

MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2023

February 8, 2023 Meeting: Dr. Chris Lowe, "Great White Sharks"

A Professor of Marine Biology and Director of The Shark Lab, California State University Long Beach, Dr. Chris Lowe's February presentation will be: "Recovery of White Sharks Off California and What That Means to Coastal Communities."



He says, "The white shark population of the eastern Pacific has likely been reduced for over a 100 years, due to overfishing and loss of key adult prey. Fisheries protections for white sharks, recovery of endangered marine mammals, and better management has resulted in population

recovery off California, with increased white shark sightings off beaches and around offshore islands. While population recovery has resulted in increased public safety concerns, there has been little evidence of an increase in shark bites relatively to human activity."

About Dr. Chris Lowe

Dr. Lowe has been studying sharks, rays and bony fishes for over 30 years, focusing on their behavior, physiology and ecology. For the last 15 years, he and his students have been studying juvenile white sharks off the coast of southern California. Using a wide array of technology, they have found that white sharks use southern California beaches seasonally as nursery habitat for their young. This brings juvenile white sharks in close proximity to beach goers.

[See Dr. Chris Lowe, Page 2](#)

January 11, 2023 Meeting Recap: Jon Edens, Marin Diving Center

Virginia Bria reports: Jon Edens did a fantastic presentation demonstrating new, state-of-the-art dive gear that is now on the market. It included the latest BCDs, lightweight and new fins with replaceable blades to convert from a foot pocket with strap to a full foot fin, a small waterproof housing for any type of cell phone, the latest integrated and wrist console dive computers with new and improved screens that are easy to read underwater, latest regulators, and the enhanced features of such, as well as many other products available.

Julie Finley shared her experience using the new housing for her cell phone in Palau and how much she enjoyed the simplicity of it when diving in strong currents, especially photographing fast-moving manta rays.

Our members asked numerous questions on the best way to use these items and their prices so that they can look at perhaps updating their old and outdated gear. Jon shared how technology has designed many of these products to enhance dive safety and make it easier to use in a variety of situations.

In addition, Jon reviewed the numerous dive trips that Marin Diving Center is offering this year out to 2024 and the latest status of diving in the Channel Islands both on land-based and liveaboard accommodations.

Finally, he mentioned that Marin Diving Center offers fun dives both on the North Coast and Monterey and to check-in if interested on the upcoming dives. If you're on their mailing list, they will email you monthly invites. These dives are open to all divers to participate. We have had several of our Marin Scuba Club cold water divers attend and they are always a lot of fun.

Thank you, Jon, for taking the time in very rainy weather to visit us in Sausalito and present live to those in attendance as well as on Zoom! For more info, visit <http://www.marindivingcenter.com/>

Dr. Chris Lowe, Continued

Dr. Lowe and his students use technologies and educators to help lifeguards and the public understand the mysterious lives of sharks and just how much of a threat they may actually pose.

Please join us on Wednesday, February 8 from 7:00 – 8:45pm for Dr. Lowe’s informative presentation.

Cozumel Trip, January 6-13 Recap

Ten members enjoyed a fantastic week of diving both Cozumel and the Cenotes in Tulum on our last day. While I tend to think of Cozumel as average on the global scale of diving, we did not experience average.

Some highlights: diving San Francisco Wall, we had 200 feet of visibility with beautiful healthy corals. It was eagle ray season and we were treated to many and the largest all have ever seen, close-up and also feeding.



The ten Marin Scuba Club divers who escaped the Bay Area’s “Rainmageddon” for Cozumel.

We had a night dive that was off-the-charts, with lots of varied octopi out in the open, huge crabs feeding, squid and the unique “splendid toadfish”, plus more. We happened to hit a full moon... lots of mating going on.

Add the abundance of large nurse sharks and our last day of diving the cenotes with amazing god rays, fossils and, of course, the miracle of stalactites, it was not average diving, it was spectacular!

We also had a lot of fun together during our daily meals at Scuba Club Cozumel and our evening dinner excursions. – Barb Wambach

“Shark – Why We Need to Save The World’s Most Misunderstood Predator”



Something happens to you the first time you dive with sharks...

From Amazon: Portrayed in the media and popular culture as killing machines, we are awed by their power and strength. But the shark is so much more – a marvel of the sea, they have evolved over 450 million years into over 500 species, from the bioluminescent kitefin to the tiny dwarf lantern shark, the sociable lemon shark to the cow shark, which can birth up to 100 pups in one litter.

Bringing balance to the ocean’s ecosystem, our planet is at serious risk when these creatures are threatened.

Paul de Gelder, *who lost two limbs in a shark attack* during a mission as an elite Australian navy clearance diver, spent time as part of his recovery learning all about sharks. He became so obsessed, despite what happened to him, that he is now an expert and has dedicated his life to helping save them. *Shark* is his love-letter to these unfairly vilified animals, and his warning to the world about what will happen if we don’t look out for them. ([Amazon](#), \$21.28 or [Kindle](#), \$12.99)

Renew Your Membership Now.

Online applications are pouring in! Over 25 members have already renewed online!

Annual renewals for your membership are due by February 28, 2023: \$50 for singles and \$79 for couples. After March 1, we’ll add a \$10 late fee.

Download a form here:

<https://marinclub.org/membership/>

New members can download a form here:

<https://marinclub.org/membership/new-membership/>

Renew online or contact Julie Finley for a form.

BOTTOM TIMES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023, Hybrid Club Meeting. Speaker: Dr. Chris Lowe, Professor of Marine Biology and Director of The Shark Lab, California State University Long Beach, "Recovery of White Sharks Off California and What That Means to Coastal Communities". Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7983463827?pwd=UGEreEJ4VFoycmZRZ2IPWnM5NGp6dz09>

Meeting ID: 798 346 3827

Passcode: 755205

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, Todd Steiner (via Zoom), "Diving Cocos Island Costa Rica for Conservation Science" with updates on 'Why Have All The Turtles Left?' and the Cocos-Galapagos Swimway Campaign. A wildlife ecologist and executive director of Turtle Island Restoration Network (Seaturtles.org), Todd led sea turtle and shark tagging research expeditions for 10 years before COVID. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.



Cocos Scuba Research Expeditions with Turtle Island Are Back in 2023!

Please join Turtle Island for a choice of two 10-day liveaboard adventures (5/23-6/2 or 11/18-28) to experience, view, and photograph the incredible marine biodiversity of Cocos Island, as well as support and participate in crucial shark and sea turtle migration research. They will be partnering with two other organizations: Sea Change Agency and CREMA, so they recommend booking quickly before all spaces are filled. For details, visit <https://seaturtles.org/our-work/our-programs/cocos-island/>, contact Todd Steiner at tsteiner@tirn.net, or call him at (415) 488-7652.

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, Dirk Rosen, "Working With Robotic Submarines All Over The World". Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

BEING RESCHEDULED: Renee Cappozola, "Beneath The Sea Imaging", 2021 Underwater Photographer of The Year Winner, Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

The Marin Scuba Club promotes safe diving.

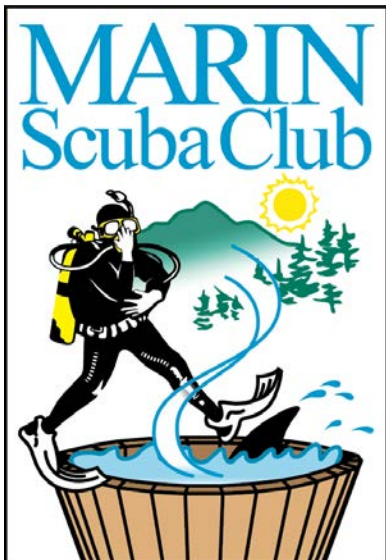
Remember to always plan your dive based on the conditions, be aware of your skills and equipment, and, above all, always stay with your buddy.

If you want to join MSC, visit this page to download a Single Member or Couples form:

<https://marinclub.org/membership/new-membership/>.

To renew online now, visit <https://marinclub.org/membership/>.

Or contact Julie Finley for a PDF form.



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

Next Meeting:
February 8 (Wed):
Dr. Chris Lowe,
Professor of Marine
Biology and Director of
The Shark Lab, CSULB,
“Great White Sharks”

In-Person & Zoom
Hybrid Meeting:
Sausalito Parks & Rec
Center, Edgewater Room,
420 Litho Street, Sausalito.

The Club now meets on
the 2nd Wednesday
each month.

Renew your membership
now – avoid the late fee.

Marin Scuba Club: Board of Directors
<http://www.marinclub.org>

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