



THE INTERNATIONAL SEAKEEPERS SOCIETY

2020 ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW



ABOUT US

What Do We Do?

The International SeaKeepers Society promotes oceanographic research, conservation, and education through direct involvement with the yachting community. SeaKeepers enables private and charter vessels to take full advantage of their unique potential to advance marine science and to raise awareness about global ocean issues. We work with research institutions, environmental organizations, universities, governmental organizations, and others to further marine research education, and support conservation efforts.

History

The International SeaKeepers Society was founded in 1998 by a small group of yacht owners who were alarmed by the deterioration of our natural environment. The organization's initial focus was on the development and use of instrumentation on yachts to monitor marine conditions throughout the world's oceans. Today, our program has expanded to utilize yachts as platforms for marine research, education, citizen science and the deployment of oceanographic instruments.

PROGRAMMING

DISCOVERY Yachts

The SeaKeepers DISCOVERY Yachts Program is our foremost initiative in accomplishing our mission and goals. This program supports marine science and conservation by utilizing privately owned vessels as platforms for marine research, educational outreach, citizen science and to deploy oceanographic instruments. It eliminates vessel costs and permits scientists and other participants to allocate funds for additional project requirements maximizing the potential of the expedition.



Photo Credit: Tanya Houppermans

Shark Tagging & Research with University of Miami's Shark Research & Conservation Program aboard D/Y Cuvier

The DISCOVERY Yachts Program is comprised of scientist-led expeditions, citizen science, educational outreach projects, and community engagement activities. SeaKeepers collaborates with numerous organizations, academic institutions, and government agencies in order to accomplish its DISCOVERY Yacht missions. SeaKeepers staff works closely with yacht owners and crew to coordinate research and outreach activities that reflect each yacht owner's ocean-related interests. The degree of participation can vary from a 10-minute instrument deployment while en route to your next port, to an afternoon outreach trip with children, to week-long expeditions with a team of expert researchers. Each expedition offers a unique experience for participants and crew to learn more about the ocean.

PROGRAMMING

Scientist-Led Expeditions

Scientific expeditions provide yacht owners, crew, and guests the opportunity to participate in ongoing research while engaging with experts in the field of marine science. The largest expense, and often limiting factor, in ocean research is access to an at-sea research platform. Using member yachts, SeaKeepers works with experts in the marine science and oceanography fields to promote and facilitate groundbreaking research. Each scientific expedition is unique, and is organized with both the science and yacht in mind.



*Whale Research & Tagging with
California Ocean Alliance aboard D/Y Valkyrie*



*S.A.R.A.H. Initiative partner with Florida International
University covered by NBC 6 aboard D/Y Shredder*



*S.A.R.A.H. Initiative partner with Florida International
University covered by NBC 6 aboard D/Y Shredder*

Citizen Science

SeaKeepers and other non-scientists participate in volunteer based projects such as water sampling, when utilizing their vessels. Data can be collected on a scheduled basis over a period of time, or for a specific project. Citizen science expeditions offer an opportunity for vessel owners to get involved in smaller-scale marine research initiatives. These expeditions permit vessel owners and crew to participate in ongoing research projects which engage on the participation of non-scientists within the community.

The S.A.R.A.H. Initiative

SeaKeepers partnered with Florida International University to launch the S.A.R.A.H. Initiative in 2019 to address ocean plastics. S.A.R.A.H. represents: Sample, Aggregate, Research, Analyze, Help. SeaKeepers will engage with the yachting community to expand the global reach and capacity of the S.A.R.A.H. Initiative through data collection from our DISCOVERY Yachts Fleet. Nets provided to participating vessels will collect ocean plastics for analysis.

PROGRAMMING

Educational Outreach

SeaKeepers unites educators, scientists and students in a “floating classroom” experience aboard vessels and in classrooms for participants to observe relevant marine research and interact with scientists. Our outreach expeditions have focused around marine wildlife, drifter deployments, plastic pollution, sustainability practices, and more. Learning doesn’t have to be confined to the traditional classroom. Providing access to a vessel enhances both the message and the mission.



*Floating Classroom with
Debris Free Oceans aboard D/Y Julia*

Community Engagement

SeaKeepers shares its mission for ocean research and conservation throughout the year. SeaKeepers hosts beach cleanups, as well as dive cleanups. Volunteers record the quantity of marine debris removed from the beach and upload findings via the “Clean Swell” application, a user-friendly application that stores information reporting on location, type, and abundance of marine debris. The information uploaded to the application gets accrued into the Trash Information & Data for Education & Solutions (TIDES) database. TIDES is the world’s largest ocean trash dataset and is used by the Ocean Conservancy to help researchers and policy makers identify trends and create solutions. Since the inception of the monthly beach cleanups in 2019, over 600 volunteers have participated and a total of over 2,000 pounds of trash has been collected. We’ve partnered in our beach cleanups with nonprofits and corporations like Fill A Bag, VolunteerCleanup.org, Campbells, Miami Waterkeeper, and many more. In the promotion and education of raising awareness about global ocean issues, SeaKeepers has distributed over 100 single-use plastic alternatives at our cleanups to encourage better conservation practices and create a cleaner future.



*SeaKeepers partners with Debris Free Oceans and
Campbells on an island cleanup.*



*SeaKeepers partners with Alexander Montessori School on a
beach cleanup in Key Biscayne.*

PROGRAMMING

SeaKeepers Asia

SeaKeepers Asia based in Singapore was launched in April 2015 and covers the territories of Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Philippines, Brunei, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Thailand. Building upon established international programming, the efforts in Asia are founded on creating better local awareness of the current situation of our oceans in order to build a sense of appreciation and commitment to protect, conserve, and restore the marine ecosystem where possible. The Asia Chapter's core focus is the introduction to marine science and conservation through the Educational Outreach Program dedicated to youth.



Floating Classroom with Changkat Changi Secondary School aboard D/Y Sun One

SUPPORT

Events

SeaKeepers are invited and recognized at a variety of exclusive events hosted by the organization or by one of our many partners throughout the year, and in various locations around the world. We network and socialize at the highest levels of international business, government, and science. Sponsoring a SeaKeepers event offers unique opportunities to cross market your brand and reach a highly desirable demographic.

Getting Involved

Become a SeaKeeper Member Today! Our program offers three levels of support. Member support goes towards the heart of our mission, the DISCOVERY Yachts Program. Your participation can provide a variety of experiences, from engaging in a DISCOVERY Yachts Expedition to attending VIP events held around the world. SeaKeepers also welcomes the interest of volunteers to assist in programming and events.



2019 DISCOVERY Yacht Awardees and members of the DISCOVERY Yacht Fleet



Amos Nachoum, SeaKeeper of the Year '19 and Jay Wade, Chairman

For volunteer opportunities and membership email
Info@SeaKeepers.org

For more information, please contact programming@seakeepers.org