



# Four Lakes Scuba Club Newsletter

Volume 43

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December 2021



## This Month's Meeting: Holiday Party!

Wednesday, December 8th  
7:00pm

Mirabel Apartments—8001 Ritz Drive, Madison, WI 53719



After a year hiatus, our annual holiday party is back on Wednesday, December 8. Just like in 2019, the party will be in the clubhouse of the Mirabel Apartments on the west side of Madison. **Please park on the street!** The north-east corner entrance of the building will be unlocked.

The club will provide pizza, salad, and dessert. Please bring your own beverage. There will be door prizes! This event will once again be completely free!

We will also give a trophy to the person who did the most dives, so be sure to look up how many dives you've done this year! Zach won the trophy for 2020. Will he keep it again this year? We'll find out soon!

### Thank you to November speaker Russ Green

Ellen Evans

Russ Green, Great Lakes Regional Coordinator for NOAA's office of National Marine Sanctuaries spoke at the November meeting. Previously he was superintendent at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary in Alpena Michigan. Those of you that have been around awhile may remember Russ from before that when he was an underwater archeologist for the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Russ discussed the history of our newly designated Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary. Public input from local people and industry has been and will be included in the development. The designated area is over 1000 square miles of protected historic underwater resources from south of Port Washington to north of Two Rivers. Including 37 known shipwrecks and 80 potentially yet to be found wrecks. These wrecks are on shore and up to hundreds of feet in depth.

We can look forward to more resources in the area as the sanctuary grows.

Explore further and follow the progress at <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/wisconsin/>



### In The News

NBC 15 Features 4LSC Yahara River dive: <https://www.nbc15.com/2021/10/18/four-lakes-scuba-club-complete-5th-cleanup-drive-2021/>

Exploring the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary continues: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/dozens-of-shipwreck-discoveries-anticipated-in-lake-michigans-new-marine-sanctuary/>

The annual Mendota Freeze Contest is open once again. The winner will receive \$1000 for Lands' End. Enter here: <https://www.cleanlakesalliance.org/mendota-freeze-contest-entry/>

## 2021 Year in Review

Nikki Acker

The last year has been unique for everyone, including the Four Lakes Scuba Club. We started the year with a few virtual happy hours and heard from our friends Jim and Tinamarie from Diveheart in April. Once more club members were able to get vaccinated, we resumed our in-person meetings in May and celebrated Cephalopod Appreciation Month in our new venue, Hop Haus.

In June we elected our board, including new President Brad Acker. Maya Gomez gave a very interesting talk about coral reefs in July and Randy was able to get permission for us to dive in Redgranite Quarry again for Dive Eat Float.

Bill told us about his magnificent diving in Indonesia, including the time he befriended a manta ray, during our meeting in August. Danny and Betsy were once again amazing hosts and we had a very fun and well attended Phoenix Party in October. Later in the month, Brendon Baillod presented on the incredible number of shipwrecks of Lake Michigan's Fox Islands. Most recently, Russ Green shared his work with the new National Marine Sanctuary.

Our annual clean up dives were very successful and we took many pieces of trash, including a bike and a gun, out of our lakes. The news took an interest in the club's efforts and interviewed Brad. We also got together for some fun dives outside of Madison and some club members have been able to travel outside of the country once again. (Hopefully they'll share their photos and videos at future meetings!)

Even with all of the changes we've gone through, I think it's been a great year. I'm thankful to get to see you all once a month and I'm looking forward to more fun meetings (and maybe even some local dives!) next year.

Happy New Year!



*Brendon with Four Lakes SCUBA Club members Greg McCune & Ellen Evans*



### Four Lakes Scuba Club Officers

President:	Brad Acker <a href="mailto:president@fourlakesscubaclub.org">president@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>
Vice President:	Ellen Evans <a href="mailto:vp@fourlakesscubaclub.org">vp@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>
Secretary:	Nikki Acker <a href="mailto:news@fourlakesscubaclub.org">news@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>
Treasurer:	Mary Stroud <a href="mailto:treasurer@fourlakesscubaclub.org">treasurer@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>
Dive Safety Officer:	Gayle Orner <a href="mailto:safety@fourlakesscubaclub.org">safety@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>
Social Media Editor:	Lisa Vorburger <a href="mailto:media@fourlakesscubaclub.org">media@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>
Webmaster:	Brad Acker <a href="mailto:webmaster@fourlakesscubaclub.org">webmaster@fourlakesscubaclub.org</a>

[fourlakesscubaclub.org](http://fourlakesscubaclub.org)

[info@fourlakesscubaclub.org](mailto:info@fourlakesscubaclub.org)