



DIVER DOWN NEWS

President's Note – November 2023



Our 2023 dive season is at its end. There are a few brave club members still testing the 47° water to add a few more dives

to their logbook. Last year we did a New Year's Day dive. If there is interest and the weather is favorable. We can do this again and start a new tradition.

Even though there is not much diving now, there are still events to talk about diving. Our meetings continue year-round, so plan to attend to hear our interesting presentations planned for our winter meetings. The LIDA film festival is on January 27, 2024 at Hofstra University, and tickets are on sale now. Beneath the Sea diving expo is planned for March 23-24, 2024. There's a Scuba flea market on March 10, 2024 in New Jersey.

Now is the time to check out your gear have it serviced and replace worn out equipment.

Our holiday party was a success with a fun time and good food had by all that attended. Thank you Gus for hosting and John for providing the food.

I wish you a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year to all.

Mary Davis, Club President



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THE MONTHLY MEETING

The Dive Club currently holds monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the Tap Room in Bay Shore.

EST ★ 2011

TAP ROOM

44 E Main St. #46
Bay Shore, NY 11706
(631) 665-2000

Support our hosting establishment and wait staff. Please note that our hosts add an “Event Gratuity” to each bill.

And don't forget cash for our 50/50 raffle!

Arrive for dinner as early as 6:30pm. Meetings commence at 8pm.

December 2023 Dive Club Meeting Presentation

Harris Moore—Wreck Diving in Bikini Atoll



Join us in welcoming underwater photographer and club member, Harris Moore, as he tells us about his experience visiting Bikini Atoll, a remote destination in the Pacific whose shipwrecks tell stories of how the atoll became the United States' nuclear weapon testing site.

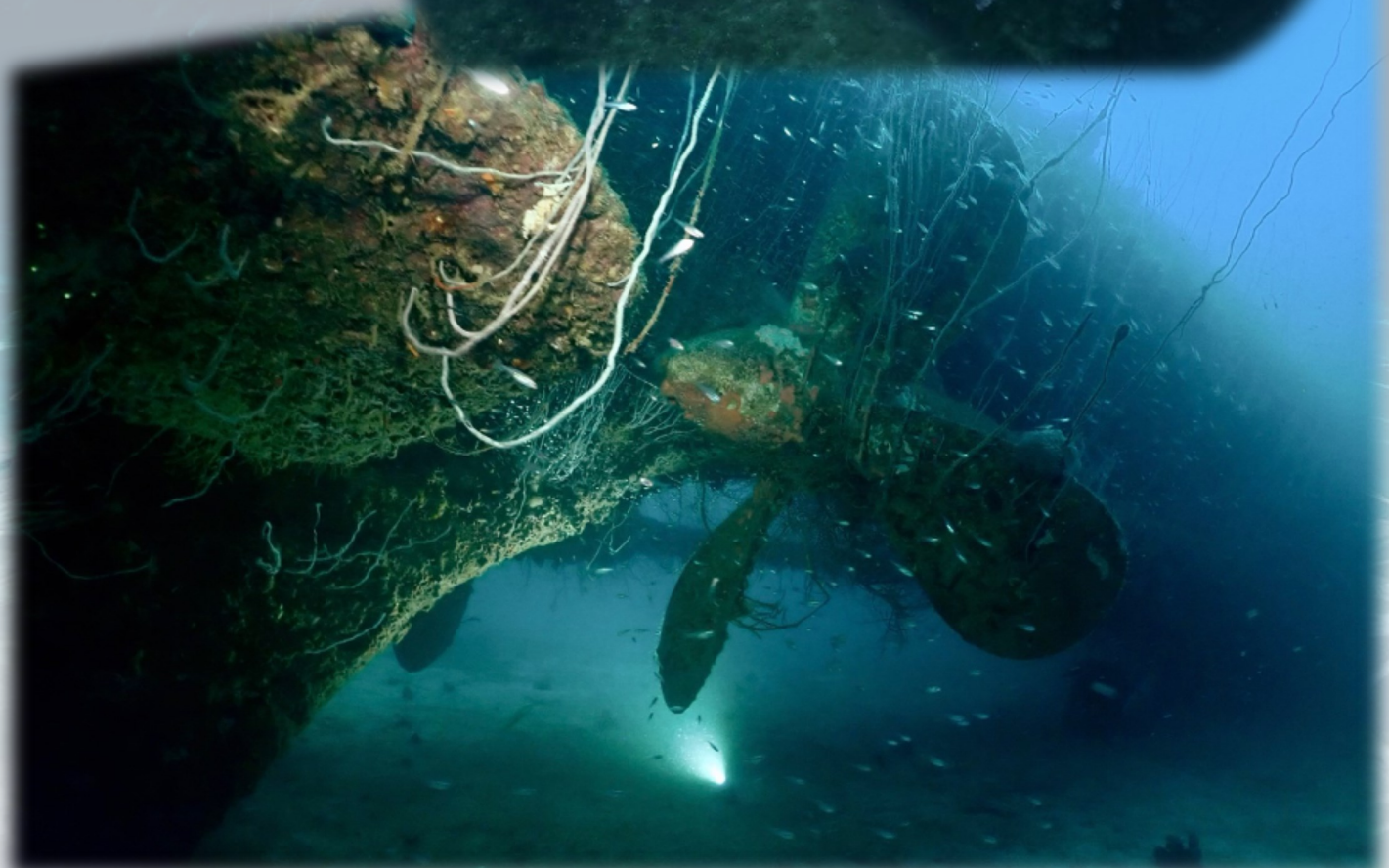




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MEETING PRESENTATION (CON'T)

Learn about the history behind these wrecks, the nuclear testing that occurred there, and what it was like visiting and diving Bikini Atoll with photos by Harris.





CLUB MEMBERSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

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Fill out the application. 2024 applications and waivers attached to the end of this newsletter! It is preferred that you fill out the application on your computer, print to sign, and then scan and email to Bill at the below address. Read on for detailed instructions.

Please note that ALL PREVIOUS Forms are obsolete. The Form for 2024 MUST say 2024 at the top.

Note, for Family Memberships, EACH PERSON IN THE FAMILY UNIT needs to fill out a Form and Sign it.

Print out the form so you can sign **BOTH Pages**, and **Initial the Waiver** where indicated.

PARENTS, you must sign the Waiver for your Children under the age of 18.

No Digital Signatures please.

When you sign the Waiver, PLEASE DATE IT January 1 of the waiver year.

Scan the two pages and save as a *.pdf, using your Last Name for the File Name.

Ex: Mine would be Cadden.pdf .

E-Mail it back to this E-Mail Address (Membership.TheDiveClub@gmail.com)

Pay your Dues

You can do this by one of 3 easy and convenient ways:

1. Pay Cash at the meeting or if you run into an Officer (Pres, Vice-Pres, Treasurer, Corresponding Sec).
2. Pay by Check, either at a Meeting, to an Officer, or via mail to the P.O. Box.
 - * If you use a Business Check, make sure you include a note telling us who it is for.
 - * If your Family Unit has multiple Last Names, please let us know who is included.
3. Venmo to the Treasurer.
 - * If you need Venmo directions, please contact the Treasurer at info@thediveclub.com.
 - * If your Family Unit has multiple Last Names, please let us know who is included.

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

- If you have not renewed your membership, please do so asap including filling out the updated club waiver. Form/waiver available here: thediveclub.com/membership.
- Individual memberships for 2023 are \$25. Family memberships are \$35.
- T-shirts are available for purchase for a charge of \$10.
- Membership payments should be given to Gus Bricker, who can be reached at info@thediveclub.com.
- Membership applications and renewals should be given to Bill Cadden, our Membership/ Corresponding Secretary (membership.thediveclub@gmail.com or tjcbillsetc@yahoo.com).



MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2023

taken by Courtney Lyons

- 🐟 Beach Diving report: last dive was at Pirates Cove in port jeff. 5 people got in the water and 3 others went over to cedar beach due to lack of parking
- 🐟 Wreck report: halftime dive cancelled
- 🐟 Leaderboards are finalized, winners will get recognized at December meeting
- 🐟 Memberships (Bill Cadden): 2024 renewal forms are ready. there was an issue with the original email so hold off and wait for Bill to re-send the form with a fillable PDF document.
- 🐟 On our FaceBook group, we will allow used gear sales from local divers and club members.
- 🐟 LIDA Film Festival: January 27, 2024. There will be some great presenters and films. Come down and support Long Island Divers Association. Tickets can be purchased on the LIDA website or in person.
- 🐟 Christmas party will be at Gus' house in Bay Shore December 2. Address will be emailed as it gets closer.
- 🐟 Floor is open for nominations for officers- no nominations
- 🐟 Tim volunteering to take over OBI committee next summer
- 🐟 Contact Linda Gotti if interested in the North Carolina Moorehead Trip
- 🐟 Presenting: Rob Vasiluth & Save the Great South Bay



NEWS & UPDATES from our Google Group

The Dive Club has a charter planned on the Gypsy Blood out of Point Pleasant, NJ on Sunday, June 30, 2024! We have the whole boat and can take up to 16 divers!

Spots are available now. If interested, send Courtey a message. Payment of \$120 is due in full to hold your spot. We will be heading to the wreck of the Stolt Dagali (60-130 feet). The boat requires a minimum certification of Advanced Open Water for this dive.

The club had a great time on the Gypsy Blood last year, so you don't want to miss this one!!





BUY TIX & SAVE THE DATES!

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UPCOMING DIVER COMMUNITY EVENTS

LIDA ANNUAL FILM FESTIVAL

Saturday, January 27, 2023 ~ 7:00 PM

At the Hofstra University Student Center
Theater in Hempstead, NY



Tickets now on sale at lidaonline.com! ----->
Volunteers wanted! Email lidastreasurer@yahoo.com.

2024 Presenters:

Christopher Weaver



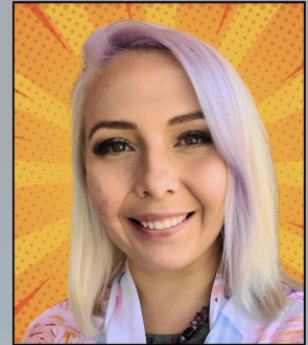
Michael Salvarezza



Cristina Zenato
Kewin Lorenzen



Nicole Zelek



Larry Cohen



Olga Torrey



Peter Venoutsos



Maureen & Steve
Langevins



Michael Salvarezza & Christopher Weaver - Malta: Magical Diving in the Mediterranean

Cristine Zenato & Kewin Lorenzen - Interconnected

Nicole Zelek - Negatively Bouyant: A Dive Instructor in NYC

Larry Cohen & Olga Torrey - Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula

Peter Venoutsos - Wet and Wild

Maureen & Steve Langevins - Egypt and the Red Sea



SCUBA FLEA MARKET

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Ocean Wreck Divers and the New Jersey Historical Divers Association, Inc. proudly announce the

OCEAN WRECK DIVERS 35TH ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

MARCH 10, 2024 ~ 9:00AM-1:00PM

**JOIN US AT THE BIGGEST AND THE BEST
SCUBA FLEA MARKET IN NEW JERSEY!**

LOCATION:

InfoAge | 2201 Marconi Rd, Wall Township, NJ 07719
Near exits 100 and 98 on the Garden State Parkway (by the [New Jersey Shipwreck Museum](#))

RAFFLES ~ DOOR PRIZES ~ INDOOR MARKET

ADMISSION IS \$7.00 AT THE DOOR.
CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD FREE WITH A PAID ADULT

Buy New and used gear.

Learn about the history of diving and equipment.

Discover and learn about various causes to help protect the oceans and marine life.

You can also visit the New Jersey Historical diver's Association free displays on boats, shipwrecks, and scuba.

More information at
[facebook.com/
OceanWreckDivers/](https://facebook.com/OceanWreckDivers/)

Note: Interested in being a vendor, Call 732-255-9304 to reserve a table for \$60.00 or link to: oceanwreckdivers.com/links/2023_Scuba_Reservation.pdf



MONDAY NIGHT SCUBA TRAINING POOL AVAILABLE FARMINGDALE AQUATIC CENTER

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Are you a certified scuba diver? If you are, you will be interested in Farmingdale Aquatic Center's Monday Night Scuba program. Every diver wants to keep their Scuba skills at their very best. Living on Long Island, with the diving season as short it is, it can be difficult to keep Scuba skills sharp. Getting into a pool for practice is a great way to keep you skills up. Certified divers can get that pool time in the brand new Farmingdale Aquatic Center.

These 1 1/2 hour pool sessions are an ideal way to keep your skills up-to-date and be ready for your next Scuba diving vacation. The facility, which is brand new, has a 15 foot deep section great for practicing skills, trying out new equipment, working with your dive buddy, the lists goes on...

If you do not own all needed equipment, you can rent what you need from your local dive shop, or through special arrangements with Tiedemann's Diving Center of Levittown. Make sure all your skills are perfect by practicing in the pool. Then your dives will be more fun and safer.

Are you a Scuba Instructor? If you are you can use this facility to teach. The rules are simple. You need to be current with your agency. Each person in your group must be registered (you, your student(s), and any assistants you may have). Farmingdale needs to be listed as an Additional Insured on your instructor liability insurance. Contact Ed at Tiedemann's Diving Center for more details. You can even work out rental equipment for your students.

The sessions take place on Monday evenings, from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. To participate you must have a nationally recognized scuba certification. The level of certification must be Open Water Diver or higher. Use of any highly specialized equipment, (like a dry suits, full face masks, rebreathers), requires certification in that area. If you are a student you must be with your instructor at all times in the water. Anyone under the age of 18 year must have a parent with them in the pool area.

Has it been some time since you have been diving? We can make arrangements for a Scuba Update on your first pool session. Then you have two more sessions to practice.

The cost is \$100 per diver for the three-night session. This makes it very affordable. Each of the sessions includes three pool sessions. Four separate sessions will be offer in the Fall and Winter 2023/24. Current dates are below. The number of participants is very limited. Make Monday Night Scuba a great way for you to enjoy your Scuba Diving year round.

Signing up could not be simpler. Contact Ed Tiedemann at Tiedemann's Diving Center (56 Gardeners Ave. Levittown - 516-796-6560 - www.TDCScuba.com) and he can sign you up in person at the shop or over the phone.

If you want to contact Farmingdale directly, the number is 516-434-5316. Take note that if you sign up via the Farmingdale website (campscui.active.com/orgs/FarmingdaleUnionFreeSchoolDistrict22 or the QR code to the right) there is a \$6 fee for each person signing up. 🐟



The next session is

📅 January 22, 29, and February 5, 2024



DIVE ACCIDENT INSURANCE

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Scuba Diving involves a certain level of risk that we as certified divers accept. Accidents can happen even if we follow all the rules of diving. It is highly recommended that all divers have dive accident insurance. There are several insurers for this type of coverage, the 2 most used are DAN (Divers Alert Network) and Dive Assure.

The Dive Club recommends that all members have coverage, especially if you will be traveling to dive. Your medical insurance may not cover all the expenses involved with a dive accident.


Diving Insurance Policies

Diving insurance policies cover scenarios that are specific to the sport of diving. There are two types of diving insurance policies:

Diving accident insurance

These policies primarily cover a diver's medical expenses if they have an accident while diving. These expenses may include hospital stays, evacuation from a dive site, and treatment in a hyperbaric chamber. These costs are rarely covered by other forms of insurance, and are often very expensive, since many dive sites are in remote destinations with minimal medical services.

Dive travel insurance

These policies are designed specifically for divers and diving activities. They combine a diving accident insurance policy with a travel insurance policy. Travel insurance covers travel-related scenarios like a canceled dive trip, a missed flight or dive boat, having to end a dive vacation before the scheduled date, and some non-diving accident or medical situations. Travel insurance policies have different levels of coverage, so the policy buyer should carefully consider their needs, the size and length of their trip, and the policy provider before making their purchase. 



Putting the Wreck of the U.S.S. San Diego into Perspective:

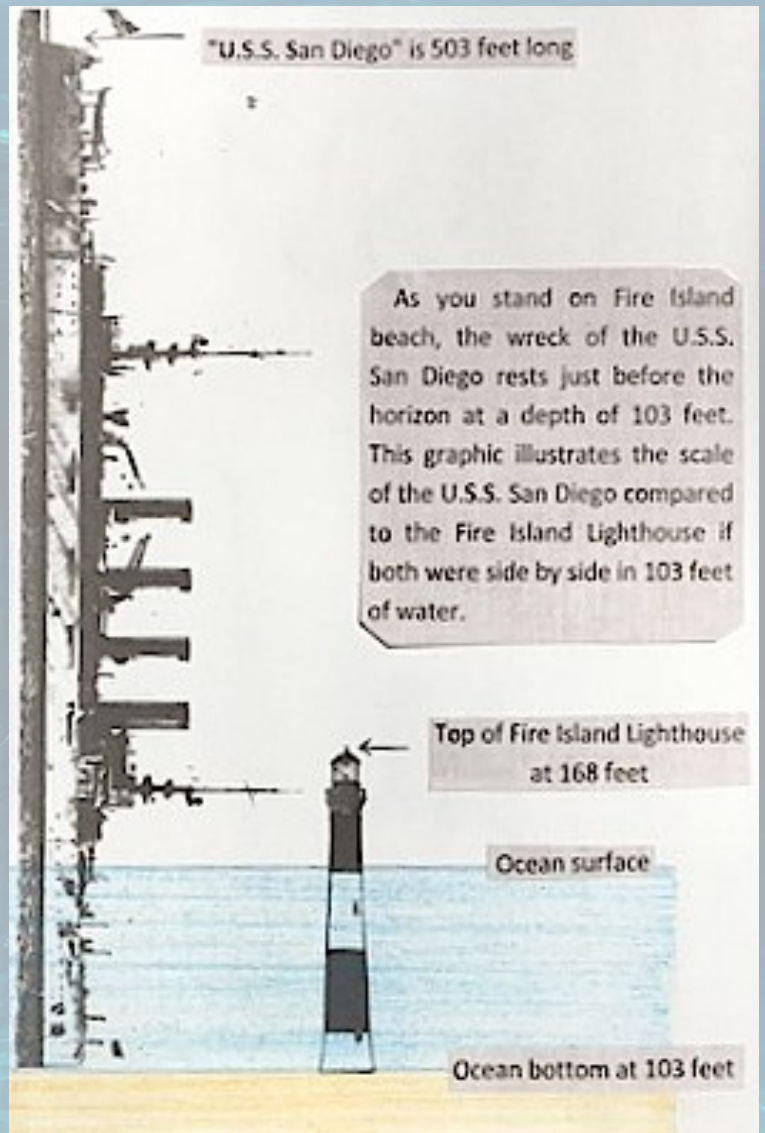
A Highlight from a library display by Jack Frost that helped patrons learn about our unseen nearby shipwrecks.

HALFTIME WRECK DIVING BOAT & BUSINESS FOR SALE



Captain Ralph Towlen has reached out to LIDA to announce the sale of his dive boat and dive business out of Shinnecock. The entire business including the boat, boat slip, and dive customer's list are being sold as a turnkey working operation. Ralph exclaimed that the business is a positive cash flow entity which is already sold out for the 2024 season with 70 booked charters.

Interested parties should reach out to Ralph at Halftimedive@gmail.com



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



John Barrett
Allison Boucher
Louis J. Buda, IV
Corrine Burton
James Cumilang
Douglas DeMatteo
Randi Hochenberger
Jennifer Lander

Christopher Mitchell
Kyle Patac
Bruce Russo
Franzelyn Russo
Randi Schenfeld
Daniel Schwedes
Marie Sirois
Mason Wissing



DIVER PROFILES

Be featured in a future newsletter and help our dive community to become more familiar. Send the following information about yourself to info@thediveclub.com.

Name:

The nickname divers know you by:

Years diving:

Certification level:

Additional skills and certifications you have earned along the way:

How many dives do you have under your belt?

What is your favorite type of diving?

Have you traveled to far-off destinations?

Where was your favorite dive destination?

What was your best dive experience?

What was your worst dive experience?

What was your scariest dive experience?

Have you had any funny experiences while diving?

Have you had any close encounters with aquatic life while diving?

What (besides your love of diving) can you share with the divers that will be reading your profile?

GOT NEWS OR STORIES?

Just because it is the height of winter, doesn't mean our diving is dormant. This is an excellent time to brush up on skills, service equipment, take classes, and make diving plans.

To keep the momentum going, let's share highlights of our adventures in diving. Consider writing an article for the newsletter (pictures also welcome!). If not a personal story or experience, diver-related news or educational articles are also welcome. All submissions are appreciated and will be credited accordingly. Send to info@thediveclub.com.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**President:
Mary Davis**



**Vice President:
John Berntsen**



**Treasurer:
Gus Bricker**



**Corresponding Secretary:
Bill Cadden**



**Recording Secretary:
Courtney Lyons**



**Newsletter Editor:
Randi Hochenberger**



COMMITTEE CHAIRS



Wreck Diving:
Mary Davis



Beach Diving:
Joey Feldbaum and Vicky Ingoglia



Oak Beach-Tee Shirts:
Courtney Lyons



Camping Trips:
Bruce Russo



Website Management:
Jim Vafeas



Social Media Chairperson:
Jerry Kinkade

APPLICATION DATA SHEET

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Telephone: _____ Relationship: _____

Level of Certification: _____ Certifying Agency: _____ Date of Certification: _____

Student Yes No Years Diving: _____ Approx. Number of Dives made: _____ Deepest Dive to date: _____

Have you ever made a planned decompression dive? Yes No

What are your diving interests? Wreck Diving Beach Diving J/W Photography Deep Diving
(Check all that apply) Spear Fishing Night Diving Artifact Collecting Travel/Vacation
 Environmental Issues

Are you First Aid/CPR certified? Yes No

Are you interested in furthering your present level of certification? Yes No

What are you looking for in a dive club? _____

Would you be interested in participating in club committees? Yes No

When are you available for club dives/activities? (Check all that apply): days nights weekends

Do you have Dive Accident Insurance (DAN or other)? Yes No

Are you a member of any other dive clubs? Yes No If so, which ones?

Membership Type: Please check New Renewal

Single Membership: \$25.00. Full club membership

Family Membership: \$35.00. Full Club membership for the person signing up, plus Partner and all children 26 years old and under.

Disclaimer:

I understand that if accepted for membership in The Dive Club, I will be bound by the by-laws of The Dive Club and will be required to sign a waiver of liability and pay the applicable admission fee.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature/Title of Club officer: _____ Date: _____



LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK

This is an important legal document. You may wish to consult an attorney prior to signing it.

This release may be used against you in a court of law if you sue any released person or party.

Please read carefully, **fill in all blanks and initial each paragraph before signing**. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.

I, _____, hereby affirm that I have been advised and thoroughly informed through my open water training of the inherent risks of skin and scuba diving.

- Further, I understand that diving with compressed air involves certain inherent risks; decompression sickness, embolism, or other hyperbaric injuries can occur that require treatment in a recompression chamber. I further understand that any trips of any kind (diving or non-diving), whether sponsored or not, by The Dive Club may be conducted at a site that is remote, either by time or distance or both, from such a recompression chamber. I still choose to proceed with such diving activities in spite of the absence of a recompression chamber in proximity to the dive site(s).
- I understand and agree that neither The Dive Club or any of their respective board members, officers, agents or assigns (hereinafter referred to as “Released Parties”), may be held liable or responsible in any way for any injury, death, or other damages to me or my family, heirs, or assigns that may occur as a result of my participation in any Dive Club activity, or as a result of negligence of any party, including the Released Parties, whether passive or active.
- In consideration of being allowed to become a member of The Dive Club I hereby personally assume all risks in connection with diving or non-diving activity from any harm, injury or damage that may befall on me, including all risks connected therewith, whether foreseen or unforeseen.
- I further save and hold harmless said Dive Club and Released Parties from any claim or lawsuit by me, my family, estate, heirs, or assigns, arising out of my enrollment and participation in Club events including both claims arising during said event or after said event.
- I further understand that skin diving and scuba diving are physically strenuous activities and that I will be exerting myself during any diving activity, and that if I am injured as a result of a heart attack, panic, hyperventilation, etc., that I expressly assume the risk of said injuries and that I will not hold the above listed individuals or companies responsible for the same.
- I further state that I am of lawful age and legally competent to sign this liability release, or that I have acquired the written consent of my parent or guardian.
- I acknowledge scuba diving is an activity that is done with a buddy. I will not make a solo dive during a Dive Club event unless I am certified to do so by an accredited training agency and an I am equipped to make this dive safely.
- I understand that the terms herein are contractual and are not a mere recital, and that I have signed this document of my own free act.
- I acknowledge that The Dive Club does not provide buddies, gear, transportation, training, or professional advice pertaining to the sport of scuba diving. However, the dive sponsors will do their best to help club members find what they need for a dive by setting up email groups to allow individual club members to coordinate rides, buddies, and rental gear, if necessary.
- The Dive Club does not vet divers or make any determination about whether any diver is qualified to do any given dive. This decision is entirely up to the individual diver, as well as any external dive operator, such as a dive boat captain or resort operator. It is important to evaluate your current experience when making the decision to dive. If you only have experience diving in warm waters with optimal visibility, you should consider the additional challenges associated with northeast diving before making your decision. I expressly assume the risk of any injury or illness for **each and every** dive that I determine to make and hold harmless for the same the above listed companies and individuals.



- I acknowledge that for planned boat charters, the minimum certification and equipment requirements listed in our newsletter are the requirements of the boat captains. Please contact them directly if you have any questions about the suitability of a dive for you.
- I understand that DAN (Divers Alert Network) Insurance or other similar diving accident insurance policies are available to me if I choose to acquire this. I acknowledge that it is my own responsibility to educate myself on the available policies and choose the one, if any, that is appropriate for me. I understand that without this, I will be responsible for any medical bills or damages to my equipment that I incur.
- I recognize that I may receive false or misleading information from one or more club members or non-members pertaining to the relative difficulty of a dive or my ability to safely participate in or perform a dive. Additionally, I acknowledge that one or more club members or non-members may negligently approve of my dive plan, including preparation or intended dive plan, the condition of my equipment, my ability to use my equipment, or proper use of equipment. I understand and agree that **I am responsible for determining whether I am capable of executing** a dive safely, whether I have sufficient information regarding my own physical abilities and the intended dive to base this decision, as well as whether my equipment is in proper working condition and is sufficient for the intended dive. I release The Dive Club and all co-signers who by signing this waiver similarly release me from negligent acts or omissions of this nature.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF _____ BY THIS INSTRUMENT TO EXEMPT AND RELEASE THE DIVE CLUB, AND ALL RELATED ENTITIES AS DEFINED ABOVE, FROM ALL LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER FOR PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR WRONGFUL DEATH HOWEVER CAUSED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, WHETHER PASSIVE OR ACTIVE.

I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY HEIRS.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date



Membership Directory Data Sheet

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Telephone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

I wish to have the above information published in the 2024 Membership Directory to be distributed to the Membership.

Signature of Member _____

Date _____

