



Four Lakes Scuba Club Newsletter

Volume 39

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February 2018

This Month's Meeting

Wednesday, February 14th

7:30 PM

Babe's - 5614 Schroeder Road



Speakers: John Fafinski and Ellen Evans

This month, in honor of Valentine's Day, our very own John and Ellen will be presenting on aquatic attractions. You won't want to miss this one! Bring your special someone!



Thank you!

A very big thanks to our January speaker, John Janzen, for giving a very interesting presentation on his dive on the *Senator*!



Dive Gear Donation Drive for Diveheart

Calling all divers!!

Do you have any used, unused, underused, extra dive gear just sitting around in your closet collecting cobwebs that you just don't know what to do with? Well we have a solution for you...

Donate them!!

We are hosting a dive gear donation drive for our friends at Diveheart to help them replenish their lost inventory that was stolen from their headquarters last month.

You can drop off your donations from now through February 14th at Diversions Scuba during their regular business hours, or you can bring them to this month's club meeting (February 14th).

After the Drive, Tami has offered to deliver the donations down to Chicago. Thanks Tami!

A big shoutout to Diversions Scuba for offering their shop as a drop-off location and for storing the donations during the drive.

You can also make monetary donations directly to Diveheart at diveheart.org.

Upcoming Events

- February 17-18: Our World Underwater—Chicago Marriott O'Hare. Tickets and information at <http://ourworldunderwater.com/chicago/>
- March 3: Upper Midwest Scuba and Adventure Travel Show —Minneapolis. Tickets and information at <http://www.umsatshow.org/>

Both John Janzen and Four Lakes Scuba's Tamara Thomsen will be presenting at each of the above events!

Wanted: Divers With Experience in Lake Wisconsin/Devil's Lake Area

I'm a journalist writing an article about lake Scuba diving for a Lake Wisconsin tourism magazine called Splash. I'd like to write about diving in the Lake Wisconsin/Devil's Lake area — covering why people Scuba dive in lakes and where people interested in lake diving can start. I was wondering if anyone from Four Lakes Scuba Club has experience with diving in this area would like to talk with me. I'm looking for both personal experiences and any submitted lake diving photos. They can reach me at tmyers@hngnews.com or 608-729-3366. My deadline to hear from people is February 14.

Thanks,

Tamar Myers



Trip Report: Diving The Brac

By Brad Acker

Last month Nikki and I took a week vacation to Cayman Brac for a week of diving. Unlike Grand Cayman, there's not much happening on "the Brac". At the airport, the taxi driver asked us if we were staying at "the" hotel. Turns out there's only one hotel on the island: Cayman Brac Beach Resort.

The Beach Resort advertises itself as "valet diving." The grounds have a nice beach, large pool, and the Topsy Turtle bar. It seemed newly renovated and well-kept. The meals were served buffet style and okay at best—definitely not the best food we've had. Our package included three drinks per day; drink 'em or lose 'em. (We drank 'em!)

The diving itself was great. We did three dives per day, all from large day boats. They had a strange system of getting into and out of the water: the crew carried your BCD to the back of the boat while you got your fins on, meaning there wasn't any jostling for space on the bench or waddling around the deck with all your gear on. There were pretty big waves on most of the days, but one day it calmed down enough for us to make the trip over to Little Cayman, which had the best diving all week.



The dive sites consisted either of large coral heads with deep sandy channels between, or wall dives. Visibility was usually excellent and the coral was pretty healthy. We saw quite a few turtles. Friendly groupers followed us on many dives, including Gary, who enjoyed getting petted.

Overall, it was a great week of easy diving, a nice destination for scuba with a relaxing resort feel during the surface intervals.

DAN Annual Diving Report Available

Fatalities and serious diving injuries are rare and often seem to be associated with unsafe behaviors or hazardous conditions, but they can occur without apparent cause.

Understanding the contributing factors could lead to safer diving. The primary goal of DAN's Annual Diving Report on Diving Incidents, Injuries and Fatalities is to further this understanding.

The Annual Diving Report can be downloaded for free [here](#).

In the News

- [Lake Michigan has become dramatically clearer in last 20 years -but at a steep cost](#) (Chicago Tribune)
- [ScubaNation Delves Into Florida's Cave Diving](#) (Dive News Network)

Youth Diving Opportunity: BSA Venture Crew 820

Come join the adventure of scuba diving! If you are between 13 and 21 years of age, boy or girl, come on and join! We have an exciting year round program on the advancement of diving skills and great dives. For more information on joining our Crew, contact Dean Soderbeck at (651) 483-8596 or deansoderbeck@yahoo.com.

Your Article Could Be Here!

We are always looking for contributions to the newsletter! Please send your trip reports, articles, photos, etc. to news@fourlakesscubaclub.org. All submissions must be received by the first Wednesday of the month to be added in that month's newsletter.

Four Lakes Scuba Club Officers

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