

# The Scuba Scoop

**VOLUME 53, Issue 7** (English Language Version)

**July 2011**

**priceless**

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

-Serving the Tri-Cities since 1958!

<http://www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org>

**Club Meetings-** Held at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month, at the Thomas Twp. Fire Station on the corner of Dice and Thomas.

This meeting- 12<sup>th</sup>... Picnic at Piazza's!



Please Identify



*Inside....*

*Picnic Planning*  
*Visitor from Florida*  
*Visitor to Florida*  
*Anchor Pair*

*also selected short subjects*

**Remember Our Troops!**



5 fingers; 5 arms... (Fabish)

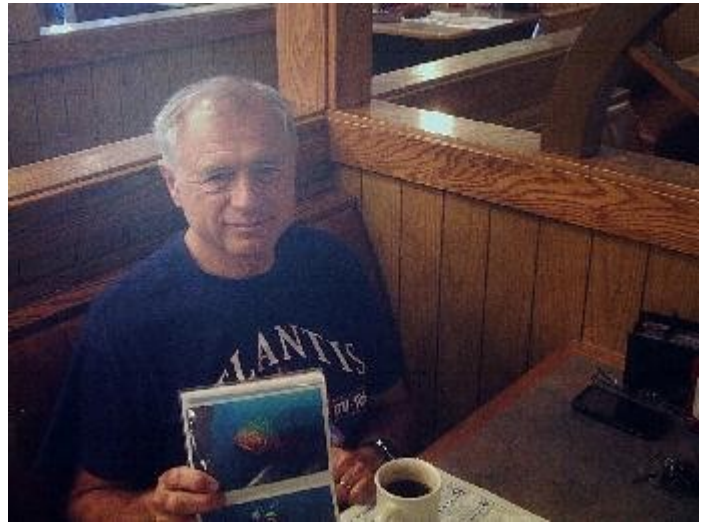
### **Picnic at Piazza's!**

Again, no meeting at the fire hall this month. Plan instead to meet at the Piazza Plaza on the 12<sup>th</sup> for our annual SUE picnic. Tony will be grilling (with help from Carol) our famous brats; please bring a dish to pass also. Tony was asking for RSVPs by the 30<sup>th</sup>; hope you checked in with him. Come with the idea of a good time; perhaps some trivial business might even transpire.

The SCOOP apologizes for the no show speakers at last months meeting; no explanation. It would've been an interesting subject. Maybe some future time. Thanks for the refreshments anyway, Mike!

Two members did make it to Krystal Lake for the club fun dive last month. UrEd will admit to hiding under the bed with the tornado threat, while Dave Sommers and Mike Fabish made the trip and had a great time in nice weather.

### **It's Dale!**



**-just in town for a coffee....**

SUE life member Dale Purchase was in Saginaw (from Florida) for a short time last month to attend his grandchild's graduation. Dale made the traditional stop at the Texan for breakfast and coffee. He shared a picture album of some scenes from recent diving he's done; fantastic! But how much of 80°F bottom temp with 150' vis can you endure? I believe Dale has been on every major wreck in Florida, and is still going!

### **Farther than Florida?**

The distance award for diving this month goes to Joel Klammer, current resident of Shanghei, China. Joel reports he just got back on land after 10 days on board a boat diving in Thailand. He did 40+ dives and received lots of certifications. He is slightly exhausted! (Joel; we know you'll be sharing some pictures in short while...) Nice going!

### **More Apologies**

Did everyone receive an apology from Terry Lisk and Leo Dupuis for missing the meeting? Serious as always, Terry and Leo got involved with some anchors which took up their free time...

“Details are sketchy however reports are in that the anchors were found in the St. Clair river system. The



**Mike suiting up at Krystal; calm waters! (-Sommers)**

crossarm anchor was lifted utilizing a 2000lb lift bag. It was a beautiful day as well.” Beautiful anchors! Not clear on where they will be exhibited.



Leo and Terry; just a day's work



Close-up view...

### Compressor News

The club has recently been discussing repair or replacement of our compressor; we contacted our expert Dick Batchelder of 'Compressed Air Supplies & Equipment' for advice. Here's his comments-  
“That's A 1987 early Mod 07, we have a lot of these out working and with parts available why buy a new one. We have 2 such like models here in Florida sold recently for \$5,500.00 as is with 2800 hours on one and the other \$4,800 with 4,000 hours, both as is and needed some repairs sold by a used equipment

dealer. We just finished rebuilding one completely with all new bearings ( main crank and both rod ends), valve, rings, final piston/sleeve, 2 new cylinders, oil pump, oil regulator, complete tear down strip clean & paint, 44 hours labor, \$8,386.00 just the compressor. Not ACD or any electronics. Your unit has low hours and as I said looks like in GREAT condition.'

Hope this helps. Cheers, Dick

And Thank You, Dick! Material for discussion!

### Fabish visits Florida

Exclusive! Mike Fabish went to Florida recently on business; certainly Mike has some diving to relate!

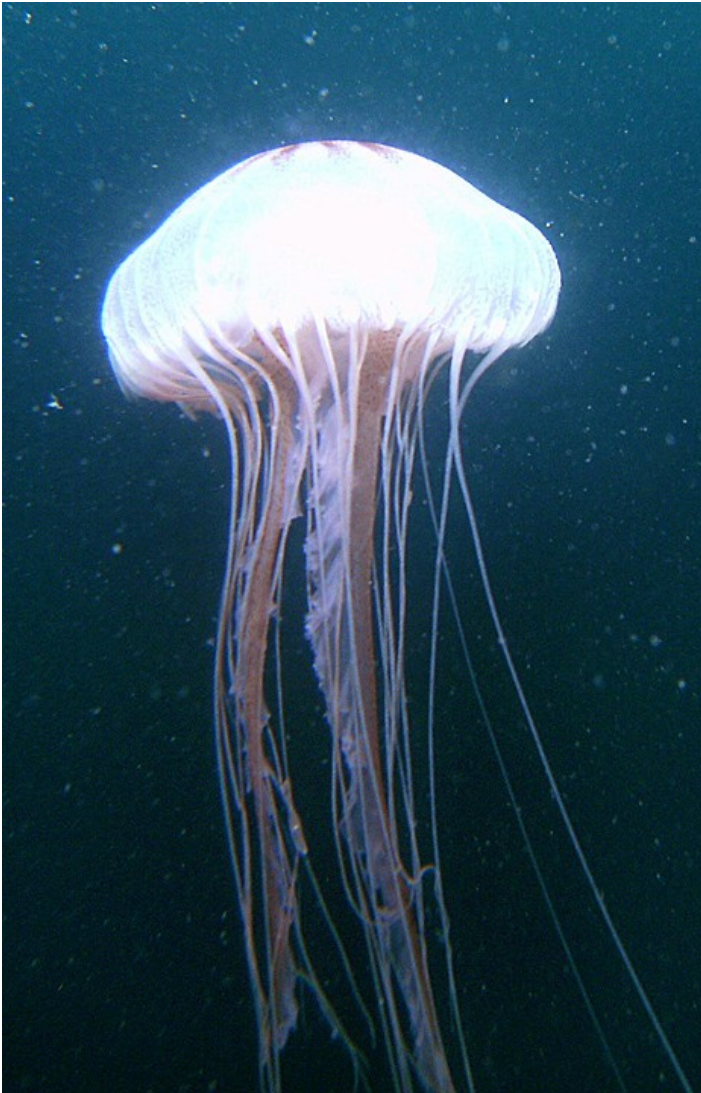


### May 2011: 1st Atlantic Dives

While visiting Justin the weekend after a business trip, I was able to find a charter operation out of Jacksonville FL that would get us out into the Atlantic for the 1st time. We motored about 18 miles offshore to 2 locations where barges that had sunk and become reefs and dive sites. The day was perfect: mid to upper 80's F and smooth water. Each site gave us the opportunity to see varieties of fish and coral. One of the divers was spear fishing and I got a pic or 2 with his harvest from the first barge. I don't know the names of the fish he got, but there were abundant, and came in close to see what we were doing.

The first barge was somewhat surrounded by stinging jellies. They were small, and our captain said that as long as we didn't get too close, they wouldn't be a problem; the biggest exposure would be using the down line to the wreck because the tentacles would break off on the rope as they drifted by. We were all wearing gloves and there were no incidents. The barge had several areas where we could penetrate and explore the immediate area. There was one elusive goliath grouper ("Jew fish") that I saw but was unable to get a pic. The

water was 75 F at depth, and vis was 20'-30'. We spent about 45 minutes, maxing at 67'.



into the sand and therefore gave us more depth. Temps and vis were the same as the first wreck. It turned out to be a great day to dive the Atlantic! (Mike's Pictures-)



The 2nd barge had no jellies to contend with, and the captain said it was about the same in depth and length as the first one. It had the same types of fish, no grouper, and one extra mother-in-law fish (ugly fish) hiding under a plate that I could just get a pic of its face. The 2nd barge was much more open, and could be entered at one end and we could swim through the whole boat, under the deck, dodging bulkheads and supports. Because of this, it was a pretty cool dive and gave opportunity to do much more exploring. There were lots of dark areas and corners where we would find fish hiding. We spent about 40 minutes on that barge, reaching 77' while inside the vessel; it had settled



## Scuba Scoop

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### S.U.E. 2011 Planner

Jul 12 Club Mtg / Picnic @ Piazzas  
Aug 9 Club Mtg  
Sep 13 Club Mtg  
Oct 11 Club Mtg  
TBA- Pumpkin Carve  
Nov 8 Club Mtg  
Dec 13? Club Mtg?  
TBA Christmas Party

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