

Four Lakes Scuba Club Newsletter

Volume 35

Issue 9

November 2023

This Month's Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 7:00 PM

Benvenuto's in Fitchburg - 2949 Triverton Pike Dr.

The meeting starts at 7:00pm, but you may want to arrive at 6:30pm to chat and place your order. Check out Benvenuto's website for information on their loyalty program and menu:

<https://benvenutos.com/>

Topic: Update from Diveheart

Since 2001 Diveheart has been servicing children, veterans and others with disabilities through adaptive scuba and Scuba Therapy. Jim and Tinamarie will help fast forward Diveheart activities to 2023 including current Scuba Therapy research with university medical centers, international adaptive scuba training and trips, current pool programs, and the planned deep warm water therapy pool and aquatic facility planned in the Chicagoland area.

Speakers: Tinamarie Hernandez and Jim Elliott

Tinamarie grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. She's always had a love of learning and was the first in her family to attend and graduate college. She has always found a way to give back, be it through candy striping, coaching softball, teaching swim lessons to people with disabilities or teaching Sunday school. When asked what drew her to Diveheart, Tinamarie responded, "I grew up with a cousin who lived his life with both physical and cognitive challenges. Joey didn't let much hold him back and I just know he would have loved scuba, had he known about Diveheart."



Jim Elliott left a successful career in the media business to launch Diveheart a 501c(3) not-for-profit organization that helps build confidence and independence in children, veterans and others with disabilities through zero gravity and Scuba Therapy. Diveheart seeks to instill the *can-do* spirit in its participants. Diveheart doesn't discriminate when it comes to working with people with disabilities and serves cognitively and physically impaired individuals worldwide.

Since 2001 Elliott, who is a volunteer with no salary, has initiated Scuba Therapy research with university medical centers around the country, including the first study on Autism and Scuba Therapy and the world's most innovative Adaptive Scuba Training program for instructors, dive buddies, and Adaptive Divers. He also lectures and trains dive professionals in the "Business of Adaptive Scuba."

It's always great to hear about Diveheart's success stories, so you won't want to miss this meeting!

Gear Donations for Wednesday

Diveheart would love to collect any dive gear you would like to donate. Please bring any donations with on Wednesday and bring it directly to the Diveheart van in the parking lot either before or after the meeting. Please do not bring the gear directly into the restaurant with you.

Holiday Party December 13!

Our annual holiday party will be on Wednesday, December 13 at the Mirabel Apartments clubhouse. The party will be free to club members and \$5 for non-member guests. If you haven't already, please RSVP online [here](#) so we can get a good estimate on the number of guests.

As always, we will have prizes for the most logged dives and anyone who dived in all of the local lakes!

Happy Veterans Day

Veterans Day is November 11. To all of the veterans in the club, thank you for your service!

Four Lakes Scuba Club Officers

President:	Ellen Evans president@fourlakesscubaclub.org
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Phoenix Party 2023

The traditional annual anchor-boil continued another year in 2023. This year's Phoenix Party was a great success! The rain subsided shortly earlier in the afternoon and we stayed dry. We had about a dozen attendees and enjoyed some delicious steak sizzlers, mushrooms, and pie.



There were plenty of anchors that got cooked and doused in cold water. To our surprise, one of the anchor's stems disappeared in the fire. Danny found it the next morning as a blob of aluminum in the ashes.

Special thanks to Danny and Betsy for inviting us over to their wonderful garden and hosting the event another year!



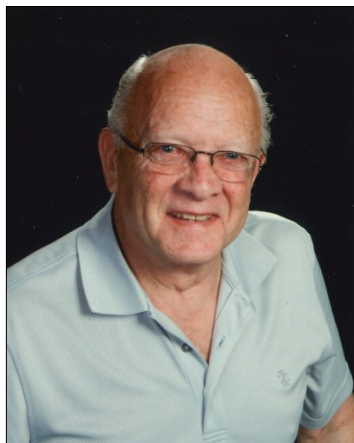
In Memory

Sadly, two long-term club members recently passed away. Bill West passed away on October 7 and Ed Sorensen passed away on October 23. Condolences to their friends and family. Here are copies of the obituaries:

William “Bill” West

Sun Prairie – William “Bill” West, age 82, passed away at his home on Saturday October 7, 2023. He was born in Madison on December 21, 1940, the son of William and Arlene (Emmerich) West.

Bill graduated from Madison West High School. He was drafted into the US Marines and served his country honorably. On September 14, 1963 Bill was united in marriage to Julia Plon. Together they enjoyed travelling, scenic drives and Friday fish fry with friends.



Bill enjoyed scuba diving and boating on the Madison Lakes. He was an avid model airplane builder and enjoyed going to EAA and stopping at random airports to watch planes land. Bill was a member of St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and enjoyed singing in the choir. An auto mechanic by trade, Bill was a refrigeration instructor at MATC for a number of years. He did commercial heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration for grocery stores before opening his own business doing commercial and residential HVAC.

Bill is survived by son, Mark (Jodi) West; daughter, Kimberly (Nathan) Schultz; three grandchildren, Alexander McDaniel, Kyle and Hayden West; great grandson, Nikkolas; two sisters, Kathy (August) Buenzli and Susan (Kirk) Dalton; and brother, Thomas (Pam Papierniak) West. He was preceded in death by parents; wife; grandson, Bradley McDaniel; and brother, Carl “Bud” West.

Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, 2420 St. Albert the Great Drive, Sun Prairie, with Fr. William Vernon officiating. Military honors will follow. Friends and relatives are invited to a luncheon, immediately following, in the church fellowship hall. Visitation will be held from 9:30 AM until the time of Mass on Saturday at church. Burial will take place at a later date in Sacred Hearts Cemetery.

Please share your memories of Bill by posting in his Guestbook.

Edward Leonard “Ed” Sorensen

MADISON - Edward Leonard “Ed” Sorensen passed away peacefully at home after a courageous battle with Lewy Body Dementia with his loving wife and sisters by his side on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023.

Ed was born at St. Mary’s Hospital in Racine, Wis., on May 18, 1948. He graduated from Horlick High School where he played football. Ed then went on to receive his undergraduate and master’s degrees in business. He held managerial positions with Massey Ferguson in Racine, and The Bradford Exchange in Niles, Ill. In 1993 he accepted a position as Operations Manager at Accurate Business Service in Middleton, Wis., where he was promoted to Vice President and played an integral part in the company’s

success. After 15 years, Ed decided to pursue a career in real estate and became a successful realtor and real estate investor. He fully retired in January of 2020.

Ed was a man of many loves and talents. He mastered a wide variety of skills and activities: he was a mechanic, a small plane pilot and instructor, a scuba diver, a downhill skier, a golfer, a Harley motorcyclist, a bicyclist, a racquetball player and an avid reader. At home, he was a great chef and gardener. Ed met the love of his life in 1996 and they were officially married on April 30, 2007, in Maui, Hawaii. Ed especially loved traveling to scuba diving destinations after being certified in 1996 in Cozumel on a trip with his siblings. Laura was certified in 1998 and they took many trips around the Caribbean with other dive enthusiasts. At home they enjoyed watching the Green Bay Packers and attending several Wisconsin Badgers football games each season.



Ed loved his family especially his children and grandchildren. He loved visiting his daughter, Wendy, and her sons in Castle Rock, Colo., and later in Pensacola, Fla., and his son, Ryan and his sons in McHenry, Ill., and later Ryan’s blended family in Lake Geneva, Wis., his sister, Terry, in St. Paul, Minn., and Laura’s family and friends in Texas.

He was also a wonderful stepfather, brother, uncle and friend. He was always willing to offer his assistance whether it was advice, finances, shelter, companionship or all of the above. In turn he was grateful for all of the support he received back from them especially during the period of his illness.

Ed was predeceased by his parents, Leonard and Margaret (Scheurmann) Sorensen; and brother, Richard Sorensen. Surviving family members include his wife, Laura Sorensen; his children, Wendy Hunter and Ryan (Nicole) Sorensen; his stepchildren, Brandon Siewert and Ashton (Phillip) Staple; his seven grandchildren, Sam, Sawyer, Lofton, Preston, Evie, Vinnie and Alex; and his sisters, Kathy Schulz, Diane (Dan Stier) Sorensen and Teresa Sorensen; along with many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and two great-great-nephews.

Ed’s family wants to thank all of our family members and friends who provided support, with in person visits, text messages and phone calls. They also wish to thank SSM and all of their medical teams and staff and Age At Home (Agrace) for providing additional support during these difficult times.

A memorial service will be held at GUNDERSON EAST FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 5203 Monona Drive, Madison, at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023. A visitation will be held at the funeral home from 10 a.m. until the time of the service on Sunday.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the LBDA (Lewy Body Dementia Association) or ADPA (American Parkinson Disease Association). Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.