

MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2024

Wednesday, March 13 Meeting: Jami Leslie Feldman, “Dive Into Social Media”

We first met Jami at Scuba Show 2023 in Long Beach last June during her fascinating presentation of this topic. We were so enthralled that we've asked her to Zoon with us on 3/13.



Jami and a playful friend who likes biting her regulator hose.

A Southern California-based photographer, avid scuba diver, and Divemaster, she's an ambassador for the [ScubaPro Global Dive Team](#), an active board member for the San Diego Underwater Film Exhibition, plus a past president and current board member for the [San Diego Underwater Photographic Society](#).

See Jami Feldman, Page 2

February Meeting Recap: Jim Hellemn, “25 Years Focused On Cayman Coral Reefs”

Virginia Bria provided these notes; our editor thanks her!
Jim Hellemn did an outstanding presentation of his underwater imaging, showing us the many dive sites he has explored over the years in the Cayman Islands.



A Grand Cayman residence with customized mosaic tiles.

He presented the images he took with his highly sophisticated computers, cameras and lighting systems, used both during the day and at night in over 4000 dives logged over the years. He also presented the vibrant work he completed using fluorescent lights to demonstrate nightlife that may not be visible during the day and uncover marine life seldom seen.

Used by Scientists to Determine Coral Species

The changes that occurred over the years on many of the sites he has photographed repetitively have been used by scientists to determine both the gain and loss in species of corals.

It was fascinating to see how he takes literally hundreds of images from a large swath of reef underwater and transforms these into an incredibly detailed photographic tapestry often extremely large scale. This requires both stamina and attention to capture the reef so precisely and create a photograph that spans a scale of often 12' x 125' such as his image of the California Kelp Forest at the entrance of the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.

Most of his earlier work was taken from film images (some with the trusty old Nikonos camera!) that had to be scanned over the years.

He believes that some of his best images for sharpness were from his earlier film work. He currently uses digital cameras.

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Jami Leslie Feldman, Page 2

Her photography passion began around age 11 in a black-and-white darkroom class. That inevitably evolved into underwater photography when she was scuba certified in 2008. Jami loves the beauty of the underwater world, the challenge of cold water diving, and the creative outlet it brings.

Her goal is to help inspire, educate, and promote ocean conservation efforts through photography and video. And make you smile with a few goofy posts in between.

She will dive as often as conditions (and a toddler) will allow so follow along on her social media channels to see what's happening down in Southern California!

For detailed dive reports, in-depth photos and videos and more underwater Vitamin Sea, subscribe to www.UnderwaterPaparazzi.com or follow Jami on www.instagram.com/underwaterpaparazzi/.

January 2024 MSC Philippines Trip Recap

Ten members and friends enjoyed two weeks of diving.



The first stop was Anilao and it was spectacular!

We saw the blue ring octopus, mating eels (*shown on the left*), famous gurnard walking fish, peacock manta shrimp and much more.

This site is also considered to be the nudibranch capital and we enjoyed many beautiful gastropods. Most of us also did some excellent Black Water diving where we saw many juveniles, including an octopus and nautilus. The Buceo Anilao Beach and Dive Resort was five stars: excellent service and a great shop.

The next stop was Puerto Galera and the El Galleon Dive Resort. Again, it was a wonderful dive operation. While there is an overlap of marine life, this site offers more current, so we enjoyed large schools of blue tangs, several pygmy seahorse, cuttlefish and huge turtles.

All had a wonderful time. See more MSC January 2024 Philippines trip images: <https://marinclub.org/photos/>

Jim Hellemn, Page 2

A Few Presentation Highlights

One of the highlights of his presentation was the use of his image to create an incredible inlaid mosaic tile mural, 25 ft x 75 ft high of a coral reef for the [Camana Bay Observation Tower](#), a five-story public attraction in Grand Cayman, where visitors can now "walk" up a coral reef.

The other was for a private client in the Caymans who are lining their pool which required computers and robots to emulate his photographs and create the mosaic tiles: <https://artaic.com/installations/cayman-islands-residence/>

Furthermore, Jim's dedication to demonstrating the beauty of the ocean in his images is truly a labor of love.

You can find out more about the trips that Jim leads to see the areas he dives in the Caymans which is his palette for creation. You can also share his vast knowledge of the dive sites and the wonders they offer divers:

www.blueoceanart.com

Watch his Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/channels/1611110>



Renew or Begin Your MSC Membership Now.

The last day to renew without incurring a late fee was 2/29/24. So far, over 25 members have done so.

Now, it'll cost you an extra \$10. The renewal fees are now \$60 for singles and \$89 for couples. This generously also includes a year-long subscription to [Undercurrent](#), thanks to Ken Smith.

If you're a current member, download a form here: <https://marinclub.org/membership/>

Those wanting to become new members can download a form here: <https://marinclub.org/membership/new-membership/>

Renew online today or contact Julie Finley for a form by emailing her: membership@marinclub.org.

We appreciate your continued membership in Marin Scuba Club — it's what has made us one of the most vibrant organizations in the Bay Area.

BOTTOM TIMES

MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 13: Jami Leslie Feldman, “Dive Into Social Media!”, www.instagram.com/underwaterpaparazzi/. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86243202213?pwd=RkZSZ09SUhVJKy9vdXo5WU9KczJTUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 4320 2213

Passcode: 708063

Wednesday, April 10: Jeff Bozanic, Ph.D., “The Coldest Dive: Antarctica”, <https://jeffbozanic.com/>. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm. *Recipient of the 2024 NOGI Award, Sports/Education.*

Wednesday, May 8: Jodi Frediani, “Svalbard: Wild Land, Wild Ice, Wild Life”, www.jodifrediani.com/. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

Wednesday, June 12: Brian @ Bamboo Reef: “Freediving”, www.bambooreef.com/. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45pm.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, June 1 – Sunday, June 2, 2024, ScubaShow.com, Los Angeles Convention Center

Thursday, June 6 – Sunday, June 10, 2024, Emerald Bay State Park, Lake Tahoe – Ken has booked a premium campsite for up to 10 people. Enjoy diving, hiking, and biking, Contact ken@kennethrcarter.com.

Thursday, August 21 – Sunday, August 25, 2024: Summer Dive ‘N Dine – Russian Gulch State Park. Save The Date! Details to come. Contact blwambach@comcast.net if you’re interested.

DIVE TRIPS – For details, see: <https://marinclub.org/trips/>

July 27 – August 3, 2024 – Sand Dollar Hotel, Bonaire. Price TBD: includes 6 days of shore diving and breakfast. Ken has reserved 10 rooms: 2- and 3-room suites; each room sleeps 2; 1-room suites and studios are available as desired. Boat diving packages as low as \$70/day for two tanks. Airfare, gratuities, lunch, and dinner are not included. Contact ken@kennethrcarter.com if interested. **LAST CALL TO RSVP.**

Sept. 14 – 21, 2024: The Best of Cayman – Jim Hellemn has invited MSC to join this trip. **Flyer is attached.**
\$2,655 pp double occupancy or \$3,130 single occupancy.

Oct. 25 – Nov. 4, 2024: Maldives. 10 days of land-based snorkeling and diving with 7 optional days of diving on a liveaboard. Price: \$2,655 pp double occ. or \$3,130 single. Plan to depart on 10/21 or earlier; arrive 10/23 at [Vilamendhoo Resort](#) for 10 nights. Contact blwambach@comcast.net if you’re interested. **LAST CALL TO RSVP. See website for details.**

January 18 – Feb 1, 2025, Bahamas – Back-to-back trips in the Caribbean; join one or both. First stop, San Salvador Island at the Riding Rock Resort and Marina in the Bahamas, famous for scalloped hammerheads, reef, and oceanic whitetip sharks. Their beautiful reefs benefit from deep ocean currents. Package includes 16 boat dives, 21 meals, and airport transfers: \$2,250 (excluding air, tips, and drinks.) Second stop: Dominican Republic, Turks & Caicos Explorer II liveaboard with 20-guest capacity. One of the few places to snorkel with humpbacks during calving season: \$5,195 (includes \$450 permit fee, \$450 port fee, meals, and accommodations. Contact blwambach@comcast.net. **LAST CALL TO RSVP.**

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



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

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, March 13,
Jami Leslie Feldman,
“Dive Into Social Media”,
www.underwaterpaparazzi.com

**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.

**Renew your
Membership today.**

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

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