



# DIVER DOWN NEWS

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

## President's Note – March 2024



### Inside This Issue

- President's Note ..... 1
- Monthly Meeting ..... 2-3
- Membership..... 4
- Meeting Minutes ..... 5
- Member Birthdays .... 5
- In Memoriam..... 6-7
- Wreck Diving 2024 ... 8
- Beach Diving 2024.... 9
- Lake Hydra..... 10
- SeaSmart Scholarships .. 11
- OCD Flea Market..... 12
- NJHDA Symposium ... 13
- TDC Leadership ..... 14
- 2024 Application ..... 15
- 2024 Waiver ..... 16-17
- 2024 Member Form .. 18

Spring is in the air. The groundhog said it will come early this year so if you haven't had your gear serviced yet, now is the time. Several of us met to set the Beach Diving schedule for April to June. It was sent in an email and is included in this newsletter. It is great to see our enthusiastic club members joining the dives and enjoying the Long Island dive sites. As always, the schedule is subject to change based on conditions. Watch your email prior to the dives where any changes will be posted.

Our wreck schedule starts in May and we have several shallower dives planned for our members new to wreck diving. Contact me to reserve a spot and discuss advancing your skills to include wreck diving.

Congratulations to Courtney and John for becoming Dive Masters with SDI. It is always great to see our club members advancing their skills and certifications.

I am looking forward to an exciting March meeting filled with anticipation for busy, fun dive season this year.

Sincerely,

*Mary Davis*  
*Club President*





March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

# 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.



### March 5, 2024 Dive Club Meeting Presentation

Jennifer Sellitti:

On the Precipice of WWI: The Legacy of U-53





Join us in welcoming Jennifer Sellitti: the Communications Director of Atlantic Wreck Salvage and a regular crew member aboard D/V Tenacious. She manages topside operations during dive expeditions, conducts historical research on both the ships Tenacious dives and ships that are the subject of new projects for the team, and leads the team's effort to educate the public about the importance of shipwreck discovery and salvage. She is a certified diver and a U.S.C.G. licensed ship captain.



FURNESS LINER "WEST POINT."

German U-53 Commander Hans Rose made an unannounced visit to the Commandant of the U.S. Second Naval District in Newport Harbor in the morning of October 7, 1916.

America had not yet entered WWI. After a tense visit, Rose returned to his U-boat and

sank five British and Norwegian ships in the waters South of Nantucket. Powerless to retaliate, the Americans could only watch as U-53 blew the Stephano, Strathdene, West Point, Bloomersdijk, and Christian Knudsen to the depths.

D/V Tenacious and our partners have been locating, exploring, and documenting these historic wrecks. In September 2020, D/V Tenacious located the last remaining U-53 casualty, West Point, and dived her for the first time. The crew returned in August of 2022 and 2023 to document the wreck in a series of dives and recover artifacts.







# CLUB MEMBERSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

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

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

February 6, 2024  
*taken by Courtney Lyons*

- 🐟 Minutes from January approved
- 🐟 Linda Brown is collecting winter clothes and medical equipment for Ukraine.
- 🐟 Tiedemann's Diving Center visited the Florida springs in January with 16 divers they had a great time.
- 🐟 About 20 divers went down to Key Largo. The weather wasn't great- 9 ft seas. The group was able to do 6 dives, Molasses Reef and the Spiegel Grove. They had a nice time and group trips will continue in the future.
- 🐟 Linda Gotti- trip to Moorehead July 15-19 - 3 spots available on the boat. \$975 for a week of diving.
- 🐟 Last call for Truk Lagoon. Contact Mary. July 13-20. Discounted rate from 2020 cancelled trip.
- 🐟 Jim Vafaes - Canada trip in August. Wreck diving the St. Lawrence August 9-12. Shore dives, wreck dives off a boat. Details on Tiedemann's website.
- 🐟 LIDA film festival was nice another year with great company and great prizes.
- 🐟 Wreck diving schedule is in the newsletter. Some spots are still available. Contact Mary to join.
- 🐟 Beach diving schedule Zoom planning meeting Feb. 20. All are welcome to join and help plan our 2024 schedule.
- 🐟 Death by Diving dates are set. Camping is available.
- 🐟 Memorial day weekend camping trip at Cedar Point.
- 🐟 Scuba Flea Market March 10
- 🐟 Beneath the Sea March 23-24
- 🐟 8:21 meeting adjourned. Welcoming Robert A. DiGiovanni Jr. From the Atlantic Marine Conservatory Society

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Marianna Albanese  
Megan Barrow  
Linda Brown  
Ozan Ersoz  
Sarah Farhat

Steven Maggio  
Kimberly Ryzuk  
Patricia Scanlon  
Nick Sinnott  
Anna Stassinaris  
Randy J. Weidner





# IN MEMORY OF BOB RUSNACK

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

*August 29, 1944 - February 7, 2024*



Bob Rusnak wore many hats. He was loving husband to Kathleen, married on 10/20/73, father of Lorraine Rusnak McKean (son-in-law Sean,) and Donald Rusnak, (daughter-in-law Kaleigh,) Brother of Virginia Rusnak Strong, grandfather of Jaxon Rusnak and Chase McKean and friend to a countless number of people all over the country, yes, even internationally. Growing up in Sound Beach, NY, he lived only a few blocks from the water a place that influenced the direction of his entire life.

Educated in the Merchant Marine Academy in Ft. Schuyler, NY, transferring to C.W. Post, he graduated with a Mechanical Engineering Degree. It seemed that Bob could fix anything and if he did not have the correct part that he needed right away he would figure out something to substitute in its place. It would work

better than the original part. He was employed by Grumman Aerospace for 34 years becoming a contracted consultant when the famous F-14 program was transferred to Baltimore, MD. He was required to move so he spent weekdays in MD and weekends home, or traveling for one of his many interests, and there was an enormous variety of interests for this complex, intelligent man.

When their children were young, Bob began to collect model Lionel trains and would set them up across the living room floor. He eventually had a large collection which years later he would set up during the holidays for the children at the International Baptist Church, Stony Brook, NY, and more recently at the Three Village Church, East Setauket, NY.

Fascinated with guitars, he also began collecting them, again accumulating many and learning how to play was a fond pastime. He would play for his own entertainment, and for services at those same churches in which he had set up the trains. He had a favorite guitar which he named Gilda.

Kathleen and Bob both loved speed and traveled around the country to watch, and participate, in stock cars races, as well as competitive hydroplane speed boat races, bringing their children with them and camping wherever they went. If not in the racing driver's seat himself, with his mechanical ability, Bob was also happy working in the pits while Kathleen served as the score keeper. Bob won the American Power Boat Association's U.S. National Hydroplane Championship 250 cc Class in 1977 followed by numerous additional championships and trophies. His daughter married Sean McKean, a nationally famous hydroplane boat racer which further fueled Bob's love for this dangerous competitive sport.

Bob was collector of all things he found interesting, amassing a huge amount of "old" power boat motors, single engine mostly, fixing and restoring them to new to display and trade with other collectors.







For many years he worked repairing and rebuilding engines for boat owners particularly those connected with Ralph's Marina in Mount Sinai, NY, where he and Kathleen formed a lifetime friendship with the owners, passing many social hours there, as well as taking their own craft out to cruise on Long Island Sound.

Ultimately, for Bob it was all about the water from his beginning. He loved spearfishing and snorkeling, watching Sea Hunt in the 1950's which led 14-year-old Bob to experiment with ways to breathe and see underwater, trying hoses and buckets and all the dangerous things young boys do until 1956, when his father, concerned for Bob's safety, enrolled him a YMCA scuba diving course in Jamaica, NY. His instructors, were June and Roy Kieser, famed diving pioneers in their own right. Bob creatively converted fire extinguishers to scuba tanks.



Eventually in the 1970's, with his son Don, he came across a double hose regulator which they learned to repair, rebuild and restore. A new collection began. He started diving with them and the accompanying tanks. This was followed with collecting antique diving helmets, and the gear that accompanied them leading, and of course, to diving in them. He joined the Northeast Working Equipment Group travelling around with them dry dressing people in the antique Mark V Helmet and "dress," as it was called, and did the same at enumerable Dive Clubs all over Long Island. This later was followed with giving people the opportunity to dive in this 220 lbs of gear. With the support of many fellow hard hat divers, he introduced people to the unique experience of Mark V diving in many places on Long Island, including the Long Island Aquarium, NY, Dutch Springs, PA, Brownstone Quarry, CT, and the Living Seas in Epcot, Disney World, FL to name a few, accumulating a great following of people with similar interests.

In addition, Bob has done educational exhibits and contributed antique dive gear in Long Island Maritime Museum, The Long Island Aquarium, the History of Diving Museum, FL Keys, The Museum of New Jersey Maritime History, The Maritime Museum, Newport News, VA, and the Diver's Academy International, NJ, Our World Underwater, Chicago, IL, The Boston Rovers, MA, Beneath the Sea Exposition in the Meadowlands (BTS), NJ, The and the Dive Equipment Manufacture's Association, (DEMA), Las Vegas, NV. He assisted the Long Island Diver's Association, (LIDA), with transporting their equipment and display materials to shows for exhibits and additionally, he arranged for transportation of the Historical Bathesphere from the Aquarium in Coney Island, NY, to be exhibited at the Divers Academy and BTS, and for the Oceaneering Jim Suit to be delivered to the Maritime Museum, Newport News, VA, for exhibit, and to its ultimate final destination in the History of Diving Museum in IIsamorada, FL.

In his life Bob received much recognition in each field of endeavor although he never touted it. As a Founding Benefactor Member of the Historical Diving Society, (HDS), he was a very active member and many of his exhibits were at events on their behalf. He was awarded their prestigious E.R. Cross Award in 2001, for his many contributions to them and the diving community, although Bob was exceedingly modest and never sought fame and fortune. He simply enjoyed life and doing what he loved to do. To him that was the "right" reason to do things and Bob always sought people who did the same. In his opinion the "right" reason was to share his knowledge of what he loved and make others happy.

If one could simply define a trusted, true friend, it would be Bob Rusnak.



*With grateful & fond memories,  
submitted by Janice Raber*





# WRECK DIVING 2024 SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DIVE BOAT</u>	<u>WRECK</u>	<u>SPOTS</u>	<u>DEPTH</u>	<u>COST</u>
May 18	Halftime	Mandy Ray	3 left	80ft	\$141pp
June 1-2	Sea turtle	Block Island Overnight / U853	FULL*	130ft	\$450pp
June 23	Halftime	Inshore Reef	4 left	80ft	\$141pp
June 30	Gypsy Blood	Stolt Dagali	FULL*	70-110ft	\$120pp
July 27	Halftime	Offshore Reef	4 left	120ft	\$175pp
August 25	Sidekick	Shinnecock Reef		80 ft	\$150pp
September 8	Halftime	Oregon		130ft	\$208pp

☺ Additional dives will be added if the schedule fills. ☺

\*Waitlist available for full excursions.

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 waitlist.

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.





# BEACH DIVING

## APRIL – JUNE 2024 SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SITE</u>
April 6	10:00 AM	Cedar Beach, Mt. Sinai at basketball court
April 14	10:00 AM	Prybil Beach, Glen Cove
April 20	10:00 AM	Noyack Bay, Noyack
April 28	9:30 AM	Old Ponquogue Bridge, Hamton Bays (HT 11:37AM)
May 5	10:00 AM	Lake Ronkonkoma, Michael Murphy Mem. Park, South
May 11	9:30 AM	Culloden, Montauk - RSVP required to arrange parking Montauk Jetty is alternate or 2nd (HT 12:23 PM)
May 19	9:00 AM	Orchard Beach Clean-Up, City Island, NY
May 25-27	Mem. Day Weekend	Cedar Point Park, diving Cedar Point, Noyak, Montauk, other sites - 1 dive each day counts to leaderboard
June 2	10:00 AM	Ohio, Greenport, NY
June 8	7:30 AM	Old Ponquogue Bridge, Hampton Bays, NY (HT 9:47AM)
June 15	9:00 AM	Oak Beach Fishing Pier. Sea Grass Harvest Dive.
June 22	7:00 PM	Old Ponquogue Bridge, Hampton Bays, NY (HT 9:02PM) NIGHT DIVE
June 29	10:00 AM	Secret Beach, Greenport, NY

*All dive locations and times are subject to change. Please check with the Google Group for any changes and updates and the most current news and information.*





# NEW DUTCH NEW RULES

Lake Hydra to open for scuba diving with limited access in April

Article from: [https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/northampton-county/lake-hydra-to-open-for-scuba-diving-with-limited-access-in-april/article\\_04644ff8-d32c-11ee-8196-63e8db556a90.html](https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/northampton-county/lake-hydra-to-open-for-scuba-diving-with-limited-access-in-april/article_04644ff8-d32c-11ee-8196-63e8db556a90.html)

BETHLEHEM, Pa. - Lake Hydra, the Northampton County scuba-diving venue, will open April 20 with limited access.



All activities at the 50-acre quarry lake must be arranged in advance. At first, Lake Hydra will be for classes and first-responder training only.

“A diver can’t just show up and dive, it has to be a class,” Ken Kraft, one of the Lake Hydra partners, said Saturday. He reiterated that all activities must be scheduled.

The property, formerly known as Dutch Springs, was acquired by developer Trammell Crow for the construction of two warehouses. Access to the water could have been eliminated. Then Trammell Crow worked out an agreement with Kraft and Jim Folk of Atlantis Aquatics, Bethlehem Township, to save the lake for the scuba community.

“I can’t say enough about Trammell Crow and what they did for the dive community,” Kraft said Saturday. Work continues on Lake Hydra amenities, Kraft, now a member of Northampton County Council, said.

The site, known for its depths and clear water, could have been lost to the diving community. Instead, training for divers and rescue teams will continue at one of the few East Coast inland scuba venues.

Kraft said divers should check the Lake Hydra website ([lakehydra.com/](http://lakehydra.com/)) for more information. It will be updated as services at the lake are expanded.

Lake Hydra is located at 4733 Hanoverville Road in Lower Nazareth Township. The property, including the warehouses, also extends into Bethlehem Township.



# 2024 SEASmart

## Ocean Conservation Scholarship

SeaSmart is offering scholarship opportunities for qualified high school students to get Open Water certified as well as conduct unique ocean conservation and marine science activities alongside Baja Sur's best scientists and conservationists this July. In an effort to address the underrepresentation of female and minority demographics in the marine sciences, we are seeking applicants for scholarships covering this summer's program fees.

We appreciate the support you have given SeaSmart in the past to amplify this opportunity. Additional details about the scholarship and program can also be found at:

[seasmartocean.org/upcoming-programs](https://seasmartocean.org/upcoming-programs) & [seasmartocean.org/diversity-scholarship](https://seasmartocean.org/diversity-scholarship)

Seeking High School minority women (and nonbinary people!) with an interest in ocean conservation, marine biology, and SCUBA for scholarship assistance to attend SeaSmart's Summer 2024 Program.

Talent and passion are evenly distributed, but opportunity is not. SeaSmart hopes to provide qualified students with an opportunity to explore their interest in ocean conservation, marine biology and SCUBA diving. This scholarship is offered to address the underrepresentation of women and minorities in marine science studies and will award funding to support their participation in the SeaSmart Summer 2024 program.



**HOW THE SCHOLARSHIP WORKS:** The SeaSmart team will review applications and choose scholars based on demonstrated interest in marine science, ocean conservation, and/or related fields. The scholarship covers all program expenses of the summer trip as described below.

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR FEMALE (AND NONBINARY) STUDENT APPLICANTS WHO:**

- ✦ Are a member of a minority group(s). (Including but not limited to: Black, Latina, Native American, LGBTQ+.)
- ✦ We are excited to hear your unique story! Have a demonstrated interest in marine science, ocean conservation and/or a related field as well as in learning to SCUBA dive.
- ✦ Are currently enrolled as a high school student in the United States.

### FAQ's

*Who will determine the scholarship recipient?* Scholarship applications will be reviewed and the recipient will be determined by the Leadership Team of SeaSmart.

*Why is this scholarship targeting women and minorities?* Historically, women, people of color and other minorities have been underrepresented in marine sciences. Whether by redirection in their interests and studies, or underexposure to experiences leading to potential pursuit of these studies, these students generally require assistance in obtaining access to such topics.

*How much money, outside of the scholarship, is required to attend the summer program?* Airfare to and from the program location, which cannot be quoted as it fluctuates, will need to be funded by the attendee. In addition, the PADI Open Water eLearning pre-work will need to be funded by the attendee. Currently, the cost of this is \$200, though is subject to PADI's pricing. Money for incidentals, such as airport snacks and beverages, souvenirs, etc. will be self-funded as well.

**NOTE:** Thanks to a generous partnership with the LiveLikeJayG3 scholarship, one scholarship recipient may qualify for airfare expenses up to \$800 as well. See application for more info.

*Are any prerequisites required to attend?* You do not need to be SCUBA certified to attend this program, as SCUBA training and potential certification is included. Students for this program must be minimally 15 years old when the program begins.





# FLEA MARKET

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

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)





# 20TH NEW JERSEY SHIPWRECK SYMPOSIUM

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3

Presented by the NJHDA

*“Surf Boats, U-Boats, The Cachalot, and Lost Flights”*

**May 18, 2024 - 2:00PM-6:00PM**

Hosted by Mike Lavitt,  
Chairman of the New Jersey Council of Divers and Clubs

**LOCATION:**

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

**REFRESHMENTS ~ SILENT AUCTION ~ 50-50 RAFFLE**

**ADMISSION IS \$30.00pp (\$25 for NJHDA members).**

## New Jersey Shipwreck Symposium Surf Boats, U-Boats, The Cachalot, and Lost Flights



**Presentations:**

*The Monomoy Pulling Boat Project*  
Dan Lieb, NJHDA President

*The Cachalot at the Shipwreck Museum*  
A Video by Roaming Dingo

*Tones in the Ocean: Uncovering the True Stories Behind NJ’s War Wrecks*  
K.A. Nelson, author and diver

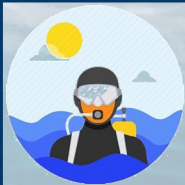
*Lost Flights*  
Joe Fiorentino, Master SCUBA Diver  
Trainer and Explorer

For reservations, directions and more information,  
please call 732-456-5045 or e-mail [info@njhda.org](mailto:info@njhda.org)

Pay admission on our website at [www.njhda.org](http://www.njhda.org)  
or send checks payable to NJHDA, 107 Wilson Road, Neptune, NJ, 07753

Alterations and substitutions to the schedule may occur without notice.  
NJHDA, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable historical research organization.  
All donations are tax deductible





# TDC LEADERSHIP

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 2024  
Volume 35, Issue 3



**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: \_\_\_\_\_





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## LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK

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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.**

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Signature of Applicant

Date

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

