

The Scuba Scoop

VOLUME 50, Issue 1

Jan 2008

50 years!

The Official Newsletter of the
Saginaw Underwater Explorers

-Serving the Tri-Cities since 1958!

<http://www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org>



Special Semicentennial Issue (collector's item)

Club Meetings-
7:30pm on the 2d Tues
of each month. Held at
Tms. Twp. Fire Station #1
On Dice and Thomas Rd

Officers-

President:
Don Cunningham 799 4385

Vice President:
Tony Piazza 790 1385

Secretary:
Charles Storck 781 5677

Treasurer:
Mike Fabish 781 6167

Compressor Chair:
Tom VanDenBoom 686 3176

Board Member at Large:
Bill Atkins 684 5847

Editor:
Don Storck 642 8436

Club Dues-
\$25 per year

next meeting?: Feb 12

This Meeting- 8th

(Note- meeting place is back at
Thomas Twp FS, corner of Dice
and Thomas Rd. Call anyone on
the left for directions)

Inside....

*SUE Birthday
Straits Dive; Int'l View
Election
SWMUP
USS Edson
also selected short
subjects*

Remember Our Troops!

(English Language Version)

In completion of 2007, the Saginaw Underwater Explorers has entered a new era; we are now a fifty-year-old club! And with that, we now enjoy all the rights and privileges accorded a 50 year old group. (sr. coffee?) The SCOOP does not have access to original organizational papers, but the entire year 2008 is ours to celebrate. The SCOOP hereby invites anyone with original documentation to submit it to be shared with the club. Further, the SCOOP invites any stories of the early days; perhaps this is the time to record our beginnings. Officers of the club, present and about to be elected, you are now in a position of making this something special. Let's plan some events that future members will look back on with respect! Club picnics have been kind of tough to get going these last couple of years, but how about planning one where all former members would be invited? Perhaps even a mass dive? Give it a special name, and give certificates of a specialty dive? How about another dive where we invite other clubs? This could even be a year of record new membership. We have eleven months to plan to plan events; let's not let them slip by. And this is not just for officers; this includes all members who want to see their club succeed. The SCOOP is open to any ideas; we'll post them and try to build support. The club has been discussing doing things that would gain us some publicity; this is the year of opportunity!

Last of the Year; First of the Season- Night Dive; Ice Dive

Unless someone else has gone without telling the SCOOP, Dave Sommers gets the title for this dive. Dave, and Bill Giorgis, were called up to Wixom Lake just before Christmas, the evening of the 16th to retrieve somebody's snowmobile that had gone through the ice. No mention of how deep or how cold. Dave, you have to take a photographer along...

Pool Swims '08

Just off the wires! There will not be a January swim. Pres Cunningham has made contact with the new representative of the Bay City YWCA, and has confirmed the pool for the Sundays Feb 10, 3-5, and Mar 9 also 3-5. The membership can decide in an upcoming meeting if there will be an Apr swim. Please note these dates will be before the monthly meeting, so check your SCOOP for a reminder. Saginaw pools were considered, but were cost prohibitive.



USS EDSON; coming to Bay City?

Retired Destroyer Displayed in Bay City?

The Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum is hoping they get the nod for donation of the destroyer by the U.S. Navy. Richard J. Janke, VP of the SVNSM, stated it submitted a 1615-page application, three years in the making, to the Navy last week. Clifford C. Van Dyke of the Bay County growth alliance, is looking at this as a big economic benefit from tourism. The ship museum must front the fuel cost of towing the ship here from Philadelphia, and also prepare a dock site for her. Contributions have been coming in from major benefactors; more are needed.

USS Edson (DD-946) was a Forrest Sherman-class destroyer named for Colonel Merritt "Red Mike" Edson USMC who was awarded the Medal of Honor while serving as Commanding Officer of the First Marine Raider Battalion.

The Edson was launched 4 January 1958 by Bath Iron Works Corp., and commissioned 7 November 1958 (note SUE beginnings!)

The reader should also be aware of the competition; WINSA (Wisconsin Naval Ship Association) of Sheboygan, Wisconsin has also submitted an application to the Naval Sea Systems Command, to relocate the ship and reinstate it as a museum ship in Sheboygan. WINSA has now completed two of the three major task required to attain the Edson. They still must raise the funds required to finance the project and bring the Edson permanently to Sheboygan

WINSA submitted it's application to the navy office on Dec 26, beating the Jan 3 deadline. The Navy is expected to announce its decision in the spring of 2008.

-for more information see

<http://www.ussedson.org>

<http://www.ussedson.net>

<http://home.wi.rr.com/ussdesmoines.net>

eds note- the following story was taken from the international **scubanews** site in the U.K. More international stories can be found at

<http://www.scubatravel.co.uk>

Diving the Straits Underwater Preserve, Michigan, USA =====

“It is illegal to remove or disturb artifacts in the Great Lakes of Michigan, which means that small items like cups, tools, silverware and ornaments often remain where they were discovered by the first divers many years before. Diving the Straits Underwater Preserve is not for the "faint of heart" especially if you are wearing a wetsuit (as I was). The temperature drops to 41 degrees F below the thermocline, but the views of well preserved shipwrecks is worth the shivering. My favourite is the Eber Ward, century old wreck in 120 feet of water. This ship was sunk in 1909 after encountering packs of ice on its first journey of the season, leaving holes in the bow large enough to swim through. There are entrances at the stern as well, and once inside you can swim from one end to the other entirely inside on not one but two decks. The upper one is the more interesting, with rows of hand carts towards the bow, and well-preserved loading gear hanging under every cargo hatch. Two large, hinged anchors are still inside the bow, and another rest just below on the lake bottom. One of the strangest items to find was a capstan inside the wreck. The not-to-be-missed items on this wreck include the prop, bathtub, and ultra-rare mushroom anchor which is still in place in the hawse pipe on the port side. Of the 700 or so dives that I've done around the world since 1975, this is my favourite.”

-by Jerry Vonderharr



Dive Team; celebrating Christmas Eve, Saginaw River...

Dive Team Activities

Again this year, the dive team will be ice diving in Haithco Lake. This is planned for Jan 20 at 1300. IF it gets cold enough to have ice, come out and watch the team practice. Maybe Feb...

S.U.E. '08 Event Planner

Jan	8	Club Mtg(nominations)	<u><i>Add your ideas</i></u>
Feb	12	Club Mtg(elections)	
	10	Pool swim	
Mar	11	Club Mtg	
	9	Pool swim	
Apr	8	Club Mtg	
May	13	Club Mtg	
Jun	10	Club Mtg	
Jul	8	Club Mtg	
		TBA Picnic ?	
Aug	12	Club Mtg	
Sep	9	Club Mtg	
Oct	14	Club Mtg	
		TBA- Pumpkin Carve	
Nov	11	Club Mtg	
Dec	9	Club Mtg	
		TBA Christmas Party	

Dues! Nominations!

Plan on saving \$5 by getting your dues in by the Jan meeting. \$20 now, \$25 after. And remember nominations will be taken this meeting for elections to be held in the February meeting. This will be a big year for the club; get involved!

An Ad, But A Good Cause-

Greetings! It's a great time to be a member of the **South West Michigan Underwater Preserve (SWMUP)** and we hope you will join us.

SWMUP The South West Michigan Underwater Preserve Committee, Inc. (SWMUP) is a 501-C-3 non-profit private foundation, with a focus on preserving Michigan's Maritime Heritage. **SWMUP** organizes events, educational programs, as well as diving and non-diving activities. **SWMUP** is funded 100% by donations from its members and we are looking for your support. Your membership comes with many benefits: discounts at dive shops in and around the preserve area, discounted tickets to our **"Dive Into Maritime History Program"** (April 12, 2008) discounts on promotional **"Dive Michigan"** sportswear, as well as showing your support to our local history. To become a member, please send your tax-deductible contribution of \$20 for individual, \$35 for family, along with your name, address, e-mail address and phone number to **SWMUP c/o 960 Butternut Drive, Holland, MI 49424**. You can also go to our web site at www.swmup.org and sign up with your pay pal account. *Remember, your donation is 100% tax deductible.* Membership - \$20.00 _Lifetime Membership - \$1000.00 If you have any questions please feel free to call 616-994-3483, 616-886-3483 or e-mail info@swmup.org or peggy@goscuba.net <<mailto:peggy@goscuba.net>>.

Scuba Scoop

Don Storck
3273 N. Raucholz
Hemlock, MI
48626



FREE E-SCOOP

Give a friend a gift subscription to the SCOOP. For a free e-subscription; just send e-mail to dstorck@hotmail.com with 'subscribe scoop' in the subject.

DIVEANDGLIDE

Valley Center Technology Park
(SW Corner of US-10/Mackinaw Road.)
Call toll-free **877-DIVE-747**

GOSCUBA!

<http://www.goscuba.net>

Saginaw Underwater Explorers '08 Quick Renewal Form (and voter registration ID)

Last Name:.....
First Name, Init.....
Address.....
City.....
State, Zip.....
e/m Address.....
Date Submitted.....
Occupation.....
Age..... Sex...M F.....(circle one)
Telephone No.....
Marital Status; Spouse' name if applicable.....
.....
Scuba Rating, or Professional Instruction Completed
SSI, PADI, NAUI, YMCA, SCIP, FSDA, LA Cnty, other.
Date Passed.....
Current Health.....
Other pertinent information.....
.....
.....
Received on.....
By....., SUE Official

Wanted

1/2" Tank valve .
Contact Mary Poma 771 3649

Aspiring Models- Submit your favorite bikini photo to the SCOOP for publication. You will have a very good chance of becoming Miss France, but not Miss Universe...

For Sale

1970 Slickcraft 19 foot fiberglass Rick Beyett (989) 892-6287
Bayliner- 1988, 28', 460 Ford V8 w/ trailer. Set up for diving. \$15900. Call Mike at 989 892 2028
Whitefish Bay still for sale/rent. Call Michele at 906-492-3553. <emwhitak@hotmail.com>.

Policy and Disclaimer:
Items listed in For Sale/Wanted will continue to be listed for one year unless the "Scoop" is notified otherwise. Saginaw Underwater Explorers and "The Scuba Scoop" are not responsible for anything posted here.