

The Scuba Scoop

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Sept 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- 13th



Tim Hastings' boat on Murray Bay; Munising Safari
Showing by invitation only!



Inside....

*Krystal Dive
Higgins Dive
Munising Dive?
Project Shiphunt Followup
New Diver*

also selected short subjects



Space reserved for Sina's picture

Remember Our Troops!

August Minutes

Walk-in new member! The August meeting was back at fire station #2, and the club welcomed visitor Ben Boyle! Ben had seen our website, and was interested in what we did. He found our meeting site, and joined on the spot! (see; the website does attract!) Ben has been a diver since he was 13, and wanted to find a group he could further his diving with. He lives near Krystal Lake, which by coincidence was the club's destination for the August splash dive. Ben joined us, and we shared the lake's secrets with him. (later story) Welcome aboard, Ben!

The main subject of the meeting was discussing the upcoming Munising trip. Approximately ten divers traveled to Munising to spend the last weekend in August diving the area shipwrecks. The only news the SCOOP has gotten is Tim's dive boat picture (cover). Watch for the full report in the next SCOOP issue.

Club fun dive; Krystal Lake

Perhaps because he almost lives next door, but new member Ben Boyle was the first one to arrive at Krystal Lake. He was soon joined by Scot Thompson, Mike Fabish, and UrEd. Instead of entering through the beach area, Mike got us permission to use a camp site over the dive area, which made it a lot easier getting in.



Suiting up at camp site; bright sunny day!



Mike starting down steep cliff to concrete slab



Mike, Scot, Ben... arrive to dive!



Mike at the block



Scot, Ben join Mike; overcome tree obstacle



Post-dive; flash working yet?

Higgins Lake followed-

Tim Hastings and Bill Atkins did some talking, and planned a trip to Higgins Lake the following weekend. The invitation went out for anyone interested, and it appears they got a good group together. Not sure where they went in at, but the SCOOP is pretty impressed with the treasure they found! Bill? The SCOOP didn't receive all the dive details, but thanks to Terry Lisk for the photos.



Bypass the tree; nice diving ahead.



Mike way out; hopper in and to right.... (UrEd to follow)



Bill and Terry readying a tarp

***Notice- Still looking for a host family for exchange student Fabian; even temporary. Contact the SCOOP if you can help.**



Unload the gear!

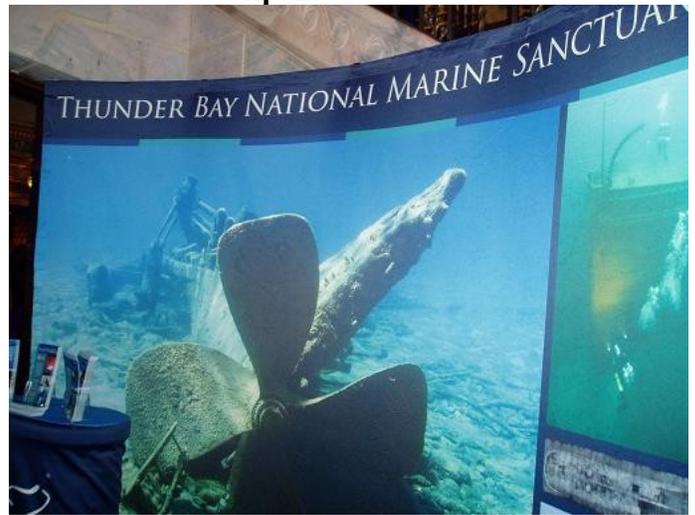


Treasure of Higgins Lake...



Good work, Guys! (Hey; who took this pic?)

Alpena-



Display at Project Shiphunt showing

-Update on Project Shiphunt

Recall a few issues of the SCOOP ago, the story on five students that went on a shipwreck hunt up in the Thunder Bay sanctuary. The story was not complete, and nothing else was heard until recently. On 8-29, a special showing of the project's video was shown at the Temple Theater. The showing was by invitation only, and UrEd's friend Carol had the connections needed to slip in without invitation. UrEd can testify it was a great show!



Dr. Delgado, project OIC, opening show

The video shows the full story of the students leaving Saginaw to join a NOAA team in Alpena, and actually

participating in a search. Their assignment was to locate the Comstock (whaleback class), sunk in a collision off Alpena in 1915. As it turned out, they did not find the Comstock, but they did find two other previously undiscovered wrecks. The video shows modern search techniques, including NOAA divers using rebreathers diving 300ft!



Underwater photo of wreckage taken by dive robot

Anyone heard of Stan Stock? He is apparently the resident shipwreck hunter in Alpena, and has spent much of his own time trying to locate the Comstock. It was announced this video would be shown on tv the next night(8-30), but they lied... It was shown, but only if you had Direct TV or ATTverse. UrEd is trying to get a copy of this, and we'll have our own special showing if successful. Stay tuned.

1800 Shipwreck

1,800-Year-Old Shipwreck Holds Key to Radioactive Waste...

(Published August 12, 2011 | Associated Press)

A shipwreck 1,800 years ago in the Adriatic Sea might give scientists at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory better information about how well modern glass might work to contain radioactive waste.

The Department of Energy is building a \$12.2 billion vitrification plant at the Hanford nuclear reservation to glassify radioactive waste before it is buried deep in the ground.

The glass, formed from the waste and glass-forming materials, is planned to keep the radioactive waste secure for thousands of years. But until recently, the longest test on a piece of man-made glass holding simulated radioactive waste has been about 25 years.

Thanks to the shipwreck "we can use data points Romans thoughtfully started for us hundreds of years ago," said Joseph Ryan, a senior scientist at the Department of Energy national laboratory in Richland.

He and scientist Denis Strachan, a laboratory fellow, are taking an atom-by-atom look at ancient glass to see how the glass has held up to corrosion.

Thursday, the two held up a chunk of green glass, marbled with iridescent streaks, that once was the handle of a jar.

It was among the glass that archaeologists believe was carried on the merchant ship Iulia Felix 1,800 years ago. The ship, which measured about 50 feet long, sank six miles off the coast of Grado, scattering glass at the bottom of the Adriatic Sea.

The Iulia Felix is believed to have carried containers of oils and spices, but also a barrel of glass pieces that may have been bound for the port of Aquileia, a center of Roman glass making. The glass pieces would have been recycled there.

The most likely way for modern glass incorporating radioactive waste to corrode and dissolve after it is buried, contaminating the environment, is by exposure to water.

In the Iulia Felix sample, the scientists have pieces of glass that have been sitting in water for 1,800 years. The glass also has some chemical similarities to the glass that will be produced using Hanford's radioactive waste. Both should contain about 20 percent to 25 percent sodium.

The ancient glass wasn't designed to be durable over 1,800 years, but it has held up well, Strachan said. And the glass planned to incorporate nuclear waste can be designed to be even more durable, he said.

"We want to show if we put (waste) glass underground and let it sit for millions of years, the public will be safe," Strachan said.

See:

<http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/08/12/1800-year-old-shipwreck-holds-key-to-radioactive-waste/>

Pumpkin Carve Plans

I've talked with Rick at the ZOO, and either Sunday, Oct 23 or 30 is OK with him to schedule our pumpkin carve around 2pm. The question is which Sun is best for the club? If you have a preference, especially if you plan to participate, please let me know; I'm looking for your input.

Speaking of the pumpkin carve, if you've never done it, you don't know what you're missing. It's a blast and this year's will be better than ever because the Zoo is including it in their activities and promotion. We'll be able to have an audience via the underwater observation tunnel and I'm sure the kids will enjoy what we do. Think about it...the more divers, the better. It's easy, it's fun, and all have a good time!

-Mike

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S.U.E. 2011 Planner

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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