

Four Lakes Scuba Club Newsletter

Volume 43

Issue 4

June 2021

This Month's Meeting

Wednesday, June 9, 7:30 PM

Hop Haus (Fitchburg Location) - 2975 Sub-Zero Parkway, Fitchburg, WI 53719

Elections!

Please join us in person again at Hop Haus in Fitchburg for this month's meeting. We will be holding elections for our board members. In particular, there is currently a vacant position at President that we will be looking to fill. If you would like to help out the club, please consider running. The term is two years and the President typically organizes and runs meetings.

If technology permits, we will also watch a short version of the documentary called "Return to the USS Atlanta: Defender of Guadalcanal." The film is about the USS Atlanta, which is located in the Solomon Islands at 130 meters.

Please note that Hop Haus is back at full capacity, so reservations will no longer be required. Hope you can join us!

Presentations in the Park - Salt your Fries, Not our Freshwater

The Lussier Family Heritage Center will be hosting a variety of speakers throughout the summer, this week's presentation is courtesy of Allison Madison from Madison Metropolitan Sewer District.

Excessive salt use on parking lots, roads, and in our water softeners is threatening lakes, streams, and groundwater. We need everyone working together to keep freshwater fresh. Several area municipalities have reduced winter salt use by 30-50%. Is your community Salt Wise? How can you be Salt Wise at home? Join in this hands-on, family-friendly exploration of salt use and the hidden costs to our natural environment and built infrastructure.

Gates open at 5:30 PM and the presentation starts at 6:00 PM. There is a registration fee of \$10. Please bring your own chairs or blankets and set up 6 ft. from other attendees. Arrive early to get some dinner from a local food truck and drinks from Delta Beer Lab.

**Dogs are allowed but must be on a leash and not disruptive.

When: Thursday, June 10 5:30 pm—7:30 pm

Where: Lussier Family Heritage Center

3101 Lake Farm Road

Madison, WI 53711

Ribbon Cutting for 140-Acre Joyce M. Baer & George J. Socha Nature Conservancy

Ariana Vruwink— Dane County Parks

Dane County Executive Joe Parisi joined Dane County Parks staff and community members to cut the ribbon on the Joyce M. Baer & George J. Socha Nature Conservancy. The land was donated to the county in 2007 with a life estate and was turned over to Dane County in 2019. With a small parking area and hiking trail recently developed, visitors can now experience the conservancy's solitude and beautiful setting along the Maunasha River. George Socha is a long-time Four

Lakes Scuba Club member.

"This is a great addition to our Dane County Park System. I want to thank George Socha and his late



partner Joyce Baer for their incredibly generous donation of land," said Dane County Executive Joe Parisi. "Containing over a mile of the Maunasha River and several drumlins dotting its landscape, this conservancy will offer residents ample opportunities to enjoy Dane County's natural resources for many years."

The 140-acre conservancy offers quiet, nature-based outdoor activities such as hiking, canoeing, bird watching and foraging for nuts, berries and mushrooms. Future enhancements will include a canoe landing, additional hiking trails, pedestrian bridges, a second parking lot and prairie and woodland restorations.

"We understood that land is a limited resource and wanted to give everyone the opportunity to experience our land. We want it to be here forever for people to visit, appreciate nature, wander in the woods and marshlands and see all the wildlife here," said George Socha.

The conservancy is located at 5784 Cherry Ln., about 2 miles east of the Village of Marshall and 3 miles west of Waterloo, within Dane County's Maunasha River Natural Resource Area. To learn more, visit the property [webpage](#).

Message From the Vice President

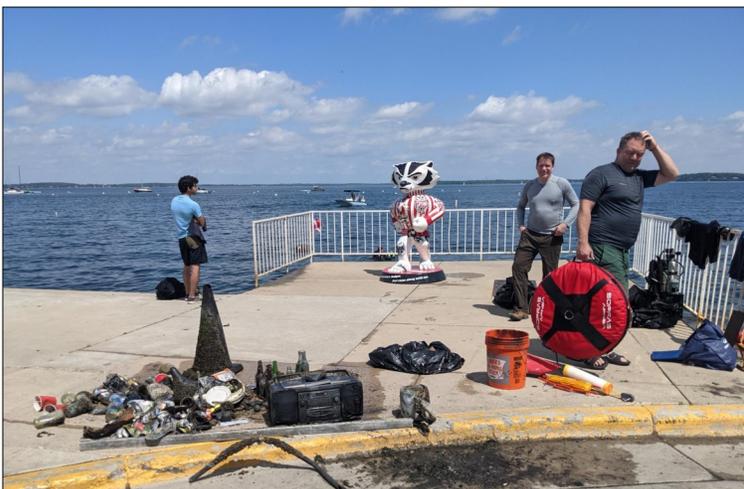
What a difference a month makes! Just one month ago we tentatively met in-person for the first time in over a year. Now, with Covid restrictions mostly lifted, things seem to be returning to normal. It's been great to see folks in-person again and catch up, and the new venue for our monthly meetings is great.

This year's lake cleanup dives had spectacular turnout, and we hauled up a literal bargeful of trash. Big thanks to John and Ellen for organizing the events, and for everyone who came out to help keep the lakes clean.

This month is club elections. It takes some work to arrange the monthly meeting, line up speakers, organize events, and do the newsletter, Facebook group, email announcements, and website. We've had a group of members to take care of this up to now, and we need new board members to help keep the Club going strong into the future. I urge you to consider becoming a Board member.

We're looking to line up speakers for the rest of this year. If you have photos or videos that are diving-related, or know someone who may be willing to present, please let us know. We've been fortunate to have had awesome speakers in the past and would like to continue that.

Happy Diving!



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