

The Scuba Scoop

VOLUME 56, Issue 3 (English Language Version)

Apr 1, 2014

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....

March Meeting Mins
Compressor site
Mixer Presents !
Truck Rescue

also selected short subjects



-Check bottom page to see prize winners!

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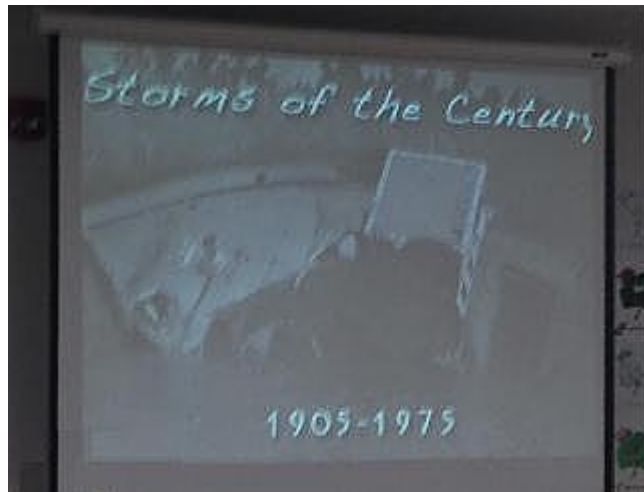
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'Storms of the Century'

Remember Our Troops!

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March Minutes



1855, and new secretary Justin Fabish readying his books

“It was great to see everyone at the meeting. I just wanted to give you the minutes of our last meeting on March 11. “

- * The compressor room is coming along at the new location, as you were informed by the last email president Mike sent. Our first priority was to get heating and a locking mechanism, followed by dry-wall mud, painting the floor, and finally painting the walls.
- * We discussed the Cheboygan trip that was recommended by Tony. We are planning to do the trip on July 12-13. More information to come.
- * Our federal tax return has been filed for the club.
- * Don reported that Ric Mixer is doing a shipwreck lecture at the Catholic Family Credit Union on State St near Weineke on March 20th at 10:00 (sorry about the short notice).
- * The May 13th meeting is our VIP night and trunk sale/swap. Members, bring anything that you might want to sell and bring some ca\$h in case you find some treasure.

Take care, everyone.

Justin

Compressor Site Comments

-Previous news; 3 weeks ago:

Just a quick update on the compressor room. Dave hopes to finish dry wall prep tomorrow, and Mark Russell plans to paint the inside on Thus. If all goes well, next is to get the floor painted over the weekend. The door locking mechanism has been fabricated by Mike Garner and is ready to attach for security. We'll be able to get the electric next, ready for the compressor. Meanwhile, the compressor has been disconnected at TTFD, ready to move once the room is ready. Thank you to all who have put so much time and effort into this project! You have all gone above and beyond for the good of the Saginaw Underwater Explorers!
Mike;

-Current news; 1 week ago:

Dry walled, painted, heated, door secured, and electrically live! On Tues, the move was made. Between 2 trucks and a trailer, everything was moved out of the old site at Thomas Twp, and is now in the new site at **2850 Bay Rd.(48603)**. (see map) All that remains to be done is connecting the compressor, and the tanks.

[Attn: all who have keys to the old site; please turn them in to Mike Fabish or Don Cunningham]



Mike Garner and Don Cunningham loading tanks



Through the door; now how to lift...



Just have to put your mind to it!



-north on Bay from Weiss; south from Shattuck; turn east (photos by Sommers, who should've been in them also)

Special thanks to all who helped;

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Don Cunningham | Mark Przybylski |
| Mike Fabish | Mark Russell |
| Justin Fabish | Dave Sommers |
| Mike Garner | Don Storck |
| Bill Giorgis | Manny Trevino |
| Tim Hastings | |

-Expect to get VIP seating at the April meeting...

Club Charter?

CLUB DIVE July 12 &/or 13, Straits of Mackinac, out of Cheboygan with Northern Michigan Dive Center. The Bluewater vessel is booked however a 6 pack is available. Need 5-6 divers to commit with a \$50 deposit, per day. Call or email Tony Piazza 751-0361 / piazza.anthony@charter.net.

'Storms of the Century' Presentation

Ric Mixer, accompanied by his wife Sheila, filled the room at the Catholic Federal CU in Saginaw last week with a great presentation. Not about storms, but the Great Lakes shipwrecks they caused. Narrating slides and video, Ric covered the period from 1905 to 1975; ending with the Fitzgerald disaster.



Ric's wife Sheila and Ric answering guest's question



Look closely to see diver on wreck (Ric?)

Ric used to work for a local tv station, but said he became tired of reporting tragedies. Instead, he saw the historical stories that were part of shipwrecks, and as a diver began researching them. He pointed out Bay City was a major shipbuilder in the past, and many of the wrecks were from there. (Many hulls can still be seen in the Saginaw River)

Galetta and Turret Crown Beached by North easter.
Grand Marais, Mich. Harbor of Refuge.



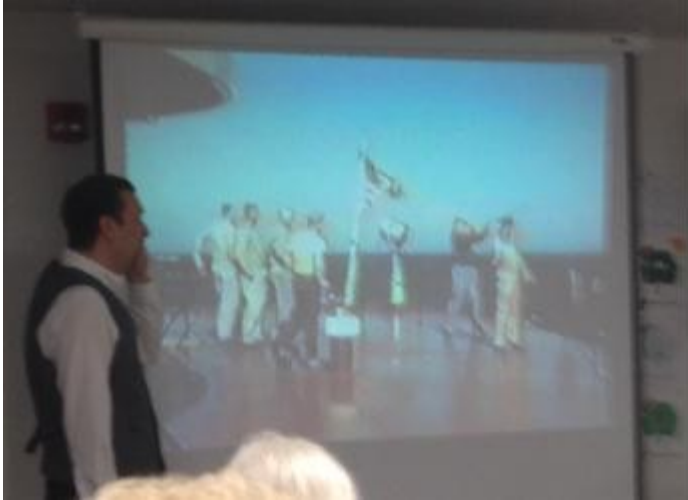
Just one of many interesting stories- The Galetta (far right) was thrown on the beach by a storm in Grand Marais, near Munising. Wrecked, the authorities decided to just let it sit there. A year later the steel vessel Turret Crown was blown in and collided with it! The Galetta was later destroyed by a fire.



The Fitzgerald in finer days...

You may recall Ric was one of the few able to go down in a submersible to view the wreck of the Fitzgerald. Are you aware that there is now a law forbidding further observation of the Fitzgerald? This includes traversing across it, using SONAR.

Ric met a lady one day that asked him if he knew the 2d(?) captain of the Fitz. He knew, and she (apparently a relative) presented him with a box of personal rare photos from the Fitz! One was a group that appeared to be visiting the pilot house. Another was a group shooting skeet off the deck. Probably more than tourists.



-This is a photo of a group skeet shooting on the Fitz' deck!

Ric always puts on a great show. This one was even better because it was his birthday! The folks from the CU had balloons and cake for him! Ric was born 50 years ago in Munising. Something prophetic there!



Happy BD, Ric! The second 50 is even better.

Asked if he had any close calls while diving a wreck, Ric asked his wife to cover her ears... Ric's oldest daughter Jamie is also a diver, and her fiance Jimmy is also. Who expected that!

You can follow Ric's tour schedule at www.lakefury.com; he does about 40 lectures a year around the Great Lakes area. He also performs in concerts with a musician named Dan Hall, having a group name "Storm". He has something scheduled for Traverse City coming up, but the date is uncertain. Some of the more memorable lectures he has lined up

for this year will be aboard the car ferry "City of Milwaukee" in Manistee on Aug 9, also a tour through the Soo Locks on June 26. He will also be aboard the cutter Mackinaw (museum in Mackinaw City) on June 28th. Ric welcomes everyone! Thank you Ric!

Truckin Water

Dave Sommers and Bill Giorgis needed one more chance this winter to go into ice water; they got it when a pickup truck went in on Saginaw Bay...



Follow the tracks...



Front of truck first winched up ramps

The recovery was led by Bill, owner of Mike's Wrecker Service of Saginaw. Bill has these recoveries down to an art.

The Chevy Silverado went through about a foot of ice Friday evening and was in about 4 feet of water. It was located about

3 miles southeast of the end of Palmer Road in Standish which is where Mike's staged the recovery operation from. Another location reference -- It was

almost directly East, about 2 miles, from the end of Whites Beach Road near Saganing Bar (a sand bar in the Bay).

There were no reported injuries. The recovery took about 6 hours on the ice by the seven Mike's employees. Mike's used ramps and hand winches to return the truck to solid ice. A snowmobile and quad runner towed the truck back to Palmer Road. The truck was then loaded onto a flatbed tow truck and taken to a heated garage in Saginaw.



Now home to towel down!
(photos and story by Sommers)

Guess the Pearl Diver...



Well, somebody had to help clean up after the recent spaghetti dinner. Got an idea? OK; check the next page...



Alex K. Brian K. Greg P. Alex P.

Good Dads! Brian Kleinfeld and Greg Prenzler both volunteered to help their sons Alex and Alex at their annual Boy Scout fund raising spaghetti dinner.

DT Operation; SUE Members Participate



Mark Laux, Dave Sommers, UrEd, and Mark Przybylski return to shore. Bill Giorgis and Mike Garner waiting with the van.

The Dive Team was requested by Saginaw City for a recovery operation at the city water works. A small dog had gone through the ice and drowned, and it was retrieved for health reasons. "The team decides to go on a mission based on risk versus benefit, Sommers told the Saginaw News, noting it was not a risk for the team because it has proper training and equipment".

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S.U.E. 2014 Planner

Apr 8 mtg,
May 13 mtg , VIP? Jun 10 mtg,
Jul 8 mtg? picnic? Aug 12 mtg , Rosd Trip?
Sep 9 mtg Oct 14 mtg, UWPC?
Nov 11 mtg (vets day!) Dec 6- Christmas Party

Your club, your activities- Make suggestions!

2014 S.U.E OFFICERS

President:	Mike Fabish	295 2627
Vice President:	Mark Russell	280 3194
Secretary:	Justin Fabish	495 9756
Treasurer:	Dave Sommers	751 8517
Compressor Chair:	Don Cunningham	799 4385
Bd Member-at-Large:	Tim Hastings	798 8157
Editor:	Don Storck	642 8436



TO: Preferred Customer

Have Coffee with Janet!



Rob Quartermain of Deep Blue Fantasea has a limited number of these coffee cups featuring the gorgeous Janet Van De Winkle. Rob is offering these collector's items to club members at this time for \$5.00. www.deepbluefantasea.com

For Sale/Trade -now accepting 2014 listings

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.