

THE JUNE 06 BULLETIN



PICTURES, PICTURES, PICTURES! Vacation time for the Rowdies has taken over club news since the last report.

CONGRATULATIONS to club members Lacy Garno and Joe Pizani as they were wed April 22nd. Also a great time for Lacy's mom, Ruth Kisco (Steve too), helping the happy couple to arrange the perfect wedding and enjoying having lots of relatives visit to wish the happy couple well. The honeymoon was really special - a two week trip to ITALY. You have to have lots of "seat power" to sit through Joe's 5000 digital pictures though!! (He really loves his digital camera.) We are expecting a slide show, Joe - 45 minutes, please!

Bobbie Jo Roe had a great trip to GERMANY, visiting old friends. Garmisch, Lauterbrunnen, & Heidelberg are familiar areas for Bobbie Jo, so she really felt at home. A specialty of the region, Spargel (white asparagus) was in season and the restaurants vied for special ways to serve it. (With ham and Hollandaise sauce sounds really yummy to me.) Camera problems were frustrating but she has taken awesome pictures there. The good news is her new knee was working great with all the hiking she and her friends enjoyed. She is back in beautiful Alaska now - turning on the heat!

Would you believe CHINA and TIBET? Ken and Sonia Smith, daughter Maria, along with diver Lynn Willis, have returned 5/23/06 from an awesome 18day trip there. Ken picked up a cold on the long trip home and has shared it with me. The head cold is not as bad as altitude sickness though- ask Lynn. Tibet's average height in that part of the Himalayas (Lhasa) is over 13,120 feet above sea level. The "Great Wall", the Terracotta Soldiers, the Pandas, the Yangtse River Cruise (Three Gorges, locks, etc), Buddhist Temples & Monasteries, jade, pearls, shopping, folk dancing, acrobats, traffic, Peking Duck, Dumplings, Yak butter tea, etc are just some of the highlights. Yeah, I know - only a 45-minute show please! --- Let me tell you about the toilets there - - did I mention the shopping? I have never climbed so much in my life!

Pat Fredette hasn't been able to go on her usual Bahamas trip this year due to her fractured leg but it is healing. Now, extended time off her feet has been ordered for the tendons to do the same. Daughters to the rescue! Mom's company set her up to work out of her daughter's home in Sanford for the time being. Families are fantastic! Why do these things have to take so long???? I know she is loving being "grandma" though.

Lori Smith's vacation was to a gray, cold and rainy SAN FRANCISCO. The best part? Grey Whales flipping their tails! The sun broke through as they sailed out and the whales come out blowing and breaching. A perfect day at last - what a sight! They stayed at Fisherman's Wharf and of course, went to see and take pictures of the sea lions -in the cold and rain. The cold and rainy boat trip to Alcatraz was interesting, the cells, the

escape hole in the wall, the list of famous prisoners and some of their paintings. Muir woods was an interesting trip in the drizzle. But their last day the sun really came out and San Francisco responded with a grand show of picture perfect colorful sailboats. Did I mention most of the trip was cold and rainy??

BIG NEWS from Ed Zuranski - there is a ring on his special lady's finger now! CONGRATUALTIONS! We all think Mary is a great person - she had to pass Ed's dive family's inspection - (just kidding.) Looking at October for the big day. This came after his great weeklong dive trip to the Belize area on the Neckton Pilot. Can you imagine the crazy group of Ed, Pat and Allen Hall, Bob Burke and friends with a boat crew who - of all things- ties a rubber chicken on the back of Ed's tank!! "HEY, why are you guys taking all those pictures of ME???" "I hear you laughing underwater!!!" Wall diving was along the "Half Moon Cay", part of the second largest barrier reef in the world after Australia, into the "blue hole." You should hear Ed and Bob go on and on and on about the fantastic things to see - all those tarpon, grouper, tropicals, turtles, pelagic tunicates, not to mention seeing the RED FOOTED BOOBIES!! 'Nuff said till show time!

Not all of the life on the reefs is far away, though. Ruth and Steve Kisco have been out in the GULF on their boat finding MOTHER NATURE has triumphed again! The destruction of the past year's red tide has taken a turn and they are finding tropicals, lobster, baitfish, etc are all returning. You can't keep a great lady down!!!!!!

Ken and Sonia also worked the OCEAN FEST show just before leaving for China, representing both FSDA and Ocean Pals. Be sure to take a look at great kid pictures & winning poster pictures under OCEAN PALS on the FSDA website.

Come JOIN US at our regular club meeting the first Tuesday of each month - June's is 6/06/06 (That has to be a lucky day!!) We have been quite good at having a special program along with the business meeting each month. Call Sonia, Pres. to check out where the dinner meeting will be as we are taste-testing a few restaurants. 727-522-8276. Watch the Rowdie web for announcements.

**GET IT WET,
Sonia**



SPUCS

THE ST PETE OPEN

Its just around the corner with a bigger crowd expected then ever. Come see the best shooters around compete for the bragging rights for the year for the biggest fish. If its anything like the past. Get ready for some true monsters brought in.

The tournament will be held on August 18th, 19th and 20th at the Holiday Inn Sunspree which is located at 6800 Sunshine Skyway Lane. Use exit 16 on I-275. Their phone number is 800-227-8045 or 727-867-1151 locally. Its gonna be a great time for the whole family.

BUSY SPUC'S

The SPUC'S have been some busy boys lately traveling all around for some of the best tournaments around and kicking some butt in the process!!

The SPUC boys started out strong with the State Freediving Championships taking home 2nd and 3rd place teams. The 2nd place team members were Rich Taylor, Chris Gardinal and Gerry Guerra Jr and the 3rd place team members were Ritchie Zacker, GR Tarr and Sasa Bratic. Also Chris Gardinal took home the 3rd place individual. We also took home two big fish trophies. Scott Hooker got the biggest grouper and Gerry Guerra Jr got biggest triggerfish.

Then Ritchie Zacker and GR Tarr went down to Key West for the Key West Open and Ritchie took 2nd place amberjack and GR got 2nd place snapper. All while freediving and it only gets better.

At the Spearboard Open Ritchie and GR took 6th and 10th place out of 305 people entered in the tourney also while freediving against some of the best in the South Eastern United States. GR also took home the biggest Amberjack that weighed 68.8 lbs.

Last but not least. The SPUC'S won the WCC series for the year beating out the Seals by only 62 points in the end. The SPUC'S would like to congratulate all the shooters that entered the WCC for the year and congrats to Rich Taylor for getting 2nd place individual for the series year and also getting biggest snapper for the year but the biggest congratulations goes to the winner of the WCC series and president of the FSDA John Schmidt. John has been competing, running tournaments and fighting for divers rights for over 20 years and has never won the WCC series. Boy did John kick some butt and take name's this year. John won the # 3 WCC tournament individual by almost 30 points to secure his WCC title. John also took home the biggest grouper and triggerfish for the series year. All the SPUC' S are really proud of John. Way to go Buuuddddddyyyyyyyyy.....



BUNNIES

The following is the latest competition data:

<u>Grouper</u>	Weight
Lisa Schmidt	12.02
Lynn Jones	14.2
Lisa Tatro	15.0
Eileen Morris	16.5
Mary Taylor	32.8

<u>Hogfish</u>	
Lisa Tatro	2.1
Lynn Jones	3.0
Mary Taylor	14.0

<u>Snapper</u>	
Mary Taylor	1.3
Lisa Schmidt	1.4
Lisa Tatro	3.1
Lynn Jones	4.0

<u>Sheepshead / Triggerfish/ Flounder</u>	
Lisa Schmidt - Triggerfish	1.48
Lisa Tatro - Sheepshead	2.1
Lynn Jones - Triggerfish	3.4

<u>Amberjack / Barracuda / Cobia</u>	
Lisa Schmidt - AJ	19.22

Lobster - Not in season

Save Our Seas (Entries are in Points)

Mary Taylor

Deflated party balloon with 4 ft of ribbon 1

Spear Shaft 1

Total points = 2

Lisa Tatro

50 ft. of shredded ship tow rope 4

25 green balloons in a group 3

Total Points = 7

Lynn Jones

Fortress Anchor 4

Tin can 1

Glass Bottle 1

Boogie Board 4

Four Weights 4

Total Points = 14