

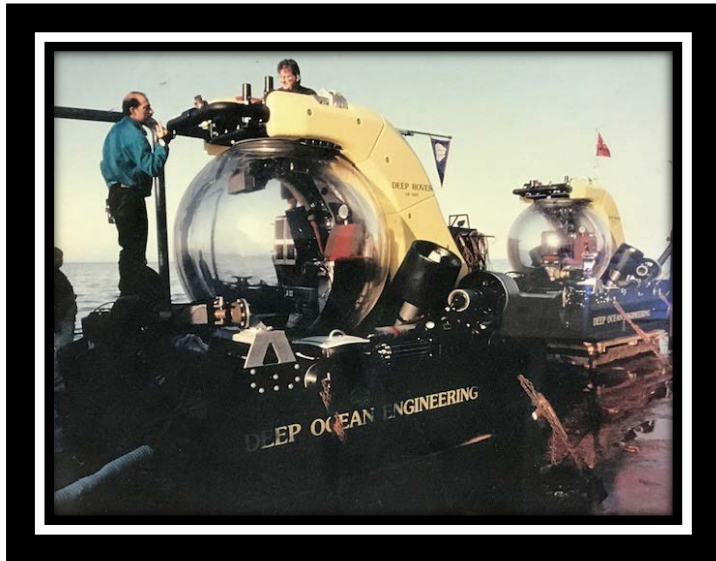
# MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 31, NUMBER 4**

**APRIL 2023**

## April 12, 2023 Meeting: Dirk Rosen, "Working With Robot Submarines All Over The World"

Earth's oceans are still vastly underexplored. The deepest place, Mariana Trench in the western Pacific, is more than 36,000 feet deep, while nearby Monterey Canyon is 13,000 feet below the surface. So join us for Dirk's presentation about how he's been using deepsea robots to explore these depths.



*The DeepRovers, getting ready to take the plunge.*

Dirk founded Marine Applied Research and Exploration ([MARE](#)), a non-profit organization dedicated to filling the knowledge gap of the deepsea, below SCUBA depths, tracking deep sea communities and protecting hotspots of biodiversity and abundance.

Based in Tiburon, CA, MARE:

- Enables intelligent ocean management by bringing science to action to restore the ocean's invaluable, yet threatened resources to support sustainable fisheries for future generations.
- Deploys a fleet of robotic vehicles to explore and document changes to ocean health over time, well beyond the reach of SCUBA divers.
- Has performed an ongoing census of the West Coast from Mexico to the Canadian border, as well as dedicated surveys of the Gulf of Mexico, Hawai'i and Costa Rica.

[See Dirk Rosen, Page 2](#)

## March Meeting Recap: Todd Steiner, "Diving Cocos Island Costa Rica for Conservation Science"

At Todd's return presentation last month as Executive Director of [Turtle Island Restoration Network](#) for the past 35 years, he said, "Cocos Island National Park is very close to my heart. It's a biodiversity mecca, a magical dive spot, and a stop on a superhighway for turtles and sharks, especially hammerheads."



*Leatherback turtles are in abundance, but declining.*

Cocos Island is an incredible Costa Rican possession in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean that:

- Jacques Cousteau called "The most beautiful island in the world"
- Spans only nine square miles
- Is covered by rainforest, cloud forests, and waterfalls, resulting from 27' of rainfall annually
- Is home to about 270 marine fishes, including 27 endemic species of birds, lizards, and freshwater fish and 30 species of eels.

Todd reported that the abundance of wildlife is really amazing, including critically endangered Leatherback Turtle, sharks (hammerhead, silky, tiger), rays (manta, eagle, marbled), tropical fish (small to large), bait balls, schools of jacks, and gray whales.

[See Todd Steiner, TIRN, Page 2](#)

## Dirk Rosen, Continued

### About Dirk Rosen.

Dirk has 35+ years of deepsea equipment design, build and operations experience with ROVs, manned submersibles and tow sleds. He's led or co-led 42 ocean expeditions assessing Marine Protected Areas, characterizing National Marine Sanctuaries, performing fish stock assessments, evaluating impacts of wave power, recovering lost equipment at sea, and removing derelict fishing gear.



*Dirk, aboard his boat, the TomCat.*

Previously, he was president of Deep Ocean Engineering, test pilot for all three Deep Rover 1,000 meter-rated manned submersibles, and a co-designer of hundreds of ROVs.

Later, at Hawkes Ocean Technologies, he managed the build of Challenger, an 11,000-meter-rated manned submersible designed to explore the Marianas Trench. Prior to that, he worked with NASA for 5 years, helping to implement robotic standards now used on the International Space Station.

Please join us on Wednesday, April 12 from 7:00 – 8:45pm for Dirk's live presentation and via Zoom.

## Todd Steiner, TIRN, Continued

He thought, "What if we could create a protected superhighway for turtles, sharks, and other sea life to swim to/from Costa Rica to the Galapagos Islands?"

Because he's seen a large number of animals since he began diving there in 2007, Todd has been using acoustic tags to track animals for the Cocos-Galapagos Swimway Campaign, one of the world's first bilateral, no-take marine protected areas.

Progress Report: In January 2022, it expanded Ecuador's Galapagos Marine Reserve by more than 23,000-square miles to the borders of Cocos EEZ, and in December, 2021, Costa Rica expanded Cocos Island NP by 53,000 square kilometers. Todd added, "The glass is more than half-full, but our work continues. We're still waiting for a no fishing zone."

He invites us all to join him on several upcoming expeditions each, this year and next:

- May 23 – June 2, 2023, Undersea Hunter's Sea Hunter
- November 11- 21, 2023, Aggressor Adventure's Okeanos Aggressor II
- 2024 dates: TBD

To donate or for more info, visit <https://seaturtles.org/>

### "Sea Turtle Shares His Jellyfish: YouTube

Arlene Rudy sent me this charming three-minute film about a snorkeler in the Cayman Islands who entertains and engages with a sea turtle by pretending to eat the jellyfish it's carrying:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsvujLNB37c>

### 20<sup>th</sup> Annual International Ocean Film Festival

Join club members and friends the night of Thursday, April 6 at the Rafael Theatre, San Rafael for three short films:

- "Truluck" (UK), 20 minutes
- "Windshipped" (US), 39 minutes
- "Impossible Wave" (US), 40 minutes

For more information and tickets, visit

<https://rafaelfilm.cafilm.org/ioff-2023/>

### Renew Your Membership Now.

About 75% of our members have already renewed online! You'll now be paying a \$10 late fee, so your fees will be \$60 for singles and \$89 for couples. Visit our website's [Membership](#) pages for forms.

# BOTTOM TIMES

## MEETINGS

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

**Wednesday, May 10, Eva Paulas, “Deep Sea Fish and Research”.** Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

**Wednesday, June 14, Sea Women “Arctic Expedition”, Carol Blickenstorfer, Whitley Mike & Virginia Bria.** Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

**Wednesday, July 12, Sean Wheelles, “Rebreathers” Show & Tell from Bamboo Reef”.** Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

**Wednesday, August 9, Linda Lanniello, “Black Water Diving”.** Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

**Wednesday, October 11, MSC Member Presentations.** Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

**Wednesday, November 8, Renee Cappozola, “Beneath The Sea Imaging”, 2021 Underwater Photographer of The Year Winner,** Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

## EVENTS

**Thursday, April 6 – 20<sup>th</sup> Annual International Ocean Film Festival, Rafael Theatre, San Rafael**

**Saturday, June 3 – Sunday, June 4, Scuba Show Long Beach,** <https://scubashow.com>.  
Gil Zeimer will be leading a workshop: “*Blogging About Bubbles: “How to Get Published”*”.

## PARTIES

**Saturday, June 17 – Spring Social,** Jeffrey and Simma’s Farm Home in Sebastopol. Details to come from Barb.

**Th., August 10 – Sun., August 13 – Dive & Dine, Russian Gulch State Park Campsite.** Details to come.

**Sunday, December 3 – Holiday Party.** Save the date for an afternoon party at Barb’s home. BYOB. The club will provide non-alcoholic drinks, smoked salmon, and more. Evites will be out in October.

## DIVE TRIPS

**July, Lake Tahoe,** A weekend of hiking, biking, and diving. CANCELLED as campsites are sold out.

**October 26 – November 5, Roatan** – Eleven members are booked, arriving on October 26th and departing November 5th at The Splash Inn. Ten nights, 16 dives and breakfast are \$1,270.50 for double occupancy and \$1,666 single occupancy each. Airfare is separate. Contact [blwambach@comcast.net](mailto:blwambach@comcast.net) if interested.

**January 2024, Philippines, 2 weeks** – Arrive Manila January 11th. Van pick-up on January 12 to the Buceo Anilao Beach & Dive Resort with a 15 dives package and breakfast. Transfer to El Galleon Dive Resort on January 18 (approximately 4-5 hours by shuttle/ferry). Seven nights’ accommodations, 6 days of unlimited diving including breakfast. Total for 13 nights’ accommodations, diving, transfers and breakfast is \$2,429 for a single and \$2,033 each for double occupancy. Airfare, tips, nitrox, rental gear, etc., are not included. Both resorts are a few hours from Manila. Contact [blwambach@comcast.net](mailto:blwambach@comcast.net) if interested.

**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 <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:**  
**April 12 (Wed):**  
**Dirk Rosen,**  
**“Working With**  
**Robotic Submarines**  
**All Over The World”**

**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.**

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

**BOD Chair**

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