The NEEMO Team Project:
How NASA Uses the Undersea Habitat
Aquarius as an Analog for Space Exploration

with Mr. William Todd
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As the International Space Station conducts research while orbiting the earth, Aquarius, the world’s only manned undersea laboratory, conducts research activities in the deep. Aquarius is owned by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and is managed by the University of North Carolina Wilmington. The laboratory is deployed 20 meters below sea level in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary where scientists monitor oceans and coastal resources. Researchers also explore ramifications of long term exposure in difficult, remote and potentially dangerous environments.

William Todd is responsible for managing the NASA Underwater Research Team “NEEMO” - NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations. He provides simulation training of the NASA Astronaut and Flight Control Teams. NASA utilized the Aquarius undersea habitat as a research analog for space missions to develop concepts for long term space habitation.

Mr. Todd enjoyed working as an aquanaut on the 2000 “NASA SEATEST” mission and the 2001 “NASA NEEMO 1” mission. He managed the topside teams for NASA missions from 2002-2005. Mr. Todd is a PADI Divemaster, Instrument rated pilot and Explorers Club fellow.