

FOUR LAKES SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 24

Issue 11

November 2003

WWW.FOURLAKESSCUBACLUB.ORG

INFO@FOURLAKESSCUBACLUB.ORG

Meeting

Wednesday
November 13, 7:30 pm
Coliseum Bar
Formerly known as
Jingles Coliseum Bar

Officers

President

Ken Jungenberg 837-1039
President@FourLakesScubaClub.org

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Treasurer

John Fafinski 835-9462
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Dive Officer

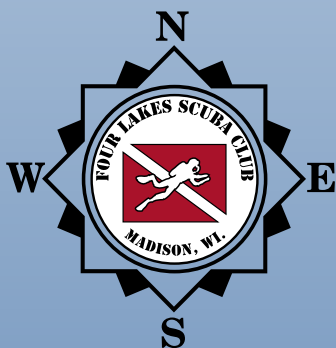
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This Month: Australia

Terry Spennetta, "Mr. Breezeway Bubbles" will present his travels to Australia.

Thank You Terry

Critters like you never see in this area. Terry ran a slide show of great photos of the unique sea life of Papua New Guinea.

November Raffle Prize

A set of children's activity books, just in time for Christmas is this month's offering: *Leapfrogging Through Wetlands* and *Discovering Sharks and Rays* donated by Nancy Fields, publisher.

November is Membership Renewal Month

See John Fafinski if you have a fall anniversary.

Holiday Party 2003

Come to this year's holiday party at the Coliseum Bar and bring a dessert and a friend. This year competition will be hot for 5 certificates and one traveling **Most Dives** trophy. The Certificate categories are: **All Four Lakes 2003, Best Dive of the Year, Worst Dive of the Year, Best Travel Story, Most Previous Certificates**. Must bring proof: log books, the good stories and certificates. The log books and certificates must be authentic, the stories original. Like last year, food and drinks will be provided.

Membership List

After November renewals, we will publish a club membership list for internal contact purposes. If you do not want your name and number published, contact the treasurer.

Continuing Adventure Dives

Come dive the Habitat, Tuesdays or Thursdays, 6-8, meet at Captain Bill's Middleton boat launch, dress at the dock. Diversions will offer gear rentals at \$20. Bring beverage and a donation for fuel. *Make contact at least one day ahead: Ken at president@fourlakesscubaclub.org (by appointment only).*

Underwater Hockey & Speedo Show Resumes

We are playing every Monday, 8-9 pm, through December. Questions: contact underwaterhockey@fourlakesscubaclub.org

Extreme Sports Department:

From Jurgen: Check out <http://www.extremeironing.com/> for coverage of SCUBA **EXTREME IRONING**. Rowenta takes sports for a ride.

The Ice Man Diveth

Ken Jungenberg is organizing this year's ice dives. If you want to be involved, speak to Ken at the next meeting.

Undercurrent e-alert

-- Ben Davison, editor/publisher,
editor@undercurrent.org

[http://www.undercurrent.org/
SEML/hotnews.shtml](http://www.undercurrent.org/SEML/hotnews.shtml)

Leave the WWII shells alone

The baggage screening equipment in Vanuatu enabled security officers to find 15 World War II artillery shells in the luggage of visiting divers, who had found the shells underwater on Espiritu Santu. Said authorities: "Although the projectiles had been removed from these shells, and the explosives emptied, we can never be sure that they are completely safe. There is a primer at the base of the shell that may not be recognized by an untrained person and if that is mishandled or dropped, it may explode." Expect authorities everywhere to be more vigilant in keeping these off planes.

More Scubapro drama

Johnson Outdoors Inc., which owns the Scubapro and UWATEC brands, has filed suit against the former head of its European scuba diving subsidiary, accusing him of filing bogus expense reports and paying unauthorized bonuses to favored employees. The company accuses Mamdouh Ashour, a U.S. citizen who lives in France, of attempting to harm its Scubapro subsidiary financially so that Ashour could buy the division for a price below its true value. This comes on the heels of a recall of 24,000 UWATEC dive computers discovered to have a defect and earlier charges that executives

conspired to cover up problems in a UWATEC Nitrox computer that caused at least five cases of bends.

Snorkeling with Salmon

If you live near British Columbia, you can join thousand of migrating salmon in October on a unique snorkeling trip. \$89 a person for four hours, which includes two floats down the river and wet suits and snorkeling gear. Paradise Found Adventure Tours Campbell River, British Columbia 800-897-2872 or www.paradisefound.bc.ca.

Looking to risk a little capital?

While Australia's SeaChange Technology has marketed an effective electronic shark deterrent, its venture capital has dried up. An effort to raise \$3 million earlier this year brought only \$180,000, thwarting their plans to develop new products for commercial and recreational divers, surfers, swimmers, and the military. In its first commercial year, the company achieved sales of more than \$1 million (Australian dollars) for the battery-driven device, which is strapped to a diver's ankle and sends out an electronic pulse that repels sharks by causing painful muscle spasms. Among its ambitions is a suite of military products to be installed in survival suits, lifebelts, life rafts, and possibly even in beach barriers. If you've got a fortune stashed away in an old steel tank and want to risk it, get more information at www.sharkshield.com.

"Mark of the Shark, True Tales of Terror from the Deep"

In these 20 true tales of shark encounters around the world, John Long has selected stories that evoke terror while celebrating the indomitable spirit that keeps victims alive to tell the tale. Australian free diver Rodney Fox recounts the mother of all shark stories: his own experience being mauled while spearfishing. Fathoms magazine editor Bret Gilliam recalls trying to save a dive buddy from a grisly fatal attack by not one, but two oceanic white tips 200 feet down off of St. Croix. Underwater photographer Marty Snyderman recounts the emotional impact he felt, at the age of nine, while watching deep sea fishermen shoot, kill, and dump a bull shark they had reeled in off of Panama City, Florida. A great read. Paperback, 224 pages, published by Falcon, \$14.95.

"Shark: Stories of Life and Death from the World's Most Dangerous Waters"

Nathaniel May has pulled together 20 pieces of great fiction and nonfiction shark stories. His selections mix modern-day monster tales with works that reflect a more complex view of this mysterious species. Arthur C. Clarke tells of pushing his luck almost too far during a surprise encounter with a 10-footer on the Great Barrier Reef. Zane Grey tries to reel in a whale shark and learns that there are limits to his skills. And there's Ernest

Hemingway's epic struggle from "The Old Man and the Sea." Other contributors include Peter Matthiessen, James Dickey, Eugenie Clark, Jack London, and Peter Benchley. Paperback, 398 pages, published by Thunder's Mouth Press, \$17.95. You can purchase these books at the best discount rates available at www.undercurrent.org. Some of our profits will go directly to the Coral Reef Alliance.

Court dismisses Andrea Doria suit, upholds liability releases

If you read "Fatal Depth: Deep Sea Diving, China Fever, and the Wreck of the Andrea Doria," by Joe Haberstroh, (reviewed in the July Undercurrent) then you know about Chris Murley, the 350-lb. diver in poor health with fewer than 100 dives, who died on his third attempt to reach the Andrea Doria. His heirs filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Technical Diving International (TDI), Cincinnati Diving Center, and the Deep Explorers, Inc., the operators of the dive boat Seeker. This month, a judge ruled against Murley, upholding the liability release he had signed, which represented that he was exempting the defendants from "any and all liability for personal injury, personal damage, and/or wrongful death, or otherwise, caused by negligence or otherwise ..." The full story will be in the October issue of Undercurrent. Order "Fatal Depth" at www.undercurrent.org.

UWATEC Recall

If you had one of the 6,000 UWATEC SmartPRO and SmartCOM computers recalled in August, there is a 90-day wait for replacement. However, Undercurrent has learned that if you call 800-808-4948 to request priority service you may get it much sooner.

Why Go to Asia to See Exotic Creatures?

For the second year in a row, scientists have found lionfish off the North Carolina coast, and they're not supposed to be there. On August 19, researchers came across 10 lionfish, a spiny fish native to the warm Pacific and Indian oceans, during a submersible dive in roughly 250-foot water. Read why officials are concerned and how the fish might have arrived there at www.charlotte.com/mld/observer/news/local/6605585.htm

What Really Happened in the Wave Dancer Tragedy?

Carl Hoffman does a thorough investigation into the deaths of 17 divers and three crew in Belize in 2001; it is in the August issue of National Geographic Adventure, available at your local newsstand. It's a fascinating, yet tragic, read, and there's plenty of evidence that it was an accident that should never have happened. You'll also get an understanding of why the Belize Aggressor, anchored alongside the Wave Dancer, was lucky to survive. Hoffman says "the story required me to delve under the skin of Belize and discover

why the Belizean version of the story was so different from the American version." You can order the issue at www.nationalgeographic.com/adventure.

Calendar 2003



November 12 Meeting:
Terry Spennetta on Australia

November 26 Board meeting
Home of Betsy and Danny



December 10: Holiday Party

December 17 Board meeting
Home of Diane and Howard Schuck



January 8 Meeting:
(Officer Elections)

Our World Underwater

April 23–25. Early Bird Special rates are \$65/person by December 31. See www.ourworldunderwater.com for all the details.

If you have material you think should be in this newsletter (stories, reviews, dive reports, gear for sale) contact the editor.

Please submit your trip reports to me by email. I very much appreciate it as YOU were there and I WASN'T.

If you are willing to receive your newsletter electronically instead of by US mail and are not already doing so, send an email and let me know. News@FourLakesScubaClub.org

Speakers Needed

If you have a speaker program or an idea for one, contact any board member.

Gear For Sale:

- Used SeaQuest BCD Balance M/L with Zeagle Octo (50-75 dives) \$270
- Still in the box, never used, Scubapro Regulator MK-20 / D-400 \$220.
- Used SeaQuest EON air integrated computer (54 dives) \$370.
- Never wet Zeagle 911 BCD MED 65 lb. and 44 lb. bladder, with standard and double bands \$480.
- Used Sherwood Brut Regulator with Octo and full gauge set (6 dives) \$425.

SandraSlane@hotmail.com.

Used SCUBA Gear For Sale:

- Dacor Nautica wt. integrated bcd (XL) with weights \$150
- US Divers Titan/Arctic regs w/ octopus and gauges \$250
- Parkway 7 mm suit (XL-Farmer John) \$100

- Henderson Hot Skin (XL) \$50
- Dacor hood (L) \$25
- Deep See gloves (L) \$20

All purchased from 3 Little Devils in Baraboo less than 5 years ago and maintained there. Less than 20 total dives on the equipment and well taken care of. Take everything for \$500. Call (608)-222-0286 or email agpulvermach@wisc.edu.

Old Zeagles wanted

Contact Tami Thomsen at 347-2822 or Tami@diversions-scuba.com.

Aggressor News: 2004 Single Diver Charters

Belize Agg. III: April 17-24

Cayman Agg. IV: June 26-July 3

Go to info@aggressor.com.

The Second Edition

Our Four Lakes is written and produced by club members. Available at the meetings and through local dive shops. \$14.95. See Danny at the meetings.



Four Lakes SCUBA Club

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