




Illinois Council of Skin and SCUBA Divers, Inc

is a state-wide coalition of skin and scuba diving clubs and individuals with interests in the sport of skin and/or scuba diving or interest in the prudent preservation and conservation of our marine environment.

September, 2021

<i>President</i> Chuck Miller 815-887-5002 buzz_inc@sprynet.com	<i>Exec Vice President</i> Dean Nolan 773-550-2737 deannolan@sbcglobal.net	<i>Vice President</i> Margo Miller 815-887-5002 margomiller@sprynet.com	<i>Treasurer</i> OPEN	<i>Secretary</i> Claire Gadbois 773-883-1601 bobclarg@att.net
<i>Delegates:</i> Scott Reimer streimer1@comcast.net			OPEN	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

 We are back! We will continue our conference call/Zoom meetings but we are now meeting in person. We are conducting a few outdoor events - a Clean Up Dive and UW Pumpkin Carving. Everyone stay well.

Wishing You Safe Diving,
Chuck Miller

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DEMPSTER/GREENWOOD BEACH CLEANUP ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF SKIN AND SCUBA DIVERS

Saturday, September 19, 2021

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM CDT

[Greenwood St. Beach](#)
[Greenwood Street at 1401 Sheridan Road · Evanston, IL](#)

How to find us
Illinois Council of Skin and Scuba Divers will have their banner up

We will start at 9:00. Although the beach will be officially closed, restrooms will be open. We will do shore cleanup. Although this is a cleanup, what we really do is collect data on the changing conditions along this coastline in terms of trash pollution of all types. Data is collected on the type and quantity of trash collected and compared to data that is collected from previous years. This is important work.

\This event is part of the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup program and is sponsored locally by the Alliance for the Great Lakes. The Illinois Council of Skin and Scuba Divers will be doing our part this year. In 2019, more than 6,800 September Adopt-a-Beach™ volunteers cleaned up debris and recorded what they found at 260 sites around the Great Lakes. You can help make this year's event even bigger. This is a great late season event that is fun, and also contributes to a better environment. Hope to see you

WHAT TO BRING

- Bring Your Own bucket, gloves and reusable water bottle. Help us cut down our waste.
- Wear closed-toed shoes, sunscreen and a hat. Bring an extra layer, like a sweater or jacket, in case it is cold. Sometimes the wind coming off the lake can be chilly.

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ICSSD GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

General Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2021

CLUBS AND PEOPLE PRESENT:

People	Clubs
*Margo Miller	Tritons, CASA, UASC
*Claire Gadbois	UASC, CSM
*Scott Reimer	UASC, CASA, Tritons, CSM
*Dean Nolan	UASC, CSM
Pam Romund	Tritons

(Note: * denotes Board member.)

CLUBS NOT PRESENT: Windy City Seals

NOTE: This meeting was a hybrid.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Claire Gadbois reported a balance of \$4553.44. (Note the balance is now 4613.44, with all deposits recorded.) She also promised to get updated rosters to the officers and the newsletter editor.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL BEACH CLEANUP-----**September 18, 2021** Greenwood Beach

PUMPKIN CARVING-----**October 9, 2021**, Haigh Quarry

Members of former Atlantis Divers will help out.

The Council decided to cancel Presidents' Night for this year due to last year's lack of diving due to Covid. This would present difficulty in presenting awards.

These events are tentative, depending on Covid-19 situation.

CLUB REPORTS:

Tritons:

Meetings 4th Tuesdays, 7:30pm

August 24-----Business Meeting Hybrid

Club Casa, 353 North River Road, Des Plaines

August 28-----Anderson Japanese Garden, Rockford

September 18-----International Beach Cleanup

Greenwood Beach, Evanston

October 2-----Lake Geneva Dive

Underwater Archaeological Society of Chicago:

Meetings on the last Wednesday of the month, 6:30 social, 7:00pm meeting, 8:00 Speaker on Zoom the August meeting will be at Chief O'Neill's at 3471 North Elston

THE NEXT ICSSD GENERAL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL ON SEPTEMBER 16 7:30 P.M.

Meetings on the last Wednesday of the month, 7:00pm, at the Chicago Maritime Society Headquarters, 1200 W. 35th St, Suite OE 5010, free parking in back, enter back door & down the stairs.

Special Thursday night charters for research purposes

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COMMUNITY SERVICE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

**Ongoing
Community
Service**

Toys for Tots – New Toys, non-violent, not gift wrapped and no stuffed animals
Council member clubs collect Toys for Tots throughout the year. We present them to the U.S. Marine Reserve at the annual Presidents' Night Dinner. Ask your Membership bring a new toy to an event – an easy way to collect a lot of toys for a worthy cause.

Pop-Top Pull Tab Collection

The clubs collect the pop-top pull tabs from aluminum cans. The tops are donated to the five Ronald McDonald Houses in the Chicagoland area. The homes provide a supportive residence for families while their child is being treated at a nearby hospital. The proceeds from the tabs go to the wish list for the Houses.

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UnderWater PUMPKIN CARVING Saturday, October 9, 2021 Haigh Quarry, Kankakee, *IL 10:30 AM Start

Quarry entrance fee is \$20.00 per Diver
(Please - No pets or non-diving children under the age of 12)

**Illinois Council of Skin & Scuba Divers invite you to join them for a fun filled day of
Diving, Picnicking, and
Underwater Pumpkin Carving**

Come enjoy a relaxing day at Haigh Quarry, "*The Caribbean of the Midwest.*" Let your imagination run wild
- Try your hand at Underwater Pumpkin Carving!

Prizes will be awarded based on the number of votes received from attendees (Divers and Non-Divers may vote). After carving your pumpkin, simply place on the judging table no later than 1:00. Judging will take place at 1:30 P.M.

Pumpkins will be provided courtesy of Haigh Quarry (or bring your own.) Don't forget tools to carve your pumpkins. If you are going to picnic, bring a dish to share and your non-alcoholic beverage of choice, we will have plenty of water on hand. You will need to bring a complete set of dive equipment (rentals are available. Contact Haigh for reservations.) Also be sure to bring your certification card. www.haighquarry.com

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Reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, September, 2021

ANTIGUA'S ENGLISH HARBOR REVEALS HISTORIC SHIPWRECK

Local Antiguan diver Maurice Belgrave had been diving for 31 years before he stumbled across the 250-year-old remains of a wooden shipwreck in the waters of Antigua's Naval Dockyard, where historic anchors, cannons, and capstans are on display. During his work as a commercial diver, Belgrave has often discovered 18th Century clay tobacco pipes and cannon balls in the sediment that makes up the seabed.

In 2013, during routine work cleaning an anchor chain, he first encountered the remarkably well-preserved remnants of the historic vessel, but it was only this past June that a team of visiting archaeologists confirmed the identity of the 130-foot-long wooden sailing ship.

They believe it to be the 900-ton 1762 *Beaumont*, built for the French East India Company, later bought by a private individual, renamed the *Lyon*, and used in the American War of Independence. It had earlier been converted as a 56-gun warship for use by the French navy but captured by *HMS Maidstone* in 1778.

The ship will offer insights into 18th Century wooden ship construction. Dr. Christopher Waters, leading the team of archaeologists, says the ship's importance is comparable to that of the *Mary Rose*, which sunk in England's Portsmouth Harbor and was raised in 1982 and later put on display in a dedicated museum that cost more than \$50 million to build.

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Reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, September, 2021

THE RED TIDE IS BACK

As the race to remove hundreds of fish killed by the red tide in Tampa Bay continues, there is a rising concern for the health of the seagrass, vital for life in the bay and providing stabilization for the seafloor. According to officials in St. Petersburg, FL, more than 1,200 tons of dead fish have already been removed from waters around the city.

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INSURING THE LOCAL REEF: IS THIS THE FUTURE OF CONSERVATION?

Commented [p1]:

Across the world, valuable coastal assets varying from luxury hotels to fishing villages, from roads to power lines, and from shopping centers to beach bars, are all protected from the ocean storms and waves by coral reefs. In the U.S. alone, coral reefs provide flood protection to more than \$1.8 billion of coastal infrastructure and economic activity. And that doesn't even take into account the appeal that reefs hold for visitors. A recent study by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) scientists found that coral reef tourism annually generates \$36 billion globally. So it seems to make sense for those who might be affected to buy insurance for a local reef, which is exactly what the Mexican fishing town of Puerto Morelos has done. (TNC is a global conservation organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends.)

To confront this threat in the Mexican state of Quintana Roo, various stakeholders — the state government, hotel owners, TNC and The National Parks Commission (CONANP) — have come together to pilot an innovative conservation strategy to build Post Storm Response Capacity: the Reef Brigades. Their work is paid for by a one-year parametric insurance policy, a kind of insurance in which the policy is triggered not by financial losses, but when a specified set of conditions are met.

Normally shielded by part of the Mesoamerican reef system, the town was badly battered by Hurricane Delta's winds in March of this year. After the storm, 30 "Guardians of the Reef" worked for 12 hours each day, over six weeks, clearing debris and re-rooting and reattaching almost 9,000 fragments to damaged coral colonies.

The Guardians' work was enabled by a pioneering collaboration to save the reeconomy it supports. This 100-mile stretch of the Mesoamerican Reef is the world's first natural asset protected by an insurance policy. Successfully tested by Hurricane Delta, the policy provided a fast cash injection of around \$800,000 for reef repair after a storm. Time is of the essence: Without quick restoration, coral colonies can die within a few weeks.

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ECOLOGICALLY SOUND MATERIAL FOR WETSUITS

Neoprene is not a very environmentally sound product since it's oil-based, although many manufacturers now make a material from limestone chips. A new product called Yulex Pure, made in the USA, is a natural rubber made from plants grown without any artificial irrigation and processed with recycled water. Waste plant material is used as biomass for electricity generation. Watch out for this material when choosing your next wetsuit, and try to find one with a polyester lining made from recycled plastic bottles.

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WORLD SHOOTOUT

Stymied by COVID restrictions, the Israeli-based underwater photography competition that always rewards its winners with big prizes has amended its rules to include the best pictures you've taken in the past few years. The competition is called Pictures of Your Life. There are 12 categories and you can register to enter until November 1. www.worldshootout.org/Account/Register

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