

MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2019

November Meeting: Iara Mandyn – “Exploring The Underwater World With Freediving”

For November, we will be treated to a presentation by a real, live mermaid. She doesn't have an operatic singing voice. Her best friend is not a crab named Sebastian. She won't marry a prince.



A mermaid in her element: “Under The Sea”.

But Iara Mandyn is a freediving and mermaid instructor at Bamboo Reef Scuba Diving Centers in San Francisco. Erena Shimoda, who presented earlier this year, attended a few of her workshops.

Specializing in underwater photography and performance work, she started at [Fathom Films](#) in 2009, which was the Bay Area's only dedicated underwater shooting studio. She's also been a choreographer, u/w talent coach, and model.

Freediving is about more than deep dives and competition; it's an entirely unique way to experience the underwater world. Learn about the freedom of diving on your own breath, what it takes, and how to get started. Whether you're a seasoned scuba diver or someone who's never been diving before, freediving is a great way to increase your comfort in the water and provide opportunities from spear fishing to swimming like the mermaid you've always wanted to be.

See page 2 for more Freediving news.

Urchin Harvest Event: Saturday, November 2, Van Damme State Park

Five members of the Marin Scuba Club plan to participate in the Urchin Harvest Event coming up on Saturday, November 2nd. Kayakers, shore helpers, and divers are welcome to attend.



Millions of sea urchins have destroyed our kelp.

Meet at Van Damme State Park at 8:00am. From 4:00-6:00pm, Josh Russo will host an end-of-year celebration and appreciation BBQ at the Fort Bragg dive shop. Hope you can join us. RSVP to Barb Wambach: chair@marinclub.org

PS: The purple urchin invasion off the Northern California coast is earning front page news. Here's a 10/24/19 SF Chronicle story: [“West Coast Sea Urchin Spike Kills Kelp, Hurts Fisheries”](#).

Holiday Party, Friday, December 13

Our club's best, biggest and most well-attended party of the year is coming up soon, hosted by our BOD Chair Barb Wambach in her Mill Valley home. Evites have gone out. At the next meeting, we'll circulate a list of who will bring what food.

This year, we're also adding a Silent Auction of anything valued at \$25 or more. If you want to donate something, please contact [Alissa Ralston](#).

See page 2 for more MSC News.

Mermaids & Freediving (Continued)

Iara is a scuba and freediving certified underwater model. As a former lifeguard, strong swimmer, dancer, and land model, she has the ideal background for being a mermaid.

She also has an intimate understanding of the physics and safety involved underwater.



She practices freediving and breath hold training. Her personal best static underwater is 5:30 and 3:50 for dynamic; she can freedive up to 109 feet. We look forward to seeing her presentation on Thursday, November 20th. For more information, visit <http://www.iaramandyn.com/>.

Monterey Beach Dive, October 26th



Ken Carter, John Lewis and friends enjoyed a few beach dives at Point Lobos last weekend. More photos are on the [MSC website photos page](#).

MSC October Presentation By Tristin McHugh

Tristin, the North Coast Regional Manager for Reef Check California's Program engaged and educated our audience with energy and passion.

She explained that Reef Check empowers people to save our reefs and oceans through education, research and conservation.



Since 1996, more than 13,000 surveys have been completed by Reef Check Ecodivers in 95 countries, including California, the Philippines, Indonesia, Dominican Republic, and many more.

To help, visit <http://www.reefcheck.org/> or email her at tmchugh@reefcheck.org.

New MSC T-Shirts: Only a Few Left



A handful of shirt are still available for \$30 each. Contact chair@marinclub.org

BOTTOM TIMES

Nov 2, 2020 (Sat): Urchin Harvest Event: Watermen's Alliance is the host. Meet at Van Damme State Park at 8:00am. Josh Russo will host an end-of-year celebration and appreciation BBQ at the Fort Bragg dive shop from 4:00-6:00pm. RSVP to Barb Wambach: chair@marinclub.org

Nov 20, 2019 (Wed): Guest speaker Iara Mandyn: "Exploring The Underwater World of Freediving." Freediving is about more than deep dives and competition; it's an entirely unique way to experience the underwater world. Learn about the freedom of diving on your own breath, what it takes, and how to get started. Whether you're a seasoned scuba diver or someone who's never been diving before, freediving is a great way to increase your comfort in the water and provide opportunities from spear fishing to swimming like the mermaid you've always wanted to be. Club Meeting: Book Passage, 7:15 – 8:45 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members.

Dec 13, 2019 (Fri): Save the Date for our Holiday Party at Barb's home. Evites to be sent in early November for Marin Scuba Club's most anticipated and biggest social event of every year. We will be hosting a Silent Auction this year for anything valued at \$25 or more. If you want to donate something, please contact [Alissa Ralston](mailto:Alissa.Ralston@marinclub.org)

Jan 15, 2020 (Wed): Guest speaker Vince Smith: "Blue Endeavors and Citizen Science Underwater". This 501(c)(3) nonprofit in Alameda creates advocates for the ocean. They educate people — through scuba diving training and citizen science curriculum — on how to minimize our impact on the oceans and take action to create positive change.

Vince is a lifelong diver with a background in marine science and education. He and a team of volunteers founded Blue Endeavors in 2012 to promote ocean conservation, offer an array of training courses, mentorship programs and scholarships; foster the next generation of leaders and innovators, and ultimately create cohorts of lifelong ocean advocates. Read more at www.blue-endeavors.org

Feb 15-22, 2020: Club Tropical Trip to Little Cayman Beach Resort. 12 members have signed up to date. ESCAPE Package: \$1,895pp / double occupancy; 7 nights, 12 dives; breakfast / dinner, airport transfers + all taxes. CLASSIC Package: \$2,195pp / double occupancy; 7 nights, 21 dives; breakfast / dinner, 21 drinks, airport transfers + all taxes. Space is still available. If interested, please contact: kirsten@amazingadventurestravel.com

May 8-17 2020: Philippines Dive. Join Ellen at the land-based El Galleon Dive Resort in Puerto Galera for 9 nights. She has negotiated a 10% discount for each guest off your room price. If she gets one more diver, we would have a slightly deeper discount for all. The manager is currently holding two poolside rooms and one Seaview room until she gets other requests, so space is still available.

Boats depart 4x/day for short runs to dive sites. Breakfast is included; airfare and transfers are not. 5% charge for credit cards. Rental gear is \$16/day; Nitrox is \$66/week. Seaview Room: \$1,422.45; double occupancy: \$1,966.95. Pool side room: \$1,309.95 double occupancy; \$1,741.95 for single. Contact Ellen Sakoloff for details: ellen_hope@sbcglobal.net

We promote safe diving. Remember to always plan your dive based on the conditions, be aware of your skills and equipment, and, above all, always stay with your buddy.

Marin Scuba Club
28 Marinero Circle, #30
Tiburon, CA 94920



Next Meeting:
Wed., November 20:
Iara Mandyn:
“Exploring The
Underwater World
of Freediving”

Book Passage
51 Tamal Vista Blvd.
Corte Madera

Marin Scuba Club

The Club meets the
3rd Wednesday
each month
(except December
— no meeting)

Marin Scuba Club
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<http://www.marinscubaclub.org>

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