

MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2023

Wednesday, November 8th Meeting: Renee Capozzola, Award-Winning Photographer

We're absolutely thrilled to host Renee via Zoom for our final meeting of the year. As a conservation-oriented underwater photographer, she specializes in wide angle and split-level images.



Renee has won more than 50 international awards.

Her work is an intriguing combination of artistic talent honed through oil painting during her youth, a professional background in biology, and growing up by the ocean as a Southern Californian native.

Since Renee started scuba diving in 2004, she has developed a true appreciation for marine organisms through her diverse travels and believes that striking images help increase awareness of our fragile marine ecosystems, encouraging others to protect our oceans.

To that end, her images have been awarded over 50 prestigious international accolades, including "Underwater Photographer of the Year 2021" in the Underwater Photographer of the Year competition and the "Female Fifty Fathoms Award" from Blancpain through the 2021 "Ocean Photographer of the Year".

[See Renee Capozzola, Page 2](#)

October Meeting Recap: Member Presentations

Five experienced members made presentations of their 2023 dive trips to a captivated audience.

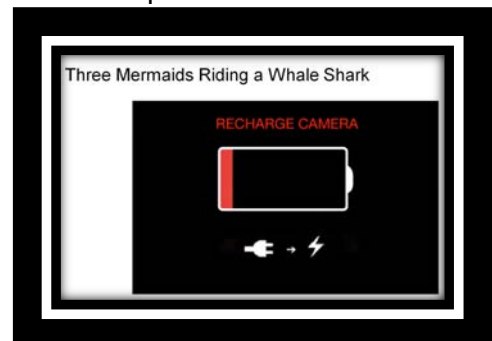
Virginia Bria started off the evening with a chronicle of her Antarctic Climate aboard *The Sylvia Earle*.



Jeffrey Zankel delighted us with images and videos of his outstanding trip to Cozumel.



Ken Carter made a humorous presentation recapping the year in his dive photos.



[See Member Presentations, Page 2](#)

Renee Capozzola, Continued

Her work has also appeared globally in leading dive publications, including *National Geographic* in print, and she serves as an *Ocean Geographic* Photographer-In-Residence, a fellow of The Explorers Club, and an ambassador for SEACAM.

Renee has been featured by multiple news outlets such as CNN, USA Today, BBC, People, The Today Show, and France 2. She's also showcased in *Ocean Geographic* October 2023 with Antarctica photos and a story on Tahiti. In recent years, she has been invited to judge several photo competitions and speak at many in-person and online events.

When she's not in the water with her camera, Renee strives to educate others about the challenges facing our oceans and the importance of conserving marine ecosystems.



This was one the amazing images featured in an eight-page story in Alert Diver Second Quarter 2023 titled "The Eclectic Vision of Renee Capozzola".

Please join Renee on November 8th for a very special presentation that will knock your fins off.

Read her complete bio and list of prestigious awards:
<http://www.beneaththesurfaceimaging.com/biography---awards.html>

See her truly incredible images:
www.beneaththesurfaceimaging.com

Member Presentations, Continued

Lisa Perla shared images of her trip to Raja Ampat, the most biodiverse area of the world.



Finally, **Ric Miller** showcased "Follow The Light", a video shot in San Carlos, Sonora, Mexico.



[Watch the Vimeo of their presentations.](#)

The MSC Holiday Party Is A Few Weeks Away
Knock, knock. Who's there? It's the MSC Holiday Party, scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd from 1:00–5:00pm at Barb's house.

As always, the club will provide non-alcoholic drinks, plus Barb's lamb chops, turkey meatballs, and much more. Evites will be sent in early November. Please RSVP with a dish to share and BYOB.

A Generous Holiday Gift from Undercurrent

Ken Smith, *Undercurrent* founder, has generously provided each of us with a gift via our MSC membership — a subscription which expired on 9/30/23. However, Ken, being so very generous, **has now extended all members' subscription to 9/30/2025.**

Please show your appreciation by contributing your reviews and adding photos of resorts, liveaboards, and dive boats on your account so they can be compiled for the next annual issue of the *Travelin Diver's Chapbook.*

BOTTOM TIMES

MEETINGS

Wed., Nov. 8, Renee Capozzola, “Award-Winning Photography and Tips”, Underwater Photographer of The Year Winner 2021 & 50+ prestigious international awards, Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7983463827?pwd=UGEREJ4VFoycmZRZ2IPWnM5NGp6dz09>

Meeting ID: 798 346 3827

Passcode: 755205

2024 Presenters – Contact Virginia or Bryan if you have a speaker to recommend

January: Caitlin Bailey, wildlife and deep ocean exploration videographer: <https://caitlinbailey.com/about/>

February: Jim Hellemn, www.BlueOceanArt.com

March: Jami Leslie Feldman, “Dive Into Social Media!”, www.instagram.com/underwaterpaparazzi/

April: Jeff Bozanic, “The Coldest Dive: Antarctica”, <https://jeffbozanic.com/>

May: Jodi Frediani, “Svalbard: Wild Land, Wild Ice, Wild Life”, www.jodifrediani.com/

EVENTS

Sun., November 12 – Monterey Family Snorkel Trip. Meet Ken Carter and his daughter at San Carlos Beach around 10am, followed by lunch at Fisherman’s Wharf, candy shopping, and maybe a visit to the Monterey Aquarium. Contact kc@marinclub.org for more info.

November 24 – 26, Blue Friday, Blue Saturday and Blue Sunday. Contact gil@zeimer.com if you plan to dive at Point Lobos or anywhere else on Thanksgiving weekend. Read this blog for more information: <https://marinclub.org/blogs-announcing-blue-friday-2023/>

Sun., December 3 – Holiday Party. Save the date for an afternoon party at Barb’s home. BYOB. The club will provide non-alcoholic drinks, lamb chops, turkey meatballs, and more. Evites will go out in early November.

DIVE TRIPS – FOR DETAILS, SEE <https://marinclub.org/trips/>

January 2024, Philippines, 2 weeks – Eight members are confirmed. Arrive Manila by January 11th. January 12th: van transfer and stay at the **Buceo Anilao Beach & Dive Resort** (6 nights with 4 days unlimited diving). Resort accommodations, transfers, breakfast and 15 dives included. On January 18th, travel to **El Galleon Dive Resort**. Seven nights’ accommodations, 6 days unlimited diving, transfers and breakfast. A few poolside rooms remain. Contact blwambach@comcast.net if interested — space is still available.

July 2024 – Ken is organizing a Bonaire trip. RSVP if you are interested: ken@kennethrcarter.com.

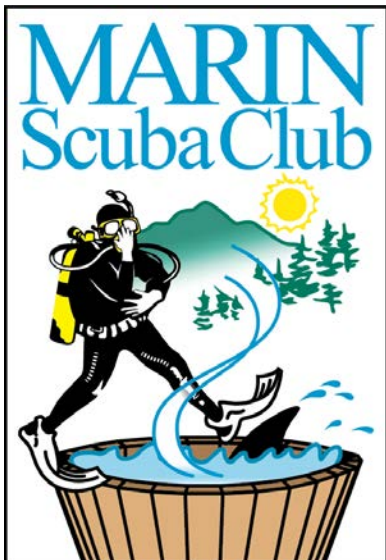
January 18 – Feb 1, 2025, Bahamas – Marin Diving Center is organizing a trip for diving with scalloped hammerheads on San Salvador Island in the Bahamas, then Barbara Wambach is organizing a snorkeling trip with humpback whales aboard the Turks & Caicos Explorer II liveaboard. Contact blwambach@comcast.net if you’re 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 renew or join MSC, visit our Membership pages or contact Julie Finley for a PDF form:

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



Marin Scuba Club
47 Heritage Drive
San Rafael, CA 94901-8309

Next Meeting:
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“Award-Winning
Photography & Tips”,
Underwater Photographer
of The Year Winner 2021,
and more than 50
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In-Person & Zoom
Hybrid Meeting:
Sausalito Parks & Rec
Center, Edgewater Room,
420 Litho Street, Sausalito

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

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

BOD Chair

Barbara Wambach, Chair chair@marinclub.org

BOD Vice Chair/Social Media

John Lewis, Vice Chair vchair@marinclub.org

Treasurer

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