

# The Scuba Scoop

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**Mar 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 8th



*Inside....*

*Board 2011*

*President's Message*

*Warm Water Diving*

*Cold Water Diving*

*Real Cold Water Shock*

*also selected short subjects*



Lionfish, By Tony

**Remember Our Troops!**



Sea Turtle, by Tony

## 2010 Board Out; 2011 Board In

February's club meeting determined new officers for this new year- here's the report by Pres. Fabish:

Our Board will remain the same except for the position of Compressor Chairman. Tom Van Den Boom was nominated, voted for, and accepted the position of Compressor Chair from Don Cunningham. Thank you Don for your years of service in keeping our compressor in top shape! The Board is as follows:

President: Mike Fabish

Comp Chair: Tom Van Dem Boom

Vice President: Tony Piazza

Member @ Large: Greg Prenzler

Treasurer: Dave Sommers

Secretary: Scot Thompson

Editor (appointed) Don Storck

- Looking for input on a couple of issues. If you would like to participate or have any ideas, please let us know. There are no wrong answers! The Board members are looking for your ideas!

. "We have finally found an opportunity to do some pools swims this year. Keith from Dive & Glide has invited us to participate with his classes at SVSU. We can attend as part of his group at a cost of \$15 per head. He currently has class on Wednesdays in Feb, and Thursdays in Mar; both from 6:30 – 10 pm. Any Sue members/groups wishing to join Keith should give him a heads up a day or two before the class to let him know how many are coming. You'll need to pay Keith at the class. The SVSU pool has a large 16' (5m) deep end to explore; 100' (30m) + vis and comfortable temps. We are also investigating any other times we may be able to use the SVSU pool; more info to follow."

"We investigated an opportunity for SUE members to be certified in VIP criteria. Dive Rescue Specialists is hosting a class in Grand Rapids in March at the cost of \$295 per student. There is an opportunity to share the expense of 2 or more students with the Saginaw County Dive Rescue Team. It was agreed that SUE does not need more than one additional VIP tech at this time, and that we did not want to pay the full \$295

at this time. The Dive Team will investigate the possible opportunity to host a VIP class locally, thereby reducing the cost even further and allowing 2 or more to participate and partner with the Dive Team to share expenses."

**Ice Dive:** Last year we did an ice dive in Mt Pleasant for any divers wanting to try it for the first time. It was a big success, and we're wondering about scheduling another one this year at Haithco. Anybody interested? Want to try it for the first time, or maybe again? Those of us Ice Certified are willing to assist if there are enough willing to show up. Send in your best dates and time if you'd like to do it. Reminder; there's only about a month left to do this, so urgency is encouraged."

**Summer Picnic:** Our July (July 12) meeting is traditionally a club picnic, and has been held at Tony's place (with pool) several times, and at Don's lot on Wixom Lake last year. We also talked about having it at a pavilion at Haithco or Immerman, but are open to any other suggestions. Are there any of you that would like to host it? All we need is a place; SUE will still supply the meat, and we all bring a dish to pass.

**Christmas Party:** We have had the Christmas party on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of Dec every year; are there any reasons we couldn't change that to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat in Dec? It has been suggested that an earlier date may allow better attendance, before holiday plans get in full swing. Any objections?  
-Mike

Ed's Note- Pres. Fabish spent some time this last month trying out the warm waters of Florida. Just before takeoff on the return trip, the guy sitting in front of Mike went into a heart attack. Mike; Fire/Rescue certified with Thomas Township, was able to provide assistance to save the man's life. Nice going, Mike! (spot on Oprah?...)

## Extreme Warm Water; Cozumel

Sure; those photos on the cover may be a bit deceiving for this time of year... V.P. Tony Piazza just returned from Cozumel with some photos to share-

"On a last minute deal, Carol and I jetted off to Mexico last month to the island of Cozumel. Although the evening temperatures dipped in the mid 60's, the daytime highs were in the 80's (more importantly, the water temperature was always 78).

Staying at the Iberostar, I dove with the Dressel dive company. They provide services to all of the Iberostar resorts and offer a 20% discount when pre-paying. Their 40' dive boats, *Aqua Diver I* & *Aqua Diver II*, picked us up at the resort's dock.

We dove all of the reefs; however, one wreck, a WWII minesweeper, was closed due to its unsettling position from the last hurricane.

The sea life was fantastic -- lots of spotted eagle ray, turtles, barracuda, lion fish, toad fish (native only to Cozumel), angel fish and a shark. Although I'm looking forward to diving Michigan waters this summer, I'm also looking forward to returning to the Caribbean."

-Tony Piazza



- Spotted Eagle Ray?



Tony; enjoying clear, blue, warm water

-Either the Shark or the Angelfish...



It's cousin?

### Enough warm water! It's still winter here!

Club members Mike Prenzler and Chris Dupuis were out in the elements 2 weeks ago attending an ice-diving class, which included divers from the area. The class began on Friday evening, and continued with instructor-controlled diving through the ice on Haithco Lake the following morning. Bitter cold winds across Haithco added to the discomfort of the training. Chris suffered an injury, but the SCOOP understands he's doing better. Good luck, Chris! A number of other club members were also there assisting.



## And for fun, the Polar Bear Plunge!

Also in February; also through the ice at Haithco! The 'Polar Plunge' is an annual event to benefit Special Olympics in the area. Guests are invited to jump into the 32.5 deg water by raising donations for the benefit. The hole is cut and secured, and safety provided by the Sag Cnty Dive Team. Members working it also included SUE members Dave Sommers, Mike Fabish, Greg Prenzler, Mike Prenzler, Ken Kruska, Bill Giorgis, Tim Hastings, and UrEd. Enjoy the scenes!-



Mike Prenzler(left) tending another diver



Mike Garner helping Mike Prenzler gear up

# Scuba Scoop

Don Storck  
3273 N. Raucholz  
Hemlock, MI  
48626



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?Kathy

## S.U.E. 2011 Planner

Mar 8 Club Mtg	Aug 9 Club Mtg
Apr 12 Club Mtg	Sep 13 Club Mtg
May 10 Club Mtg	Oct 11 Club Mtg TBA- Pumpkin Carve
Jun 14 Club Mtg	Nov 8 Club Mtg
Jul 12 Club Mtg TBA Picnic ?	Dec 13? Club Mtg? TBA Christmas Party

## S.U.E OFFICERS

President:  
Mike Fabish 781 6167

Vice President:  
Tony Piazza 751 0361

Secretary:  
Scot Thompson 525 3858

Treasurer:  
Dave Sommers 751 8517

Compressor Chair:  
Tom VanDenBoom 799 4

Bd Member-at-Large:  
Greg Prenzler 791 3556

Editor:  
Don Storck 642 8436

## \*FOR SALE/WANTED

Ray Essenmacher has scuba gear for sale;  
Contact [raymedic930@hotmail.com](mailto:raymedic930@hotmail.com)

Saturday, Apr 16, 9am – 3pm Big Toronto swap!

<http://www.scubaswap.org>

Policy and Disclaimer:  
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