



# DIVER DOWN NEWS

## President's Note – February 2024

The Club started the new year or ended the old one, depending on your preference, with a New Year's Eve dive at Stehli Beach in Oyster Bay. We had 6 brave divers in the water, some in wet suits. The dive wasn't long and the 43-degree water wasn't so bad.

We then headed down to Florida for warmer water and weather. Tiedemann's Diving Center was at the springs of northern Florida; Blue Grotto, Devil's Den and Ginnie Springs from January 3-7. We finished the trip snorkeling with the Manatees in Crystal River. The weather was nice and the diving enjoyable. The trip to Key Largo was on January 8-12 with over 20 divers in attendance. The weather started out rough but there were 2 days of nice diving with the final dives on the USS Spiegel Grove wreck which I am told were memorable. It was nice to be able to travel to dive since our NY weather is too cold for most of us right now.

Even though there is not a lot of diving right now, we still like to talk about diving. Our meetings continue thru the winter on the first Tuesday of each month. This past weekend was the LIDA Film Festival at Hofstra University. It was nice to see so many divers attend to enjoy the fine presentations. There are a couple of destinations I am adding to my dive wish list.

There were many raffle prizes donated for the event. Thank you to the sponsors who donated prizes. You made a lot of divers happy. The fun dive talk will continue at Beneath The Sea in NJ on March 23-24. There will be vendors, presentations and more raffles and I am still hoping to win a trip.

Our club beach diving will begin in April and the wreck diving in May. See the wreck diving schedule in this newsletter to plan you sopt. There will be a meeting at the end of February to plan the beach diving schedule. Watch your email for information. All ideas are welcome. New divers can learn about the dive sites by participating in the planning.

I will see everyone on February 6th for another exciting meeting.

*Mary Davis*  
*Club President*



### Inside This Issue

- President's Note ..... 1
- Monthly Meeting ..... 2-3
- Membership..... 4
- Meeting Minutes..... 5
- Member Birthdays .... 5
- Key Largo Trip..... 6
- SCUBA Flea Market ... 7
- Wreck Diving 2024 ... 8
- TDC Leadership ..... 9
- 2024 Application..... 10
- 2024 Waiver ..... 11-12
- 2024 Member Form .. 13





February 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 2

# 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.



**February 6, 2024 Dive Club Meeting Presentation**

**Rob DiGiovanni**

**Founder of the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society**



Join us in welcoming 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

February 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 2

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:info@thediveclub.com).
- Membership applications and renewals should be given to Bill Cadden, our Membership/ Corresponding Secretary ([membership.thediveclub@gmail.com](mailto:membership.thediveclub@gmail.com)).



# MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2024  
*taken by Courtney Lyons*

- 🐟 New Year's Day dive was successful! We had 7 divers in the water
- 🐟 Our Key Largo trip is next week! 22 club members will be making their way down to Amoray Dive Resort for the first Dive Club trip to Florida.
- 🐟 The 2024 beach diving schedule will come out in April for Oak beach and weekends. Oak Beach dives will continue to be every Wednesday starting mid-late May.
- 🐟 Renewals and memberships: download and fill out the application and send it to [membership.thediveclub@gmail.com](mailto:membership.thediveclub@gmail.com). Dues can be sent via Venmo to august-bricker or mailed to the P.O. Box, or paid at the meeting.
- 🐟 The Long Island Divers Association is hosting their annual film festival Jan. 27 at 7 pm at Hofstra University. Visit the LIDA website to buy tickets ahead of time.
- 🐟 Calling speakers for future meetings! E-mail us a recommendation if you have anyone. (Local diving related is preferred)
- 🐟 The annual Ocean Wreck Divers Scuba Flea Market is March 10 at 2201 Marconi Road, Wall Township, NJ
- 🐟 The annual scuba exhibition, Beneath the sea is March 22-24 at the Meadowlands in NJ.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Steve Bienemann

James Campbell

Edward Chasan

Danna Prather Davis

Steven Davis

Terrence Fenten

Mike Fichter

William Iaconetti

Richard (Rusty)

Lukeman

Victoria Luong

Tim McMahan

Vadim Paley

Anita Eve Perez



February 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 2

# CLUB TRIP IN PICS

## January 2024 Trip to Key Largo





# FLEA MARKET

February 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 2

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](https://oceanwreckdivers.com/links/2023_Scuba_Reservation.pdf)



# 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](mailto: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.

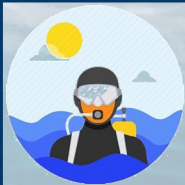
To book a spot on the Sidekick Dive Boat, each diver must have certification for the planned depth of the wreck. **Deep Diving certification is required for wrecks over 100ft.** To book a spot on the Sea Hawk or Sea Turtle, AOW certification is required.



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







# TDC LEADERSHIP

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 2



**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 \_\_\_\_\_

