

# GRATEFUL DIVERS WORLDWIDE

*Life Leads Adventure Follows*

*Welcome to the Second Edition  
of GDW Newsletter!*

*501(C)3 NonProfit*

*Summer is here!*

2025 DIVE COUNT

50 DIVERS  
20 DIVE TRIPS



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

At Grateful Divers Worldwide, we're fortunate to have volunteers like Tim Brausam—someone who shows up with heart, humor, and a deep commitment to making a difference. A retired detective from the Los Angeles Police Department, Tim brings the same dedication and thoroughness to our dive community that he brought to his career in law enforcement. Whether it's supporting adaptive divers on a charter, lending a hand at expos and community events, or volunteering as a buddy for a Discover Scuba session, Tim is always ready and prepared. Tim is known for his attention to detail and calm, steady presence. He's the person you can count on to be fully prepared, fully engaged, and always in good spirits. His dedication extends beyond Grateful Divers Worldwide—he's also a regular volunteer with Scuba4Good and is deeply committed to supporting our veteran community through adaptive diving. One moment that sums up Tim's heart? Seeing him tow an adaptive diver on his scooter, making sure they had the best experience possible underwater. Whether leading, supporting, or sharing a laugh, Tim reminds us that compassion and preparation make all the difference. Thank you, Tim, for being such a vital part of our mission. We're grateful to have you on this journey with us.

# WAAAAHOOOOO BAY

*Discover Scuba Experene!*



## **That First-Ever Ocean Dive Feeling!**

For many of us, the ocean has always been a dream, full of mystery, beauty, and adventure. On this unforgettable day, we had the absolute pleasure of guiding a Discover Scuba Experience (DSE), sharing that magical first breath underwater with an incredible group of individuals.

Our awesome participants from the Scuba4Good monthly DSE took the plunge and proved to themselves—and their Scubility Instructors, that YES, they can blow bubbles underwater!

This special event took place at Wahoo Bay, Pompano Beach's brand-new snorkel and swim area, located just inside the Hillsboro Inlet. Below the surface lies a vibrant marine playground made of Honeycomb Cement Blocks, designed to support coral growth and attract marine life.

What made this event even more meaningful was that our very own Brad Gagag helped build this beautiful space—making it a full-circle moment to host one of our Discover Scuba Ocean Events here.

All participants successfully earned their Scubility Discover Scuba Certificate and official Certification Card—a proud milestone in their diving journey!

Disclaimer: Wahoo Bay is not a designated dive site. Special permissions are required from the City of Pompano Beach to conduct scuba activities in this area.



# SUMMER NIGHT DIVES

## ON GOLIATH



### Are You Afraid of the Dark?

What an incredible night out on the Nursery Reef! We descended into the darkness of the ocean and switched on our flashlights to reveal a whole new underwater world. For some divers, it was their very first night dive; for others, one of their favorites. And for one lucky diver, it was extra special their final checkout dive to officially complete their Adaptive Advanced Diver Certification!

Night dives give us a rare peek into the night life of the reef. We witnessed rainbow fish blowing their protective bubble beds before settling in to sleep (*fun fact: these mucus bubbles hide their scent from predators and shield them from parasites*). We also spotted puffer fish tucking in for the night, lobsters marching across the reef, and squid dancing gracefully in the glow of our lights.

The reef truly comes alive after dark and this dive was nothing short of magical.

**Huge Congratulations to Sabrina for completing her Adaptive Advanced Divers Certification!**



# VETERAN DIVE DAY ON GOLIATH



## Veterans Dive Day

This special dive was planned by one of our dedicated volunteers, Jeremy, who wanted to bring a passion project to life. At Grateful Divers Worldwide, we encourage our volunteers to share their ideas, whether it's a course, dive, or unique experience. Jeremy's vision became reality with our very first Veterans Dive Day!

Bringing people together is what diving is all about sharing the experience, building connections, and creating unforgettable memories beneath the surface. We are deeply grateful to our veterans for their service and sacrifice, and it was an honor to take this group out for a day of diving and camaraderie.

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Do you have a passion project or dive idea you'd like to share? Send us a message let's make it happen, whether it's under the waves or beyond them!



# DISCOVER SCUBA EVENT

*With the Dan Marino Foundation*



DSEs are where the true magic of scuba diving comes to life! In late April, we had the honor of hosting a DSE (Discover Scuba Experience) for the Dan Marino Foundation. We took 10 amazing participants into the pool to let them try scuba diving for the very first time!

Our trained adaptive dive buddies guided them through the basics from getting comfortable with the gear to blowing bubbles underwater. Some were a little nervous at first (which is totally normal!), but by the end of the session, it was all smiles. Everyone even jumped in for a second round!

Our next adventure with the Dan Marino Foundation is coming up soon we'll be heading out to Pompano's Wahoo Bay, where some participants will get the chance to try scuba diving in a safe, calm ocean environment, while others will enjoy snorkeling just above!

