



Founded 1997

# ***FISH TALES***

## ***August 2025***

*The Official Newsletter of Orlando Reef Divers*

*Orlando Reef Divers meets on the **first** and **third** Tuesday of each month at*

**TIBBY'S NEW ORLEANS KITCHEN**

**7:00 P.M.**

[2203 Aloma Ave](#)

[Winter Park, FL 32792](#)

**This month's meetings:**

***August 5<sup>th</sup> -Board Meeting at 6:30 PM and***

***General Membership at 7 PM***

***August 19<sup>th</sup> -General Membership at 7 PM***

***Fish Tales*** is the newsletter of The Orlando Reef Divers. ***Fish Tales*** is published monthly. Subscriptions are available as a benefit of membership in the Orlando Reef Divers. Members of Orlando Reef Divers may submit **FREE** classified ads for the resale of personally owned items, find a dive buddy, etc. For business advertisements, please contact a member of the board.

## **Officers & Committees**

### **President**

Jim Leiter

[JNLeiter@msn.com](mailto:JNLeiter@msn.com)

### **President-Elect**

Jeff Weatherford

[JSWeather4d@yahoo.com](mailto:JSWeather4d@yahoo.com)

### **Treasurer & Sales**

Stephanie Goodenough

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### **Secretary & Newsletter Editor**

Danielle Campbell

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### **Dive Director**

Dana Zukierski

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### **Membership Committee**

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### **Undercurrent Recap**

James Leiter

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Get updates on all Orlando Reef Divers activities  
at our new website.

<https://www.orlandoreefdivers.com>



DIVE & TRAVEL INSURANCE

Restoration of Florida's Oyster Bay; learn  
more: [The Pew Charitable Trusts \(pewtrusts.org\)](http://pewtrusts.org)

## **Treasurer's Report**

**Due to possible phishing the treasurer's report will only be  
available to be viewed in person by members of the Orlando  
Reef Divers.**



## Orlando Reef

### Diver's Club Official Shirts!



As everyone is aware, the supply of ORD shirts has dwindled over the last couple of years to a point where we have a very limited selection of sizes (primarily smaller ones). We've mentioned at the last couple of meetings that the Board is looking at new shirts for the coming year. We have decided to order blue rash guards (Men's and Ladies' Cuts) and they will cost \$25.00 each. Additionally, t-shirts (also) blue will be available at \$20.00 each. Reach out to Aaron Martina ([martinatime@gmail.com](mailto:martinatime@gmail.com)) to determine if your size and style is available.

### DAN Travel Medical Guide

[Travelers Medical Guide - Divers Alert Network \(dan.org\)](http://dan.org)

### Checklists for Traveling Divers

Experienced divers can often become too casual at checking things before a dive. We suggest you do a thorough check that everything is up to scratch before you even set off on a trip, and notwithstanding that, a separate check

immediately before each dive. To this end we've compiled a comprehensive checklist that you can download, print, and laminate, so you've always got it handy with your dive kit. Don't be too proud to use this handy reminder. It could save a dive or even save your bacon. <https://www.undercurrent.org/UCnow/UndercurrentEquipmentChecklist.pdf>

## 2024 - 2025 Activities and Dive Schedule

Date 2025	Location/Event	#	Member Cost	Deposit	Opens	Organizer / Assistant Contact Info
May 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	Derby Dive in Boynton Beach	14	\$375	\$100	Feb 4th	Jim Leiter (Lead) Dana Zukierski (Assistant)
May 10 – 17, 2025	Crystal Blue Resort Philippines	8	\$2006	\$500	Nov. 7, 2023	Jack Tse <a href="mailto:jctse74@gmail.com">jctse74@gmail.com</a>
June 14-15 2025	Riviera Beach Dive with Pirates Paradise	14	\$330	\$100	March 18th	Jim Leiter (Lead) Danielle Campbell (Assistant)
July 19-20 2025	Pompano Beach Dive with South Florida Dive Headquarters	14	\$297	\$100	Feb 18th	Dana Zukierski (Lead) Jim Leiter (Assistant)
August 16-17 2025	CANCELLED		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
September 20-21 2025	Riviera Beach with Shellback Aquatics	12	\$223	\$100	June 17 <sup>th</sup>	Stephanie Goodenough (Lead) TBD (Assistant)
May 23-30 2026	Roatan Aggressor	8	\$3081	\$500	May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Stephanie Goodenough (Lead) Dan Lipofsky (Assistant)

**Important:** Per Article XIII, Standards for Divers, Section 4, Refunds of the Orlando Reef Divers Bylaws once a deposit is paid, there shall be no refunds for moneys paid for dive outings. The committed participant is responsible for all unrecoverable trip costs due unless he/she finds a replacement. The only exception is cancellation due to death in the immediate family. All recoverable moneys will be refunded should a portion of a dive outing be canceled by the Club. If an entire trip is canceled by the club, all moneys will be refunded.

# Upcoming Dive Trips:



**September 20-21, 2025**

**\$223 per Member  
\$242 per Non-member  
Plus, cost of tanks (See Below)**

**Join us for another awesome weekend of diving in Riviera Beach with Shellback Aquatics!**

**Hotel:** Best Western Palm Beach Lakes  
1800 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, West Palm Beach, Florida

**Dive shop:** Shellback Aquatics, [Shellback Diving | Scuba Charters & PADI Classes in Palm Beach County, FL](#)

We have planned a two-tank dive for Saturday afternoon and another two-tank dive Sunday morning on Neptunus.

**Tanks:** 80 Aluminum Air = \$15,  
80 Aluminum Nitrox = \$18  
100 Steel Nitrox = \$21

**Diving:** Most likely drift dives. The boat rides are fairly short and there are lots of species of fish – we typically see turtles, grouper, queen angelfish, lobster and many other countless reef fish.

**Dinner:** Group dinner Saturday night, a short walk across the street

**Dive coordinator:** Stephanie Goodenough, 541-892-5855, [skgoodenough66@gmail.com](mailto:skgoodenough66@gmail.com)



## DiveAssistant:

**Zelle (free and easy!):** orlandoreefdiversclub@gmail.com and indicate you are paying for the 2025 Sept Riviera Beach Dive; \$100 secures your spot



**Roatan Aggressor**  
**May 23 – 30, 2026**  
**Member \$3,081**  
**Non-Member \$3,111**



Roatan is ideally situated along the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, the second largest barrier reef in the world. This extensive reef attracts a wide variety of marine animals and feeds the Bay Islands with healthy and diverse populations of fish and other marine creatures, making it a true diver's delight.

The Bay Islands of Honduras consist of eight islands and 53 small cays located off the northern coast of Honduras. Our Roatan diving liveaboard trip in Honduras departs from the dock located at Roatan Yacht Club & Marina. The 7-night charter runs from Saturday to Saturday.

- Diving begins Sunday morning and ends Friday around noon when the Aggressor returns to port.
- Average of up to 27 dives on 7-night charters including night dives.
- Depth Range: 30 – 130 ft (9m – 40m)
- 3-5 mm wetsuit recommended
- Average water temperatures: 78-84F, 25-28C (summer) 75–80F, 24-27C (winter, with possible 72F, 22C drop in January)

4 deluxe double-occupied rooms available. Air is included in this fee; nitrox is available at an additional charge of \$100 paid directly to the boat. Required fees **NOT** included in the trip fee:

- \$40 (\$20 each way) airport transfer fees
- \$145 park fee paid in cash upon boarding liveaboard.

The boarding is between 3:30 and 4:30 May 23rd and check out is 8:00 am on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**NOTE:** Airfare, gratuities and hotel (if you choose to come early) are not included in the liveaboard fee.

A **\$500 deposit** is required to reserve a spot. Remaining payments due as follows: **August 15, 2025 - \$1,000; November 15, 2025 - \$1,000; Final payment of \$481 due January 15, 2026**. Although you can make payments before or on these dates with a check, please use Zelle if possible, to: [orlandoreefdiversclub@gmail.com](mailto:orlandoreefdiversclub@gmail.com) and indicate you are paying for the Roatan trip.

Contact Stephanie Goodenough @ [skgoodenough66@gmail.com](mailto:skgoodenough66@gmail.com) or Dana Zukierski [@dana.zukierski@yahoo.com](mailto:@dana.zukierski@yahoo.com) if you have further questions. For information on the liveaboard, please go to [Roatan Scuba Diving Liveaboard Trip in Honduras | Aggressor](#).



# Meeting Minutes

*Orlando Reef Divers*

*July 15, 2025*

## **Minutes of the Board Meeting**

President Jim Leiter called the board meeting to order at 6:32 PM with Board Members Jim Leiter, Jeff Weatherford, Danielle Campbell, Dana Zukierski, and Stephanie Goodenough present.

Public Comment: Aaron Martina asked about the Sands Hotel Cancellation and was told this would be discussed during the General Meeting for all members.

Discussion about the upcoming calendar of Board Meeting and Elections:

August 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

September 2<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting

September Newsletter with all candidates mentioned prior to the September meeting

September 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting at 6:30 PM prior to the Election during the General Meeting. Quorum must be established for elections.

October 1<sup>st</sup> will be the official turn over to the new Board

Candidates at this time are:

Pres Elect Danielle Campbell

Secretary Darren Goss

Treasurer Aaron Martina

Dive Director Stephanie Goodenough

Discussion about MeetUp transition from Michelle to Stephanie to pay the bill and manage the account

Discussion from Dive Director:

Dive Reports completed for Riviera and Philippines with reimbursement for Jack



## Upcoming Dive Trips:

### July Trip to Pompano

Final payment is due; hotel changes; new hotel is honoring the \$25 valet fee

### August Trip

No official trip planned but club members are diving and willing to allow others to come along

### September Shellback

12 spots still available; Staying at the Best Western; Deposits being accepted now and Final Payments are due August 20<sup>th</sup>

### May Roatan Aggressor 2026

Stephanie will email everyone that is signed up for the next payment being due next week; added extra spots and will make the \$1000 payment for those extra spots one of her payments

## Discussion from Treasurer

PO Box Rent is due soon and Aaron Martina will make sure Stephanie receives the notice or he will pay it when he checks the box. He has the keys and checks it regularly

MeetUp reimbursement to Michelle was approved and payment was made  
Adjourned Board Meeting at 6:50 PM

### *Minutes of the General Meeting*

Called to order at 7:00 pm by President Jim Leiter. Ten members were present, including new member Peter Landreville.

Jim reviewed the upcoming calendar of events and next month's meetings.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Reading of minutes waived.

**Treasurer's Report:** Available for members on request. Discussion about what we can do with the funds in the account. It was determined that the funds can't be spent in case of emergency cancellation of a dive trip.

**Sales:** The club does have rash guards and other items available for sale. Get with Aaron for the merch and send the payment via Zelle

**Scuba News:** Our fish of the month was the Seahorse. Are between .6 to 13.8 inches in length found in shallow tropical waters all over the world. Fun fact they are bony fish, and they do not have scales.

Jim provided information on Tiger Beach-Grand Bahamas that is around \$2500 for 4 days and flights run around \$400-500. There is also the Tiger Beach Aggressor with Tiger Beach Trek with lots of sharks to see.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**New Business:** Officer Elections coming up in September and at this time we have the following candidates:

Pres Elect Danielle Campbell

Secretary Darren Goss

Treasurer Aaron Martina

Dive Director Stephanie Goodenough

### **Dive Report:**

In the Who's Been Diving report: Pete advised he was in the Keys on Islamorada for 9 dives over July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and went out with Conch Republic and had excellent viz. Stephaine advised she took a plunge at the Georgia Aquarium and it was fantastic. Bryce and Dana did a Shark Tooth Dive out of Venice with Top to Bottom Charters and they stayed at Inn at the Beach.

Dana went over an update for the upcoming Pompano Beach Dive with changes to the lodging. The Sands Harbor closed and we have been moved to the Residence Inn that is beachside. The parking fee is the same rate of \$25 per night and we will do our group dinner at Carlucci's at 7 PM on Saturday. Parking is available at the dive shop or just down the street in a public parking lot. Everyone that has the blue Orlando Reef Divers shirts please wear them on Saturday for the group picture. Reminder to sign your waivers and to bring your weights otherwise you will need to rent them at the shop when you pay for your tanks.

There is no August Club Dive however Dave Quinoes has a dive planned for the weekend of August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> if anyone wants to join in contact him. Dana mentioned that her and Bryce will be joining Isla Divers for a boat night dive at Blue Hernon Bridge on the evening of August 22<sup>nd</sup> and a 2 tank dive on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sign up through Isla Divers if you want to go on this adventure.

The September dive with Shellback is still available for sign up for 12 divers at \$223 for the weekend +tanks paid to Shellback.

The Roatan Aggressor trip has 1 spot for a male to sign up with 11 spots reserved. The next \$1000 payment is due August 15<sup>th</sup> with another \$1000 due November 15<sup>th</sup> and the final payment of \$581 due January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Upcoming activities:**

**End of Season Picnic at the Shark and Turtle in Oct 2025** more details to come stay tuned

**Holiday Party in Dec 2025** details in the works

**Bubbly Brunch in Jan 2026**

**Social Media:** On all platforms hand out business cards

**New Business:** The ballot will be in the September Newsletter and we will vote for the new Board Members to take over Oct 1st

Dues for next year at due October 1<sup>st</sup> \$24 dollars when sending your payment through Zelle make the note "Dues Payment for (first last names)"

## **Member NEWS:**

Dana is advertising Susan's small BCD for sale get with her about the cost.

Dan asked about moving to one meeting a month and explanation was given that some people are not able to come to both meetings but with two in a month there is a hope they can at least make one of them. At this time the meetings will continue to be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

*Danielle Campbell - ORD Secretary*

