

◆ RRT REEF BRIEF ◆

Volume 99, Issue 10

October 10, 1999

Important Dates

- 10/13** Scubanauts meeting at Wor-man's Deli on San Jose
- 10/20** 6:30 PM JAX RRT Officers/ Board meeting at JU-Reid Hall
- 10/20** 7:30 PM JAX RRT meeting

Training Dates:

Tentative student Check-out dives:

10/2 and 10/16

From Your Coordinator

October has come in like a lion (or is it a lamb?). Oh, what difference does it make! The visibility is still close to zero from the reports we have heard, and it has been raining a lot to boot! We certainly want the weather to cooperate this month because we have a great deal planned.

Our training officer, Brian Salzman, has two dates set for the initial training class check-out dives—October 2nd and October 16th. We would like nice weather for each of those dates! Wasn't it exciting to see all of the divers interested in this years' class? I got a chance to talk with most of them, and we will be looking forward to diving with them!

The Reefball program is well underway. The "Public Relations" day is scheduled for October 23, 1999. The drop is scheduled to be made in early November. Again, we will hope for some great weather to make these dates possible! This is a project that will enhance offshore Jacksonville and St. Augustine for many years to come.

A special "Thank You" to Jim Powell for his report on the reef ball project at the September meeting. You can certainly tell that he is excited about this program.

If you haven't been to a meeting recently, come to this month's meeting. You can tell that there is a lot going on. We want you to be involved with as many different activities as you want. Contact Brian if you can help with training. Contact Jim Barnes or Rob Rush if you can help with the Jazz Festival. We have a great group of volunteers, but **WE NEED YOU!**

Jim Cribb

Training

The Training Class of 1999-2000 completed its first weekend of training on October 2- 3, 1999. There were eight divers that completed the first module. The training was conducted at Magnolia Lake which is part of Camp Blanding. The training went quite well. The skill evaluation went without a hitch. Then the divers placed the grid in about fifteen minutes. Again this went quite well.

I will be repeating the training for the first module for those that could not attend the first weekend. This will also be at Magnolia Lake on October 16-17, 1999. For those that are interested, contact me at my home # 646-3241.

I wanted to thank both Billy Taylor and Frank Black for their help with the training on October 2-3. Without them the weekend would not have such a success.

See you at the next team meeting.

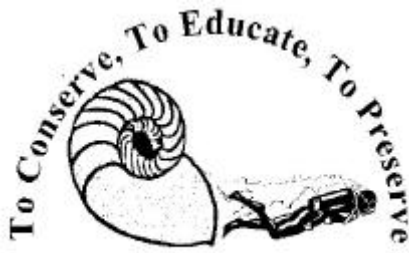
Brian

Safety Corner

Last Call for the Diver ID Tags

We have had a good response from the Team regarding the orders for the Diver ID Tags from DAN. The orders will go out after the October meeting. Remember if you do not send in your request with the Team you can order the tags from DAN individually at any time.

Many team members participate in several outdoor activities besides Scuba diving.
Continued on page 2



Jacksonville Reef Research Team

From your Vice President

On Monday night, September 27th, John Perkner, Dennis Short, Jim Barnes, Mark Dillon and myself met at Mandarin Ale House with Reef Ball VP Larry Beggs. Also present were representatives from the Offshore Club, Quint White of JU, and Ed Kalakauskis, who coordinates the Offshore Club with the towing companies. We met to hammer out details concerning an upcoming media day to kick off the Kirbo Memorial Reef and to discuss the Adopt-A-Reef Ball fundraiser project, as well as other details. Currently, the Reef Ball Project is going great guns. About 24 new balls are being produced daily with 5 different sizes being made, from the giant Ultra Ball to the little Mini Ball. The total of about 500-600 Should be ready by "drop date". Currently, the date of deployment is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6th. That date is obviously subject to the weather, and during this time of year, it is always a gamble.

The plan to do a fund raiser with the "Adopt-A-Reef Ball" project has all the earmarks of a great way to get some extra cash. This opportunity will be made available to the Team, the Offshore Club, JU, and to the Research Class at Mandarin High School. I plan to use the money my students make to get equipment to build more reef balls (project coordinator Larry Beggs is loaning Mandarin HS 4-6 forms until next spring), and to purchase some basic dive equipment to see about getting some students diving on the reef as possible future Team members (anyone

out there have a portable cement mixer we could have/borrow?).

The students at Mandarin High have already been on a field trip out to the construction site at the Music Shed, and are planning on going out to do some volunteer work on the production end. They are also planning on being there for the Media Day event on Saturday, October 23rd.

Hopefully, the media will be out in force so this project gets maximum exposure for marine science education in Duval County, and for the work the Team does in reef research. This promises to be a major coup, as far as public relations goes, so hopefully everyone will take advantage of this opportunity. If you still have not gone to the site, I would strongly suggest it before the project is over and the only way to see it is by "going down". However, from our perspective, that is not such a bad way to do it.

See you at JU,

Lex Waters

Public Relations

Well here it is October and here at Reef Research we aren't even slowing down. Normally we would be at the end of the diving season due to weather, seas, temp., etc. This year we have Reefballs to carry our excitement into November. If you don't know about Reefballs just visit Larry and the reefball crew behind the Music Shed on the river, behind the Channel 12 Tower. Approximately 600 Reefball Reefs are going to be placed offshore....WOW!....I'm impressed.

Rob Rush has volunteered to coordinate the Reef Research Team at the Jacksonville Jazz Festival this year. We typically man a booth for two to four hours on one of the evenings but this year Rob has us volunteering to man one of the booths from 3 PM to 8 PM on Saturday

November 13. I like the change in time and think it will work out better for us this year. If you haven't "worked" the Jacksonville Jazz Festival I'm here to tell you it's more fun than work. You get to meet a lot of interesting people as well as listen to some great jazz and we get to do most of it in the daylight too. We couldn't ask for a better time. So check your calendars RRT Volunteers we need a good showing for this event!

Rob does need more volunteers this year. As of last count he had about five people. We need at least ten to fifteen more. So come on RRT let's give Rob a call at 262-7653 or call one of the other officers. We need your help on this one.

Jim Barnes

757-1928

Safety *Continued from page 1*

Hiking, jogging, canoeing and cycling just to name a few. In many of these activities you may be alone with your wallet or pocket book located away from your person. Thus it is important to wear or carry some type of identification information on you at all times. Whether that information is in the form of a DAN ID TAG, military dog tag, bracelet or just an ID card placed in your pocket, you should never venture out without some type of identification .

Remember, accidents and sickness can happen at any time. You may become disoriented or unconscious. Having some sort of identification, including a brief medical alert statement (blood type, allergies, etc.) on your person, may make the difference in providing a more rapid treatment which could make the difference between life and death.

Continued on page 3

Safety *Continued from page 2***TEAM'S FIRST AID KIT**

The Team's First Aid Kit will be completely restocked by the next meeting. The kit will be brought to the October meeting and a review of its contents will be discussed.

Dennis Short

UNDERSTANDING THREATS TO CORAL REEFS

During the massive coral bleaching event in 1987, many species of coral throughout the Caribbean lost their symbiotic algae (zooxanthellae) signaling severe stress to their fragile ecosystems. Since then, other recent coral bleaching events have alarmed scientists, conservationists, and policymakers. Achieving a rational understanding of the phenomenon has been complicated by the extreme complexity of coral reef ecosystems and a lack of standardized data.

Caribbean Marine Research Center (CRMC) located at Lee Stocking Island, Bahamas, was part of a National Science Institute for Marine Science rapid response team mobilized in 1987 to study coral bleaching throughout the Caribbean. In addition to monitoring seawater temperature to help determine the role of temperature in coral bleaching, studies on shallow and deep water reefs in the Bahamas have documented the coral bleaching phenomenon using non-destructive photographic and physiological techniques. The research has provided standardized data on coral bleaching through computerized images of affected corals.

Editors note: for more detail on this and many other related subjects use the Marine Research link on the www.jaxrrt.org website.

1999 DIVE SCHEDULE

Day	Month	Dive Date	Rain Date	M	J	Location
Saturday	April	04/03	04/10		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	April	04/17	04/24		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	May	05/08	TBA	*		BB
Sunday	May	05/16	05/23		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	June	06/06	TBA	*		CR Culverts
Saturday	June	06/19	06/26		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	July	07/03	Open		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	July	07/04	TBA	*		JW
Saturday	July	07/10	07/24		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	July	07/18	TBA	*		EEF Culverts
Sunday	August	08/08	08/15		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	August	08/14	TBA	*		HH Barge
Sunday	August	08/15	08/22		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	August	08/28	TBA	*		TR Anna
Saturday	September	09/04	TBA	*		JW
Sunday	September	09/12	09/19		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	October	10/02	10/09		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	October	10/10	10/17		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	October	10/31	TBA		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	November	11/14	TBA		*	Jaxspots

Notes: M = Monitoring Dives J = Jaxspots Confirmation and Discovery Dives

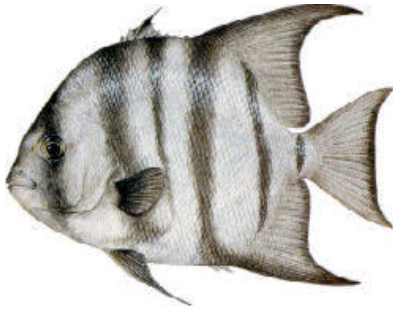
Meet at Mayport Marine promptly at 7:30 for all dives, unless specified otherwise

Contact Alex Waters at 262-5001 or John Perkner at 273-4562 with questions on the schedule.

1999 Officers/Board of Directors

President - Jim Cribb	904-264-1840 (H)	904-264-0520 (W)
Vice President - Alex Waters	904-262-5001 (H)	904-260-3911 (W)
Secretary - Mary Lyons	904-724-0324 (H)	904-708-8456 (M)
Treasurer - Jim Nelsen	904-641-0717 (H)	904-448-0305 (W)
Board/Webmaster - Ray Smith	904-389-9668 (H)	904-854-5990 (W)
Board/Chief Scientist - John Perkner	904-273-4562 (H)	904-791-5064 (W)
Board/Training Officer - Brian Salzman	904-646-3241 (H)	904-641-6611 (W)
Board/Safety Officer - Dennis Short	904-268-0414 (H)	904-332-1849 (W)
Board/Public Relations - Jim Barnes	904-757-1928 (H)	904-778-6089 (W)

**SUPPORT YOUR
NEWSLETTER BY
SENDING AN
ARTICLE OF
GENERAL
INTEREST TO THE
TEAM!**



Description: silvery with 4 to 6 black vertical bands on each side which sometimes become obscure in larger fish; deep, flattened body; separated first and second dorsal fins; concave caudal fin; anterior rays of second dorsal fin and anal fin elongated.

Similar Fish: no close resemblances, but frequently and mistakenly called angel-fish.

Where found: INSHORE and NEARSHORE, around natural and artificial reefs, and especially near navigation markers in 15 to 20 feet of water.

Size: most catches less than 2 pounds, known to reach 15 pounds.

***Florida Record:** n/a

Atlantic Spadefish

Family Ehippidae, SPADE-FISHES

Chaetodipterus faber

In This Issue...

Join us at Jacksonville University – Reid Hall!



Jacksonville Reef Research Team

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