

THE SCUBA SCOOP

Volume 67 • Issue 2 • Spring 2026



www.saginawunderwaterexplorers.org

2025 Board:

President	Tony Piazza	989-751-0361
Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Carol Piazza	989-751-1285
Treasurer	Dave Sommers	989-751-8517
Compressor Chair	Michael Garner	989-284-8282
Member-at-Large	Mike Fabish	989-295-2627
Newsletter Editor	Joel Garner	

In this Issue:

pg. 1 President's Letter

pg. 2 SUE Pool Swim

pg. 3 Straights Sue Dive Charter

pg. 4 Square One Competition/Compressor Update

pg. 5 Alpena Robotics Competition/Mark Your Calendar

pg. 6 SUE Air Test Sheets

President's Letter

It was a very hard winter on Lake Huron and our spring, as most of Michigan, was unusually wet this year, but I always had my mind on scuba diving. Helping coach the Heritage Coast Sailing & Rowing Club's remote operating vehicle (ROV) team, I have been in the water all winter and early spring helping our team train for their competitions with Square One and MATE (stories to follow).

The club also had their annual open swim night at the Standish Sterling High School's pool. We had a good member turnout and included the ROV team gearing up for their last competition of the year.

We had our annual visual inspection night on May 12th in Saginaw and approved 11 tanks for the upcoming season, which, for several of our members, kicked off on May 23rd at the club's dive charter in St. Ignace (story to follow).

There are many opportunities for diving available this summer. Check out the links to the dive shops on our website. If two or more can gather for a fun dive, please let the club know as I'm sure there are more who want to come, including me.

Please mark your calendar for the SUE picnic which is scheduled for August 11th at Haithco Park and the annual Christmas dinner on December 12th at Uno's in Saginaw.

I would also like to schedule our annual trip to Charlevoix and Petoskey for September 12th & 13th, with the crucifix cleaning on Sunday the 13th. We will need a head count and an additional boat or two.

If anyone is interested in diving Rockport in Alpena and the submerged dock in Glen Haven, please let me know so we can plan some dates.

Tony Piazza
President

SUE Pool Swim

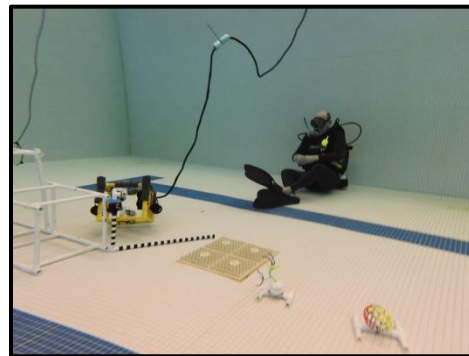
The Saginaw Underwater Explorers hosted the Heritage Coast Sailing & Rowing ROV Team at its annual pool swim on March 24th at the Standish Sterling Central High School pool.

Seven members and guests enjoyed the warm water of the indoor pool to test out their equipment for a new season of scuba diving. Mike Garner brought his scooter for the divers to try which was super cool!

A big thank you from the ROV team for allowing them to practice in the deep-water environment which gave them the edge on winning their competition.



Jack Garner scooting along



ROV Coach Tony hard at work



Members and guest poolside



Surface Interval



Straights Sue Dive Charter

The dive season in Michigan officially opened for the Saginaw Underwater Explorers with the Straits charter on June 23rd & 24th. Mike Fabish, Bill Kirksey and Tony Piazza took to the open waters of the Straits of Mackinac for a two-day excursion on the Intrepid with Captain Dan from St. Ignace Scuba. Joining us was Joe Lavender, former owner of the Northern Michigan Dive Shop, and Chris and Kelly from Galveston Texas.

The water was the calmest I have ever seen it and even the captain wanted to give us a surcharge for the calm weather. The sky was blue and temperature was good except for the bottom (41-48°).

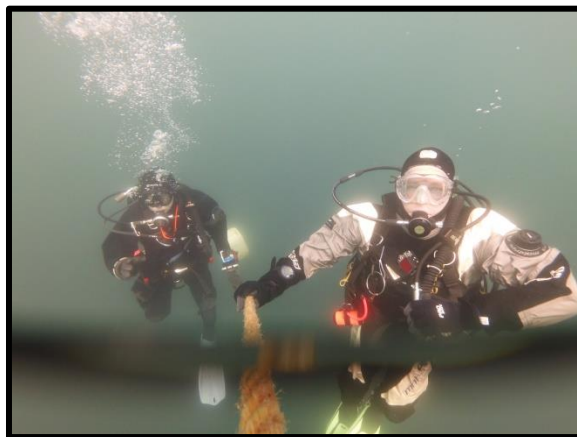
We dove the Eber Ward with bottom temps at 48° and the Sandusky with its beautiful figurehead on the first day and the William Young and Stalker on the second day. A great day was had by all.



Sandusky Figurehead



Tony



Mike & Bill



Bow of the Ebar Ward

Tawas Area Underwater Robotics Team Competes in Gaylord

A team of youth from the Tawas area participated in Square One's ROV (remote operating vehicle) competition on Tuesday, March 10th, in Gaylord. Organized by Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing Club in alliance with Iosco County 4-H, they competed against 24 teams in a day-long event which included a presentation to a judge for the innovated design and engineering of their ROV and their ambassadorship role in the community and performing several challenges in an underwater environment. The team, known as H.A.R.P. Tech (Huron Aquatic Restoration and Preservation), won first place in presentation and second place in performance.

The underwater mission tasks, which are completed under strict time restraints, included the relocation of simulated salmon eggs, marine mechanics (release and retrieval of floats), underwater measuring and calculating the cubic centimeter of various tubular eels.

Square One is a Michigan-based non-profit educational organization serving kindergarten through 12th grade students and teaches/coaches with hands-on experience concentrating on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

In May, the team will head to Alpena for the MATE (Marine Advanced Technology Education) competition.



Harp Tech at Square One Competition

Compressor Update

It takes a village to run a club and we have a great group of officers and directors including our compressor chair, Mike Garner. Sometimes, we take for granted things like air fills and VIP's at below market cost, but only a handful (past chairs) knows what it takes to keep things running smooth. Those at the VIP night got an update from Mike including the results of an air quality report he ordered from Trace Analytics. Included in the Scoop is said report which is also displayed in the compressor room. Next time you see one of the directors, please take the time to thank them for everything they do for us.



Tawas Area Underwater Robotics Team Wins Alpena Event

Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing Club's ROV (remote operating vehicle) team competed for its third year in MATE (Marine Advanced Technology Education) Great Lakes Regional ROV Competition on May 16th in Alpena at NOAA's Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. They competed against 9 teams in a day-long event which included a presentation to a panel of judges for the innovated design and engineering of their ROV, a marketing presentation and performing several mission tasks in an underwater environment. The team, known as H.A.R.P. Tech (Huron Aquatic Restoration and Preservation), won first place in completing the mission tasks and first place overall.

The underwater mission tasks, which are completed under strict time restraints, included collect coral species, mitigate invasive species, recover a buoy anchor, powering an oil platform from a wind turbine and deploying a vertical float.

MATE was established in 1997 in California to support educational activities and inspire students to learn and apply STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as it relates to marine technology and to prepare them for careers in the ocean and freshwater workforce.

Although H.A.R.P. Tech will not be competing, Alpena's UR 2 will be representing the Great Lakes Region at the MATE ROV World Championship taking place in June in Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada.

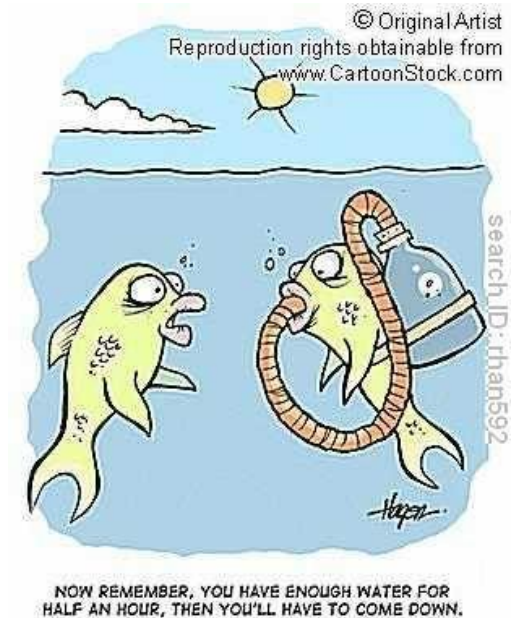
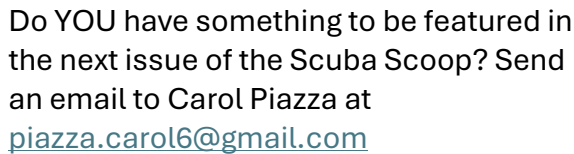


Harp Tech with winning Trophies

Mark Your Calendars!

- * Thumb dive charter, July 11 with the Dive Shop
- * SUE picnic, August 11, Haithco Park
- * Charlevoix/Petoskey dive, September 12 & 13
- * SUE Christmas dinner, December 12, Uno's in Saginaw





 TRACE LLC	15768 Hamilton Road Austin, Texas 78738 800-AIR-1024 or 512-263-0000 • Fax: 512-263-0002 Email: ServiceTeam@AirCheckLab.com		Routine AirCheck® Datasheet Last Report No: 26-04222 800-AIR-1024 or 512-263-0000 • Fax: 512-263-0002 Email: ServiceTeam@AirCheckLab.com	
	Report No: 26-04222 Date: 3/16/2006 Next Sample Due: _____			
	DS-BA-02			
	IMPORTANT: Fill Out COMPLETELY, CAREFULLY PRINT, and RETURN a DATA SHEET WITH EACH SAMPLE.			
1 Contact Information				
Customer ID: 100513 Primary: Mike Garner Alternate: _____		Customer Name: Saginaw Underwater Explorers Email: mgarner70@gmail.com Email: _____		Country: USA Phone: (989) 284-8282 Phone: _____
☐ Please fill in the circle to the left if you'd like the AirCheck® Report sent to the person below (fill in information). Additional: _____ Email: _____				
2 Risk Analysis Request RUSH REQUESTED, \$7 extra, Initial Item _____ By Intaking 1 can authorizing Same Day Analysis & Reporting for an addtl \$7 per sample. Call CUST. SERVICE @ EXT 3 TO SCHEDULE - Samples must arrive by 10:30 a.m. Contact Us for Holiday Scheduling.				
3 Purchase Order Number (if applicable) If a purchase order number is required by your company, please attach it to this data sheet and write the PO Number in the space provided here.				
4 Customer Comments (use back if needed)				
5 Sampled By and Sample Date I attest that all information provided on this datasheet is truthful and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Submitting of this air sample authorizes Trace Analytics, LLC to provide services.				
Signature: _____ Print Name (person taking the test): _____ Date Sample Taken: _____				
7 Sample Information Filter & Source Bottle are required for a complete analysis. Is this sample a Retest taken within 30 days of a failed test? Yes ☐ No ☐ Filter Number (red or green label) for 1' Sample: _____ Flowrate (liters per minute): _____ Sample Time (minimum of 10 mins): _____ Detector Tube (CMT data if sampling media does not include Detector Tube): _____ Tube Reading (0-200) _____ 07 Minutes _____ Source Bottle Number (blue label) for 1' or 7' dights _____ Ambient Bottle Number (white label) for 1' or 7' dights _____ Color as required: MARK ONLY ONE ☐ None/Sight ☐ Pronounced Observed by the air from the top part of the bottle below				
PLEASE NOTE - NO EXCEPTIONS Sample Shelf Life: Must be received by our laboratory within 60 days of sample date Component Media Shelf Life: See expiration date on return box.				
For TRACE Use Only				
Receiving ID: _____ We Do One Thing - Test Compressed Air Receiver's Initials: _____				

[illegible]

