- Expedition – 20 June 2009. (Aaron and Mason)
 - Divers needed.
 - Will be at the Coppedge Tug.
 - Meet at 6:30 am in Mayport.
 - Participants signed up: Aaron, Mason, Bill, Kurt Gunther, Jim Davis, and Mike Barnes.
 - 2 dives (wreck mapping / fish survey / water quality / temperature / visibility)
 - Post-dive – meet at a restaurant in Mayport. All logs will be completed and given to Aaron and Mason.
 - Will present data/report at July 2009 meeting.
- New training session begins September 2009.
 - Applications due August 2009.

REEF BRIEFS (MIKE BARNES)

- Mike handed out the May 2009 edition of Reef Brief.
- It is also posted at www.jaxrrt.org.

LIONFISH (ANNA DELOACH)

- Extensive article in the most recent DAN magazine. Sue passed around her copy.
- Perhaps have Lad Adkins come up and give a talk to the diving/fishing community in northeast Florida.
- Researchers at Florida State University are studying what the lionfish eat – theory that Goliath grouper are eating lionsfish. Perkner and Sue have been providing data to them.

ARTIFICIAL REEF ACTIVITY

- ***Vandenberg***
 - Sunk ~ 6 miles off Key West on 27 May 2009.
 - Video of the sink – <http://www.fla-keys.com/>
 - <http://www.foxnews.com/photoessay/0,4644,7328,00.html>
 - Salvage hunt on ship. You can buy a slate that gives clues of things to find on the ship (40-65’).
- **St. Johns County**
 - St. Johns County is planning to deploy the “temporary” Bridge of Lions material, once it is removed.
- ***M/V Miss Lourdes***
 - Deployed 06 June 2009 off Deerfield Beach.
 - 165-foot-long freighter.

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- History – The Vessel was seized by officials June 2008 in the Miami River, with 389 pounds of cocaine on board.
- ***Spike* (Joe Kistel / Dana Morton)**
 - There have been clean-ups the past few weekends. There is still some clean-up left to do. The JOSFC has done most of the work.
 - JRRT will need to do a pre-deployment survey. Boats will be provided by the JOSFC. JOSFC is available to go out next Tuesday (23 June) or Thursday (25 June).
 - Harm's Ledge area.
 - Money has been budgeted to fix the bottom of the *Spike* (several holes were discovered while cleaning).
 - W.W. Gay will crane the tug into the water.
 - The U.S. Coast Guard has agreed to tow it out (depending on how it floats).
 - The U.S. Navy will use C4 explosives to sink the tug.
 - Using explosives means we have to address marine mammal issues. Dana obtained the marine mammal plan used with the recent sinking of the *Vandenberg*.
 - Hope to get *Spike* in water by 06 July 2009 (but no later than 27 July 2009).
 - Joe showed pictures of the *Spike*, cleaned out. Also showed pics/video of the Coppedge from the dive last weekend.
 - www.sinkthespike.com
- **City of Jacksonville – Construction Grant from FWC (Dana Morton)**
 - The City was approved for the construction grant applied for March 2008.
 - The City is working on getting out a request for proposals for a crane/barge to deploy the materials.
 - Have until 31 August 2009 to deploy the concrete material.
 - The railroad ties, originally identified at the time of the grant application, are no longer available.
 - However, COJ recently discovered materials at one of their facilities (storm water culvert pipes, junction boxes).
 - This material has a higher profile than the railroad ties; thus, a new location in deeper water will need to be identified (including pre-deployment survey).
 - Possibly Floyd's Folly / Ponte Vedra Ground.

NEXT MEETING

- Wednesday, 15 July 2009, at 6:30 PM.
- At the Southeast Regional Library.