



DIVER DOWN NEWS

Message from the President – August 2023

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This is going to be a short note because the president is out diving for the death by diving challenge. Last week I was in Turks and Caicos and got to do two really nice dives where I could actually see something. We are holding our death by diving challenge. Lots of diving going on this month. Unfortunately, for our death by diving weekend the weather has taken a bad turn. We are making the best of it and adjusting our dive schedule. The lesson in Diving is you always have to be flexible and be ready to cancel the dive if conditions are not safe.

We have a meeting this Tuesday, August 1 at the taproom in Bay Shore meeting for dinner between six and 630 and the meeting officially starts at 8 PM. We are going to have a discussion at the meeting about safety and Diving. Everybody please think about passed. Dive said she had a lessons that you have learned. It’ll be a nice thing to share your knowledge We have a meeting this Tuesday, August 1 at the taproom in Bay Shore meeting for dinner between six and 630 and the meeting officially starts at 8 PM. We are going to have a discussion at the meeting about safety and Diving. Everybody please think about past dives you have had and lessons that you have learned. It will be a nice thing to share your knowledge and experience with some of the new members of the club. They can learn from the things that have challenged us to help them make the better divers and not have to make the mistakes that we have all made. At this point there are still 3 dives to go in the challenge and we are dealing with some weather issues.

Safe diving to all and I will see you at the meeting on Tuesday.

Mary Davis
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

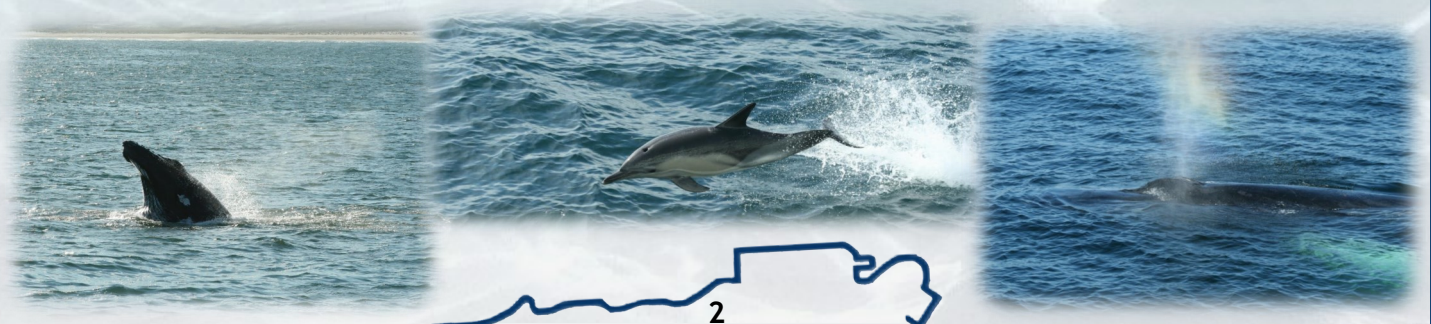
Support our hosting establishment and wait staff. Arrive for dinner as early as 6pm. Meetings commence at 8pm.

Please note that our new hosts add an “Event Gratuity” to each bill.



August 2023 Presentation:
Come Aboard! Whale Watching in Long Island Waters

The waters surrounding Long Island are home to numerous species of marine mammals, birds, and sea turtles. The local non-profit organization CRESLI (Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island) has been operating whale watch tours out of Montauk since 1996, providing passengers with "close-up" views of these spectacular animals in their natural environment. The cruises also allow scientists to collect and analyze data to better understand the habitat usage and population dynamics of the animals frequenting our waters. Join one of CRESLI's naturalists, Dr. Marianne McNamara (Professor of Biology and Marine Biology at SCCC), as she shares stunning photography of whales, dolphins, sharks, pelagic birds and more encountered on these cruises. Discover which species of marine life are commonly found off Long Island, and learn what these encounters are teaching us about their distribution here and elsewhere in the North Atlantic.





CLUB MEMBERSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

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Fill out the application at the end of this newsletter. If you are viewing the newsletter online, the fields are fillable and you can type in them. 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 MUST say 2023 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, 2023.

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

August 2023
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June 26, 2023
taken by Courtney Lyons

Minutes for the July meeting, which took place on June 26 so as not to conflict with July 4.

- 🐟 Meeting started at 8:00 by John B.
- 🐟 June minutes approved

Wreck Diving: Tim

- 🐟 Wreck diving report from Tim: 16 club members trekked out to Point Pleasant Beach, NJ to dive on the Gypsy Blood. It was a great dive with great conditions above and below the water. If you get a chance to go on a local wreck dive you should absolutely try it out. They dived the wreck of the Mohawk after another dive boat beat them to the Stolt Dagali. With a depth of 85 feet, the club had a great time.
- 🐟 Spots filling up quickly but contact Mary Davis if interested. Must be AOW

Beach Report:

- 🐟 3 club members made the trek to Lake Minnewaska for a chilly fresh water dive. We were rained out in Montauk.

Oak Beach:

- 🐟 We have had a great turnout at OBI dives so far, even with the rain and smoke! We will continue to dove Oak Beach every Wednesday starting at 4 pm until dark so arrive any time to dive and for a barbecue afterwards. It is a great social activity and can be an awesome dive if the conditions allow!
- 🐟 We will be diving OBI saturday July 1. We have a night dive Monday, July 3 at Noyack. See the schedule for details and directions

Death-by-Diving:

- 🐟 Death by Diving will be July 28-30. Camping at Indian Island-contact Bruce Russo to reserve a spot. Schedule is not finalized yet but will be posted soon!

Upcoming Dives:

- 🐟 The July schedule has been posted to Facebook and sent via Email. Keep an eye on these for any changes or adjustments in the schedule.
- 🐟 Upcoming dives also include Shoreham Jetties, Ponquogue Bridge, and Beach 8th street.

Trips:

- 🐟 Contact Linda Gotti to join Moorehead, North Carolina trip
- 🐟 Contact Joe Lemaire to join Rhode Island trip
- 🐟 Contact Jim Vafaes to join Canada/Thousand Islands trip - **AS OF 7/31 3 SPOTS OPENED**
- 🐟 Contact Mary Davis to join Truk Lagoon trip 2024

New Members:

- 🐟 Welcome new members Nick, Ron, and his Son. Excited to meet like-minded people and join in on some local diving fun Danny on the sidekick has charters this weekend friday

Topic: 8:35PM—Bingo!



DEATH BY DIVING

JULY 28-30 2023

Friday, July 28:

- Oak Beach, Babylon: 6 PM

Saturday, July 29

- Secret Beach, Greenport: 9 AM
- Horton's Point, Southold: 11 AM
- Ponquogue Bridge, Hampton Bays: 3:45 PM, High Tide 5:43 PM
- Cedar Beach, Mt. Sinai: 8 PM — **(Cancelled—Storm)**

Sunday, July 30

- Fort Pond Bay, Navy Beach, Montauk: 10 AM **(Moved to Noyack, unfavorable conditions)**
- Noyack Bay, Noyack: 12:30 PM (2 Dives & Barbecue)

46 Divers participated in this year's Death-by-Diving.
13 met the challenge and earned a lobster dinner.





BEACH DIVING UPDATED 2023 SCHEDULE

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Beach Diving Committee: Joe Feldbaum & Victoria Ingoglia

Please be advised that all dives are subject to a location change or cancellation. Any updates in the schedule will be sent to Facebook and E-mail as they come up.

Wednesday, Oak Beach Dive and BBQ has commenced for the season. Meet as early as 4:00PM

August 2023:

- ✦ Sunday, August 6
 - ✦ Rye Cliff Ferry
- ✦ Saturday, August 12
 - ✦ Shoreham Jetties
- ✦ Saturday, August 19
 - ✦ Beach 8th Street
- ✦ Sunday, August 27
 - ✦ Delaware Water Gap (Day trip)

September 2023:

- ✦ Saturday, September 2
 - ✦ Oak Beach (Labor Day weekend BBQ)
- ✦ Sunday, September 10
 - ✦ Ponquogue Bridge
- ✦ Saturday, September 16
 - ✦ U.S.S. Ohio

September 2023

- (con't):
- Saturday, September 23
 - ✦ Shinnecock Inlet (weather permitting; backup: Ponquogue Bridge)
- ✦ Saturday, September 30
 - ✦ Theodore Roosevelt Pier

October 2023:

- ✦ Sunday, October 8
 - ✦ Noyack Bay (Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest)
- ✦ Sunday, October 15
 - ✦ Bayville Barge
- ✦ Saturday, October 21
 - ✦ Cedar Beach
- ✦ Saturday, October 28
 - ✦ Ponquogue Bridge

November 2023:

- ✦ Saturday, November 4
 - ✦ Pirate's Cove



THE DIVE CLUB



LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK



BEACH LEADERBOARDS

(AS OF JULY 27, 2023)

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S H O R E

Courtney Lyons 9	Doug Purver 1
Tim McMahon 8	Ed Meyer, Jr. 1
Mary Davis 7	Elaine Turley 1
Joe Lemaire	..... 6	Eric Yousha	..... 1
Chelsea Miller	..... 5	Gavin Fontana	..... 1
Joe Feldbaum	..... 5	Grace Mattel	..... 1
Kevin Ryan	..... 5	Jack Frost	..... 1
Rick Baresich	..... 5	Jackie Feldbaum	.... 1
John Berntsen	..... 4	James Campbell	.... 1
Vicky Ingoglia	..... 4	Jim Campbell	..... 1
Andrew Solomon	... 3	Jim Vafaes	..... 1
Jim Lisle	..... 3	Kris Kulikauskas	.... 1
Ken Murphy	..... 3	Linda Gotti	..... 1
Leslie Von Pless	.... 3	Megan Barrow	..... 1
Mike Feldbaum	..... 3	Nick Lappano	..... 1
Nick Sinnott	..... 3	Noah Yousha	..... 1
Vadim Paley	..... 3	Norma Leon	..... 1
Andrey Krasnov	.... 2	Ozan Ersoz	..... 1
Danny Rivera	..... 2	Pat Fontana	..... 1
John Hochenberger	2	Philip Hollnsteiner	. 1
Kim Dunham	..... 2	Ryan Feldbaum	..... 1
Ron Prybella	..... 2	Sam Feldbaum	..... 1
Ryan Smith	..... 2	Sam Romig	..... 1
William Iaconetti	.. 2	Steven Davis	..... 1
Alexey Stenger	.... 1	Tom Riedmann	..... 1
Barry Lipsky	..... 1	Jennifer Lander	.... 1
Ben Chung	..... 1	Ryan Christie	..... 1
Bill Turley	..... 1	Madeleine Guilmain	1
Chris Romig	..... 1	Harris Moore	..... 1
Christine Lupo 1	Di Moore 1
Chuck Ertle 1		
Doug King 1		



BEACH LEADERBOARDS

(AS OF JULY 27, 2023)

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OAK BEACH



Tim McMahon	10	Larry Moskowitz	1
Chelsea Miller	8	Mark Zyzman	1
John Hochenberger	8	Nick Sinnott	1
Kevin Ryan.....	8	Nicole Alimario	1
Courtney Lyons	7	Noah Yousha.....	1
Louis Buda	7	Pat Fontana	1
Randi Hochenberger	6	Philip Hollnsteiner .	1
Vadim Paley	6	Rick Baresich	1
Eric Cregreen	5	Saverio Pispisa	1
John Berntsen.....	4	Jennifer Lander	1
Megan Barrow	4	Paul Santarsiero	1
Nick Lappano	4	Jackie Feldbaum....	1
Joe Lemaire	3	Linda Gotti	1
Mary Davis	3		
Michael Stacy	3		
Ron Prybella.....	3		
William Iaconetti ..	3		
Alyssa Asmour	2		
Jack Frost	2		
Mike Feldbaum	2		
Norma Leon.....	2		
Vicky Ingoglia	2		
Kris Kulikauskas ...	2		
James Campbell....	2		
Jim Campbell.....	2		
Alex Bases	1		
Andrey Krasnov	1		
Eric Yousha	1		
Gavin Fontana.....	1		
Jenny Ross.....	1		
Joe Feldbaum	1		





WRECK DIVING 2023 SCHEDULE

The following equipment is ***required*** for all wreck dives with The Dive Club:



-  Secondary Air Source:
~ doubles or pony bottle
-  Wreck reel
-  Lift bag OR Surface Marker Buoy
-  Cutting tool
-  Whistle or other sound device
-  Strobe

Divers should be comfortable with the use of this gear.

To book a spot on the Sidekick Dive Boat, each diver must have certification for the planned depth of the wreck. Deep Diving certification is required for wrecks over 100ft. To book a spot on the Sea Hawk or Sea Turtle, AOW certification is required.

WRECK LEADERBOARD AS OF JULY 15, 2023

Mary Davis	6	Ryan Smith	2
Andrew Solomon.....	6	Tim McMahon	2
Ron Prybella	3	Ben Chung	2
Alicia Sirois.....	3	Eric Yousha	2
Christian Muniz.....	2	Nick Sinnott.....	2
Jim Lisle	2	Noah Yousha.....	2
Jim Vafeas	2	Megan Barrow	2
James Lark.....	2	Barry Lipsky.....	2
Andrew Lockheart.....	2	Ken Murphy.....	2
Jack Dillon	2	Eric Creegan	2
Dene Ulmschneider	2	Larry Moskowitz	1

 August 26	Sea Hawk	TBD—offshore	80-130ft	Full
 September 3	Halftime	12 Mile Reef	120ft	4 spots

Wreck dives can be booked by contacting Mary Davis
at painlessm@msn.com or 516-987-8308.

**Contact Courtney Lyons for information about the waitlist and any openings for this dive.*

All payments due in advance. Payment must be made to secure spot.

All spots are final. If you can't make it you can replace yourself with a qualified diver.

We will try to help with a replacement if needed from a wait list.



A DESPERATE PUSH TO SAVE FLORIDA'S CORAL: GET IT OUT OF THE SEA

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Teams dedicated to ocean restoration are urgently moving samples to tanks on land as a marine heat wave devastates entire reefs.

A diver with the Coral Restoration Foundation assessed coral bleaching at the group's nursery on Florida's Looe Key on Friday.

When Bailey Thomasson first spotted the coral, she felt a jolt of relief. She was diving for samples off the Florida Keys, and the thicket of elkhorn coral below looked brown, not the stark white that would indicate bleaching from the record-breaking sea temperatures in the area. But as she swam closer, she realized the situation was far worse than she'd considered possible.

"The coral didn't even have a chance to bleach, it just died," said Ms. Thomasson, who works for the Coral Restoration Foundation, a nonprofit group based in the Keys. The brown color was not healthy coral but dead tissue sloughing off the skeleton, almost as if it had melted.

"It just felt like, 'Oh my God, we're in the apocalypse,'" she said. "What's happening?"

With climate change ravaging Florida's beloved reef, people who've devoted their careers to restoring coral in the sea are now racing to get it out of the water, to tanks on land. They're pushing through feelings of grief and fear over the future to save what genetic material and young corals they can. But in the background, an existential question looms: How can they restore reefs if the ocean is getting too hot for coral to live there?

While marine heat waves occur naturally, the eye-popping sea temperatures recorded off the Keys this month (one reading hit [101 degrees Fahrenheit](#), or just over 38 Celsius) have been made worse by global warming, [according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#). The world's oceans have absorbed 90 percent of the additional heat unleashed by people burning fossil fuels and razing forests. Currently, about 44 percent of the global ocean is in a heat wave.

The mass coral bleaching happening throughout the Keys is the most severe in the state's history, Derek Manzello, the coordinator of NOAA's Coral Reef Watch program, said. Surveys over the next few months are needed to understand how much coral has died.

"I fear for the worst," he said.





A DESPERATE PUSH TO SAVE FLORIDA'S CORAL: GET IT OUT OF THE SEA (CON'T)

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Bailey Thomasson, who works for the Coral Restoration Foundation, after a dive Friday. "It just felt like, 'Oh my God, we're in the apocalypse,'" she said.



Bleached corals on Looe Key.

Ms. Thomasson and her colleagues discovered that day, July 20, that all the coral at their acre-wide restoration plot at Sombrero Reef, about five nautical miles south of Marathon, Fla., was dead or so severely bleached that it was almost certain to die.

A warning from the cradle of civilization. High temperatures and scarce water are [drying out swaths of Iraq](#) that were once part of a verdant region known as the Fertile Crescent. Climate change and desertification are to blame, scientists say. So are weak governance and the continued reliance on wasteful irrigation techniques.

Extreme heat. The world has entered what forecasters warn [could be a multiyear period of exceptional warmth](#), one in which the warming effects of humankind's continuing emissions of heat-trapping gases are

compounded by El Niño, the recurring climate pattern typically associated with hotter conditions in many regions.

An ocean's "tipping point." Currents in the Atlantic Ocean that regulate the climate for a swath of the planet [could slow sharply by century's end](#), according to a new analysis. The study adds to a growing body of scientific work that describes how humankind's continued emissions of heat-trapping gases could set off rapid and hard-to-reverse changes in the environment.

Vegan diet. Researchers from the University of Oxford found that people who follow a plant-based diet [account for substantially fewer greenhouse gas emissions](#) than those who eat meat. The research stands out from previous studies on the link between animal agriculture and environmental harm because it drew from people's actual diets and data from farms instead of scientific modeling.

Worms in the Arctic. As human-caused climate change raises temperatures and thaws the permafrost, [worms are taking over territory in the Far North that's been wormless since the last ice age](#). Scientists say the expansion will inevitably change northern ecosystems, with implications for the whole planet, in ways we don't fully understand and probably can't undo.

The next day, she headed out with her team to check on their Looe Key coral nursery, a site that they'd carefully built out over the last two years off Big Pine Key.



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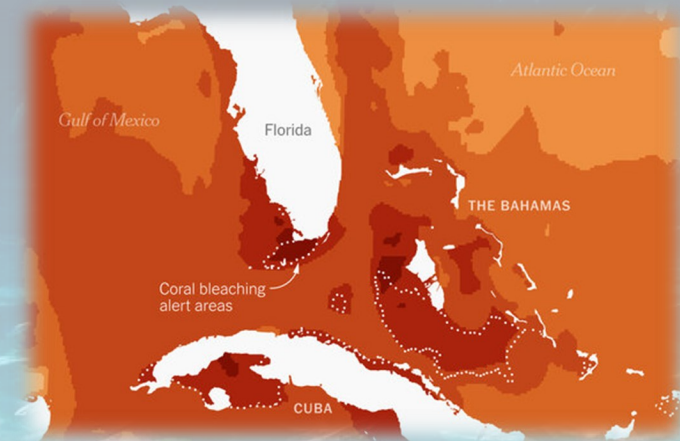
In May, they'd met a goal of installing 100 coral-nursery structures there. Now, as they approached by boat, they could see the white of the bleached coral below. The team embraced in a group hug before jumping in. When they resurfaced, Ms. Thomasson called her boss, crying so hard that at first he couldn't understand her.

"Everything in Looe Key is lost," she told him, some 5,400 pieces of elkhorn and staghorn coral.

The two sites appear to be among the hardest hit. But throughout Florida's reef, which stretches some 350 miles, scientists and advocates are doing triage.

Divers fanned out across the reef and offshore nurseries, collecting two fragments of each genetic individual. Those were taken to tanks in holding facilities, then loaded onto trailers and driven to two separate locations that will serve as gene banks.

It's a "last-ditch sort of insurance policy," said Jennifer Moore, who is leading the banking effort and coordinates protected coral recovery for NOAA Fisheries' Southeast region. "God forbid everything dies in the water, we still have not lost those individuals."



Workers at the Reef Institute in West Palm Beach, Fla., organized corals in a quarantine tank.

[How Hot Is the Sea Off Florida Right Now? Think 90s Fahrenheit.](#)

[July 12, 2023](#)

First priority has been salvaging samples of the most threatened species of coral. Before the marine heat wave, there were only about 150 genetic individuals of elkhorn and 300 of staghorn left in the whole state. (Coral can reproduce asexually, making clones of themselves, so separate corals can have the same genes.)

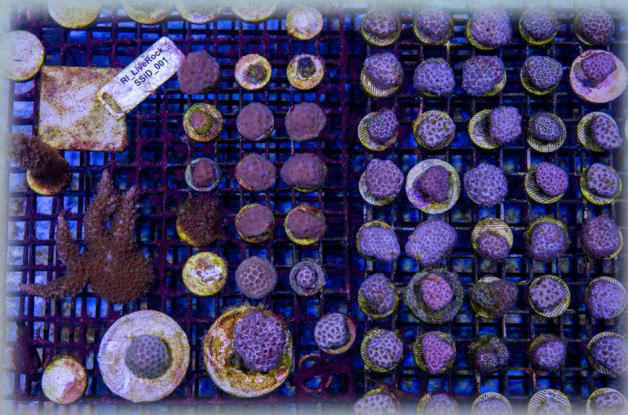


Healthy staghorn coral polyps from corals rescued from a nursery.



A DESPERATE PUSH TO SAVE FLORIDA'S CORAL: GET IT OUT OF THE SEA (CON'T)

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Stony corals organized in saltwater tanks at the Reef Institute.

Coral reefs occur in less than 1 percent of the ocean, but about 25 percent of all marine life depends on them at some point, including fish that provide a critical source of protein to millions of people. Reefs also protect shorelines from storms, breaking the energy of waves by an average of 97 percent, [researchers have found](#). Worldwide, the goods and services provided by reefs [have been valued at \\$2.7 trillion a year](#).

Yet they are imperiled. In 2018, the United Nations' scientific panel on climate change noted that [the fate of coral reefs hangs in the balance](#) between a global temperature increase of 1.5 degrees Celsius and a rise of 2 degrees Celsius. The smaller figure would cause further declines of 70 to 90 percent, the scientists said. The larger one would bring losses of more than 99 percent.

While migration can help animals and plants adapt to a warming planet, coral reefs require very specific ocean conditions and take decades, centuries or millennia to

build. The pace of climate change is too fast, Phanor Montoya-Maya, a marine biologist with the Coral Restoration Foundation, said.

Without drastic reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, [the world is on track to warm 2.1 to 2.9 degrees by 2100](#), according to the United Nations.

Stressed corals bleach, meaning they expel the algae that give them color and nourishment.

If conditions don't improve, or if bleaching happens too frequently, the corals will die. Mass bleaching events were unheard-of a half century ago, but they've been increasing in frequency and severity since the 1980s. By some estimates, the world has lost [half of its coral cover](#) since 1950.



A worker loaded samples into a mobile holding tank.

The foundation transported corals from nurseries across South Florida to locations



that will serve as gene banks.



A DESPERATE PUSH TO SAVE FLORIDA'S CORAL: GET IT OUT OF THE SEA (CON'T)

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Ken Nedimyer, founder of Reef Renewal USA, cut pieces of coral from a nursery off Tavernier Key.

The coral reefs of the Florida Keys have suffered a sharp decline since the late 1970s, primarily because of disease and bleaching, both of which are directly linked to increasing ocean temperatures, Dr. Manzello said.

“You talk about canaries in the coal mine,” he said. “These canaries have been dying now for 40 years.”

The losses have inspired scientists and enthusiasts to intervene, propelling the field of coral restoration.

Ken Nedimyer, for example, stepped away from a successful business as a tropical fish wholesaler some 20 years ago to throw himself into growing staghorn and elkhorn coral in offshore nurseries and planting them on Florida’s reef. He went on to found Coral Restoration Foundation and then a newer nonprofit group, Reef Renewal USA, which he still runs. He has dealt with bleaching and hurricanes before, but these past couple of weeks have shaken him like never before.

“I don’t really know how to

process it,” Mr. Nedimyer said.

To be clear, he hasn’t stopped working. It has been a whirlwind of gathering genetic samples, finding space for coral in tanks on land, applying for emergency permits to move nurseries to deeper, cooler water. But for the first time, he said, he’s questioning whether such efforts can be successful over the long term.

Last year, greenhouse gas emissions in the United States went up, not down. Globally, emissions were on target to hit a record high.

“I keep thinking, what’s it going to take to get people’s attention?” Mr. Nedimyer asked.

A volunteer with Reef Renewal USA retrieving corals for safekeeping on land.



Ropes with small coral cuttings from a nursery off Tavernier Key.

David Obura, a marine biologist and co-chairman of the coral specialist group for the International Union for Conservation of Nature, praised certain restoration efforts but noted that without climate action, they are all but useless.



A DESPERATE PUSH TO SAVE FLORIDA'S CORAL: GET IT OUT OF THE SEA (CON'T)

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“With the main drivers of impact continuing to rise, they may just ‘buy time’ for just a few years,” Dr. Obura wrote in an email. “It is of course critical to attempt this, but this must not distract focus on addressing what and who is causing the problem.”


As the natural warming cycle of El Niño is compounded by climate change, he expects “several years of massive coral bleaching” around the world.

Beyond Florida, bleaching is already underway in reefs off the Bahamas, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico and Panama.

Ms. Thomasson returned to Looe

Key on Friday, getting her first look at the reef where she’d hoped to one day plant the now-dead young coral from the nursery. Thickets of wild elkhorn and mounds of brain coral were bleached or already dead. She clung to the knowledge that her group’s sites in the Upper Keys were faring better, so far.

Ms. Thomasson is determined to keep working on coral restoration, but she needs an ocean hospitable to corals for them to return to.

“It’s up to everyone else to demand climate action right now,” Ms. Thomasson said. “Not in a year, not tomorrow, but right now. Actually yesterday.” 





MEMBER NOTICES AND NEWS

Due to a diver cancellation I have one spot open to dive off Hatteras NC on the Lions Paw (www.divehatteras.com) 8/7-8/11. Stay at my home on Hatteras Island as my guest 8/5-/12. John Beninati and Jeannine from Scuba Network Carle Place are in our group. If interested contact Elaine Turley at (516) 971-4396 for more info. Dives are \$875 for the week.

-Elaine Turley

Brief rundown on our June trip to North Carolina. In the last week of June, Grace Mattel, Bob Stamm, Larry Zeidler, and myself (Jack Frost) attempted to get out to the N.C. wrecks with Olympus Dive Center. We stayed 10 minutes away at the Sandpiper Motel in Atlantic Beach which was spartan but cheap. We would stay there again.

Day one we went out, but Capt. decided to return. The weather was going to be worse the next day, so Tuesday was cancelled. A beach dive was done on Monday and Tuesday at the "Newport Pier and Ramp" which is 7 minutes east of Olympus. This is bayside and interesting enough with rays and a fishing pier and bridge pilings to explore. Very tide dependent. Wednesday through Thursday we got out to the Spar, Francescom, U- 352, and Caribsea for 6 dives. Water was 77 degrees with vis ranging from 40 to 80 feet. Mainly 60 to 70. The 80 foot vis was on the sub. So clear it was like floating in the air over the wreck.

Can't say enough about the Olympus operation. 100% professional in all aspects. We also got a crew recommendation to eat at "Floyd's" and all the food was spectacular!

-Jack Frost

Due to some last minute cancellations, we have 3 spots remaining on our 4-day trip to the beautiful 1,000 Islands, Friday, August 11 through Monday, 14th. Details on this trip, along with a trip flyer, can be found at: tdcscuba.com/1000islands

Contact me if interested for details. If you have any other questions, don't hesitate to email me at jvafeas@yahoo.com. Hope you can join us!

- Jim Vafeas

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Suzanne Baynes
Ann Bivona
Olivia Boucher
August Bricker
Ryan Christie
Jennifer Curran
Mark Dubiali
Jose A Gonzalez
Gerry Kekatos
William Krasnov
James Lisle
Christopher Mazz

Robert McCarthy
Arnaud Meiraaeghe
Edward T Meyer Jr.
Kenneth Murphy
Danny Rivera
Mylene Russo
Chris Skirbe
Leslie Sosnicki
Bill Struss
Sergey Syritsyn
Carlos Taversa
Glen Whelpley
Noah Yousha



DIVER PROFILES

August 2023
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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**



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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 U/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

Are you a member of Divers Alert Network (D.A.N.)? 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 18 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 A RELEASE OF YOUR RIGHTS TO SUE

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.

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