

The Scuba Scoop

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June 2015

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- 9th

Inside....

*May Mtg, VIPs!
Haithco; Buoying, Diving
Zoo Windows
Saginaw River Incident
Lego King!*

also selected short subjects



May club dive; Haithco Lake



Mike Fabish filling tanks at May VIP meeting

Remember Our Troops!



May Meeting VIPs and Fills



Manny Trevino (ctr) performing VIPs



Dave Sommers and Don Cunningham bookkeeping

Pres Fabish: VIP Night was a rousing success! Over 30 tanks were inspected and filled...thank you for participating! Mike K was there with his traveling scuba store and met the needs of a few divers; he has more if you still need items. If you still need VIP's contact me or the board and we can see which inspector may be able to schedule it in. When you need air fills, don't forget to contact the person

scheduled at least 24 hours in advance: the compressor schedule is on our website (w/ opt'r's tx numbers).

-Mike



-and Mike filling!



New member and Old member...

Please welcome Jim Dougherty as our newest member! Jim has been diving since the 60's and still going strong! He was at VIP night and met some of you.

SUE Members-

We all send our condolences to Mark Russell (and his brother, and former SUE member, Luke) in the sudden passing of Mark's dad. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

EUREKA! We have found magic

...in the Magic Eraser! We have been unsuccessful for the last 2 years getting the brown staining algae off the Zoo windows, and it's been getting worse since it started. I found through home use that the Mr Clean Magic Eraser (ME) takes everything off I've ever tried it on (including permanent marker off scuba tanks) so thought I'd give it a try. Last Friday, the windows were especially bad, and after scraping them, I tried the ME, and they are now sparkling clean!! After that, we got one to Don and he found the same success on his side. It was very easy to use, did not require much pressure, can be rinsed over and over again and re-used as needed. We could not believe the results. And, being clean now, will make them all that much easier to clean the next time; I suspect there may be times where all we will need is the ME to do the job! Take a look at the pics of before and after! (*further down)

On that note: the Zoo would like to have us clean the windows more often than once a month if possible. Now that they are getting cleaner, it may not be an issue, but just in case, I'd like to try setting an every 3rd week schedule. We need at least 2 divers; 3 preferred, for each cleaning. If you would like to get on the schedule, send me the best times you are available during a week, keeping in mind they prefer during the week, the earlier the better, and they close at 5 pm. Early weekends can be included if necessary. We will still be planning a "drill" needed by the Zoo to go over diver safety and record keeping procedures; date to be announced...

Quarry Days 2015 is quickly approaching. Several of you have said you are planning to go, even if it is for one day. Here is what I know: Justin and I will be driving to White Star early Fri morn, May 29. We will dive White Star that morning, set up camp during lunch/surface intervals, dive some more in the afternoon, and camp there. Saturday, we will go to Gilboa for the day, and return to White Star campground for the second night, and do the night dive avail at White Star. Sunday we will get up, break camp, and may or may not dive again before heading back home. Of course any and all are welcome!! You can caravan down with us, meet us there, or whatever

works best! You can camp, get a nearby hotel, or make a day trip of it, but if you want to meet and dive together, I need to know when you will be there! Tim Hastings has graciously offered the use of his big tent (can sleep 6?), which we will set up and he will stay in when he arrives to dive Gilboa on Sat. We could accommodate a couple others if you want and share the cost. Bring whatever you need, including food if you are planning meals at a campsite (there are some eateries around the area, too). This is a great early dive trip with much to see. Check out the websites for cost, camping, directions, and any other info you need: www.whitestarquarry.com & www.divegilboa.com. I've also attached an info sheet; disregard Portage Quarry: they started allowing dumping there and there is no vis! The fees/costs and specs may have changed since putting it together so go directly to the site if you have questions. Please pay special attention to fees: some places ONLY TAKE CASH! If you have never been to either location, you are in for an amazing trip! If you are returning, just think of all the things you will see again...and those you might have missed last time!

This week's Fun Dive was a success, too. We dove Haithco, located and cleaned the submerged line buoy, found all the ropes and lines to the 3 boats intact, pulled them from the weeds, cleaned them, cleaned the direction signs, and did some cleaning on each boat. The water was clear (until we started cleaning LOL), and many, many bluegills, sunfish and bass followed us on our journeys. Next trip I hope to use a cable to help clear the deck of the pontoon boat of weeds and growth, and use an ME on the signs.

Be thinking about where you'd like to go diving throughout the rest of the year! There's a fun dive every month. We still have our big trip in August to plan, and another trip to the Diver's memorial in Petoskey. There's also been mention of diving the old gypsum mining/loading platforms near Alabaster. We can charter as a group or take our own boats; I'm sure Tony would like join us from his place in Tawas. We could do a whole weekend up there (maybe the August trip?), diving the Au Sable back waters by the Au Sable Queen and/or the dam side in drift dives.

Where else would you like to go? Tony has reminded us that there are wrecks to be seen up near his place, too.

Our annual SUE picnic will be at *Bob's* place on Wixom again this year. It will be the regular monthly meeting in July, 14. The club supplies the meat, and everybody brings a dish to pass and beverage, to enjoy a relaxed evening by the lake, sitting by the fire! More to come including directions/map later!

Stay wet, stay safe! -Mike

Buoy Placers

Haitco Lake is the only (public) lake in Saginaw County, and is operated by the Saginaw County Parks. They give special privileges to SUE and the dive team letting us dive there, so we are more than glad to return a favor. In the fall buoy markers for the swim area come out, and in the spring must be placed back in. Mike Garner, Manny Trevino, Dave Sommers, and UrEd knocked it off one morning a few weeks back. Nothing really difficult, but we had to locate where they went; things had changed through the winter. It was actually fun to be out there again!

(photos by Sommers)



Buoy anchored in place by Garner



Remember this is work...



UrEd spots with toe; Mike Garner finds concrete anchor



Note boundary line in place. (the three what?)

Club Dive – Return to Haithco

For the first club dive of the year, Haithco is always the most convenient; close and easy access. It was also relatively clear.; green organisms hadn't had a chance to go crazy yet. As mentioned in the Pres's comments, Mike, Justin, Adam, and UrEd met there around 6:30 with plenty of evening left for the get-wet dive. UrEd is still adjusting to his new wet suit, and needs more weight; about 10 lbs? Mike and Justin did check out the boats, and they could use a little more cleaning from plant life.



Mike and Justin about ready to get wet



Tues, 6:30pm- Haithco Lake quiet...



-also wanted to get wet...



Back up; spread your gear,...



Packing up time; still light!

*UW Windows; Zoo

As Mike mentioned earlier in his comments, we made a major discovery and accomplishment in May's window cleaning detail! Prior to this, the windows have been stuck with a second type of algae stain after the thicker growth had been cleaned. Many supposed experts have been questioned for a solution, and no answers were forthcoming. Mike experimented with the new 'Magic Erasers', and - success. See for yourself! You'll want to try it! (photos by Sommers)



UrEd, Fabish, and Robin (Zoo Manager) meeting the kids
"Who likes candy...?"



Enough publicity; time to go to work...



Fabish starts on icky window; fan helps from inside



"Look; we can see the guy!!"



UrEd finishing his window with the 'Magic Eraser'
(note the window is clean; the water has become very cloudy)

Dive Team Called to Saginaw River

A tragic accident on the Saginaw River in May resulted in many SUE/DT members answering the call for assistance. As it turned out, it was a three day ordeal. The local news covered the details; there's no need to go over those again. But the Michigan State Police team was also called in, and the following are some scenes from that shared experience. Big thanks to the MSP for their resources! (photos by Sommers)



Bill Giorgis, Manny Trevino cover situation with troopers



MSP activates a second boat



MSP diver in (note fog building)



Sheriff boat, MSP boat preparing to go out
-with Manny Trevino, Mark Przybylski, Devin Heyn, and Brian Kleinfeld; many other SUE members not shown.



Dave & Dave (w/ Lightning)



MSP reading SONAR



Weather gets really bad!

Compressor Sched- June

Date Operator (call ahead)

JUNE 4	Terry Lisk	777-1956
JUNE 11	Don Cunningham	799-4385
JUNE 18	Greg Prenzler	239-0625
JUNE 25	Dave Sommers	751-8517
JULY 2	Mike Fabish	295-2627

Our Man Scot Makes the News!

A14 / SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2015 / THE SAGINAW NEWS

Local



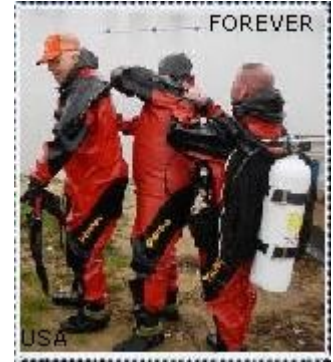
Scot Thompson, president of the Michigan Lego Users Group, created Lego models of Bay City buildings including Bay City Hall, State Theatre and the Bay Area Y. The models are on display at New Hope Valley Assisted Living and Memory Care Community, 3785 N. Center Road in Saginaw Township. <http://bit.ly/1wskk8k>

BAY CITY
Lego enthusiast recreates iconic local architecture

“Scot Thompson, president of the Michigan Lego Users Group...” stands with his display at New Hope Valley Assisted Living and Memory Care, 3785 N. Center Rd, Saginaw Twp.

Nice work, Scot! (story by Cole Waterman; mlive)

Don Storck Publisher
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989 280-3194

For Sale/Trade

- * Big selection of all SCUBA gear! Contact Mike Kowalski' 892-2028
- * Standard medical O2 bottles; 10\$ dstorck@hotmail.com
- * Special offer to club members- Tim Hastings selling his boat; 4000\$ OBO. New trim tabs just installed 798 8157
- * Misc dive gear- contact Derek Nikolai [<dereknikolai@gmail.com>](mailto:dereknikolai@gmail.com)

S.U.E. 2015 Planner

Jun 9 mtg	
Jul 14 mtg? picnic?	Aug 11 mtg
Sep 8 mtg	Oct 13 mtg, UWPC; zoo?
Nov 10 mtg	Dec 5- Christmas Party

2015 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
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