



# 2021 Organizational Overview

[WWW.SEAKEEPERS.ORG](http://WWW.SEAKEEPERS.ORG) | [INFO@SEAKEEPERS.ORG](mailto:INFO@SEAKEEPERS.ORG) | P: 786.924.6209



# 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 Yacht Program

The SeaKeepers DISCOVERY Yacht 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.



*Shark Tagging & Research with Beneath the Waves  
supported by Global Marine Travel*

The DISCOVERY Yacht Program is comprised of scientist-led expeditions, citizen science trips, educational outreach activities, and community engagement events. 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. SeaKeepers launched a new web-based tool called the DISCOVERY Yacht Portal, where scientists and vessel owners alike, can utilize this platform and connect research projects to available vessels. With continued demand for at-sea research, we are always in need of more vessels.

# PROGRAMMING

## Scientist-Led Expeditions

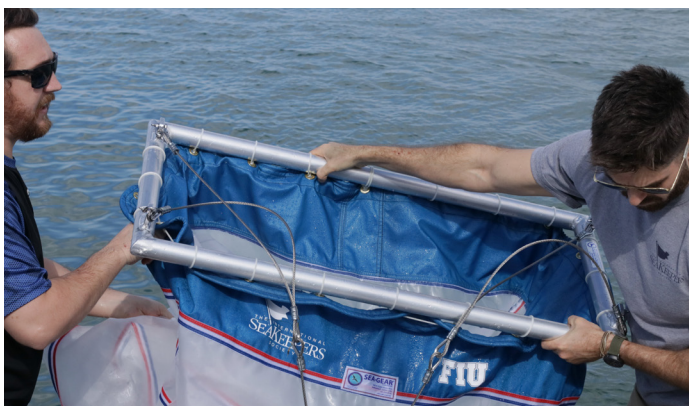
Scientific expeditions provide yacht owners, crew, and guests the opportunity to participate in ongoing research while engaging with experts in the field of marine science. The largest expense, and often limiting factor, in ocean research is access to an at-sea research platform. Using member yachts, 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.



*ROV Deployment and Surveys with Nova Southeastern University aboard D/Y Marcato*



*S.A.R.A.H. Net deployed in the waters near Gasparilla Island aboard D/Y Sea Level*



*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 without the need for scientists directly involved.

## 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. Specially designed kits provided to participating vessels collect ocean plastics for analysis. SeaKeepers is currently expanding the global reach and capacity of the S.A.R.A.H. Initiative through data collection from our DISCOVERY Yacht Fleet around the world.



# 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 on observing marine wildlife, deploying scientific instruments, reducing plastic pollution, teaching sustainability practices, and more. Learning shouldn’t be confined to the traditional classroom. Providing access to a vessel provides a hands-on science experience that enhances learning and ignites passion.



*Floating Classroom with Miami Waterkeeper aboard D/Y Julia*

## Community Engagement

SeaKeepers shares its mission for ocean research and conservation with shoreline programming and targeted water cleanups. SeaKeepers hosts cleanups at local beaches and parks, and also cleans local waterways by paddle and 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 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 3,700 pounds of trash has been collected. 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 Volunteer Cleanup to host a monthly beach cleanup in Key Biscayne*



*SeaKeepers partners with Blue Scholar Initiative on a beach and kayak cleanup in Biscayne Bay*

# SEAKEEPERS ASIA

## Increased Impact

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.



*SeaKeepers Asia partners with Marina Keppel Bay aboard D/Y The Admiral*

## ACCESS

### 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 SeaKeepers DISCOVERY Yacht Today! Joining is easy, visit our Vessel Portal at **VESSELS.SEAKEEPERS.ORG** and follow instructions for completing the application. SeaKeepers staff work closely with yacht owners and crew to coordinate research and outreach activities that reflect the yacht owner's ocean-related interests. Join our family of SeaKeeper Members at **WWW.SEAKEEPERS.ORG**. Even if you don't own a vessel there are many opportunities to support our mission year-round.



*2019 SeaKeeper of the Year and DISCOVERY Yacht Awards*



*Shark Research & Tagging Expedition with Beneath the Waves aboard D/Y Shredder*