



# Atlanta Underwater Explorers

## AUE Bubbles

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*AUE: "Characters  
welcome, friendships  
formed and dive buddies  
appreciated"*

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## Introduction

*By Alex Adams, Editor*

Welcome to the first edition of the AUE Newsletter. The name is a bit generic, but that could change with your help. Your suggestions for a newsletter name and content are always welcome.

The newsletter is design to keep you up to date on the latest club news, dive news, locally, regionally, and on a national level.

In creating the club newsletter, our hope is to generate interest in the club from both active and currently inactive members.

Initially, the AUE newsletter published quarterly with the hope of growing into a more frequent publication. Suggestions, stories, and photos from members are welcome. Please contact me with your ideas and suggestions for improvements. I'd love to hear from you. To contribute, send an email to my address listed below. Additional contact information is in the club directory. All current members should have a copy.

Regards

Alex Adams

Email: [scuba1aja@gmail.com](mailto:scuba1aja@gmail.com)

## Artificial Reefs built for fishing in Orange Beach Alabama

*Published -2013*

If you are deep-sea fishing south of Orange Beach and Gulf Shores, you will most likely be fishing over artificial reefs. The sea floor off Alabama is mostly mud, sand and silt. Before artificial reefs were deployed, there was nothing there to hold fish. These artificial reefs like this barge, are man made structures that are placed on the bottom in order to attract and congregate fish like Red Snapper, Grouper, Amberjack, Triggerfish, Mackerel and many more species. There are army tanks, ships, chicken cages, cars, industrial cooling towers, concrete pyramids and many more styles of reefs. Thanks Scott F. for some incredible underwater footage.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jcT6cmeghwo&feature=player\\_det](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jcT6cmeghwo&feature=player_det)

## The Art of Diving

By Sheryl May (Article from Diverse Orlando's Website)

Diving is a serious sport and safety is a major issue for all divers. Before you can enjoy the beauty of the underworld you must first learn about "Safe Diving".

Knowledge of basic underwater physiology is critical to diving safety, of course, and the subject is taught in every certification class. For example, the first rule of diving -- don't hold your breath -- is based on Boyle's law of gas pressures, which predicts that a scuba diver's lungs will expand if breath is held on ascent. The consequence can be a serious and even fatal over-expansion injury.

Typically, one must know about the effects of altered physiology, such as decompression sickness and arterial gas embolism. This will be covered in your certification classes. You will also learn about equipment usage and most importantly "the buddy system". Once you pass certification you will be well equipped with all the necessary information required for safe diving. If you are interested in easy reading before you commit try Scuba Diving Explained by Lawrence Martin, MD (this book is non-technical and you won't need Tylenol to finish).

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*"Ready to become a diver? This will be an unforgettable experience."*

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Now, there are several agencies for certification [NAUI](#) (National Association of Underwater Instructors), [PADI](#) (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) and [SSI](#) (Scuba Schools International). All are great agencies for scuba training yet different in water skill testing. TO DIVE- YOU MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM!

Ready to become a diver! This will be an unforgettable experience, a chance to visit a new and exciting world. But first, come to a meeting, hear some great stories and then we will gladly take you to purchase your starter equipment.

1. You will need a [Mask](#).

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Basic Equipment - Mask, Fins & Snorkel

2. You will need a [Snorkel](#).
3. You will need [Fins](#).
4. You will need a [Weight System](#).
5. You will need Booties. Booties also come in handy for shore dives to protect the bottoms of your feet when entering and exiting the water.

The other equipment you can purchase at will, until you are sure of the amount of diving you will be doing you can always rent equipment.

Finally the most important aspect of diving is to purchase divers insurance. DAN (Divers Alert network) is the dive insurance purchased by 99.9% of all divers.

[DAN](#) is a non-profit organization established in 1981 to promote diver safety-profit organization established in 1981 to promote diver safety.

## Is Scuba Diving A Sport?

By Dive In-Log.com

There is some debate as to whether scuba diving in general is considered a sport. Those who say no point out that you have no competitors, no exertion, no accumulation of points, no goal, no teamwork, no spectators, and no one wins. They claim that diving is a hobby because it is something you like to do.

In order to extend bottom time. Cave diving has also been dubbed; “The most dangerous sport on Earth”. Scuba diving has a lot of the characteristics of a sport that opponents listed above claim don’t exist.

No competitors? How about with yourself or even with your dive buddy? You are constantly trying to improve your performance by breathing and moving more slowly. Performance is usually measured by bottom time or cave penetration distance.

Ever asked another dive team how far they got, and then compared their “score” with yours? Have you ever compared your gas consumption with your buddy’s? Is playing golf any less of a sport when you decide to play nine holes alone?

No accumulation of points? How about accumulated bottom time, penetration distance, or number of dives? I’ve built a whole database in Microsoft Access so I could keep up with my “point accumulation”. We just usually refer to them as dive statistics.

Numbers matter and there are a lot of them in diving. Scuba diving has rules and even penalties for breaking those rules. For example, if you exceed the no-decompression limit for a given depth, then your penalty is X amount of deco time.

No teamwork? Shoot! Diving is all about teamwork when you agree to buddy up. From dive planning, to sticking to the dive plan, to helping each other in emergencies, teamwork is what it’s all about. To learn more; <http://dive-n-log.com/?p=10>



*“Ever asked another dive team how far they got, and then compared their score.”*



*AUE member Elleen Yancey swims with Whale Sharks*

## AUE Recent Activities

On a recent vacation trip in Cozumel Elleen Yancey took advantage of an opportunity to snorkel with whale sharks. "There were three foot swells, and the visibility was poor, but I could not miss this opportunity to fulfill a long time goal."

Several AUE members attended Martinis at IMAX held Friday, June 21, 6:30 at Fernbank Museum. The featured film was [Under The Sea](#). Other entertainment included dancing with Salsambo Dance Studio. The entertainment began at 7p.m. Members who attended enjoyed the evening event.

Last month's meeting, held Saturday, June 15, 2013, 3PM at our regular location, the East Atlanta Library, 400 Flat Shoals Ave. SE, Atlanta, GA 30316. Meeting attendance was great and afterward fun, food and fellowship among members at Argosy Restaurant, up the street from the library, 470 Flat Shoals Ave, Atlanta, GA 30316. We had such a great time after the

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May 2013 meeting; we decided to do it again.

The Atlanta Underwater Explorers (AUE) sent a check for \$400 (\$200 each) to support Jasmin and Joi Henry's registration and participation in the 2013

Youth Education Summit (YES) in Galveston, Texas, June 16, 2013.

We look forward to hearing feedback from these youth AUE members at our upcoming meeting.

See related details in letter sent to the Henrys by AUE President Elleen Yancey.

[Youth Education Summit \(YES\) Participants](#)

## AUE Upcoming Activities

### Dive Calendar:

- In Progress - Not published yet

### Social Activities:

- AUE Picnic Saturday, August 17, 2013 at Sweetwater Creek State Park Details to follow via e-mail
- Southern Snow Seekers Annual Picnic, co-sponsored by AUE Sunday July 21, 2013, 2:00 p.m. thru 7:00 p.m. Trammel Crow Park, 4980 Cascade Rd SW, Atlanta 30332 for more information e-mail: [BBQ@SouthernSnowSeekers.org](mailto:BBQ@SouthernSnowSeekers.org)