



DIVER DOWN NEWS

President's Note – January 2024

The Dive Club is ending our season with a New Year's Eve dive planned at Stehli Beach in Bayville. The water will be cold so dress in your warmest gear. Let's hope the weather cooperates. The season doesn't stay quiet for long as many club members will be traveling to Florida this month for the 2 dive trips planned. Some of us will be diving in the springs of northern Florida on January 3-7, 2024. Many other club members will be diving in Key Largo January 8-12, 2024. I wish good weather, safe travels and safe diving to all traveling this month. We look forward to hearing about all the adventures at the February meeting.

I am going to plan a beach diving planning meeting at the end of February. Watch your email for information on day and location if you would like to participate. All members are welcome to help plan the 2024 beach schedule. As of now, we don't have a Beach Diving Coordinator. If you are interested in this position, let me know. You do not have to attend every dive yourself. We will work with a committee to help make sure there is a club member responsible for each dive planned.

The wreck diving schedule is in this newsletter and you can reserve your spot with me. Wreck diving options are decreasing with each passing year. Don't wait until later to dive the wrecks of NY. There may not be a later for these dives. We are losing dive boats and the wrecks are deteriorating. Make 2024 the year you wreck dive in NY.

Since we enjoy talking about diving so much, don't miss the opportunities to meet your fellow divers and possibly win some trips and new gear. The LIDA Film Festival is on January 27th at 7PM, at Hofstra University. This is a fun night for all that attend. The Beneath the Sea Expo is scheduled for March 23-24 in NJ. This is a convention center full of diving gear and travel destinations. There are many lectures you can attend that are included in the price of admission. There are raffles at both events where you can win trips and gear. Who doesn't need more dive gear! Speaking of more gear, there is a Scuba Flea Market on March 10th in NJ where you can pick up some bargains.

The fun never ends, we just move it to Florida or spend the cold months talking about our past dives and making plans for our future dives. Don't forget to service your gear do you are ready for our kick off dive in April 2024. I am looking forward to a great season of diving with many beach dives, wreck dives and trips to join in the fun. And of course, our monthly meetings where we can talk about all the fun we are having.

Safe diving to all.

Mary Davis, Club President



Inside This Issue

- President's Note 1
- Monthly Meeting 2
- Membership..... 3
- Meeting Minutes..... 4
- Member Birthdays 4
- Wreck Diving 2024 ... 5
- NYE Dive 5
- LIDA Film Festival 6
- SCUBA Flea Market ... 7
- Farmingdale Pool 8
- Dive Insurance..... 9
- TDC Leadership 10
- 2024 Application..... 11
- 2024 Waiver 12-13
- 2024 Member Form .. 14





January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

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.



January 2, 2024 Dive Club Meeting Presentation

Peter Brink—Diving North Carolina



February 6, 2024 Dive Club Meeting Presentation

Rob DiGiovanni

Founder of the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society

Join Dive club as we welcome the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society's Founder and Chief Scientist, Rob DiGiovanni, as he speaks to us about AMSEAS mission of promoting marine conservation through action. AMSEAS responds to stranded marine mammals and sea turtles all over New York, conducts wild population surveys and assessments on local marine life, and provides educational programming to the public via lectures, beach cleanups, and teaching necropsies. They are also currently rehabilitating 20 endangered cold stunned Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles for the fourth season in a row! Learn about local marine wildlife, the threats they face, and what you can do to help!



CLUB MEMBERSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

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 2024 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).



MEETING MINUTES

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

December 5, 2023
taken by Courtney Lyons

- 🐟 Meeting started at 8:00
- 🐟 Holiday party was a great success thank you to Gus for hosting us and John for coordinating the food
- 🐟 Beach Diving: committee is available we need someone or a group of a few people to take on planning our beach schedule for next year
- 🐟 Uncontested elections: all 5 board members staying on their positions next year
- 🐟 All other committee chairs will remain in their positions for next year
- 🐟 Membership renewals are here! renew before Jan. 1 and save \$5. E-mail your applications to membership.thediveclub@gmail.com. Dues can be sent to August Bricker via Venmo, cash, or check to the P.O. box .
- 🐟 Upcoming trips:
 - 🐟 One spot open on Key Largo trip Jan 8-12 – Contact Courtney if interested.
 - 🐟 Spots still for Florida Springs Jan 3-7 with Tiedemann’s – Contact Mary if interested
 - 🐟 Moorehead, NC next summer – Contact Linda Gotti (631) 680-8168
- 🐟 New Year’s eve dive planned for December 31 at Stehli Beach 10AM.
- 🐟 Harris Moore: Diving Bikini Atoll presentation started 8:30

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Bob Auteri
 Dennis Boucher
 Stephen Burton
 Julie Terri Cohen
 Michael Feldbaum
 Sam Feldbaum
 Gavin Fontana
 Carl Brett Friedman
 George Garfagona
 Jeannine Jennette
 Brian Lemke
 Norma Leon

Courtney Lyons
 Matt Marschhauser
 Denis Mellett
 Stephanie A Miller
 Philip O’Sullivan
 Ron Prybella
 Kristen Lee Ruggiero
 John Schwedes
 Katy Schwedes
 Alicia Sirois
 Ryan Smith



WRECK DIVING 2024 SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DIVE BOAT</u>	<u>WRECK</u>	<u>DEPTH</u>	<u>COST</u>
May 18	Halftime	Mandy Ray	80ft	\$141pp
June 1-2	Sea turtle	Block Island Overnight / U853	130ft	\$450pp
June 23	Halftime	Inshore Reef	80ft	\$141pp
June 30	Gypsy Blood	Stolt Dagali	70-110ft	\$120pp
July 27	Halftime	Offshore Reef	120ft	\$175pp
August 24-25	Gypsy Blood	TBD	---	---
September 7	Halftime	Oregon	130ft	\$208pp

Additional dives will be added if the schedule fills

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

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.



NEWS & UPDATES: Pics from New Year's Eve Dive at Stehli





BUY TIX & SAVE THE DATES!

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

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



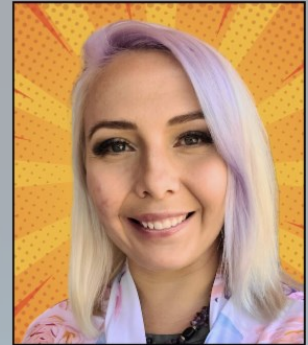
Michael Salvarezza



Cristina Zenato
Kewin Lorenzen



Nicole Zelek



Larry Cohen



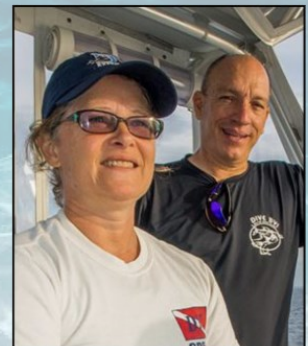
Olga Torrey



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

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

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

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

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

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1

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

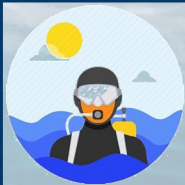
Diving insurance policies cover scenarios that are specific to the sport of diving. There are two types of diving insurance policies:

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. 



TDC LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 2024
Volume 35, Issue 1



President:
Mary Davis



Vice President:
John Berntsen



Treasurer:
Gus Bricker



Recording Secretary:
Courtney Lyons



Corresponding Secretary:
Bill Cadden



COMMITTEE CHAIRS



Wreck Diving:
Mary Davis &
Savi Presperia



Beach Diving:
[Vacant]



Oak Beach:
Tim McMahon



Camping Trips:
Bruce Russo



T-Shirts & Swag:
Courtney Lyons



Website:
Jim Vafeas



Social Media:
Jerry Kinkade



Newsletter:
Randi
Hochenberger

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 _____

