

# THE SCUBA SCOOP

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[www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org](http://www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org)

## **2025 Board:**

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## **President's Letter**

I want to thank all of our members of the Saginaw Underwater Explorers for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president for my third term. I am very excited about the 2026 scuba season and look forward to more bottom time in our Great Lakes. Several club members have already reserved seats for our June charter in the Straits of Mackinac and the Thumb Area Underwater Preserve in July. There are a lot of diving opportunities throughout the state with local dive shops. Check out the links on our website to direct you to the various dive shops.

Here is your opportunity to check out your equipment at the club's annual pool swim which is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24 from 6-8 pm at the Standish-Sterling Central High School pool (see map in this edition of the Scoop). You can then get your bottles in order at our annual VIP night on May 12 starting at 6pm at the compressor site.

These are just a few of the opportunities your club provides to promote the sport of scuba diving.

I would also like to start a classified section in future Scoops for dive and maritime related items that our members would like to sell or are looking to purchase. If you have items to sell, please provide to me a brief description and contact number for consideration.

Also, for the third year, I am coaching an underwater robotics team through Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing club and Iosco 4H. This year we have six returning students including our editor, Joel Garner (story to follow in the next Scoop edition).

Tony Piazza  
President

## Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival

Carol and I as well as Mike and Justin Fabish and Bill Kirksey had the pleasure of attending another great program hosted by Ford Seahorse and Sea Lancers Scuba Diving Club on February 28.

The 44<sup>th</sup> annual festival was packed with 12 presenters as well as 25 exhibitors for the all-day event which included programs by Ric Mixer, Dusty Klifman, Brendon Baillod, Chris Roxburgh and Dave Trotter, to name a few. Members Tim and Cheryl from Underwater Antics were also present.

Also, NOAA's Andrea Yoxsimer presented a program on photogrammetric models which help create the 3D imaging of the Great Lakes shipwrecks.



Justin, Mike and Tony with Captain Dan from St. Ignace Scuba, the charter for June's scheduled dive



Tony with Saginaw's own, Ric Mixer



Mike Fabish, Tim and Cheryl Middleton from Underwater Antics, Tony Piazza and Justin Fabish



Tony with Andrea Yoxsimer, NOAA Resource Protection Specialist

## SUE Member Highlight

Jack Garner, a member of Saginaw Underwater Explorers, was named one of Tawas Area High School's Top 10 students for the class of 2026.

John "Jack" William Garner has a GPA of 4.093. He is the son of John and Cathie Garner of Tawas City and grandson of Saginaw Underwater Explorers' founding member, John Garner. His high school activities include National Honor Society (two years), Student Senate (four years), baseball (four years), soccer (three years) and swimming (four years, co-op with Oscoda). He also has been a junior sailing instructor with Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing for two years and with the Tawas City Fire Department cadet volunteer program for two years and is a certified scuba diver. He will be attending Alpena Community College in the fall for general studies and plans to transfer to a four-year university.



**Jack Garner**



**Jack (9<sup>th</sup> from left) was also captain of the Oscoda swim and dive team**

## Mark Your Calendars!

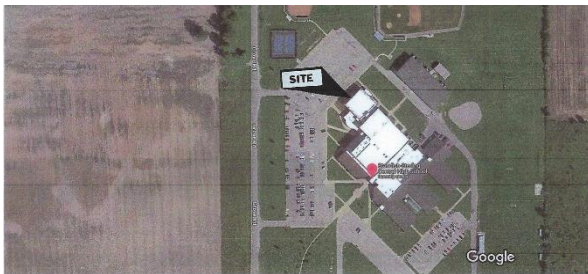
- \* Pool swim, March 24, Standish
- \* VIP night, May 12, compressor site
- \* St. Ignace dive charter, June 23 & 24
- \* Thumb dive charter, July 11 with the Dive Shop
- \* SUE picnic, August 11, Haithco Park
- \* Charlevoix/Petoskey dive, October 3 & 4 (tentative)
- \* SUE Christmas dinner, December 12, Uno's in Saginaw



# SUE Open Swim Night

**Tuesday March 24, 6-8 PM**, Standish Sterling  
Central High School  
2401 Grove Street (NE corner of Grove and  
Wyatt), Standish 48658

Open water diving, lap swimming and  
underwater robotics practice



Do YOU have something to be featured in  
the next issue of the Scuba Scoop? Send  
an email to Carol Piazza at  
[piazza.carol6@gmail.com](mailto:piazza.carol6@gmail.com)



*"I don't have the heart to tell him that  
crystal clear ocean he's scuba diving in  
is just a mirage."*

