

FOUR LAKES SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 30

Halloween Issue

October 2009

Meeting

Wednesday
October 14, 7:30 pm
Babes

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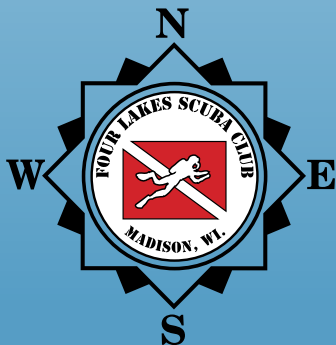
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Speaker: State of Wisconsin Underwater Archaeologist Keith Merveden

Keith will take us on a tour of the Rouse Simmons shipwreck, which rests 165 feet below the surface of Lake Michigan, 12 miles north-east of Two Rivers. The three-masted schooner -- known as the "Christmas tree ship" -- was built in Milwaukee in 1868. It was used to carry pine trees for holiday decorating from Michigan's Upper Peninsula to the docks of Chicago. All 16 crew members went down with the ship and perished on a blustery November day in 1912 when a storm overpowered them.

Thanks to Capt Dan Johnson

Lockwood Pioneer Scuba Diving Museum

Captain Dan Johnson began diving in 1973 and has been an instructor since 1984. On October 4th 2008 Dan opened the Lockwood Pioneer Scuba Diving Museum adjacent Loves Park Scuba in Loves Park, Ill near Rockford. The museum is named in honor of James Lockwood, who built scuba equipment in the late 1930's. Dan told us "Jim Lockwood was a scuba diving pioneer. He



helped establish the sport of scuba diving and bring it to the mainstream. He was active in the sport of diving well before Cousteau 'invented' scuba with the first artificial diving lung." More information is available at www.lovesparkscuba.com. Dan invites everyone to join him and his staff at their weekly Tuesday nite museum get-togethers.

Notes From the President

In the spirit of the Halloween season, I found it fitting to write a little poem about October's PADI Specialty...**Night Diver!**

Dark water abyss awaits me

Nocturnal spirits awake in the sea

The moon and stars my guide

Time to take the giant stride

Exhale and I slowly descend

Glowing eyes, their reef to defend

Green eel swim for their meal

Coral of orange, yellow and teal

A crab excavates in the sand

Ghost shrimp offer a helping hand

Brittle stars reach out into the night

Reef squid illuminate for the flight

Lobsters wave antennae and tail

The magic of an octopus is unveiled

Fish find peace in their sleep

Aurora of the night dive touches me deep

-Cassandra

Raffle Prize

This month we have a Happy Scuba-Ween T-Shirt. That's right, a Scuba-Ween T you can wear and be proud of. Please note, the winner's style mileage may vary from the picture.



Congratulations to all of last months winners.

See Howard at intermission for tickets... cost unchanged since at least 1985 - still 2 for a Buck!

Fall Picnic Report

Initial reactions to the combined 2009 Fall Picnic / Phoenix Party points to another success. Recently Betsy completed construction of a new mud hearth constructed with genuine "clay mud" from Betsy and Danny's very own yard. As such, Betsy suggested that we include *bake-yourself* pizza in the menu line-up. Betsy did the homemade pizza dough and members & guests brought the toppings. First reactions were most positive. Along with the pizza we had lots of great food, drink, atmosphere, fellowship, blazing campfire, and most important, anchors to roast. A big thanks and "A Tip of the Hat" to Betsy and Danny for again hosting this event.

Looking for a Halloween costume?

Dress as an endangered sea turtle!

[Kimberly Johnson](#)

Halloween is around the corner. Do your children know what they are going to dress up as this year?

This year, forego the usual ghost and goblin routine, and help them chose a costume that teaches a little conservation too. Dress them as an endangered sea turtle.

"It's a great and fun way to teach kids about animals that need protecting. You and your children will learn about these ancient mariners as you create the costume together. You can talk about where sea turtle's live, what they eat, and why they need to be protected," said Dan Evans, education coordinator for Caribbean Conservation Corporation (CCC).

Evans suggests looking through fabric stores for costume patterns or creating your own costume with materials from a craft store.

"You can even make a turtle costume from things in your own home," Evans said. "A large, green garbage bag stuffed with balled up paper can make a great turtle shell and can be easily attached to regular clothing. Non-toxic face paints and "flippers" made of green socks worn on hands and feet complete the effect."

Another pattern involves a green sweatshirt, two pieces of green or light brown poster board, non-toxic paint or thick markers and glue. Cut one piece of the poster board into a large oval shell. Add scutes (or ridges for the leatherback) by drawing large circles on the shell. You can thicken these lines with a black marker or use non-toxic craft paint to make the scutes stand out. Cut out two long, two-inch strips from the second piece of poster board along the full length of the board. Using glue, attach the strips to the top, back side of the shell. Then run over child's shoulders as straps. Glue the straps in place. Leave enough room for "give" so

child can move without tearing or breaking the straps.

By visiting CCC's website to learn how to draw the scute patterns for the five different sea turtle species found in U.S. waters, you can make the costume be as realistic or artistic as you want. Choose from the green (made famous by world-renowned zoologist Dr. Archie Carr), loggerhead (known for their large heads), leatherback (the largest and the only sea turtle without a hard shell), Kemp's ridley (the smallest and most endangered), or the hawksbill (named for its beak-like mouth).

"Many parents, especially those with smaller children, don't want Halloween to be a frightening experience. Sea turtles are perhaps the gentlest creatures in the world. It's almost impossible for them to be scary," Evans said.

Sea turtles used to be so common in our oceans that early explorers described them as traveling in huge fleets. Now all species of sea turtles are in danger of extinction. They face many threats including pollution, coastal development that destroys nesting beaches, and incidental capture in fishing nets. Although now illegal in almost every part of the world, killing of turtles for their meat and oil and taking of their eggs still occurs.

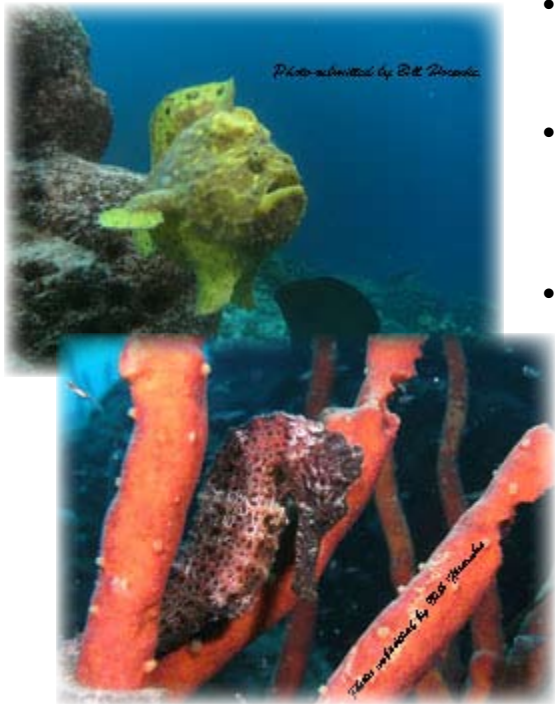
Call Caribbean Conservation Corporation at 1-800-678-7853 or visit our web site at <http://www.cccturtle.org> to adopt a turtle or for more information about sea turtles.

Breezeway Bubbles Scuba travels to Bonaire

September 12th - 19th 2009

Many members diving with [Breezeway Bubbles Scuba](#) recently returned from a week in Bonaire. First reports are very

sketchy ... something about frogs and horses.



Wreck Trek

Miami Beach

www.florida-scubadiving.com

The Wreck Trek, is a shallow artificial reef located north of the famous 'Art Deco' part of Miami Beach. This is one of those easy going great dives that gives you the opportunity to see numerous wrecks and was a trail mapped out by Captain Rick Smith a Miami dive boat captain.

The sunken tugs, barges and radio towers provide the perfect background for the coral growth and marine life that is now abundant along Wreck Trek. With so many nooks and crannies provided by the wrecks moray eels have made it their home and it is not unusual to see some of the more common sharks.

The Wreck Trek

is comprised of many wrecks and limestone boulders:

- Miss Patricia - an 85 foot long tug which was sunk on this artificial reef back in June 1990
- Miss Karlene - another tug just 90 feet from Miss Patricia which has been severely battered by Hurricane Andrew
- Ben's Antenna Reef - this is a collection of old radio towers
- Billy's Barge - a 75 foot steel barge
- Two M60 army tanks surrounded by limestone boulders

With all these wrecks sunk at an average depth of just 50 feet you can see why this is a very popular dive site for the local dive centers.

Are you a Rude Diver? Stay away from this town.

Posted on September 6, 2009 by [Scuba Herald](#)

So you finish diving and you decided to go to the toilet... but instead of the toilet you (yes YOU) decides to "wee" on the walls... (yes: you!) ... so well, now things are going to change for you, Mister Rude Diver.

Because now you are not welcome at the fashionable seaside community of Lions Bay. Village council has passed a bylaw banning non-resident scuba divers at Kelvin Grove Beach Park, subject to \$10,000 fines.

Coun. Peach Akerhielm says council needed to address concerns about divers' "rude" behaviour.



"Too many of the divers strip down to total nudity at their cars and then urinate around the parking lot, within view of residences," said Akerhielm, who was not available Sunday, on the village's community website.

"Residents have many anecdotes and photographs. Two council members have personally experienced rude and provocative behaviour," she said.

Divers said residents in the upscale community of 1,400 are being unreasonable.

"Petty little minds are at work," said Glynn Miller, secretary of the Pescadero Dive Club in Vancouver.

"It seems a fascist type of move. It's definitely curbing human freedom. I can't understand why the residents are so upset," he said.

Miller said locals have never liked sharing the beach with outsiders. The park sports wolf eels, anemones and sharks, who cruise along an enormous underwater wall.

"It's tough to put your hand down without touching sponges, coral or something. The Cousteau Society says the bio-mass is amazing, more so than tropical waters," said Miller.

He said complaints are overblown. "Being nude is virtually impossible. Over 90 per cent wear dry suits. They have underwear on.

"I can understand people taking a whizz because you've got to pee. No facilities are supplied. Divers aren't the only ones doing it. So do people walking dogs."

One online opponent called "Karine in B.C." urged a group protest. "This is all kinds of disgusting. I say we organize a mass pee-off at the beach. Set a time



[Calendar 2009](#)

Oct 14 — Keith Merveden on the Rouse Simmons (the Christmas Tree Ship)

Oct 24 — [John & Ellen](#)'s annual Halloween bash

Oct 28 — Steering Committee / BoD meeting hosted by [Howard & Diane](#). Attend and help chart the future of the club

Nov 11 — Speaker To Be Determined / short Steering Committee / BoD meeting after. Stay and help chart the future of the club

Dec 9 — General Meeting - Holiday Party. Log books ready?

Dec 30 — Steering Committee / BoD meeting hosted by [John & Ellen](#). Attend and help chart the future of the club

Feb 19-21, 2010 — [Our World-Underwater](#)

and date for everyone to go.”

Akerhielm said the ban is legal because council is allowed to control parking and other activities down to the area above the high-water mark.

Miller said it may take a court challenge to overturn the bylaw.

“How can you stop people from diving at a public beach? The public has access to the high-water line. It’s the law,” he said.

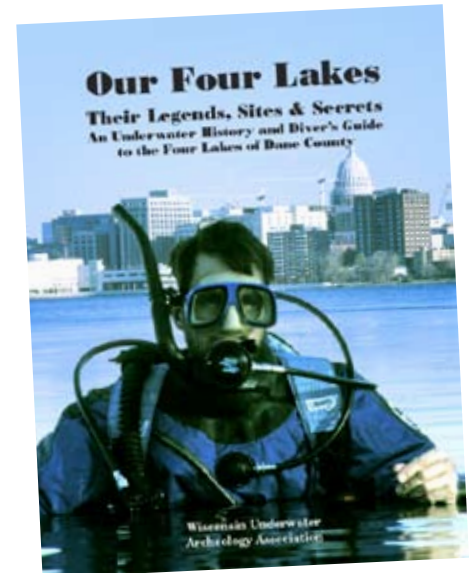
Another [look with comments](#) at *Lions Bay Community News* dtd Friday, 21 August 2009.

Our Four Lakes

Second Edition

\$14.95. See Danny at the meetings or call 608.821.0048.

If you dive Madison lakes, this is a must have!



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