

Clearwater

Dhahran Dive Association Newsletter

June/July 2005

A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Radi Adzemovic, President 2005

The spring has flown by. Sue and I and the kids have enjoyed two dive trips. We went camping on Abu Latt Island in the Red Sea with around 28 divers on the first Red Sea camping dive trip. The Red Sea was very cooperative – in fact it was dead calm. On this trip DDA members participated in the first ever clean up of Abu Latt – and I don't mean the first DDA clean up but the first time a serious effort to bury and burn heaps of mess was ever undertaken on Abu Latt in modern history. More recently, with my OOK children back IK, we had a family reunion dive trip earlier this month in reefs of the Farasan Banks.

Around 150 divers went to the Red Sea this past spring. They enjoyed 700 to 800 dives on 6 trips. I know that I enjoyed 14 dives this spring in the Red Sea and that I have been improving my buoyancy control on every dive since I began taking video footage of these beautiful reefs and the colorful marine life. I am really grateful for the effort that the trip organizers make in order get all the arrangements taken care of so that this many dives can be enjoyed. Thank you, Bruce, Linda, and Michael.

Now that I am on the topic of appreciation of hard work – I am also really grateful for the speakers that Linda has arranged for our first three meetings this year. The whale shark footage that Shane brought reminded me that I hope to see these huge creatures one day. If he is able to give another Monday presentation he may show footage of his dives with leopard seals in Antarctica.

I am grateful to Debbie and the many folks who put on an award winning display at this year's Fun Fest. A lot of work also went into having the Discover SCUBA morning long event. Thank you, Adel and Mike and Helmut and everyone else who took time to help the community see what diving is like. We have also enjoyed some low key movie nights this spring. Stay tuned for upcoming events and movie nights this summer and fall both on camp and at our dive beach.

Next month we will arrange two large display cabinets in the foyer of the library. Thank you, Linda for spearheading this effort to educate the community about marine life and reef health in waters surrounding the Kingdom.

I am grateful for all the board's efforts this spring and look forward to pushing ahead on several new fronts. Another recent accomplishment - all the DDA tanks were tested and cleaned thanks to Mona's initiative and hard work.

We have had a busy spring and we have done some new things but we still have a list of items to get through to hopefully bring even more diving options for members, a reef building project and marine education opportunities.

There are a number of trips listed on the website and in this edition of Clearwater. Please take a look, get signed up and make some marvelous dives this summer.



Photo by Sheryl Wright

DDA MONTHLY MEETINGS

DDA monthly meetings are held on the last Monday of the month at Ad-Diwan, Room 1, doors open at 6:00pm with a catered buffet dinner and door prizes.

SR30 for members / SR40 for guests / SR20 for kids aged 12 and under.

Our next meeting for the year is:

- **Monday, June 27 "Make your own Dive Movies" by Steve Barlow, Ad-Diwan, ROOM 1 @ 6.00pm.**

CREATURE PROFILE FEATURE

By Colin Knight

SEA HORSE: *Hippocampus fuscus*

A dive in Half Moon Bay can be great fun if focused on the interesting marine life found there. Looking for Sea Horses has become a challenge on many of my dive tours with students. These fascinating creatures are worth searching for. They mate for life, are voracious predators of microscopic fauna, and have an interesting life cycle. After a gestation period of 2 weeks, the male incubates up to 150 young in its brood pouch, each 7.5 mm long. They live up to 20 meters deep and especially like calm water, sea grass beds and artificial reefs.

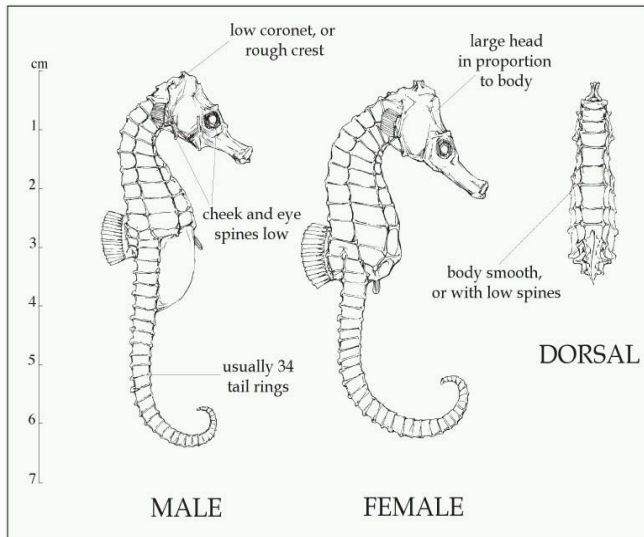
Their taxonomy is

Class: Actinopterygii (ray-finned fishes = 96% of fish),
Order: Syngnathiformes (pipefishes & seahorses),
Family: Syngnathidae (also pipefishes & seahorses),
Genus **Hippocampus** (meaning Horse Caterpillar, referring to the Horse-like head and the segmented looking tail which resembles a caterpillar's body.)



How to identify Males and Females

<http://seahorse.fisheries.ubc.ca/pdfs/IDguide/fuscus.pdf>



After two very hot summers during the past ten years, we saw a large mortality rate in the seahorses in our dive area and it was a few years before we saw them in significant numbers again. I commonly find them with their tail wrapped around rope lying on the bottom of our dive area in Half Moon Bay. Since they are sandy coloured and no more than 7cm long, you need to look closely for their distinctive shape and body armour.

4 species of the 35 species of Sea Horses have been reported in the Persian Gulf: *H. fuscus*, *H. histrix*, *H. jayakari*, *H. kuda*. Of these I believe *Hippocampus fuscus* is the species we find in Half Moon Bay. To make up your own mind visit my article: www.geocities.com/knightct/seahorse

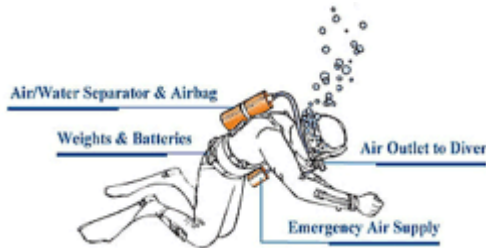
Distribution of *Hippocampus fuscus*

<http://seahorse.fisheries.ubc.ca/pdfs/IDguide/fuscus.pdf>
Indian Ocean, Red Sea, Arabian Gulf: Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Sri Lanka.



Tired of heavy scuba diving tanks? New invention lets you breathe like a fish.

Source: Isracast (Submitted by David Gruno)



General Structure of the system

An Israeli Inventor has developed a breathing apparatus that will allow breathing underwater without the assistance of oxygen tanks. This new invention will use the relatively small amounts of air that already exist in water to supply oxygen to both scuba divers and submarines. The invention has already captured the interest of most major diving manufacturers as well as the Israeli Navy.

The idea of breathing underwater without cumbersome oxygen tanks has been the dream of science fiction writers for many years. In George Lucas' movie "The Phantom Menace", Obi-Wan whips out a little Jedi underwater breathing apparatus and dives in. As things tend to happen in our world, yesterday's science fiction has turned into today's science fact due to one Israeli inventor with a dream.

There are a number of limitations to the existing oxygen tank underwater breathing method. The first is the amount of time a diver can stay underwater, which is the result of the oxygen tank capacity. Another limitation is the dependence on oxygen refueling facilities near the diving site which are costly to operate and are used to compress the gas into the tanks which might be dangerous if not handled properly. The final problem has to do with the actual use of oxygen tanks underwater. When these tanks are in use they empty out and change the balance of the diver in the water.

Engineers have tried to overcome these limitations for many years now. Nuclear submarines and the international space station use systems that generate Oxygen from water by performing 'Electrolysis', which is chemical separation of Oxygen from Hydrogen. These systems require very large amounts of energy to operate. For this reason, smaller, diesel fueled submarines cannot use these systems and are required to resurface to re-supply their oxygen tanks every so often. Divers can't even consider carrying such large machines not to mention supplying them with energy. To overcome this limitation an Israeli inventor, Alan Bodner, turned to fish.

Fish do not perform chemical separation of oxygen from water; instead they use the dissolved air that exists in the water in order to breathe. In the ocean the wind, waves and underwater currents help spread small amounts of air inside the water. Studies have shown that in a depth of 200m below the sea there is still about

1.5% of dissolved air. This might not sound like much but it is enough to allow both small and large fish to breathe comfortably underwater. Bodner's idea was to create an artificial system that will mimic the way fish use the air in the water thus allowing both smaller submarines and divers to get rid of the large, cumbersome oxygen tanks.

The general structure of the system

The system developed by Bodner uses a well known physical law called the "Henry Law" which describes gas absorption in liquids. This law states that the amount of gas that can be dissolved in a liquid body is proportional to the pressure on the liquid body. The law works in both directions – lowering the pressure will release more gas out of the liquid. This is done by a centrifuge which rotates rapidly thus creating under pressure inside a small sealed chamber containing sea water. The system will be powered by rechargeable batteries. Calculations showed that a one kilo Lithium battery can provide a diver with about one hour of diving time.

Bodner has already built and tested a laboratory model and he is on the path to building a full-scale prototype. Patents for the invention have already been granted in Europe and a similar one is currently pending examination in the U.S. Meetings have already been held with most major diving manufacturers as well as with the Israeli Navy. Initial financial support for the project has been given by Israel Ministry of Industry and Commerce and Bodner is currently looking for private investors to help complete his project.



Alan Bodner

If everything goes according to plan, in a few years the new tank less breathing system will be operational and will be attached to a diver in the form of a vest that will enable him to stay underwater for a period of many hours.



ABU LATT APRIL TRIP REPORT

By Linda Boevingloh

Splash! Divers DOWN. Trash! Divers UP...pick up, that is. In one fun filled weekend we were able to experience some of the best diving in the world and to practice the principles of good conservation. Underwater we followed the diver's creed of leaving only bubbles and on land we applied the camper's rule of leaving the area better than we had found it.



It truly was a perfect weekend. We were the first group from the DDA to combine diving Farasan with camping on one of its small isolated islands. Because the island sits on route to our usual dive sites we had passed by it on previous trips. In fact on one occasion we spent an idyllic afternoon playing on its beach. The island had come to be called Cone Island because of the large volcano like structure reaching skyward from the middle of the island. Its location (about an hour from port) enabled us to use it as a marker, indicating that we were approaching our dive sites. But on this weekend the island was our destination.

We'd left for the airport early on a Wednesday afternoon in the hopes of reaching the island before nightfall, but this was not to be. We arrived safely well after dark. Dream Divers had marked the channel with floats. So with flashlight (torch) in hand and slow navigation we were lead ashore by the crew. Our first surprise was that Cone Island was not one island but several islands. In fact the island we would be camping on was not Cone Island but one of the others. It took only a few minutes for the crew to reverse the boat into the island so that the stern was in only a couple feet of water. A plank was added to extend from the ladder to the beach and we were ashore.

In the dark we set up our tents and readied ourselves for a good nights sleep under a beautiful moon and the gentle sound of waves hitting the sandy shore. The next morning we awakened to beautiful seas and sand and...trash. Trash? Yes, trash and lots of it.

Apparently we were not the first to camp on the island and also apparently the previous occupants hadn't bothered to take their trash with them upon leaving (as we planned on doing). The water beckoned, we shook off any feelings of disappointment and headed out for a great day of diving. We had clear seas, colorful reefs, many sightings of shark and other large pelagic fish. It was a perfect day on the sea and on our way back to the island we relived the day, as divers always do. We talked about how perfect everything was, but there were also a few negative head nods about the condition of the island.

The evening was one of great camaraderie; a dead perfect evening after a day of dead perfect splashing. The next day was much the same. But anyone who thought that all we would do was talk about the diving ignoring the condition of the island hadn't reckoned with us. We were a group of divers preparing to demonstrate how far their commitment to a clean environment would go. They also hadn't considered Sheryl Wright's ability to organize the clean up, the enthusiasm of Michaela and Sarah (our two 10 year old divers) or the willingness of the men to dig in. Literally to dig in, as several volunteered to dig a huge pit that we would fill with trash to burn.

That evening there was no run for the showers, instead divers donned dive gloves, talked the crew out of black trash bags and after locating a shovel decided on where to dig the pit. At first our task seemed daunting. I had to concentrate on just one small area. It didn't take me long to fill a large bag with paper and Styrofoam cups, bottles, plastic, batteries, etc. I took my bag to the pit emptied it and returned to the same spot. After another bag there was one clean bush, but that was not enough. Sarah and Michaela were working like Trojans; I couldn't quit. The men were digging and the teenage boys were relocating a huge pile of scrap wood and lumbar. And while this was going on a second group began digging another pit. Everyone worked until after sunset and we clearly made a big difference.



Australian scientists have reported the discovery of coral reefs stretching 100km (62.5 miles) in the Gulf of Carpentaria, off the north coast. April, 2005 (Submitted by Radi Adzemovic).

They were located near Mornington Island, where deep murky water obscured them from the view of satellites. Researchers have called it a major discovery that showed how little was known about Australia's continental shelf. The newly discovered reefs could be at least 100,000 years old.

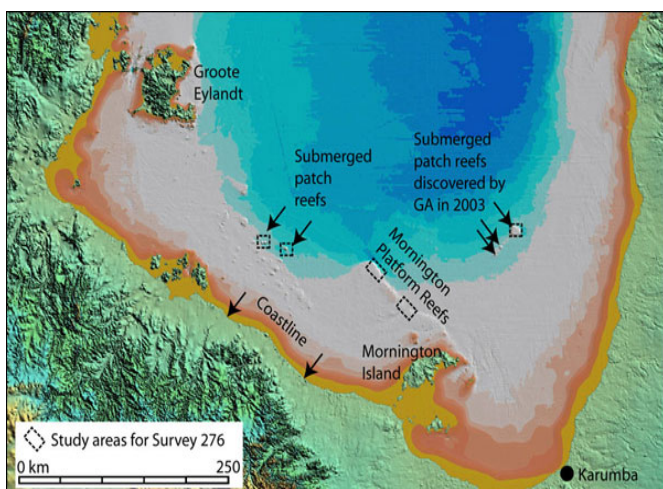
They were found inadvertently by scientists investigating a number of small reefs discovered on a previous expedition two years ago. Sonar mapping equipment has produced an accurate picture of what was previously hidden from the gaze of satellites.

Researchers have said the discovery makes the Gulf of Carpentaria one of Australia's most important coral zones. There could be as many as 50 small reefs, as well as this new long platform of coral that stretches for 100km to the west of Mornington Island.

Scientists are confident that more large reefs could be hiding in the deep tropical water.

Environmentalists have said that these sorts of reefs are among the most bio-diverse ecosystems on earth. They are urging the authorities to include them in a maritime national park being planned for the area.

The renowned Great Barrier Reef off north-eastern Australia is home to 1,500 species of fish and is considered to be the world's largest living structure.



Patch Reefs: This sonar image shows patch reefs discovered in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

CURIOUS CREATURES



This photo of a Sunfish and man recently hit the email circulation but does anyone have the real story about when it was found and the location? If so Clearwater would like to hear from you!

CURIOUS FISH ARTICLE HOAX

Well the last Clearwater edition featured an article on "Curious fish washed up from the Tsunami." Douglas Horn reported that this story was actually a hoax. The following link explains how the story made it to print:

From the Urban Legends site, explaining the Curious fish washed up.

<http://www.snopes.com/photos/tsunami/creature.asp>

HANDY LINKS

1. Ocean Biogeographic System – Species Database: Mapped database of Marine Species of the world. <http://www.iobis.org>
2. Scuba Diving Magazine and other interesting dive articles. <http://www.scubadiver.com>
3. DAN Europe divers alert network for dive insurance. <http://www.daneurope.org>
4. The Wet Gazette free monthly Scuba Diving newsletter. <http://www.thewetgazette.com>

U/W PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION

DAN Europe has an excellent competition website for underwater photographers and enthusiasts. Get your entries in or just browse the collection of photos.

["http://www.daneurope.org/photocontest/eng/"](http://www.daneurope.org/photocontest/eng/)



Woman charged with smuggling fish in skirt Customs officials hear 'flipping' noises, find 51 tropical species

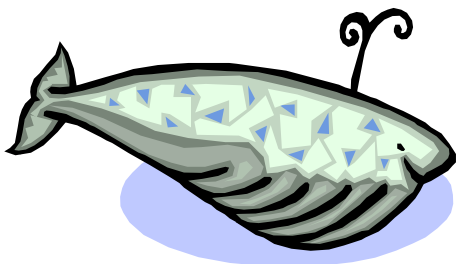
June 6, 2005

SYDNEY, Australia - There must have been something fishy about the way she walked. Customs officials said Monday they stopped a woman as she arrived Friday in the southern city of Melbourne on a flight from Singapore and found 51 live tropical fish allegedly hidden in a specially designed apron under her skirt.

"During the search customs officers became suspicious after hearing 'flipping' noises coming from the vicinity of her waist," the Australian Customs Service said in a press release. "An examination revealed 15 plastic water-filled bags holding fish allegedly concealed inside a purpose-built apron."

The species of fish was not immediately known, but customs officials warned they could carry diseases that could decimate Australian fish if they escaped into local rivers.

Customs officers will charge the woman once they establish what species the fish are. If convicted of smuggling wildlife, she faces a fine of up to U.S. \$83,617 and could also get a prison sentence of up to 10 years.



A group of dolphins living off the coast of Australia apparently teach their offspring to protect their snouts with sponges while foraging for food in the sea floor. (Submitted by Radi Adzemovic)

Researchers say it appears to be a cultural behavior passed on from mother to daughter, a first for animals of this type, although such learning has been seen in other species. The dolphins, living in Shark Bay, Western Australia, use conically shaped whole sponges that they tear off the bottom, said Michael Krutzen, lead author of a report on the dolphins in Tuesday's issue of Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

"Cultural evolution, including tool use, is not only found in humans and our closest relatives, the primates, but also in animals that are evolutionally quite distant from us. This convergent evolution is what is so fascinating," said Krutzen.

Researchers suspect the sponges help the foraging dolphins avoid getting stung by stonefish and other critters that hide in the sandy sea bottom, just as a gardener might wear gloves to protect the hands. Krutzen and colleagues analyzed 13 "spongers" and 172 "non-spongers" and concluded that the practice seems to be passed along family lines, primarily from mothers to daughters.

"Teaching requires close observation by the pupil," Krutzen said. "Offspring spend up to four years before they are weaned, so they would have ample time to observe their mum doing it -- if she is a sponger."

"This study provides convincing evidence that the behavior is transmitted via social learning," commented Laela Sayigh of the University of North Carolina Center for Marine Science. "Such social learning appears to be widespread among the Shark Bay dolphins," said Sayigh, who was not part of Krutzen's team.

Only one male was observed using a sponge. Krutzen noted that, as adults, male and female dolphins have very different lifestyles. Adult males form small groups of two or three individuals that chase females in reproductive condition, he explained. "I would think that they do not have time to engage in such a time-consuming foraging activity as adults, as they are busy herding females."

Currently at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, Krutzen was at the University of New South Wales, Australia, when the research was conducted. The work was funded by the Australian Research Council, the National Geographic Society, the W.V. Scott Foundation and the Linnaean Society of New South Wales.

YOU'RE CERTIFIED...NOW WHAT?

By SanDiegoDiving.com (Article submitted by Joyce Piper)

You did it! You're a certified diver. You passed the tests, you completed the skills and you know how to use dive tables. You're armed with your temporary certification card and you're excited about diving somewhere other than the pool.

Now what?

...one of the most important rules in diving is to keep diving.

The answer is simple...keep diving. Strangely, diving is sometimes difficult for new divers because they may not know who to dive with or where to go. The purpose of this article is to address a few issues that commonly prevent new divers from being active divers.

Who to dive with

Finding active and reliable buddies is one of the biggest challenges that face the new diver. In scuba class you've always got a partner, but in the real world, only about one in every 100 people are trained to dive like you are. With so few divers, it can be challenging to find a reliable dive partner.

1. Dive with your classmates

It's a good idea to stay in touch with the other divers from your scuba classes- they are potential dive buddies that are not only familiar, but their skills are comparable to yours and they may live nearby.

2. Join a dive club

Divers are generally a friendly bunch; diving is a fun, relaxing and social activity. Both the Internet and your local dive shop can give you recommendations on good clubs in your area.

3. Go back to school

Your instructor probably mentioned that there are advanced classes offered through the agency that certified you, but also keep in mind that local universities, research centers and other organizations are potential sources of continuing education. Research studies, photography workshops and environmental monitoring programs can all be tremendous learning experiences.

Where to dive

Now that you know who to dive with, where do you go?

1. Travel!

The world is full of great dive destinations and that offer something for every type of diver.

2. Find water and dive in

Find the nearest body of water and jump in. Is there an ocean, lake or river nearby? Seek out recommendations from local divers, dive shops and Web sites.

3. Use the Internet

There are thousands of websites that mention good places to dive.

Make time to dive

1. Mark your calendar

Dives take planning. Planning takes time. Schedule yourself at least a week in advance and make a point to dive at least once a month if possible.

2. Dive at night

Night diving is not only an incredible experience, it is also a great opportunity for those who work during business hours. Advanced scuba coursework generally includes the special training required to dive in the dark.

Learn more

1. Read about diving

There are literally thousands of publications about diving. Web sites, magazines, books, journals, bulletins, movies and television shows are all ways to learn more.

2. Review what you've learned

Pick up your diving manual and read it again. You might be surprised about what you might have forgotten or didn't fully understand the first time around.

3. Take more classes

Most certification agencies offer specialty courses that cover most diving interests including underwater photography, marine ecology, wreck diving and deep diving.

Promote diving

1. Share your experiences

You are one of the privileged few that can speak about diving first hand. Not only will stories about your diving adventures be of interest to non-divers, but you might end up recruiting new dive buddies at the same time.

2. Encourage other people to dive

Your stories and experiences might be just what it takes to motivate acquaintances to dive. You might be surprised at the number of people that have always wanted to dive, but never took the initiative to enroll in a class. Meeting a certified diver can be encouragement enough for some people to get started.

Always remember that one of the most important rules in diving is to keep diving!!!

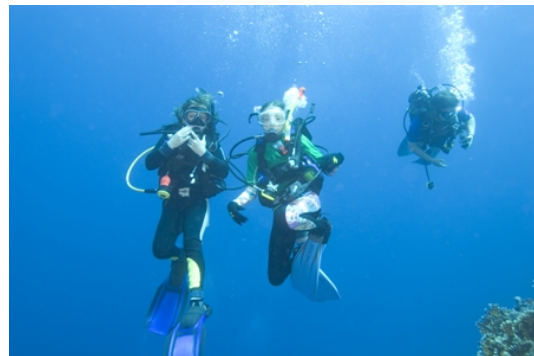


Photo by James Vandervyver



DIVE COURSES ON OFFER:

➤ **Adel Al-Bassam:** 873-7696/Cell: 055861940/email: adel.bassam@aramco.com

PADI Open Water, Advanced, Rescue, Emergency First Response/CPR/First Aid, DAN Oxygen Provider; Dive Master Courses ongoing. Can be tailored to meet your specific needs, Refresher classes anytime. Specialty courses please enquire. Please call for details.

➤ **Helmut Bock:** 872-7449 or 878-9727/email: helmut.bock@aramco.com

PADI Open Water, Advanced, Rescue, Emergency First Response, DAN Oxygen Provider, Nitrox and Divemaster Courses ongoing. Families welcome -- please call for details. Refresher classes anytime. Advanced and Specialty courses (*Nitrox, U/W Navigation, U/W Photography, Boat Diver, U/W Naturalist, Multilevel Diver, Deep Diver, Night Diver, Peak Performance Buoyancy, Wreck Diver and more*) during dive trips, please enquire.

➤ **Lope J. Caacbay:** Home tel. 861-1573 or Mobile 058108699, email: lope.caacbay@aramco.com

PADI Master Instructor/ IDC Staff and EFR Instructor No. 600175. **IANTD** Advanced Nitrox Instructor No. 2796. **IDEA** Instructor Trainer. Year round training on PADI recreational to extended range diving/IANTD courses. Don't hang up that gear, we can still train all year round! Flexible class schedule to accommodate participants' needs. Call for more details. For further reading about IANTD, visit: <http://www.iantd.com>

➤ **John Nilsen:** 878-3839/email: john.nilsen@aramco.com **NAUI** Scuba Diver (entry-level) through AI/DM.

➤ **Randy Demaree:** 878-8521 or 873-9089

PADI Open Water and Advanced Open Water, Rescue and Dive Master, Emergency First Aid/CPR, DAN Oxygen Provider. Other courses: PADI Deep Diver, Boat Diver, Underwater Naturalist, Wreck Diver. Courses can be tailored to meet your specific needs -- please call for details. Refresher classes anytime.

➤ **Colin Knight** (874-0726/878-1022/Cell: 050 101 4874 /email: colin.knight@aramco.com)

PADI and DAN course dates will be set up to suit you.

- Open Water courses – schedules set up to suit the student's needs.
- Advanced Diver courses conducted during Red Sea trips
- Rescue Diver / Emergency First Response Course / DAN Oxygen Administration
- DAN Hazardous Marine Animal Course (new)
- Specialty courses in the Red Sea & Half Moon Bay (*U/W Navigation, Search & Recovery, U/W Photography, Boat Diver, U/W Naturalist, Multilevel Diver, Deep Diver, Night Diver, Peak Performance Buoyancy, Wreck Diver*)
- Nitrox courses run anytime.
- Dive Master Course- academics & water skills can be started immediately.

➤ **Dave Scott:** Cell: 0503864293 email: surveyscot@usa.com Website:<http://www.seasquirtdivers.com/> **PADI** Open Water, Advanced, Rescue, Medic First Aid, Dive Master courses ongoing. Can be tailored to meet your specific needs -- please call for details. Refresher classes anytime. Other courses, please enquire. **Specialty Courses Offered:** U/W Photography, Deep Diver, U/W Navigation, Search & Recovery Diver, Enriched Air (Nitrox) Diver, Wreck Diver, U/W Naturalist, Peak Performance Buoyancy, Boat Diver, Multilevel Diver, Night Diver, DAN Oxygen.

...Just DDA It !!

2005 DDA BOARD MEMBERS

The Official DDA 2005 Board

We are proud to present to you the 2005 elected board members. These board members are a dedicated volunteer team that is there to ensure that all the DDA members' needs are met.

Board Positions	Contact Person	Contact Number
President	Radi Adzemovic	874-6022
Vice-President	Michael Pham	874-7146
Treasurer	Farid Zoldjalali	873-6707
Membership Director	Debbie Nanninga	877-6108
Secretary	Valerie White	877-3051
Air Station Director	Rene Seco	873-0547
Air Station Director	David Gruno	874-5696
Equipment Director	Mona Attas	874-6292
Equipment Director	Sadeq Al-Qaffas	877-5802
Training Director	Adel Bassam	873-7696
Dive Activities Director	Bruce Jahnke	873-5147
Social Activities Director	Linda Boevingloh	877-3837
Clearwater Editor	Sheryl Wright	874-6107
Member at Large	Ibrahim Haidan	874-1257
Website Coordinator	James van der Vyver	874-6671



2005 DDA MEETING/SOCIAL SCHEDULE

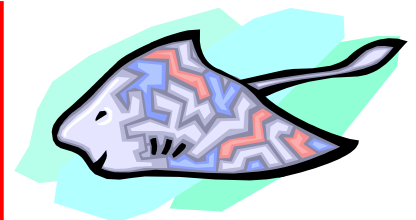
Meeting Date	Venue	Guest Speaker	Topic
Monday, June 27	Ad-Diwan, Room 1	Steve Barlow	Make your own Dive Movies
Monday, July 25	Ad-Diwan, Room 1	Helmut Bock	Fujarah
Monday, August 29	Ad-Diwan, Room 1	Colin Knight	Maldives
Monday, Sept. 19	Ad-Diwan, Room 1	TBA	TBA

Did you know?...that the DDA supplements each member's meal at SR 10 at the monthly social meetings? Also, the DDA must pay the caterer for the number of meals ordered based on the response prior to the meeting. Each month we have a number of 'no shows', but normally we have an almost equal number of people 'show up' without reservations. So in the end it pretty much works out. For the May meeting we had 23 'no shows' and only 11 'show ups'. The DDA Board has no plans to change how we do things, we just wanted you to be aware of the 'why' in why we strive to establish accurate numbers. Have a safe dive! Linda Boevingloh, Social Secretary.



GET YOUR NAME IN PRINT!
SEND IN YOUR DIVE ARTICLES
TELL US YOUR STORY!!

HELP! Email to sheryl.wright@aramco.com
 or send to P.O. Box 10496, Dhahran



DDA 2005 DIVE SCHEDULE

DDA Dive Activities Director, Bruce Jahnke announces the following dive trips to help you plan early. For further information contact Bruce by email: bruce.jahnke@aramco.com, or the relevant trip leader. To sign up for any of these dive trips contact the trip leader directly.

Date	Destination	Trip Leader/ Contact	Max Persons	Details/Cost (Approx.)
July 7 Thursday	Gulf	Farid Zoldjalali	10	One day trip using a speed boat out of Jubail. Approximate cost SR 500.
July 13-15 Wed PM-Fri PM	Jeddah	Farid Zoldjalali	15	A weekend relaxation trip for the whole family to Al-Nakheel Beach. SR 450 per room per night. Air fare not included.
July 21 Thursday	Gulf	Farid Zoldjalali	10	One day trip using a speed boat out of Jubail. Approximate cost SR 500.
July 18-22 (4 days) Mon.PM-Fri.PM	Farasan Banks	Michael Pham	28	SR3,180 (discount for large families with small children) - Requires 2 'L' Days; new "Dream Master" 28-Berth Live-Aboard; Price is all inclusive with Live-Aboard and dive costs. Diving/snorkeling "Family Trip".
Aug 4 Thursday	Gulf	Farid Zoldjalali	10	One day trip using a speed boat out of Jubail. Approximate cost SR 500.
Aug 10-12 Wed PM-Fri PM	Jeddah	Farid Zoldjalali	15	A weekend relaxation trip for the whole family to Al-Nakheel Beach. SR 450 per room per night. Air fare not included.
Aug 19 Friday	Gulf	Farid Zoldjalali	10	One day trip using a speed boat out of Jubail. Approximate cost SR 500.
Aug. 24-27 (3 days) Wed.PM-Sat.PM	Al Waj	Linda Boevingloh	24	SR 3,000 - Where is Al Waj anyway? It is north of Umm Lajj, so let's go explore the northern Red Sea! Price is all inclusive
Aug. 24-27 (3 days) Wed.PM-Sat.PM	Farasan Banks	Michael Pham	22	SR2,750 - New "Dream Master" 28-Berth Live-Aboard. Price is all inclusive with Live-Aboard and dive costs.
Aug 21-27 (7 days) Wed.PM-Tues.PM	Sharm	Farid Zoldjalali	15	SR 5,800 - 6 day/7 night trip with 5 days of diving. Cost includes air, 5 star accom, diving costs and transfers. Requires 3 'L' Days.
Sept 15 Thursday	Gulf	Farid Zoldjalali	10	One day trip using a speed boat out of Jubail. Approximate cost SR 500.
Sep. 21-24 (3 days) Wed.PM-Sat.PM	Farasan Bank	Linda Boevingloh	24	SR2,500 - This is one of our usual trips to our favorite dive sites in Farason using the Dream Divers liveaboard. Price is inclusive.
Sep. 21-24 (3 days) Wed.PM-Sat.PM	Umm Lujj	Michael Pham	22	SR2,000-New "Dream Master" 28-Berth Live Aboard. Price is all inclusive with LiveAboard and dive costs. Umm Lujj Exploration I I I.
Nov 2 - 6 (Eid Break)	Sharm El-Sheikh	Rene Seco	?	Details to follow.
Dec. 7-10 (3 days) Wed.PM-Sat.PM	Yanbu	Michael Pham	22	SR2,000 - Requires 1 'L' Day; new "Dream Master" 28-Berth Live-Aboard. Price is all inclusive with Live-Aboard and dive costs.
Jan 4-12, 2006	Maldives	Colin Knight	No max.	SR2,600 approx. The Maldives-Bandos I land Resort. Diving/resort cost payable at resort. Ask for latest prices. Requires 2 'L' Days.

TRIP LEADERS/CONTACTS:

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TANK FILL SCHEDULE



TANK-FILL TIMES!
Opening April 4 from 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Mondays at the Air Station
(See details below)



DDA Air Station

The DDA Air Station is Located behind the Third Street Pool - entry off Walnut Street. For the new 2005 Dive Season the Airstation will open on April 4 and operate until October 3.

The Air Station will be open every Monday from 4:30pm (16:30).

If you urgently require an air fill you can also contact one of the Air Station Directors (Rene Seco - 873-0547 or David Gruno - 874-5696) or one of the members on the **2005 Air Station Duty Roster** and make some private arrangements.

Mona Attas (Equipment Director) reported that we completed hydrostatic testing for all the DDA tanks and some DDA member's tanks (and they all passed). The following link explains the steps of a hydrostatic test along with pictures: <http://www.deep-six.com/page37.htm>

Memberships Reminder

If anyone has not submitted their photos, completed the 2005 application form; with the liability waiver initialed and a copy of their most recent dive certification, please do so as soon as possible. Deb Nanninga would like to complete all of the cards and get them out. Then the database can be updated and completed.

Remember to visit our DDA website:
http://community.aramco.com.sa/sourcefiles/dha/recreation/sports/dive_assc/DDAWEBSITE/Index.htm



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