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# Newsletter - Triton's Call

## NASJAX SCUBA DIVING CLUB

10 January 2018

[www.nasjaxscubadivers.org](http://www.nasjaxscubadivers.org)

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JAX SCUBA CLUB DIVERS from the  
2017 Annual Christmas Dinner

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## From the Dive Club President

Greetings, divers!

I am honored to serve the club in this, the 45th year of its existence. I will strive to keep the meetings interesting and work to provide us with dive-related news while keeping an emphasis on safety. I look forward to the coming year and many exciting dives and dive stories with each of you.

*Monster Molyneux*

## Upcoming Dive Trips and Events

- \* 13 and 14 January 2018 - AMIGOS Dive Center Festival, located across the road from Ichetucknee Springs, will have Dive Equipment Vendors, free food and sodas both days. Will have Blue Grass Music on Monday. Each of these are all day events.
- \* Turks and Caicos Explorer II Live Aboard Dive Trip 6 - 13 October 2018. \$3,000 Lower Deck Stateroom and \$3,400 VIP Stateroom. 7 nights and 8 days aboard the vessel, 5 dives a day, airfare from JAX, 3 meals per day, drinks and hotel at departure. See Art LaRue or Bonnie at SCUBA Tiger.
- \* Cozumel, Mexico about May or June 2018. Marshall Gross is the trip coordinator.
- \* Australia in November 2018. Monster and Annette will coordinate this dive trip.

**Treasurer's Report - Evan Ball** We have approximately \$900 in our dive club account. We have a website fee payment of \$300 coming up in April. Most club members have paid their 2018 membership dues. If not, you can pay Evan by mailing a check to 11149 Bently Trace Lane E., Jacksonville, FL 32257. Make checks out to NASJAX SCUBA Diving Club.

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**Webmaster's Report - Sharon Green** If you have some good dive photos, send them to Sharon. We need new photos for our Website and Newsletters. Our website has a function that shows how many people have been visiting the website. We've had 121 visits and 257 website views.

**Safety Report -** Due to health problems, Rick Reckert will relinquish his duties as our safety officer. Rick has done an outstanding job. Ben Storey volunteered to take over the Safety Officer job.

## Dive Reports



**Glen, Elmer, Cory (Elmer's ex son-in-law), Evan Ball, Eric Wilson and Devin Tate dove Troy Springs 17 December. There were about 10 people in the spring at the same time. This stirred up a lot of sediment. Also, there was a lot of algae growing on the walls, giving the water a green tint. Visibility was still good, about 50 feet with a water temperature of 72 degrees. The spring is about 70 feet deep and 100 feet in diameter. The wooden ribs from the Civil War era steam boat Madison are still visible on the bottom of the spring run to the Suwannee River. The steam powered paddlewheel boat was used to deliver mail and sell everyday necessities to area families before it was scuttled in 1863. It was sunk to prevent local Northern sympathizers from getting it. The water in the Suwannee River**

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was a dark coffee color and a lot colder than the spring, about 60 degrees. Overall, it was an excellent dive and outing.

11 - 15 November Marshall Gross and his son, Scott, dove Cozumel, Mexico. The weather was rainy the first three days, then it cleared up for good diving. The coral was beautiful as usual with lots of sea life. The current was strong making it difficult to stay with your dive buddy and group. They stayed at the Cozumel Hotel along with about 250 priests.

Ben Storey made a dive at Ginnie Springs in December. The outside air temperature was very cold so the water felt warm. The good thing about this was there weren't many swimmers or divers at Ginnie because of the cold weather. When Ben got ready to leave, his car battery was dead. Luckily, park personnel had jumper cables and got his car going.

Mark Vogel gave an excellent presentation on his dive trip last summer with crocodiles in Mexico about one hour south of Cancun. His group stayed at two or three different places. Some were very good, some weren't so good! The dives were excellent though. They dove reefs in the mornings and with the crocs in the afternoon. The reefs were beautiful and full of fish and sea life. They attracted the 10 to 12 foot crocodiles with lion fish, then got into the water and shot photos of them.

**Dippy Diver Award** - There were no nominees at the January meeting.

**Coprolite Diver Award** - Marshall Gross for not surfacing when his dive buddy didn't meet up with him under water. Marshall continued the dive and joined another couple, while his dive buddy waited for him on the boat. If you can't find your dive buddy in 5 to 10 minutes, what do you do Marshall?



### **NASJAX SCUBA Club Officers for 2018**

President - Monster Molyneux

Vice President - Venessa Wood

Treasurer - Evan Ball

Secretary - Glen Akins

Web Master - Sharon Green

Safety Officer - Ben Storey

### **Members present at the 10 January 2018 dive club meeting:**

Glen Akins, Evan Ball, Bill Davis, Howard Feingold, Ed Fite, Richard and Sharon Green, Marshall Gross, Carol Hughes, Art LaRue, Mitch Maxson, Monster and Annette Molyneux, Elmer Osborne, Rick Reckert, Billy Schofield, Ben Storey, Vera and J.J. Thomas, Mark Vogel, Kim Walther, Eric Wilson, and Vanessa Wood.



A memorial toast at the Christmas Dinner by Marshall Gross to deceased JAX Dive Club divers.

The annual **JAX SCUBA CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER** was held Thursday, 14 December at the Orange Park “Best Bet” Kennel Club on Roosevelt Boulevard. It was a huge success. We had plenty of good food and enough raffle prizes that everybody won something nice. A few club members even took a little cash home from betting on the dogs. A special thanks to Kim Walther, Marshall Gross, Glen Akins and Art LaRue for their prize donations. Thirty seven people attended the dinner. It was nice to see a lot of spouses and family members. A big thank you goes to all those that organized the dinner and festivities.



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The next **Dive Club Meeting** will meet Wednesday, 7 February 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Golden Corral conference room, 11470 San Jose Boulevard, Mandarin. Recommend arriving 30 minutes early to get your food and socialize.

The next **Executive Board Meeting** will be 24 February, 7:00 p.m., at the V Pizza Restaurant, 12601 San Jose Boulevard in Mandarin.

*A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skillful Sailor.*