



# Let's Go Divin'!



**May 2009**

## *A Message from the President*

First, we would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the RDC Speaking Event with Richie Kohler. It was a resounding success. Every comment was positive; especially from people who thought they *may* have been "too cool" for it. Richie's knowledge and warmth came across and the Science Museum of Virginia was a perfect venue. Every BOD member put a lot of time and effort in; so thank them when you have a chance. Their effort showed. With your continued support we will keep having high quality speakers and events like Richie Kohler. For more info on Richie we have a link on our website. Check out the Special Interest section after clicking [Links](#) on the menu.

WOW! It is hard to believe it's May and a lot of our members have been biting on the mouth piece to go diving; many all ready have. [Sandy Watts](#) had a wonderful vacation diving the beautiful warm waters of the Caribbean. [Phil](#), [me](#), and others dove the cool and mysterious depths of a fresh water cavity not too far from Richmond. It was filled with 30 or more strange life forms; it seemed all had just hatched and just started to learn how to swim. Then to our amazement, we realized they were SCUBA diving students. We were all there once, and I would not like to see a video of myself swimming the first time this season. This is why we have [GOOSE DAY](#), May 24th. It's time to get rid of all those scuba diving cobwebs (mentally and other wise). Some of us plan to go out in teams and do some much needed skill practice. Though no one from the club will act as an instructor, there will be skilled team leaders. We are all about diving; safely and lots of it.

The Club tried to get diving going early this year with our first weekend of diving scheduled this past weekend. Unfortunately the wind gods did not see things our way. I'm sure June's dive will be better, so sign up today. [Mike Kahn](#) has gotten RDC into the 21st century by adding many exciting things to our [website](#). The best so far is being able to see all our tips and events and then register and pay for them right there on-line. But as good as the website is, there is nothing better than being at the meeting to learn what's happening and to influence what will happen. The out of town trips; like the [St. Lawrence](#); have some openings, but don't wait much longer on that one as the price is going up May 15th.

It is a shame if you missed the last membership meeting. [Dick Clark](#); the man in charge of [DAN Insurance](#), was extremely informative regarding how to get the most out of your insurance (like how to get paid). We got a chance to see him, and DAN, in action, as he actually was called to

handle a situation during the meeting! We hope to have him back next year. Check out Dick's handouts and very impress résumé by going to the [Meetings](#) page of our web site and click on the links under Dick's name.

We have had a lot of request for a night of photography. So this Tuesday meeting we will have [Jim Byork](#); a highly regarded local photographer, as our speaker. And because this is such a hot topic Jim will have the entire night to talk after we take care of some club business. You can see his bio on our website.

We have grown this year and I want to thank our new members for joining. I invite everyone to get out of the house this Tuesday and meet with us at [Mi Hacienda](#) for some good food, good fun and a good learning experience.

We exist only for our members. What you want is important to us, so let us know how we are doing at this meeting.

Thanks, and Enjoy the Depth!

Jim

### **Remember - the meetings are where it's at!**

Join us on May 12th at [Mi Hacienda Mexican Restaurant](#), located at 8250 Midlothian Turnpike, in Richmond, at our new meeting location. Jim Byork, Underwater Photographer and Senior Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, will make a presentation on Underwater Photography. All club members, regardless of skill level, are welcome to attend.

Socializing begins at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Membership Drive**

It's past time to renew your membership. Don't forget our membership drive, with prizes for those who bring in new members!

### **We Want Your Photos!**

We have a photo mural and want to put your favorite photo on it. Don't forget we also have a photo gallery connected to the site. Submit photos to [communications@richmonddiveclub.com](mailto:communications@richmonddiveclub.com) for inclusion in the website gallery.

### **Are We Done Yet?**

Yup! See you on the 12<sup>th</sup>! And **CHECK THE WEBSITE!** *Online registration and payment with PayPal or Credit Cards have been added to many events.*