

# The Scuba Scoop

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50 yrs+

The Official Newsletter of the  
**Saginaw Underwater Explorers**

-Serving the Tri-Cities since 1958!

<http://www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org>

Club Meetings- Held at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month,  
at the Thomas Twp. Fire Station on the corner of Dice and Thomas.

**This Meeting-13<sup>th</sup>**



*Inside....*

*Xmas Party Photo Story*

*Manatee Dive*

*Mixer; This Meeting*

*Announcements*

*also selected short subjects*

**(English Language Version)**



Christmas party revelers

**Remember Our Troops!**

## Saginaw Underwater Explorers Officially Fifty!

Welcome to the new year, and our anniversary! According to ancient paper records, the SUE was actually formed as a club in 1959. It started as a group of divers meeting at Saginaw's old YMCA located at Ames and Michigan. There was even a forerunner to this group, known as the 'Aquafins'. (UrEd himself remembers attending a club meeting in the basement of a bank; 1964?) Perhaps our resident historian Prof. Sommers could be coerced into a presentation at an upcoming club meeting on these early beginnings. The SCOOP will attempt to include any stories of our early days through the '09 issues; feel free to contribute anything you have. And let's all plan some memorable events for this memorable year- what would you like the members in 2059 to read about you?

### Good Showing for the SUE '08 Xmas Party! -



Members arriving at the Timbers



-soon becoming a crowd

### - a fine relaxing evening

Thanks to early and continued efforts by VP Piazza, the club was all set with reservations at Timbers restaurant this year. Approximately 20-25 SUE families attended; mixing and conversation starting around 6, followed by dinner.

After a fine meal, folks leaned back and enjoyed a very interesting slide presentation by Bill Atkins on some club history.

MC Piazza then resumed his post, and distributed raffle tickets to all present. Prizes of books, calendars, and a unique dive flag had been contributed by **Dive and Glide**. Pizza coupons had been contributed by **Papa Johns**. Thank you, contributors!



Finally; time to order the meal



Excellent slide presentation by Bill Atkins



MC Piazza distributing raffle tickets



Winner! –drawn by Alex and Ellie



“No. 3.1416” ... - grand prize winner Fred!

**-Thanks to VP Piazza, and everyone else who helped make the party a success.**

### **Ric Mixer Presentation**

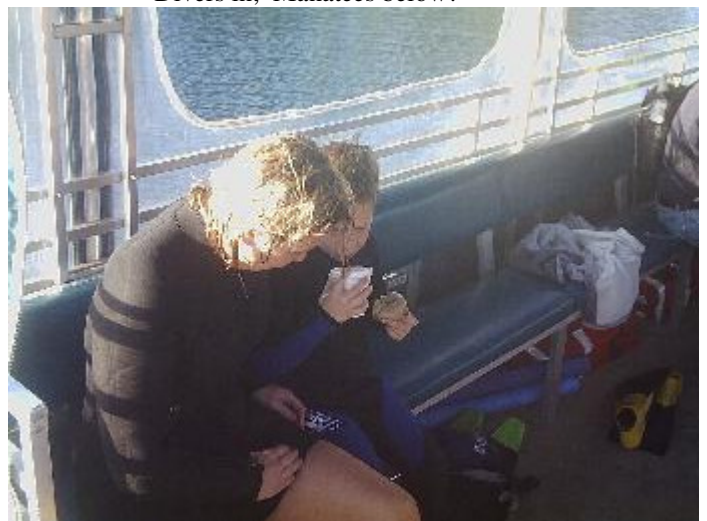
Ric will be coming to the club meeting Jan13 to give a presentation on some of his dive explorations. The board plans to have business completed from 7-7:30, and welcome Ric at 7:30. A larger than normal turnout is expected, so come early enough to get a good seat. Bring a guest!

### **Manatee Tickle**

Seeing no other dive report on my clipboard, let me take some space to relate my manatee dive. I spent the holidays in Florida with my daughter’s family, and she signed us up to pet the manatees at Crystal River. The dive shop furnished wet suits, fins, mask & snorkel, and placed us on a pontoon boat in a group of 10. We were out before light, but we beat a lot of other boats heading for the same area. The river might’ve been around 10’ deep, reasonably clear, and 72deg. The dive master gave us a lot of rules before we got in; Florida is serious about not bothering the animals, and threatens with heavy fines. But the manatees do like people and they did come over to us. I might’ve been the last one they came to. They did suddenly appear up against you, and they did roll over to get their bellies scratched. One pushed his face into my mask, and stared in at me! To finish off the dive, we went to the headwaters where you could see the water gushing up from springs. Really clear, with a lot of fish I’d only seen in an aquarium...  
-UrEd



Divers in; Manatees below?



Carolyn and Merrick warming up after dive with hot chocolate

# Scuba Scoop

Don Storck  
3273 N. Raucholz  
Hemlock, MI  
48626



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Dive training classes; Special discounts to SUE members and public safety divers. Contact Mike Coyer (PADI Instr) at [mcoyer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mcoyer@sbcglobal.net)

## Compressed Air Supplies & Eqpt.

800 Old Griffin Rd # 3, Dania, FL 33004  
Phone 954-929-4462. -Dick Batchelder

## Announcements-

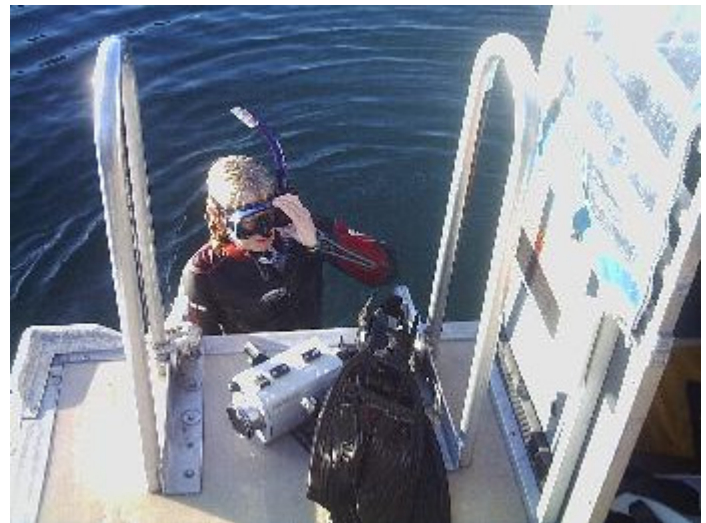
**Pool Swims '09** Plan now on a January swim! All pool swims will take place the Sunday following a club meeting from 3-5. As of this writing, we'll have the pool on Jan18, Feb15, and Mar15. Bring a guest!

**Dues!** Plan on saving \$5 by getting your dues in by the Jan meeting. \$20 now, \$25 after.

**Nominations for Officers!** Nominations will be taken this meeting for elections to be held in the February meeting.

## S.U.E OFFICERS

President:  
Mike Fabish 781 6167  
Vice President:  
Tony Piazza 790 1385  
Secretary:  
Jim Jesselaitis 249 7619  
Treasurer:  
Dave Sommers 751 8517  
Compressor Chair:  
Tom VanDenBoom 686 3176  
Bd Member-at-Large:  
Greg Prenzler 739 0625  
Editor:  
Don Storck 642 8436



## S.U.E. Anniversary Planner

Jan 13	Club Mtg(nominations)	Jul 14	Club Mtg
18	Pool swim		TBA Picnic ?
Feb 10	Club Mtg(elections)	Aug 11	Club Mtg
15	Pool swim		
Mar 10	Club Mtg	Sep 8	Club Mtg
15	Pool swim		
Apr 14	Club Mtg	Oct 13	Club Mtg
			TBA- Pumpkin Carve
May 12	Club Mtg	Nov 10	Club Mtg
Jun 9	Club Mtg	Dec 8	Club Mtg
			TBA Christmas Party

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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.