



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.

August, 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

 Hope everyone is enjoying the summer. Plan now to attend our International Beach Clean Up Day at Greenwood Beach in Evanston on September 21.

Also we will be distributing the ballots for Diver of the Year, Humnitarianium of the Year and Club of the Year - put your thinking caps on. Nominations are due at the September business meeting,

Wishing You Safe Diving,
Chuck Miller

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The following two articles are reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, August, 2019

CAN GENETIC ENGINEERING SAVE CORAL REEFS?

Global warming is decimating the world's reefs. Watching that happen to Australia's Great Barrier Reef has transformed Madaleine Van Oppen, a coral geneticist at the University of Melbourne, into a leading advocate of something that was considered radical until recently: creating breeds of coral that can withstand warmer water.

Van Oppen and her colleagues are re-engineering corals with techniques as old as the domestication of plants and as new as the latest gene-editing tools. A feature story in *Science* explains how Van Oppen and the team of researchers she's leading at the National Sea Simulator in Townsville are busy cross-breeding corals in tanks in a rush to find a solution to the annihilation of the world's largest reef system, just 50 miles offshore.

Their efforts have helped make Australia, which recently committed AUS\$300 million to coral research and restoration, a global magnet for reef scientists. Read about Van Oppen's efforts in this most interesting profile at www.sciencemag.org/news/2019/03/researchers-embrace-radical-idea-engineering-coralcope-climate-change

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TWO JUMBO JETS SUNK FOR DIVERS

The first stage in Bahrain's plan to establish the world's largest underwater amusement park happened on June 11, when a Boeing 747 was sunk off the island nation in the Arabian Gulf. Not to be outdone, Turkey sunk an Airbus A330 three days later, placing it 98 feet deep in the Gulf of Saros to boost scuba diving tourism in that northern stretch of the Aegean Sea, between the Gallipoli Peninsula and the Greek border.

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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.

August 15 September 19 October*
November 21 December* *No meeting

September 21 INTERNATIONAL BEACH CLEAN-UP DAY – Greenwood /Beach, Evanston
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 5 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 co-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 **September 6,, 2019**.

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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!

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Reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, August ,2019

NO MORE PLASTIC MARINE TAGS IN BONAIRE.

You still have to pay \$45 to dive in the island’s Marine Park, but it’s going digital -- mostly Register at your dive shop or before you leave home at [www. bonairenaturefee.org](http://www.bonairenaturefee.org), but instead of a plastic tag, you’ll get a paper receipt, and you’ll be expected to have it on you, if asked Because paper falls apart underwater, wouldn’t metal be a better choice? Maybe just leave it in a dry bag on your boat

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ICSSD GENERAL MEETING MINUTES JULY 18, 2019

This meeting was cancelled due to work commitments of two of the Board members. We are very sorry but we are a volunteer organization and sometimes our busy lives demand our attention.

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The remaining articles on this page are reprinted from Undercurrent On-Line, August, 2019

SAMUEL L. JACKSON DOES DIVE RESEARCH FOR A NEW DOCUMENTARY

The actor – and certified diver -- recently made a visit with a film crew to The History of Diving Museum in Islamorada, FL, as part of the project to make *Enslaved*, a six-part documentary charting the history of transatlantic slavery through underwater archeology. The museum has an exhibition featuring two slave ships that went down in Florida waters – the *Guerrero*, which lies in pieces near the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, and the *Henrietta Marie*, 35 miles off Key West. *Enslaved* will be narrated by Jackson; its release is being timed to coincide with the 400 year anniversary since the first African was brought to the New World as a slave

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CATHY CHURCH CHARGED IN BOAT CRASH

Cayman Islands media reports that the underwater photographer has been formally charged with navigating a vessel so as to cause damage or risk of damage, and committing a reckless and negligent act. Church's boat crashed into the side of a moored Divetech boat, the distinctive pink *Atatude*, at the *Kittiwake* wreck site on January 8. Witnesses said nobody was at the helm when the collision occurred. No one was injured, but there were snorkelers in the water. Church, 74, will be summoned to attend court at a later date.

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ASIA'S DISAPPEARING WWII SHIPWRECKS.

As the price of pre-Atomic Age steel increases, so does the illegal salvaging of metal from shipwrecks around Malaysia and Indonesia. Even poor-quality steel can now bring about \$1.3 million per wreck salvaged. The latest wrecks to disappear are two Dutch submarines sunk by Japanese mines off Malaysia during WWII. Research divers discovered just a few remains of one and a mere impression in the seabed from the other.

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HURRICANE MICHAEL UNCOVERS AN UNDERWATER FOREST

Subscriber Carol Cox tells us that after the Category Five-level hurricane hit her hometown of Mexico Beach, FL in October 2018, it pushed the offshore wreck of a shrimp boat called the *Shady Lady* into an upright position at 95 feet. More astonishing is the multitude of ancient tree trunks revealed when sand was scoured away. Those trunks could be anywhere from 10,000 to 50,000 years old, but because they're not petrified, they'll be eaten away by marine organisms unless the sand covers them again

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FAREWELL TO A TOP TREASURE HUNTER

Liked by some and loathed by others, swashbuckler Bob Marx courted controversy throughout his long diving career, combining both treasure hunting and marine archaeology. A sometimes abrasive character, Marx had a resume that read like Indiana Jones and claimed discovery of thousands of wrecks in more than 60 countries. He was best known for excavating the sunken city of Port Royal in Jamaica

His 1972 discovery of the 17th Century *Nuestra Señora de las Maravillas*, the second richest Spanish galleon lost in the Americas, got him thrown out of the Bahamas for accusing its then prime minister, Lyndon Pindling, on television of criminal activity, including corruption and taking bribes from drug traffickers. In fact, one of Marx's crew was reported to have stolen two bags of silver coins worth \$30,000 off *Nuestra Señora*, but although Marx was investigated by the police, he was absolved of any blame

However, he ran into problems with a rival gang of salvagers and was arrested on suspicion of marijuana smuggling by the U S Coast Guard. The Bahamas then demanded the return of all the treasure recovered from *Nuestra Señora*, and an international incident ensued when Marx refused, under advice from the American Embassy. When the Bahamas threatened to remove access to missile tracking and military bases on its islands, the U S. government backed down and withdrew its backing of Marx. Meanwhile, the location of the main section of wreckage he'd discovered but had yet to start work on

Over in Indonesia, the government had long sought the wreck of the Portuguese 400-ton galleon *Flor do Mar*. When they called in Marx in 1992, he located it within three days -- and more than 100 miles away from the ongoing search

Marx was born in Pittsburgh, PA He started what was probably the USA's first diving club (with fellow treasure hunter Mel Fisher), in Los Angeles, And also claimed to have started the world's first dive resort in Cozumel

After a decade living in Spain, where he scoured the Spanish treasure fleet archives and wrote more than 60 books, he returned to live in the U S , where he eventually died at his home in Melbourne, FL, this past Fourth of July He was 85.

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DIVER USES NASAL SPRAY TO CLEAR HIS EARS WHILE UNDERWATER: IS THAT SMART?

Ear pain from pressure, known as middle ear barotrauma, is pretty common among divers; it's estimated that more than half of experienced divers suffer it underwater. One man found a novel way to rid himself of symptoms -- and does so while diving. Should we follow his lead?

At a recent Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society session, Derek Covington, a professor of anesthesiology, presented the case of a 46-year-old male diver who had started to routinely carry a nasal decongestant spray with him underwater after having difficulty with middle-ear equalization.

He was 200 feet deep during one cave dive and proceeding to the deepest point of a cave passage, at 290 feet, when he again had difficulty with middle-ear equalization. He didn't want to abort the dive, so he decided to self-administer the nasal spray underwater.

This required him to remove his mask, block one nostril and carefully sniff with the other. Despite the inevitable inflow of water, he found he could replace his mask and easily equalize the problematic middle ear The diver has subsequently followed the same procedure on other dives and reported consistent success

But Covington doesn't recommend you follow this procedure He stresses that this maneuver carries many risks, including disorientation, loss of buoyancy, coughing, sneezing, vocal cord spasms, and increased susceptibility to oxygen toxicity of the central nervous system He recommends following the standard remedy: Stop your descent at the first sign of ear discomfort to allow time for equalizing, safely end the dive if you can't equalize, abstain from further diving if your ears are still feeling the pressure, and use a nasal decongestant or spray (don't put any drops in your ears).

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

SCUBA SENSATIONS

2475 W. Pratt Blvd
Chicago, IL 60645
312-404-7785

BERRY DIVE CENTER

200 Northfield Road
Northfield, IL 60093
847-827-3100

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

UNDERSEAS SCUBA CENTER

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

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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August, 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 **August 15, 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!