

# DA ANCHORLINE

## NEWSLETTER May 15, 2006, Issue 53

Members are encouraged to submit articles, dive plans and dive reports.

Visit club web site at [diversanonymous.com](http://diversanonymous.com)

Photographs can be viewed at the above noted website.

Editor: Tom Gormley

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### Next Meeting Notice

Next club meeting is Monday, April 24, 2006.

We will have our regular business meeting at 730PM followed by a presentation by Maritime Attorney, Mike Decharles on "Legal issues affecting wreck divers"

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### Pic of the month

DA has a growing number of underwater photographers. To promote this activity, please send a copy of an underwater picture you have taken in the past month that you would like considered for our DA picture of the month to: ifryer1@ianfryer.net, T P AUTO@aol.com, mdox31@hotmail.com

The judges will select an appropriate photo that will appear in our newsletter. If you can, reduce the file size to 200kb or less.



Frilled anemones in the Shark River Inlet  
Taken April 2, 2006 by Tom Gormley

This was the only entry this month, so by default, the winner. Hopefully next month more entries will be submitted.

### **NJHDA Symposium**

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The New Jersey Historical Divers Association, Inc. presented its New Jersey Shipwreck Symposium on Saturday, May 6, 2006 at its new location, Info Age Learning Center, Camp Evans, Wall, NJ

The event was hosted by explorer and author, Gary Gentile, and offered a wealth of information to those in attendance. DA members there included: Rich M, Gary P, Gary M, Tom G, Pierre, and Mike G. The video and audio of each presentation was excellent, while the speakers kept the audience glued to their seats except for Rich who noticeably used the facilities often as these were directly behind the speakers. Rich's embarrassment was rewarded by him winning the 50-50.

Congratulations go to Dan Lieb and the rest of the NJHDA members and the invited speakers.

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## Peggy's News

From FishNews -- May 8, 2006

National – New Initiatives to Address Illegal Aquarium Trade

Last week, the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force ( [www.coralreef.gov/index.html](http://www.coralreef.gov/index.html)) announced a new conservation initiative aiming for stronger enforcement of aquarium reef fish trade harvesting regulations. The task force will examine the use of cyanide and other poisons in the collection of reef fish on the global market. Although illegal in most countries, the use of cyanide to capture reef fish alive is widespread, and is driven by the lucrative, growing and largely unregulated international trade in live reef food fish and marine aquarium industry. This study will research field-based cyanide detection tests for use by enforcement authorities. Tests capable of producing reliable results several weeks after exposure to cyanide could help to restrict suspected illegal imports.

For more information, read the NOAA press release.

<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2006/s2625.htm>

### **Elkhorn and Staghorn Corals Listed as Threatened Under the ESA; Public Workshops to Take Place in May**

NOAA Fisheries Service has announced its decision to list elkhorn coral and staghorn coral as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This will be the first time a coral has been listed as endangered or threatened under the ESA. A threatened listing was warranted for both species because they are likely to become in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range in the foreseeable future. The primary factors responsible for their decline are disease, temperature-induced bleaching, and physical damage from hurricanes. Other factors include damage from commercial and recreational activities, sediments and contaminants from land-based sources, and poor water quality.

Elkhorn and staghorn corals are part of the genus *Acropora*, which once represented the most dominant reef building species throughout Florida and the Caribbean. They are found typically on shallow water reefs in water temperatures from 66 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit. They have relatively high growth rates for corals and exhibit branching morphologies that provide important habitat for other reef organisms; no other Caribbean reef-building coral species are able to fulfill these ecosystem functions. It is highly likely that both these ecosystem functions have been greatly compromised by the declining abundance of *Acropora*.

To gather information to support recovery, NOAA will host seven conservation workshops ( <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdf/060411%20Acropora%20Conservation%20Workshop.pdf> ) throughout May. All interested members of the public are encouraged to participate. NOAA is seeking input on programs and activities that may affect these species, physical and biological features essential for conservation, and possible areas to designate as critical habitat. The information gathered during these workshops will be considered in the development of future conservation measures. Information can also be submitted directly to NOAA Fisheries Service's Southeast Regional Office via mail, fax, or email by June 2. Send comments to [Acropora.Info@noaa.gov](mailto:Acropora.Info@noaa.gov).

Answers to frequently asked questions and an advance copy of the final rule are available online. For more information, contact [Jennifer.Moore@noaa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Moore@noaa.gov).

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Peggy Bowen, Director ..... New: [pegdiver@earthlink.net](mailto:pegdiver@earthlink.net)

New Jersey Council of Diving Clubs

<http://www.scubanj.org/>

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## **DAN News**

Visit DAN's website [www.diversalernetnetwork.org](http://www.diversalernetnetwork.org) to check out all of their programs.

As of May 1, 2006, the dispute between DAN and SS hyperbaric centers was settled, and all old claims were paid.

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### **DA Dive Log**

Pierre gave all DA members a summary of his recent trips to the western Pacific. As usual his diving though remote, is as good as it gets. His account of WW1, WW2 wrecks and current dives in beautiful sites made everyone envious. Way to dive, Pierre!

Fred Marcus gave us an account of his dive in the Red Sea. According to Fred, the man made challenges caused by unstable forces far outweigh the environmental challenges of diving in the area. Recent terrorism in the Egyptian dive resort exemplifies his concern.

Back to the local stuff:

Tom G, Rich M, and Mike Dox went to the Shrewsbury River on Sunday, May 7 while Gary P and M went there the preceding day. Both groups reported having 3 to 4 foot Vis and water temps in the high 50's. Gary P reported finding 2 keeper bottles and Mike found a Pluto Water. Tom brought his underwater camera, but the Vis inhibited good photography. Due to the rising water temps, some of the divers spent an hour in the water.

Gary P went on a Venture III mystery wreck dive in mid April. He didn't reveal when and where the dive took place. He did say that the dive was in very cold, deep, and dark water though. He collected some nice artifacts that he brought to show and tell. These included a large brass ship pin, a 5 pound ball peen hammer head, and a brass pulley.

### **DA Dive Plan**

Sunday, May 14 is the original date for the Pre-Memorial DA Dive Picnic. Interest in this day or the alternate was quite limited and the picnic has been canceled. If anyone wants to dive, please contact Tom G for an 845am high tide dive on this Sunday. The ocean conditions will be too rough, so the dive would have to be an inlet or river type dive. All are invited including moms.

Shore Dives: Ongoing. If you wish to dive on any Sunday or Thursday, please contact Tom, Ben, or Rich about joining them. Diving depends on the weather and conditions. As the season warms, there are more opportunities even when ocean conditions are poor.

Boat Dives: Tom and Ian plan to personally charter the Spring Tide and the Sea Lion out of Brielle for dives in 2006. Please let each of them know of your interest for next year's boat diving to help them make arrangements.

Ian has already arranged charter dates for August and September on the Sea Lion, and Tom has a date in July. If you wish to sign onto any of the dates, contact Tom or Ian after checking our DA Calendar at the bottom of this DA News. The number will be limited to

8 divers on each charter, and each date has 6 spots left as of 3-3-06. Cost is \$70 depending on fuel cost by the date of sailing. First come first served with full payment.

Ian: [ifryer1@ianfryer.net](mailto:ifryer1@ianfryer.net)

Tom: [gormleydmd@aol.com](mailto:gormleydmd@aol.com)

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Other club members have indicated that they will be arranging charters. As dates are set, they will be added to the calendar.

Mark Russomanno works as mate on the Stingray out of Belmar. Contact Mark if you wish to go on any Stingray dives, if space is available.

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### Boat Diving Requirements

Everyone please be advised that the following are required to dive on any of the charters:

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- 1) Logbook indicating northeast boat diving experience or arrangements to do a guided dive.
  - 2) Pony bottle and regulator with pressure gauge or other suitable redundant gear.
  - 3) Compass, wreck reel, safety sausage, safety whistle and power surface audible signaling device, cutting device as well as other mandatory scuba gear.
  - 4) [NAUI](#) Waiver and Release signed before boarding naming Tom Gormley, Ian Fryer, Rich Mullen, Janna Fabris, Mark Russomanno, Charles Soulas, Pierre Guibor, Mike Granado, and Ben Gualano as Instructors and Divemasters.
  - 5) [NAUI](#) medical form
  - 6) [DAN](#) or equivalent insurance
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### **Members wishing to sell gear can post it here! (Send listing to Tom)**

30 cuft pony O2 clean and filled with a 50% mix. Needs hydro. Best reasonable offer.

Tom: [gormleydmd@aol.com](mailto:gormleydmd@aol.com)

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### **Meeting Minutes**

#### Minutes of Meeting / March 27, 2006

##### Members Present

Matt Brinkerhoff

Greg Collucci

Mike Dox

Maurizia & Ian Fryer

Tom & Norva Gormley

Mike Granado  
Ben Gualano  
Pierre Guibor  
John Kelly  
Mike Lacatena  
Wanda Maleszewski  
Fredrick Marcus  
Richard Mullen  
John Nardone  
Al Nesterok  
Lara and Alex Padula  
Mark Russomanno  
Hannah Starbeck  
Don Van Dyk  
Guests  
Scott McIntosh

The meeting began/ended at 7:30 p.m and 9:15 p.m.

#### Membership

No new members were signed up tonight, but we had some guests with a few potential new members. Mike Granado welcomed our guests and handed out Membership Information Forms.

#### Boat Charters

Tom chartered Lakeland's Sea Lion for Sun, Jul 30<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled to be 2 local shallow dives if conditions permit or at least 1 dive out in a little deeper water if shallow water conditions are not acceptable. Ian chartered the Sea Lion for Sun, Aug 20<sup>th</sup> and Sat, Sep 23<sup>rd</sup> and is scheduled to be 2 local popular shipwrecks in the 70~90 foot range, such as the Brunette, Emerald, Delaware and/or the Mohawk.

Contact Tom and Ian to make your advanced reservations. Expected cost is \$70 plus \$10 tip.

#### Secretary Report / Richard Mullen

The NJCDC last meeting was held on March 29 and meeting minutes are available to any members upon request. Club officer elections were held tonight and the following were the unanimous voted decision by a show of hands: Thomas Gormley for President, Al Nesterok for Vice President, Hannah Starbeck for Secretary and Ian Fryer for Treasurer.

#### Treasurer Report / Ian Fryer

Ian will arrange transfer of names on the account according to the change in newly elected officers.

#### Vice President Report / Al Nesterok

There was a general discussion about when and where to hold next years DA Holiday Party. It was thought Sat, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> from 7~11 p.m. would be a good date and time. Al will look into cost and availability at Branch Brook Manor located at 13 Washington Ave, Belleville, NJ. If anyone has any other suggestions, please bring them up at the next club meeting or contact Al directly.

#### President Report / Tom Gormley

Tom reported on current events and upcoming club activities. Members were asked to vote on what date and location they would want to run our club's Annual Pre-Memorial Picnic and Dive and members were asked to vote by email for either Sun, May 14th or 21st. Tom requested club's permission to contact Gary Gentile to be invited guest speaker again sometime in late 2006 or early 2007. It was voted yes to contract him again. Tom suggested a monthly underwater photo contest and Mike Dox, Ian Fryer and Mark Russomanno agreed to be judges. The winner's photo will appear in the monthly newsletter. Photos should be recently taken subjects.

Web Site

Our webmaster Mike Dox requests your support to provide information to be included into our club's website. Please send your upcoming events, planned dives, diver reports and photographs to mdox31@hotmail.com

Old Business

No old business to report.

New Business

John Kelly reported on his recent fun visit and dive at the new Brownstone Exploration & Discover Park. He advised Scuba USA in Little Ferry is running a bus charter to this park on June 4<sup>th</sup> and total cost is \$59.95. This cost includes roundtrip bus fare, entry fee into park, lunch and 2 air fills. For more details, contact Scuba USA at 1-877-SCUBA USA.

Guest Speaker

Tonight we had no specific guest speaker due to club officer elections and collection of annual club dues. Instead, some club members gave their personal and recent travel and dive reports. Pierre Guibor reported on his exotic trip to Sea of Cortez diving at Isla Islotes (Sea Lion Island) and some wrecks out of La Paz. Fred Marcus reported on his return trip to Israel and diving in the Red Sea in Egypt. Gary Prystauk reported on his recent mystery shipwreck dive with lots of cool found artifacts.

**Minutes submitted by Rich Mullen**

## 2006 Divers Anonymous Calendar

<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Feb 2006</u>	<u>Mar 2006</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 01/14: DA Holiday Party 700 p.m. Branchbrook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 02/05: Bottle Show, South River</li> <li>• <b>Sunday, February 19,</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 03/05: South Jersey Shore Dive 11AM Location TBA</li> </ul>

<p><b>Manor, Washington Ave, Belleville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>01/30: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m, Speaker- Kari Jermansen -Clean Ocean Action</li> </ul>	<p><b>2006 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM/: Toms River Flea Market</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>02/27: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m. Dan Lieb NJHDA update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>03/24~26: Beneath-The-Sea</li> <li>03/27: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m. <b>Gary Gentile -“Andrea Doria”</b></li> </ul>
<p><u>April 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>04/02: Sunday Shore Dive, 12PM LTBA</li> <li>04/08 Saturday shore dive in Belmar SRI 5PM</li> <li>04/24: DA Meeting Dues and Elections,</li> <li>04/23: Shore Dive 10AM-LTBA</li> </ul>	<p><u>May 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunday shore dives</li> <li><b>05/14: Pre-Memorial Day Dive Picnic</b></li> <li>05/22: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m. (1 week early) Mike Decharles: Diver legal issues</li> </ul>	<p><u>June 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>06/11: Saturday Shore Dive 7PM LTBA</li> <li>06/26 DA Meeting Uplines &amp; Lift bags Paul Duffy</li> </ul>
<p><u>July 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shore Dives TBA</li> <li>7/15-16 <b>DA Weekend at Dutch Springs</b></li> <li>07/30 Sea Lion boat dive</li> <li>07/31 DA Meeting</li> </ul>	<p><u>Aug 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>08/20 Sea Lion boat dive</li> <li>08/28: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Sept 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>09/03: 8AM Labor Day - Water Gap Dive Picnic</b></li> <li>09/23 Sea Lion boat dive</li> <li>09/25: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m Tom Brown; Dolphins</li> </ul>
<p><u>Oct 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10/15 Local Shore Dive Location TBA</li> <li><b>10/29 12PM Halloween dive at Sandy Hook</b></li> <li>10/30: DA Club Meeting</li> </ul>	<p><u>Nov 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Shore Dives</li> <li>11/04 Saturday-SRI 623PM</li> <li><b>11/27: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m. 2005 Artifact &amp; Picture - Story Contest</b></li> </ul>	<p><u>Dec 2006</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12/11: DA Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>12/17: Lizzie H Brayton 102 year anniversary dive, 12PM</li> <li>Friday, 12/31: Last Dive of Year 12PM-Sandy Hook</li> </ul>

**Pink highlighted events are subsidized by DA dues**

DA Meetings begin at 730PM on the last Monday of the month except May and December as noted

Boat dives are chartered by members and are run according to members restrictions

All other dives are organized by DA and are limited to DA members according to DA restrictions

All events are subject to change according to conditions

**This was Rich Mullen’s entry for the photo contest. When you see Rich, please ask him what this has to do with diving, and why he is chasing down bears.**



