

MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2020

January Meeting: Vince Smith – “Blue Endeavors and Citizen Science Underwater”

For our first 2020 meeting, Vince Smith, a lifelong diver with a background in marine science and education, will tell us about Blue Endeavors.



Vince will host a giant oceanic manta ray event on February 1st.

“People who regularly dive notice climate change, pollution, more acidification and other man-made afflictions—and they’re worried,” says Vince.

Smith and his volunteer team founded Blue Endeavors in 2012 to promote global ocean conservation.

“Species have disappeared from some of my favorite diving spots”, he notes. “It really highlights the need for more action, now. But it’s going to take decades—at minimum—of effort, invention and awareness to restore or even to slow the damage to the Earth’s oceans.”

See page 2 for more Blue Endeavors news.

New Year, New Rates: Membership Fees Are Higher to Accommodate Rising Costs

For the first time in at least 10 years, MSC is raising our annual dues to help cover rising costs of hosting monthly meetings, events, and parties.



MSC membership has its rewards.

Effective 01/01/20, our annual fee for an individual membership will go up 20% to \$50, while couples living at the same residence will pay \$79. These fees are in effect through the Early Bird Special Rates of 2/29/20 to renew or join MSC.

But if you wait until after 4/1/20, you’ll pay a late fee of \$10 more, so that will cost you \$60 for an individual membership and \$89 for a couple.

To renew your membership or join Marin Scuba Club, complete an online form on our website: <https://marinclub.org/membership/>.

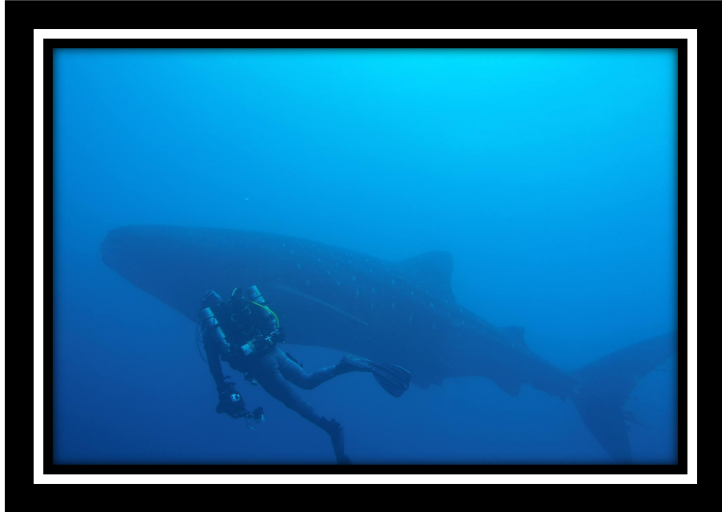
Or pick up a membership form at our January meeting from Julie Finley.

See page 2 for more MSC News.

Vince Smith & Blue Endeavors (Continued)

A Unique Array of Courses and Programs.

Blue Endeavors was launched to offer a unique array of training courses, mentorship programs and scholarships. They're all available to foster the next generation of leaders and innovators in ocean conservation.



First STEM, Now a Sustainable Resource.

What started as an initiative to encourage high school students' interest in STEM by offering them relatable coursework soon grew into a community resource for all ages.

Today, Blue Endeavors offers programs for everyone—from elementary school kids to graduate students to community members. Their projects range in difficulty, location and scope; some can even send participants to foreign countries to help research global ocean projects.

An Alameda Dive Facility.

In August 2017, BE opened its first dive facility at Alameda's South Shore. "That cemented our standing as one of the Bay Area's premiere marine-focused community centers," adds Vince.

Besides serving as a waterfront base for their activities, it also includes a full SCUBAPRO Platinum dive shop. Best of all, all proceeds go directly back to this non-profit organization.

Join us on January 15th as Vince discusses the continuing evolution of Blue Endeavors and Citizen Science Underwater. For more information, visit www.blue-endeavors.org.

MSC November Presentation By Iara Mandyn

This award-winning underwater model, certified diving instructor, performer, stuntwoman, skill trainer and freediving coach entertained a MSC crowd at our November meeting.



Iara focused on her work as a mermaid. Read more: <http://www.iaramandyn.com/>

2019 Ho-Ho-Holiday Party Was Great!

Kudos to many MSC members for producing one of the biggest, best, and most successful holiday parties ever.



BOD Chair Barb Wambach gets two fins up for again offering her Mill Valley home, Alissa Ralston raised \$955 with a well-run Silent Auction, and just about everyone who attended brought something delicious to eat or drink.

BOTTOM TIMES

Jan 15, 2020 (Wed): Guest speaker Vince Smith: “Blue Endeavors and Citizen Science Underwater”. This 501(c)(3) nonprofit 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 marine science and education background. He and a team of volunteers founded Blue Endeavors in 2012 to promote ocean conservation, offer an array of training courses, mentors programs and scholarships; foster the next generation of leaders and innovators, and create cohorts of lifelong ocean advocates. www.blue-endeavors.org. Club Meeting: Book Passage, 7:15 – 8:45 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members.

Feb 15-22: 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.

Feb 19 (Wed): Guest speaker Mike Boom: “Seven Weeks in Indonesia”. In 2017, Mike and his wife Lynn took two trips to one of their favorite dive destinations, Indonesia. They hit all the hot spots there: muck diving in Ambon, Lembeh, and Bali, and cruising the Banda Sea, Raja Ampat, and Komodo. Join Mike, a local underwater videographer, for this highly anticipated video showcase. Club Meeting: Book Passage, 7:15 – 8:45 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members.

March 18 (Wed): Guest speaker Adam Ratner: “Behind The Bark – Saving Seals and Sea Lions in California”. Adam is the Associate Director of Conservation Education with the Marine Mammal Center, a global leader in health, science and conservation, and the world’s largest marine mammal hospital. Join us to hear about the latest stories of their patients, new marine mammal health research, and what actions we can take as individuals and communities to help protect marine mammals and ourselves for future generations. Club Meeting: Book Passage, 7:15 – 8:45 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members.

April 15 (Wed): Guest speaker Bill Keener, Marine Mammal Center: “Whales and Porpoises”. Bill was formerly with the Golden Gate Cetacean Research Center. Club Meeting: Book Passage, 7:15 – 8:45 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members.

May 8-17: Philippines Dive. Join Ellen Sakoloff at the land-based El Galleon Dive Resort in Puerto Galera for 9 nights. 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. This trip is now closed; [contact El Galleon](#) for details.

May 20 (Wed): Guest speaker Mike Scott, Seacology’s Island Conservation Program. Details to come. Club Meeting: Book Passage, 7:15 – 8:45 pm. Free for members; \$5 for non-members.

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.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH EARLY BIRD SAVINGS BY 2/29/20.

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



Next Meeting:
Wed., January 15:
Vince Smith — “Blue
Endeavors and Citizen
Science Underwater”.

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
Board of Directors

<http://www.marinscubaclub.org>

BOD Chair

Barbara Wambach, Chair chair@marinscubaclub.org

BOD Vice Chair/Social Media

John Lewis, Vice Chair vchair@marinscubaclub.org

Treasurer

Marc Paris treasurer@marinscubaclub.org

Secretary

Lisa Kuhn secretary@marinscubaclub.org

Membership Coordinator

Julie Finley membership@marinscubaclub.org

Member Relations

Ellen Sakoloff relations@marinscubaclub.org

Newsletter Editor/Publicity/Webmaster

Gil Zeimer newsletter@marinscubaclub.org

Activities Coordinators

Barbara Wambach activities@marinscubaclub.org

Niles Szwed activities3@marinscubaclub.org

Program Coordinators

Virginia Bria program@marinscubaclub.org

Bryan Eckert program2@marinscubaclub.org

Special Program Coordinator

Kenneth R. Carter kc@marinscubaclub.org