

# MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 32, NUMBER 5**

**MAY 2024**

## **May 8 Meeting: Jodi Frediani, “Svalbard: Wild Land, Wild Ice, Wild Life”**

A Santa Cruz-based award-winning photographer and whale researcher, Jodi has been swimming with and photographing humpback whales on the Silver Bank off the coast of the Dominican Republic for over 20 years.



*One of Jodi's images was a People's Choice Finalist in Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2022; another was First Place Black & White in Nature Photographer of the Year 2023.*

She's also has been photographing the marine life of Monterey Bay for the past 12 years, while taking time off for photographic adventures to Africa, Alaska, Argentina, Antarctica, the Arctic, Brazil, Franz Josef Land (Russia), Norway, Siberia, Svalbard, Thailand, and Tonga.

Her work has appeared in many national and international publications, including the BBC's "Nature's Weirdest Events", and Carl Safina's National Geographic blog, "Ocean Views".



*Besides polar bears, she's engaged in whale research through several fluke ID projects both here and abroad.*

**See Jodi Frediani, Page 2**

## **April Meeting Recap: Jeff Bozanic, Ph.D., “The Coldest Dive: Antarctica”**

Jeff must have ice water in his veins. He's logged more than 5,000 dives, with a great many of them in 28° F. water in Antarctica — the world's coldest, highest, and driest continent.



*Jeff teaches students how to dive and survive in the cold at McMurdo Station's National Science Foundation.*

Blessed with visibility of 500-600 feet (not a typo), except for about 3' with early December plankton blooms, he said that getting wet there is "like diving in a giant 7-11 Slurpee".

During the bottom of the world's summer, a typical day's temperatures range from -20 to +20° F., strong winds, and cold, clear water. The fish have antifreeze in their veins that's about 200x stronger than what our cars use, but it's not uncommon to see animals frozen in the ice on his dives.

### **What To Wear to Keep Warm**

Layering is the key to survival. Jeff starts with expedition-warmth mountaineering long underwear, followed by a form-fitting sleeping-bag-like onesie. Then he pulls on a vest, heavy wool socks, fur-lined boots, and a dry suit, plus two pair of lobster-claw-like gloves. He sometimes adds heating pads to his gloves.

On his longest dive of about 80 minutes, he was crying so hard because of the cold that he could barely see the opening in the ice to ascend.

### **How You Can Make a Difference**

Jeff suggests adopting his motto: "Reuse. Reduce. Recycle."

Follow his chilling adventures at <https://jeffbozanic.com/> and watch his Vimeo presentation:

<https://vimeo.com/933347037?share=copy>

### Killer Whales vs. Gray Whales

With co-authors Nancy Black and Fred Sharpe, she published her [first scientific paper](#) in 2020, entitled *Postmortem Attractions: Humpback Whales Investigate the Carcass of a Killer Whale-Depredated Gray Whale Calf*.

Since 2021, she has been part of a team conducting field research in southeast Alaska on humpback whale playback studies and was co-author on [a recent paper](#) on Interactive Bioacoustic Playback as a Tool for Detecting and Exploring Nonhuman Intelligence: "Conversing" with an Alaskan Humpback Whale.

### She's Also Publishing Research Papers

Jodi is currently collaborating on an additional paper about humpback blow bubble rings. See her amazing photography at <http://www.jodifrediani.com/>.

**Join us on Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 pm in the Exercise Room at the Sausalito Rec Center for a fascinating journey to Svalbard (formerly known as Spitsbergen or Spitzbergen), an Arctic Ocean Norwegian archipelago north of mainland Europe.**

### We've Still Got Iron-On Patches. Buy Yours Now!



A few years ago, MSC created long-sleeve T-shirts. They eventually sold out with many members buying several.

Now, we've got iron-on patches to turn any shirt into MSC branded merchandise.

You can buy these for just \$10 at our meetings or contact: [ken@kennethrcarter.com](mailto:ken@kennethrcarter.com).

### See You at Scuba Show 2024!

A handful of our past presenters will be holding seminars or manning exhibition booths at the L.A. Convention Center on June 1 and 2. They include: Jeff Bozanic, Marty Snyderman and Jim Hellemn. Upcoming presenter Carly Anderson will host two seminars and Gil Zeimer will chair one. Discounted tickets are on sale through 5/10. [www.ScubaShow.com](http://www.ScubaShow.com)

### Renew Your MSC Membership Now.

To date, about 50 members have renewed, along with a handful of new applicants. Our expanding roster is now over 70 for the first time in decades.

**It now costs an extra \$10 to renew.** The fees are \$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/>.

To become a new member, 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](mailto:membership@marinclub.org).

### Sell Your Used Scuba Gear on Craig's List

Some members have more dive gear they've accumulated over the years than small dive shops.

One of them is Ken Carter.

He's been posting his used stuff to Craig's List and having some success. So if you have some old fins, BC, tanks, regulators, wet suits, dive travel bags, or just about anything else, go to <https://sfbay.craigslist.org/>.

Next, click on "NBY" (North Bay) in the middle of the top of the page (to the left of the Craigslist logo).

Then, click on "Sporting Goods". On the top of that page, type "MSC" into the search box. You'll then see that Ken has two IST Proline Dive Travel Bags for sale.

Use this methodology to add your own used gear and pick up a few bucks towards newer gear or your next dives.

### Virginia Bria Featured in Scuba Diving Article



Long-time member and MSC program coordinator, Virginia Bria, was interviewed by *Scuba Diving Magazine* for a recent article called "Penguins 101: Nature's Fanciest Seabirds".

It features a photo by her and three by [Carol Cotton Blickenstorfer](#), a photographer, polar explorer, and former MSC presenter.

*Juvenile chinstrap penguin molting at Orne Harbor. Courtesy of Virginia Bria*

Virginia said, "To witness penguins in the wild is absolute magic and joy. To see them toboggan down a hill, jump into the ocean from rocks, groom each other in their rafts, raise their babies from eggs hatched on rock nests—is something else." <https://www.scubadiving.com/Penguins-101>

# BOTTOM TIMES

## MEETINGS

Wed., May 8: Jodi Frediani **in person**: “Svalbard: Wild Land, Wild Ice, Wild Life”, [www.jodifrediani.com](http://www.jodifrediani.com), Hybrid Club Meeting in the Exercise Room at the Sausalito Rec Center — 7:00-8:45 pm. **Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7983463827?pwd=UGEREJ4VFoycmZRZ2IPWnM5NGp6dz09&omn=84517385743>  
Meeting ID: 798 346 3827 Passcode: 755205

Wed., June 12: Brian Stanley of Bamboo Reef **in person**: “Freediving”, [www.bambooreef.com](http://www.bambooreef.com).  
Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45 pm.

Wed., July 10: Carly Anderson **via Zoom**, Topic: “A World of U/W Photos, The Two-Year Dive Trip, and Dealing with Insta-Buddies”, [www.globalseahorse.com](http://www.globalseahorse.com), Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45 pm.

Wed., August 14: Walter Marti (LA UPS), Blackwater images **via Zoom**. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45 pm.

Wed., September 11: Michael Stocker, “What Wuzz That Sound? Ocean Sounds and The Animals That Make Them” **in person**. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45 pm.

Wed., October 9: Dan Orr, “Safe Diving for Seniors” **via Zoom**. Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45 pm.

Wed., Nov. 13; Marin Scuba Club Presenters **in person**: Topic: TBD, Hybrid Club Meeting — 7:00-8:45 pm

## 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](mailto:ken@kennethrcarter.com) ASAP.

Sat., June 15 – Spring Social @ Simma and Jeffrey’s beautiful farm home in Sebastopol. Evites were sent in April for a potluck BYOB party.

Wednesday, August 21 – Sunday, August 25, 2024: Summer Dive ‘N Dine – Russian Gulch State Park. Save The Date! Details to come. Campers pay \$38/day. Contact [blwambach@comcast.net](mailto:blwambach@comcast.net) if you’re interested.

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

Sat., July 27 – Sat., August 3, 2024 – Sand Dollar Hotel, Bonaire. Price \$715 pp dbl. occ. includes 6 days of shore diving and breakfast. **10 rooms are reserved.** Boat diving packages are as low as \$70/day for 2 tanks. Airfare, gratuities, lunch, and dinner are not included. Contact [ken@kennethrcarter.com](mailto: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. **Download the flyer:** <https://marinclub.org/trips/>. \$2,655 pp double occupancy or \$3,130 single occupancy.

Oct. 23 – Nov.2, 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](http://VilamendhooResort) for 10 nights. Following that, Barb will book 7-10 more days on a liveaboard to further explore the Maldives. Contact [blwambach@comcast.net](mailto:blwambach@comcast.net) if you’re interested. **LAST CALL TO RSVP. See website for details.**

January 25 – Feb 1, 2025, Bahamas – The first trip to San Salvador Island in the Bahamas is SOLD OUT. The second trip to the Dominican Republic for the 7-night Turks & Caicos Explorer II liveaboard has a 20-guest capacity. This is one of the few places to snorkel with up to 7,000 humpbacks during calving season: \$4,721 (15% negotiated discount, includes \$450 permit fee, \$450 port fee, meals, and accommodations.) Contact [blwambach@comcast.net](mailto: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  
47 Heritage Drive  
San Rafael, CA 94901-8309

Next Meeting:  
Wednesday, May 8,  
Jodi Frediani:  
"Svalbard: Wild Land,  
Wild Ice, Wild Life",  
7:00pm

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

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

**Final reminder:  
Renew your  
Membership today.**

### Marin Scuba Club: Board of Directors

<http://www.marinscubaclub.org>

#### BOD Chair

Barbara Wambach, Chair [chair@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:chair@marinscubaclub.org)

#### BOD Vice Chair/Social Media

John Lewis, Vice Chair [vchair@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:vchair@marinscubaclub.org)

#### Treasurer

Marc Paris [treasurer@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:treasurer@marinscubaclub.org)

#### Secretary

Lisa Kuhn [secretary@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:secretary@marinscubaclub.org)

#### Membership Coordinator

Julie Finley

#### Member Relations

Ellen Sakoloff [relations@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:relations@marinscubaclub.org)

#### Newsletter Editor/Publicity/Webmaster

Gil Zeimer [newsletter@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:newsletter@marinscubaclub.org)

#### Activities Coordinators

Barbara Wambach [activities@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:activities@marinscubaclub.org)

#### Program Coordinators

Virginia Bria [program@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:program@marinscubaclub.org)

Bryan Eckert [program2@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:program2@marinscubaclub.org)

**Special Program Coordinator:** Ken Carter [kc@marinscubaclub.org](mailto:kc@marinscubaclub.org)