



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.

April, 2019

<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

 Many thanks to all who came on out to the annual Underwater Competition on Sunday, March 24. First place was awarded to Chicago SCUBA Meet Up and second went to Atlantis Divers, congratulations to both teams, well done!

By the end of the month both Haigh Quarry and Pearl Lake will be open on the weekends, Time to get out and try out any new itemst you may have or make sure your existing equipment still performs as it should,.

Wishing You Safe Diving,
Chuck Miller

><{{{^}> <^}}}>< ><{{{^}> <^}}}><

The two articles on this page are both reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, April, 2019

A TITANIC ADVENTURE

Fancy a visit to the Titanic? It's 12,500 feet down, but an exploratory submarine, aptly called *Titan*, is taking paying passengers. Starting in June, week-long expeditions are set to depart from St. John's in Newfoundland in the first manned surveys of the decaying vessel since 2005. A ride on the *Titan* costs just over \$168,000. Stockton Rush, CEO of OceanGate Expeditions, the U .S . company running the show, says the price tag is more than worthwhile for an experience more rare than space travel . The six expeditions scheduled for this year looked fully booked already, but there is still some availability for 2020 for those who have the desire and the dough

><{{{^}> <^}}}>< ><{{{^}> <^}}}><

IS THERE GOLD AT THAT WRECK DIVE?

An English fishing boat has recovered the anchor of what may be the wreck of the Merchant Royal, a 17th-century English galleon known as "the El Dorado of the Seas," that traded with Spanish colonies from 1637 to 1640. She was carrying 100,000 pounds of gold and 400 bars of Mexican silver when she sank 20 miles from England' Cornwall coast. Could it be as big a bounty as the Atocha wreck in the Florida Keys that carried \$450 million? This discovery might spark a gold rush of wannabe Mel Fisher divers, because, at 300 feet deep, the Merchant Royal is within reach of technical divers.

><{{{^}> <^}}}>< ><{{{^}> <^}}}><

2019 EVENTS CALENDAR

Meetings: Usually third Thursday of every month is the Illinois Council Business Meeting. Until further notice all will be held at Mr. Beef and Pizza in Mount Prospect. Exit I-90 (Northwest Tollway) at Elmhurst Road (Illinois 83) northbound. Go north 2 lights. Meetings begin promptly at **7:30 PM (Note time change)**. Directions can be found on the last page of the newsletter.

April 18 May 16 June 20 July 18 August 15
September 19 October* November 21 December *No meeting

September 21 INTERNATIONAL BEACH CLEAN-UP DAY – Location TBD
This annual event is the world’s largest one-day volunteer effort to clean up the aquatic environment. The event is coordinated by Ocean Conservancy and Project Aware. Divers see first-hand the effects of harmful debris. Without dive volunteers thousands of pounds of trash would remain “out of sight, out of mind.”

October 6 PUMPKIN CARVING DIVE - Haigh Quarry, Kankakee, IL
Annual underwater pumpkin carving - show off your creativity and your buoyancy control, pumpkins are very, very buoyant. Can you do it? Come see the bobbing pumpkins. The event will be hosted by Atlantis Divers.

October 19 PRESIDENTS; NIGHT - Mack’s Golden Pheasant Restaurant, 668 W. North Ave, Elmhurst
Annual dinner and awards presented to the Club, Diver & Humanitarian of the Year. We will be collecting Toys for Tots to help ensure that underprivileged kids receive a toy for the Holidays. Fantastic raffle throughout the evening featuring trips, gear & more! This is always a fun evening and most go home with a prize!!

 Any comments or items you would like to include in the next newsletter send to the editor, Pam Romund, 730 Creekside Dr. #210, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056 or promund@gmail.com. Deadline is **May 3, 2019**.

><{{{<sup>0>}}}>< ><{{{<sup>0>}}}><

The two articles on this page are both reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, April, 2019

OIL SPILL IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

The Hong Kong-flagged MV Solomon Trader, carrying 700 tons of oil, ran aground on Kongobainiu Reef in early February. The villages of Matanga, Vangu Lavangu and Kangavu on the eastern side of Rennell Island have been devastated, and ocean swimming and fishing have been banned for the foreseeable future. Naturally, liveaboard dive boats are avoiding the area for now.

><{{{<sup>0>}}}>< ><{{{<sup>0>}}}><

ARE VAQUITA DOLPHINS DOOMED TO EXTINCTION?

Jorge Urban, a biology professor at the Autonomous University of Baja California Sur, says only 22 vaquitas remain in the Gulf of California, the only home for the world’s smallest and most endangered porpoise. Fishermen use hidden gill nets to catch prized but protected totoaba fish, because its swim bladders are a delicacy in China and can bring thousands of dollars apiece, but those nets drown vaquitas. Let’s see how many of them remain after May -- that’s peak season to catch totoaba.

><{{{<sup>0>}}}>< ><{{{<sup>0>}}}><

ICSSD GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 21, 2019

CLUBS AND PEOPLE PRESENT:

People	Clubs
*Chuck & *Margo Miller *Claire Gadbois	Tritons, CASA, UASC UASC, CSM, Atlantis

(Note: * denotes Board member.)

CLUBS NOT PRESENT: Windy City Seals.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Claire Gadbois reported she sent out the form to the State of Illinois. The Tritons paid their dues; it was deposited on March 7th. Claire mailed Scott Reimer a receipt. C.A.S.A.'s dues were deposited on February 22nd. She also wrote out a check for 388.00 for the Underwater Competition. The final balance was \$3,558.21.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- UNDERWATER COMPETITION----- March 24th, Elk Grove Pavilion**
Registration 11:00 am, Competition starts 12:00 noon. Fee: \$40 per club and participating clubs must have their dues paid. Margo said she would bring some cookies and Claire said she would bring something else.
- INTERNATIONAL BEACH CLEANUP-----September 21, Greenwood Beach, Evanston**
- PUMPKIN CARVING-----October 6, 2019**
- PRESIDENTS' NIGHT DINNER-----October 19, Mack's Golden Pheasant**
- BUDGET MEETING-----November 5, Mr. Beef and Pizza**

OLD BUSINESS: The Council discussed the website and Claire reiterated her difficulties with knowing how to maintain it. The Council discussed rebuilding it from scratch. Chuck said he would check around.

CLUB REPORTS:

Tritons:

Meetings 4th Tuesdays, 7:30pm, (**New Location**) Tap House Grill, 1472 Market Street, Suite 103-A, Des Plaines, IL.

- 04/13/2019-----Anniversary Party.
- 04/23/2019-----Business Meeting
- 04/27/2019-----Dinner & Show-9 to 5, the Musical

Underwater Archaeological Society of Chicago:

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.

Windy City Seals:

Meetings every 3rd Saturday in odd months (Jan, March, May, etc.) at Carver Park Fieldhouse, 939 E. 132nd St.

No new information available at this time.

><{{{<0> <0}}}>< ><{{{<0> <0}}}><

CHECK OUT THE POSTINGS PAGE

There are new postings – be sure to check them out. Visit: <http://www.illinoisscubacouncil.org/> and click to open the **POSTINGS** section on the left side. Be sure to also look for recent event photos, such as the Underwater Competition, Pumpkin Carving or Underwater Beach Clean-Up. Also posted there are our newsletters so if you want to revisit something you read in an earlier edition you can do so easily. There is also our up-to-date Calendar of Events so if you are planning to dive or otherwise participate in a Council activity you will always have the latest information at your fingertips. Check it out!

><{{{<0> <0}}}>< ><{{{<0> <0}}}><

SERIOUS BC ISSUE: A MARES RECALL

Mares has issued a voluntary but urgent recall on the power inflator mechanisms of its XR range of BC buoyancy cells . “Under certain circumstances, the deflation button could come unscrewed, which could result in loss of the seal at the mouthpiece,” its recall statement read. “This in turn would result in loss of buoyancy that could potentially lead to an accident and serious injury or death.”

If the deflation button comes loose while a diver is underwater, air will siphon out of the BC, meaning the diver will need to either drop weights or swim up very energetically to make it back to the surface.

Florent Locatelli, product manager for Mares’ XR range, told Undercurrent that his team discovered the flaw during internal testing of the BC . “The first time, it happened to one of our testers in the pool, and then to me when testing it in the pool . I started to investigate and found the problem on several inflators we had not yet shipped.”

He says there have been no reported injuries or deaths. “We were lucky to find out the problem superearly; we’ve sold very few worldwide [so far]. But issuing a recall was mandatory to prevent anything happening.”

The recall applies to newer models of the Ferplast inflator, with serial numbers ranging from 8A-02001 to 8A-07630; that number can be found inscribed close to the direct-feed connection. Also, the recalled inflators don’t have an X engraved directly next to the inflator nipple. If you’ve got one of the affected inflators, return it to a Mares dealer for a free replacement. More recall details are at [www.head.com/fileadmin/ content/Mares/Files/Inflator-Recall-ConsumersSM21Mar2019final-W.pdf](http://www.head.com/fileadmin/content/Mares/Files/Inflator-Recall-ConsumersSM21Mar2019final-W.pdf)

><{{{°}}> <°}}}}>< ><{{{°}}> <°}}}}><

THE “CANARIES OF THE REEF” ARE IN TROUBLE

The evolutionary arms race underwater means many marine organisms have adapted to depend on coral reefs as part of their survival strategy against predators. Take the butterflyfish -- it traded its formerly slim, armored, hunter-like body for a squatter, more mobile one that’s better for hiding in coral reef crags.

So says Jennifer Hodge, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California in Davis . Her research team collected 351 fossilized butterfly fish, representing 87 different species, and analyzed their physical attributes alongside their foraging behaviors . They found that the coral grazers’ evolution has left them with smaller, less sensitive eyes, too . “Our findings constitute the strongest evidence to date that corals have influenced the evolution of fish morphology,” Hodge says.

Those evolutionary changes may be limiting their future lifespans on the reefs, according to a study published in Nature Climate Change by a research team at Lancaster University in the United Kingdom. After spending 600 hours observing butterflyfish, they observed that their aggressive behavior had decreased by about two-thirds on reefs where bleaching had killed off most of the coral. Instead of feeding on a wide range of corals, their diet was more limited because they were no longer accustomed to foraging far from home. “

This matters because butterflyfishes are often seen as the ‘canaries of the reef’ due to their strong reliance on coral,” says Nathan Sanders, an ecologist at the University of Vermont. “They are often the first to suffer after a disturbance event.”

The Lancaster University team opines that monitoring butterflyfish behavior might provide scientists with an early warning system for preventing more declines of coral reefs and their inhabitants.

><{{{°}}> <°}}}}>< ><{{{°}}> <°}}}}><

THANK YOU to the following businesses
for their support of the Illinois Council!

BELOW H20

554 S. Route 59
Naperville, IL 60540
630-820-2531

CHICAGOLAND SCUBA

890A South Rand Road
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
847-540-7211

DIVE CHICAGO CHARTERS

586 E Waldron Dr
Chicago, IL
312-922-5090

DIVE RIGHT IN SCUBA

24222 W. Lockport St.
Plainfield, IL 60544
815-267-8400

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF DIVING

245 W. Roosevelt Road, Bldg 2 Ste 8
West Chicago, IL 60185
800-469-3483

PIRATE'S COVE DIVING

1103 West Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-482-1430

SEA LION DIVE CENTER

7219 Olde Salem Circle
Hanover Park, IL 60133
630-289-1680

UNDERSEAS SCUBA CENTER

611 N. Addison Avenue
Villa Park, IL 60181
630-833-8383

BERRY DIVE CENTER

3042 N. Milwaukee
Northbrook, IL
847-358-3848

DD DIVE SHOP

552 E. Northwest Hwy
Palatine, IL 60074
847-657-3483

DJ'S SCUBA LOCKER

9301 W. Ogden Avenue
Brookfield, IL 60513
708-442-4388

HAIGH QUARRY

2738 E 2000 North Road
Kankakee, IL 60901
815-939-7797

PEARL LAKE RESORT

Highway 251
South Beloit, IL 61080
815-389-1479

SCUBA EMPORIUM

16336 S. 104th Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60467
708-226-1614

TOUCAN DIVE CENTER

756 Frontage Road
Lake Villa, IL 60046
847-356-7826

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.

><{{{0}}> <0}}}}>< ><{{{0}}> <0}}}}><

April, 2019

News from ICSSD

The Illinois Council of SCUBA Diving Clubs

P. O. Box 6602

Villa Park, IL 60181

Check Out Our Website

www.illinoisscubacouncil.org

Directions

The next regular business meeting will be held **April 18, 2019** at **7:30 PM** at **Mr. Beef and Pizza**. Directions to Mr. Beef and Pizza: Exit I-90 (Northwest Tollway) at Elmhurst Road (Illinois 83) northbound. Go north 2 lights. Mr. Beef is located just north of the intersection of Algonquin Road and Elmhurst Road on the left side. Hope to see everyone there!