

The Scuba Scoop

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Mar 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- 11th

Inside....

Election- New Board!
Polar Plunge with Club Help
Diving the Blue Hole!

also selected short subjects



Dave Sommers cutting through the ice in Haithco



Swan belly-jump during Polar Plunge at Haithco

Remember Our Troops!

Feb Election Meeting



In spite of frigid temps...

New-Pres. Fabish reports:

“We received an update on the compressor room being built in Bill Giorgis’s building on Bay Rd. The walls and ceiling are up, and most of the wiring is completed. The insulation and dry wall are next, along with heat, and we will be almost done. The floor will be painted and possibly the walls/ceiling, depending on time and materials. We also voted in agreement that the cost of the materials needed for this project will be paid out of the SUE general fund upon receipts from those needing to be reimbursed. Special thanks to Mike and Justin Fabish, John Garner, (initial clean-up) and Don Cunningham, Mike Garner, Don Storck, Manny Trevino, & Dave Sommers, for the continued clean-up and building of the room. Your time and skills are very much appreciated!! Of course, thanks again to Bill for making all this possible! Tomorrow at 9am, Dave will be starting with the insulation and drywall if you are available to help.(NOTE-Past! -ed) We will be announcing the date and time to move the compressor and cascade system once the room is ready; all hands available are welcome.

Mark Russell was able to get some price quotes on the D & O insurance policy discussed at the Jan meeting, and the pricing fell in line with all other quotes. That being said, we have decided not to pursue this type of coverage for Directors and Officers as it is

not warranted in the structure of our club and its dealings with the public.

Our annual election was held and the following are the results for our Board of Directors:

	PRESIDENT- Mike Fabish
	VICE PRESIDENT- Mark Russell
	TREASURER- Dave Sommers
	SECRETARY- Justin Fabish
	MEMBER at LARGE- Tim Hastings
	COMPRESSOR CHAIR- Don Cunningham

-The Board is dead; long live the Board!

Please take the time to welcome Mark, Justin, and Tim as your new Board members next time you see them! Thank you Tony, Scot and Greg for your years of service and dedication, as well as all the other officers; I could not do this alone!

Mark Laux brought to our attention a possible alternate location for our monthly Fun Dive: Stratford Lake in Midland. This is a municipal park just off US-10, and the Midland City FD has used it for some trainings. Mark also mentioned that the FD has lost some equipment in the lake, giving us something to look for if we chose that as a site. Mar is going to pursue whatever permission or details required for SUE to utilize the lake:

We are open to ANY suggestions for the Fun Dives to keep them fresh and interesting. Haithco,

Otter Lake, and Krystal Lake will still be in the rotation.

We also welcomed visitors Larry Lecodet (Lay-ko-day) and his son Anthony. They are both certified divers, as well as Larry's daughter, and are interested in joining SUE to keep active in the diving community and keep their skills sharp. Welcome! Don Storck brought in a very interesting video on infra-red light and it's uses.

Note: upcoming community events include the Polar Plunge Feb 22(past), and our SUE VIP night and Trunk Sale will be May 13, at the new compressor location. The compressor schedule and Fun Dives will start May-Oct. Our annual summer picnic will be announced and keep Aug 21-25 open for our annual SUE trip (location TBD). Lastly, don't forget our Pumpkin Carving Contest at the Zoo around Halloween, and our SUE Christmas party Dec 6; check out the website for schedules!"

Stay wet, stay safe! -Mike

Ice Dive Class

Brian Kleinfeld and Mark Przybylski picked the coldest days of the year to take an ice-diving class in February. The diving was held at Haithco Lake, where they had to contend with high winds and freezing equipment. Brian commented on FaceBook-

"Saginaw Sheriff Dive Team hosted this ice diving class for Public Safety Divers. 3 day course. 28 divers took the class including myself. Course was taught by Dive Rescue International out of Ft. Collins, Colorado. Divers were PSDs from Saginaw, Midland, Billings twp, Lansing, Van Buren twp, Noblesville & Warsaw Indiana, and a couple of Missouri State troopers. Awesome bunch of people!!! Many thanks to the Saginaw YMCA for letting us take over their pool Friday afternoon and the Saginaw dive team members who supported the class, especially Bill Giorgis for the refreshments & 40" bar Stihl chainsaw to get through the ice!



Diver comes up covered in grass; Mark P. in back

Brian also posted a couple of videos on FB; watch these at

www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10202472100197259

www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10202472068916477

www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10202472315122632

(-even though you can't appreciate the cold...)

Polar Plunge; Return to Haithco

It was no surprise that about a week after the ice-diving class, the ice at Haithco Lake thickened to at least two feet! It is dive team/club members who volunteer each year to cut the hole for the Special Olympics Polar Plunge, and provide safety to the jumpers.



Step 1- Cut target rectangle into smaller rectangles

Step 2- Shove smaller rectangles down beneath standing ice

Recall Brian's thanks to Bill Giorgis for his 40" chain saw previously? Thank you Bill all over again; if we didn't have use of that saw the jumpers would still be waiting! Anticipating the heavy ice, the hole cutting project started two hours earlier than usual; finally a watery rectangle was formed. And the jumpers came...



View from the west; Fabish receiving...



Note observers in back; ice safe enough for all!



Hole/Safety crew; all SUE members but two.

Road Trip to Blue Hole (not Belize..)

Enough of ice stories! Greg Prenzler escaped the polar vortex in January by a trip to the Blue Hole in NM. He drove there from Oklahoma with a buddy; it was an all day trip.



Blue Hole, NM

Here's Greg-

"On January 18, I made a trip to Santa Rosa NM to dive the Blue Hole. This is a dive spot I read about a long time ago in a magazine about the best locations to dive inside the US. Saturday morning a friend of mine (Dave) from work was here and we made the 6 hour trip from OKC. We had to make a stop at the Big Texan: Home to the free 72oz Steak. Neither one of us took that up but we had a great steak for an early lunch. -Then on to Santa Rosa!

May 17 is the 17th anniversary of **Dive&Glide!**
An Open House will be held from noon-2pm. Food & Prizes!
807 E. Midland St, Bay City



Info Site; Blue Hole

As we made the stop at the Blue Hole in Santa Rosa, I talked with some other divers there. One lady was from Denver doing some check outs with some student she came with. We got our gear on and entered the hole. The water was 64 degrees and clear.



Selfie, by Greg

Dave started to dive and got a bad earache. As he was trying to clear his ear out, I made a short dive to the platform square. It was made of pvc at around 25 feet. I came back to check on Dave and he said he was done; his ear was not getting better. After a few minutes, I went down to the bottom of the hole where it was 80 feet and clear.

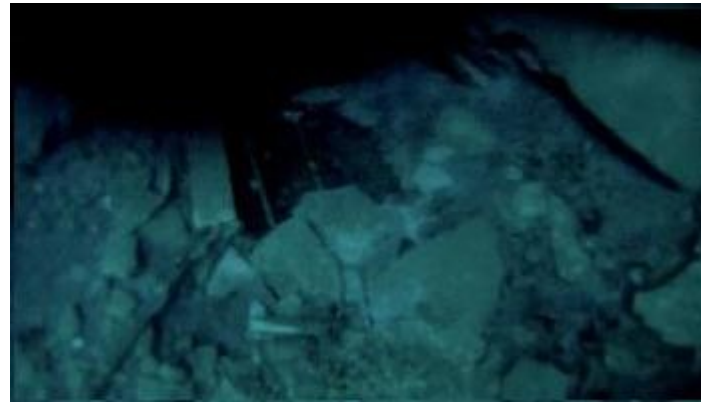


Hole above

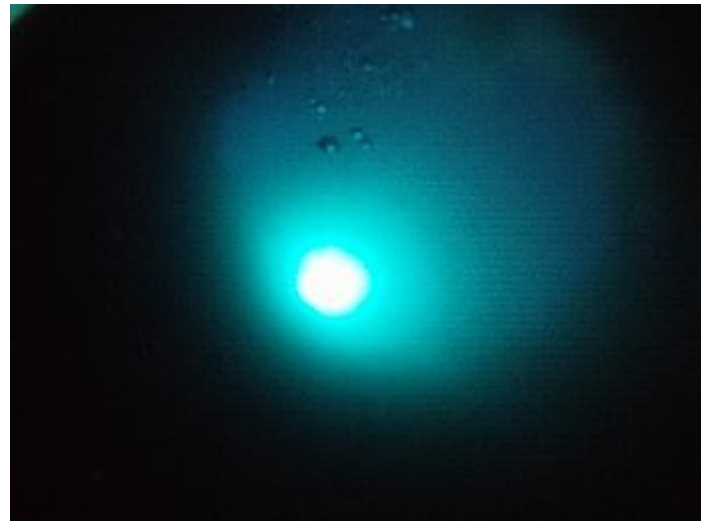
Platform below



Clear bottom view



Boulder view



From bottom, looking up at hole!

There were some large boulders, fire hydrant and wooden cross. I completed my dive, and then we were off. It was a long day but it was a great trip!"

-Greg (Note: Possb slide show at meeting-ed)

Don Storck Publisher
3273 N. Raucholz
Hemlock, MI
48626



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Compressor Chair:	Don Cunningham	799 4385
Bd Member-at-Large:	Tim Hastings	798 8157
Editor:	Don Storck	642 8436

TO: Preferred Customer

S.U.E. 2014 Planner

Mar 11 mtg,	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!

For Sale/Trade -now accepting 2014 listings

Adv- Teeth bothering you on a good dive? See
Kathleen Klonowski DDS or
Ashly Bailey DDS
799-5690

Policy and Disclaimer:
Items listed in For Sale/Wanted will continue to be listed
for one year unless the "Scoop" is notified otherwise.
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