

Triton's Call

NASJAX SCUBA DIVING CLUB

www.nasjaxscubadivers.org

February 2, 2022



The Jimmy Dales Reef heads to her final resting place. **Kistel Media**
Video link of the sinking of the Jimmy Dales: <https://youtu.be/GDTEnpZIsY8>

President's Comments - Kathy Lawler

We need teams of divers and shore helpers for our Earth Day Clean up at the lake at Camp Blanding, Saturday April 23. Please sign up to dive 9-11, or 12-2. Afterwards Plan to stay, picnic, & play on paddle boards or kayaks. Bring a side dish for 10-12. Look forward to seeing all of you.

Last month we voted to dive Blue Heron Bridge on March 4-6th, a club organized dive.

The Jimmy Dales and Greater Jax Kingfish Reef were scuttled earlier in 2021.
By Melissa Smith October 19, 2021

Two shipwrecks have been sunk off the coast of Jacksonville, Florida, to create artificial reefs for divers and anglers.

The ships, which are each over 100 feet long, were sunk earlier this month in Harm's Ledge, an artificial reef permit zone. They sit in about 90 feet of seawater, with the highest points of the vessels around 60 feet below the surface. Divers will likely need at least an Advanced Open Water certification to dive them.

One of the vessels, named the Jimmy Dales Reef, is a retired Navy tugboat with a massive propeller that measures 12 feet in diameter. The other is a custom sailboat that was never built to completion. This shipwreck is named the Greater Jax Kingfish Reef. They were intentionally scuttled nearby the Spike tugboat, which was the last artificial reef to be sunk. It went down in 2009 and has since become a flourishing ecosystem with a thick coral covering and plenty of marine life.

The artificial reef project was funded with support from the Jacksonville marine tourism and conservation community, with large contributions from Mobro Marine, Jacksonville Marine Charities, Greenland Biomass, the North Florida Marine Association, and many individual donors. From start to scuttle, the project took over two years to plan and execute. Before sinking, the vessels were prepped to ensure they were environmentally friendly and wouldn't leach any toxins into the ocean. Now, they'll serve as a structure for coral reefs to grow on and for divers to explore, giving the ships a new life.

"Artificial reefs provide homes for a diversity of commercially and recreationally important fish species," according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, which has studied the ecological function of artificial reefs, found that ships and other purpose-sunk structures can provide valuable habitats for many marine species, from corals, invertebrates, and small reef fish to top predators like sharks.

Shared by Kathy Lawler



<https://doginspiration.com/2022/01/24/a-frightened-little-dog-is-rescued-from-drowning-in-a-florida-canal-by-dolphins/>

Happy Diving, 🐬

Kathy

Vice President- vacant

Dive Club Secretary-Carol Hughes

For the dive trip to Blue Heron Bridge on March 4-6th, Kim & Bill booked reservations at the Open Water Resort located near the Phil Foster Park. Others may have booked also, but when I tried, they were sold out.

Dive Club Treasurer – Venessa Wood

Our club bank account balance is ~ \$1,000 minus some tax expenses per meeting information.

Dive Club Safety Officer – vacant

Please see attached link/article submitted by Kathy Lawler

<https://www.liveabout.com/decongestants-and-scuba-diving-2963044>

Dive Club Webmaster - Sharon Green

Sharon

904-755-2218

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Dive Reports

No dive reports.

Dive Club Members attending the meeting:

Bill Davis, Sharon Green, Carol Hughes, Kathy Lawler, Mitch Maxson, Monster Molyneux, Rick Reckert, Billy Schofield, Kim Walther, and Venessa Wood.

March 2, 2022, Meeting

Will be another Zoom Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Kathy will email the logon information prior to the meeting.

NASJAX SCUBA CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

President - Kathy Lawler

Vice President-vacant

Secretary - Carol Hughes

Treasurer - Venessa Wood

Web Master - Sharon Green

Safety Officer -vacant