

Richmond Dive Club Membership Meeting – Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Meeting held at O'Toole's Restaurant and Pub Forest Hill Ave. Richmond and via Zoom.

President, Larry Antonacci, began the meeting at 7:01 p.m. Approximately 30 attended in person and several online. Minutes recorded by Leslie Andrus, Secretary.

- **Used gear exchange or sale** before each meeting; does anyone have something today?
Two people had items.
- **New member and guest introductions**
- **Treasurer's Report** – Larry noted that Tonya Langenstein, the Treasurer, would be providing a report regarding income and expenses for 2023 and that she is about to submit the taxes.
- **Officers for 2025** - 3 positions will be open; Tonya decided she is interested in staying on as Treasurer, though others may run for the position too. We have had several people express interest in positions already.
- **April and May for a surface interval water social** – Larry asked if there was any interest. Or in the fall? If so, does anyone have ideas? None of the members expressed interest. Leslie reminded everyone we would be organizing an October Lake Phoenix clean up day which would get us back together too.
- **Diver Days:** Larry announced that the Diver Days dates for 2024:
 - Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8 – Overnight camping, night dive, tryout new gear
 - Wednesday, July 17
 - Sunday, July 21
 - Sunday, August 11
 - Wednesday, August 14
 - Sunday, September 15 - Diver Appreciation Day
- October – date TBD – another volunteer day at Lake Phoenix
- Leslie reminded everyone to complete their LAKE PHOENIX WAIVER FOR THE YEAR and to allow about 10 minutes. Larry stressed completing it BEFORE arriving at the Lake.
- **RDC logo items:** Larry reminded everyone about Bonfire and Leslie reminded everyone that to find the link, go to the RDC website Membership page and scroll down.
- **Sponsors:** Larry thanked the sponsors - Lake Phoenix, Dive Connections, Dive Shop, Tri City Scuba, Brunswick, and Fluvanna Dive Center.

Speakers: Leslie announced the speakers – **The Oceanic Oasis - Socorro Island Diving**

Presentation about the geology and animal life that make the Socorro, the Revillagigedo Archipelago, one of the most unique dive locations on earth. **Michaele Bergan**, a marine geologist, explained how the islands formed and created this unique ecological oasis. **Marilou Maglione**, an avid dive traveler, instructor and former marine biologist, talked about the animals found there and why the ecosystem is so unique.

- **Trips:** Larry presented upcoming trips that Fluvanna Dive Center and Dive Connections are offering. [Sponsors are invited to share their upcoming trips during membership meetings].

Larry adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:05 p.m.