

THE SCUBA SCOOP

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www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org

2024 Board:

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Treasurer	Dave Sommers	989-751-8517
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Member-at-Large	Mike Fabish	989-295-2627
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President's Letter

Greetings, Members,

It's hard to believe that in just three months I will have been the club's president for a year! I am proud to have had the opportunity to dive with several members during this time and look forward to another active year in 2025. We had a very successful summer with two dive charters and a great fall which included dives in Lake Charlevoix and our annual cleaning of the underwater crucifix. We had nine club members this year in Little Traverse Bay and I always find it very uplifting to be face-to-face with Jesus for an hour underwater on a Sunday (sorry, Jesus, I missed church that day, but I know you understand). This commitment to the annual cleaning only gives me hope that the club is becoming stronger by the number of members presents. Another display of our club's success is the fact that we just celebrated our 65th anniversary. A dozen members gathered at my home in Tawas for the annual picnic which was topped off with cake.

With the election of officers in February, we will have a Zoom meeting on January 14, 2025, for nominations. I would like to see more involvement from our members who share the same passion of scuba diving that I do.

As we plan for our annual Christmas dinner and enter the holiday seasons, please take the time to be thankful for our many blessings. You all may have heard the news of our treasurer, Dave Sommers, who recently had a successful kidney transplant, something he's been waiting for for quite a while. He has always worked diligently for the club as treasurer and completed October's reports within days of his procedure.

We also have news of our compressor chairman, Terry Lisk who is always there for the club, keeping the compressor up-and-running. He had a recent health issue, but is now home from the hospital. Please keep both Terry and Dave in your thoughts and prayers.

Respectfully,
Tony Piazza, President

SUE CHARLEVOIX DIVE TRIP

Along with the Saginaw Underwater Explorers' annual dive trip to clean the crucifix, we also made a trip to Lake Charlevoix for the day. That day was September 28th when Tony Piazza, Bill Kirksey and Steve Kinkle ventured out on the calm waters of Lake Charlevoix under sunny skies.

Loading the gear aboard the 16' open deck pontoon, affectionately known as the Spark Plug, it was apparent that this crew was really excited to go scuba diving. I only hope that I can continue to log dives with anyone else who may be interested in this excursion.

The first dive took us to the Jacob P, a schooner barge that rests in 64'. The visibility was good, but very different from that found at the Keuke which was our second dive.



The end of a good day



Captain Steve enroute to the dive site



The deck of the Jacob P



Tony on the bow

SUE ANNUAL CLEANING OF THE CRUCIFIX

It was only fitting that this year's trip took place on a Sunday with blue skies, sunshine and calm waters. Two boats, the Spark Plug and Reggie Tony, departed the Petoskey City Marina for the short trip to the dive site.

The team included four board members, President Tony, VP Bill, Secretary Carol and News Editor Joel. Also joining the team were other members of the Garner family which included John, Cathie and Jack, and Steve Kinkle, captain of the Spark Plug. After the boats returned to the harbor, another member, Mike Garner, did a shore dive to view the cross with his partner.

The water temperature was in the 60's and although visibility was initially great, when we splashed, it quickly deteriorated from all the algae that accumulated on the cross. I logged 60 minutes of bottom time and said a few prayers after the job was finished giving thanks for another successful dive and for all of our blessings. Let me know if anyone else wants to join us next year.



John Garner Memorial



SUE Plaque



The Crew

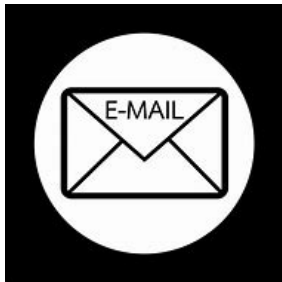


Pumpkin Carve Dive 2024

October 6th 2024 was the annual underwater pumpkin carve sponsored by Underwater Antics. It was an absolutely beautiful day to dive at Clear Lake, located in Atlanta, Michigan. Divers were tasked with carving a unique pumpkin design underwater. Participating club divers were John, Cathie, Jack, and Joel Garner, and Tim and Cheryl Middleton. Upon completion of the dive, we enjoyed a picnic and fellowship. Afterwards, we voted for the Best Pumpkin. First place was awarded to Joel Garner with his aquarium pumpkin design. Cathie Garner took second place with her dive flag sea turtle design. It was a great time for all!



Cathie Garner



If you enjoyed this issue of the Scuba Scoop, and would like to be included in the quarterly email, contact Carol Piazza at piazza.carol6@gmail.com



Jack Garner



Joel Garner



First and Second Place!



Winning Pumpkin

Puffs - featuring Joel Garner

Recently, our news editor, Joel Garner, had the lead role in the play Puffs. Puffs is a spinoff production of Harry Potter. The play captures all 7 years of wizarding school, focusing in on the Hufflepuffs (Puffs). The show ran for two weekends, under the direction of WE Players, Inc., at Tawas Bay Players Playhouse. Tony and Carol Piazza enjoyed the show as did proud parents John and Cathie Garner.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
DINNER & MEETING**

Just a reminder of our annual
Christmas Dinner and general meeting
which will be held on

12/7/2024 at 6 PM
UNO's Restaurant
4960 Towne Center Rd, Saginaw

I know everyone likes a nice present so,
if you can, please bring a scuba-related
gift for a door prize.

Please RSVP to Tony Piazza
(989-751-0361 or
piazza.anthony1@gmail.com)
by November 30th

