

September Program

The Reef Ball Foundation

Kathy Kirbo, *Executive Director*



The Reef Ball Foundation is an international environmental nonprofit group whose mission is to help restore our world's ocean ecosystems and to emphasize and protect our natural reef systems through preservation, technology, and innovative public education opportunities, and community involvement. They work with governments, businesses, schools, research institutes, and community organizations, and their projects range from the Boy Scouts of America's High Adventure program in Islamorada, Florida to the government of Sarawak's marine sanctuary for sea turtles in Malaysia to Instituto Ecoplan's habitat restoration project in Brazil. The Reef Ball Foundation has over 2,000 projects worldwide and

the Reef Ball organizations have received press coverage on CNN's Network Earth and Earth Matters, Discovery Channel and in Weekly Reader, Popular Science, the Wall Street Journal, Mother Jones, Wired, Scientific American, diving publications and numerous newspapers throughout the world.

Some of you may wonder... "What is a Reef Ball?" A Reef Ball is a Designed Artificial Reef used to restore ailing coral reefs and to create new fishing and scuba diving sites. Reef Balls are used for beach protection, freshwater, mitigation, and many other uses too. Reef Balls are the only artificial reef that can be

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Pensacola, Florida Dive Trip in October

by Rick McCully, Trip Leader & PADI Divemaster

We plan to depart Atlanta Thursday, Oct 3rd to arrive in time for sunset libations at the Bay Beach Inn in Gulf Breeze, Florida (across the bridge from downtown Pensacola). The drive takes just under 6 hours total down through Montgomery. We have lots of dining choices from the May trip spearheaded by Pensacola native and ARDSC member Bob Litchfield. The Inn faces the sunset in the west right on the bay, with pool, plus a free beer happy hour on week nights from 5-7pm. The room rate should be \$79/room—Bay Beach Inn, 51 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561. (Phone: 850-932-2214)

Diving on Friday and Saturday will be aboard the "Wet Dream" run by The Scuba Shack located 10 minutes away from our Inn in downtown Pensacola. The veteran skipper is Gene Ferguson. The boat takes up to 25 divers max. We can do 2 or 3 tank dives ranging in price from \$70 to \$90 plus tank and weight belt rentals. We will discuss what you want to do and when you want to go out at our September ARDSC meeting.

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floated and towed behind any size boat! Reef Balls are made of a special, marine friendly, concrete and are designed to mimic natural reef systems, they are used around the world to create habitats for fish and other marine and freshwater species. Over 100,000 Reef Balls have been deployed in over 1,500 projects worldwide. Reef Balls are made in many sizes to best match the natural reef type which is being mimicked. The most common sizes are named:

<u>Style</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Reef or Ultra Ball	6' x 4'	4000 pounds
Pallet Ball	4' x 3'	1750 pounds
Bay Ball	3' x 2'	400 pounds
Lo Pro Ball	2' x 1'	75 pounds
Oyster Ball	18" x 1'	35 pounds
"Model" Ball	7" x 5"	6 pounds

Reef Balls are by far the most used designed artificial reefs in the world due to numerous special features which make them ideally suited to create aquatic habitats...

Reef Balls can be made with mold systems from the Reef Ball Development Group, Ltd.

The Reef Ball Development Group is a volunteer group who's mission statement char- ters the group to help restore our world's ocean ecosystems through the development and use of aesthetically pleasing, ecologically sound, and eco- nomically designed artificial reefs. We emphasize on-going research, public education, community involvement, and reefs that promote and support natural species diversity and population density. The Group has constructed and deployed more than 100,000 Reef Balls in over 1,500 projects worldwide. ❁

*The Reef Ball Foundation*

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Scuba Club**

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Diver's Log is published monthly by the Atlanta Reef Dwellers Scuba Club. No material may be used or reprinted without express written permission. For inclusion in the *Diver's Log*, material must be received at least 2 weeks prior to the club's next meeting date in order to be included in that month's publication.

Annual club membership dues are \$20 for a single membership and \$30 for a family membership to a single address. To receive a membership application form, please contact the club secretary or visit our website.

Advertising rates for a single small advertisement...\$15 for non-members and \$10 for club members. Members are allowed one free ad per year. (Ads are "space permitting")

The Atlanta Reef Dwellers Scuba Club is an independent organization and is not affiliated with any other dive-related organization. The purpose of this organization shall be to: 1) Encourage the exchange of ideas for the mutual benefit of all divers; 2) Promote marine interest and activity for members and the general public; 3) Develop participation in a healthful hobby and sport; and, 4) Encourage the development and improvement of the techniques, skills, equipment and safety measures used in skin and scuba diving.

Meetings Calendar

2002 Meetings

(all programs subject to change and/or rescheduling)

September 10

Reef Ball Foundation

by foundation director Kathy Kirbo
learn about the foundation's efforts to help
restore the ocean's ecosystems

October 8

Dry Suit Diving

by Lloyd "L.G." Garrard of
Garrard Underwater Educators
(<http://www.godive.com>)

November 12

Annual Photo Contest

new professional category added
prizes to be awarded

November 12

Officer Elections for 2003

ballots available starting in October

December 10

Annual Holiday Party & Meeting
Buffet, Door Prizes & Surprise Gift Swap
Our big gala event of the year—make your
plans so you won't miss it!

"Casa Concha" in Cozumel, Mexico

One of our club's newer members is Greta Abel, and she owns "Casa Concha", a 3-bedroom, 2½-bath house (that sleeps 6) located in San Miguel, Cozumel Island, off the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, just 6 short city blocks from the ferry pier, plaza and public beach, on a quiet cul-de-sac street in Villas Caribe Subdivision at Calle 4 between 30th and 35th Avenues.

Casa Concha also features a 2-person garden tub in the skylighted master bathroom, a private outdoor shower, air conditioning, cable TV and microwave in the fully equipped kitchen. There is roof patio access "at your own risk" for sunbathing, or stargazing or watching fireworks from the cruise ships.

If you are interested in renting out this house, or need more information, visit these websites:

<http://www.moosepages.com/casaconcha.html>

<http://www.geocities.com/casaconchaco/>

or call Greta at 770-438-6064.

Calendar of Events for 2002

Upcoming ARDSC Events

(all events subject to change and/or rescheduling)

September 21-28 - Bonaire Dive Trip

A week-long vacation in diver's paradise! It appears that a week's worth of diving & lodging, with airfare from Atlanta will run approx \$980/person based on groups of 4 divers sharing a 2-bedroom apartment (although airfare changes quickly). Contact Jim or Robin Sulsona *right away* if you plan on attending! (770-417-1293)

October 4-5 - Pensacola, Florida Dive Trip

Having had such a good time at the last Pensacola event, this Florida trip was changed from Panama City to Pensacola!
Contact Rick McCully (404-664-4467)

October 22-25 - DEMA Show 2002 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, Nevada

Want to attend the biggest dive industry show in the country?
Contact Jim Sulsona (770-417-1293)

November 22-24 - 4th Annual Ginnie Springs Turkey Weekend Extravaganza

Diving, Gear Swap & Camping. Contact John Law (770-422-2733)

Pensacola, Florida Dive Trip (Continued from page 1)

However, if you plan to go, you need to call Eileen at The Scuba Shack (850) 433-4319 and reserve your dive trip with a MasterCard or Visa. They have a 24 hour advance cancellation policy. Eileen says some of their best diving is October-November because of water clarity and fewer divers.

On Sunday, those who wish to may stop on the way home at Vortex Springs (about 2 hours northeast from Pensacola) for some fresh water spring diving (and a good final rinse of your gear). The cost is \$25/diver for unlimited dives. There is a full service dive shop, food, bathroom and shower facilities at Vortex Springs, which includes cavern and cave opportunities as well. The phone for Vortex is 1-800-342-0640.

If you commit, or are just interested, please let me know of your intentions so I can keep up with who might be going.

Email me at seahawk4@bellsouth.net or call me at (404) 664-4467 

Eternal Reefs Inc. Announces Plans for Memorial Reef Site in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Atlanta, GA (August 19, 2002) - Today, Eternal Reefs Inc. announced Ft. Lauderdale, Florida as the location of the next community reef site in the United States. The Ft. Lauderdale deployment is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, 2002. Eternal Reefs will provide Broward County, Florida with 15 Reef Ball memorial reefs to develop local environmental ecosystems.

Eternal Reefs, Inc. is a company that creates permanent living legacies that memorialize the passing of a loved one. For families and individuals that choose cremation rather than burial, Eternal Reefs offers a new memorial option that replaces cremation urns and ash scattering with a permanent environmental living legacy.

Eternal Reefs, Inc is an Atlanta-based company that provides creative environmentally enhancing means to memorialize the cremated remains of a loved one. The company incorporates cremated remains into a concrete mixture used to cast reef ball artificial reef formations. The artificial reefs are dedicated as permanent memorials while also bolstering natural coastal reef formations.

For more information, contact Eternal Reefs Inc. at: www.eternalreefs.com



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Your club membership expires on the date indicated in the upper right hand corner of your address label. See page 2 for details on club membership and dues.

**Atlanta Reef Dwellers Scuba Club
Post Office Box 48453
Atlanta, Georgia 30362-1453 USA**



The Atlanta Reef Dwellers Scuba Club
meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at:



Jocks & Jills Sports Grill
Brookhaven Location
4046 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30319
Telephone: 404-816-2801
(Across from the Brookhaven MARTA Station)
<http://www.jocks-frankies.com/7.html>

September's Featured Program:

The Reef Ball Foundation

Kathy Kirbo, Executive Director

<http://www.reefball.org>

Support Your Local Dive Shops!

Bonaire Trip "Prep" Meeting Sunday, Sept 15th

hosted by the Sulsona's

For those of us that are going on the Bonaire dive trip this year, we have a pre-trip preparatory meeting on Sunday, September 15th, at 5:00 pm. It will be held at the home of Jim & Robin Sulsona.

We plan to disburse the airline tickets at that time, and we'll discuss the final arrangements for the dive trip, making sure everyone has all the proper documentation and information.

We'll have to opportunity to talk about the dive sites available to us, and can pre-plan any additional dives or other activities that we may wish to consider.

Contact Jim or Robin for more information or directions to their home. Call 770-417-1293.

We look forward to a great trip!

Don't forget to stop by our website! www.reefdwellers.com