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Membership: 42

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The Flipper

Official Newsletter of the Great Lakes Aquanauts

October 2004

GLA Board

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

1. Thanks to Ken Anderson and Jayne for bringing the very interesting DVD on Caves, an IMAX presentation. You don't have to dive to explore caves! They also filled us in on the accident in Florida.
2. Thanks to Joanne for bringing in the short quiz on diving. The answers were very interesting and not always what we, as experienced divers, would have selected. Thanks also to Hugh for bringing in the video he took up in the Straits of the wrecks. That was some really good footage. He also brought a new DVD from Blackbeard's showing all us GLA travelers what we can expect on our trip.
3. October's program will be a presentation by Rick Synoweic of Divers Inc. in Ann Arbor. He will bring a DVD and some new equipment to show us.
4. Nominations will be accepted for any and all board and committee positions at the October meeting. We need your input and your support.

Reminder

Don't forget to attend club functions so you can take pictures for the photo contest. Turn in your photos at the November 17 meeting.

PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST AND POTLUCK

JUST A REMINDER!

The Annual Pumpkin Carving and Potluck is on Sunday, October 17. This year, BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKIN! We suggest you be at the park early so that you're ready to dive at 11AM. The potluck will follow at Westmans. Details inside.

GLA ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

It is the end of August, first of September. Mark your calendars. The annual awards banquet is on ***Saturday, December 11*** at Mama Mia's in Livonia.

With that in mind, it is time to begin thinking about speaking with the owners of your favorite dive shop, asking them for donations to our raffle. Letters should be available by the middle of October.

Also, donations of non-dive related items make great raffle prizes.

The tickets this year are \$26 per person (or \$52 per couple).

Look for a banquet packet coming your way by the end of October. It will contain all the information you will need to reserve your seat for our annual event.

This year's entertainment will center around our photo contest. We have some great prizes so get your photos ready.

PROGRAMS

Mark your calendars!

October 20 Instead of the photo contest in this spot, we will hopefully have a presentation from the new owner of Divers Inc. (Ann Arbor), Rick Synoweic. Also, we will have nominations for our board and committee positions.

November 17 Elections and Pizza Party (location TBD). Also, turn in your 8x10 glossy photos for the contest.

SAFETY AND ED

DAN O₂ Courses

For the course nearest you, check out DAN's website: www.DanAlertNetwork.org. Look under "Training and Education".

OTHER DIVE RELATED INFO

Great Lakes Indepth

Watch Ric Mixer on public TV. Check your local listings for days and times. For more information, "dive" into the web at www.moreindepth.com or write to Ric in care of:

ISE
2302 US Hwy 41 W
Marquette, MI 49855
906-228-7800.

FOR SALE

Call, fax or email Jan Ouellette to place your ad. This is a free service to GLA members.

- **Contour weights**, any size, call Mike Sitko.
- **Underwater Metal Detector**, Garret Sea Hunt XL500VLF, \$500. Call Frank Klepadlo.
- **Wetsuit**, medium, women's with farmerjohn pants and tunic top, hot pink/black. Contact Andrea Wolf.

FIRST PHOTO CONTEST

Get ready for our first photo contest. Our two categories are: above water, and underwater. Photos must be from a club sponsored function, a dive, a picnic, etc., and they must be from the 2004 season. There will be a first and second place selected from each category, and a grand prize winner selected from the first place winners. Judging will be at the December banquet with prizes awarded at the banquet. Winners will be selected by members of the Ann Arbor Camera club.

Your photos should be 8 x 10 glossy, mounted on cardboard or similar material.

The prizes are as follows:
Second prize in either category -- GLA monogrammed beach towel

First prize in either category -- GLA monogrammed folding canvas chair and bag.

Grand prize is a Robert McGreevy print of the Cedarville, signed by some of the survivors of the wreck.

Photos will be collected for judging at the November general meeting.

THE FUTURE OF GLA

For several years many of the members of the GLA board have been elected and re-elected to the same positions. In some instances, such as Tim Ouellette as President, he has continued to do the job because no one has stepped forward to undertake the task. Ken and Jayne Anderson are moving to Florida; Ken will therefore no longer be vice president after this year.

At the last board meeting, a few options were put on the table. First of all, we can continue to struggle along as we are, meeting monthly, with declining membership and interest in the club and its events. Secondly, we can change the scope of the club and meet on a quarterly basis. Thirdly, which no one really wants to do but might become a necessary option due to the great lack of participation, or rather, good participation by just a few, is to dissolve the club. It has been in existence for over thirty years and it would be sad to see it end.

Please, if you have any thoughts on this, come to the next general meeting and give us your feedback.

2004 DIVE SCHEDULE

DATE	DIVE SITE	LOCATION
October 9-15	Blackbeard's Cruise	Florida to Bahamas, etc.
Sun. October 17	Pumpkin Carving and potluck	Silver Lake/Westmans'
Sat. December 11	Annual Awards Banquet	Mama Mia's

GLA-WEAR



T-Shirts \$15 (S-XL)
Hats \$10
Sweatshirts \$30 (S-XL)
Jackets \$70 (S-XL)



(add \$3 for sizes over XL); add \$5 for names/monograms
Plus 6% sales tax
50% deposit on all special orders.

T-shirts, hats, sweatshirts, jackets, bags . . .
. We can even embroider on your existing apparel and accessories. Attend club and non-club events in style!

To Order, contact:
Jan Ouellette or
Nadeen Ouellette

TOBERMORY UPDATE

Spectacular! That is the only way to describe the weather in Tobermory this year. Tim arrived up there on Wednesday evening with Mike Sitko, Jeff and Emma. Nadeen and I arrive on Thursday evening. Emma, our new nine month old Newf, discovered the water and practically lived in it. We didn't leave till Tuesday afternoon and while we were there the bay was crystal clear and almost as smooth as glass. We did have a couple days of "spooky fog" but that didn't "dampen" the weekend. Temps were in the upper seventies during the day with abundant sunshine (other than on the bay for those two days) and cooled off to the mid fifties at night. The sky was crystal clear every night, except for the few hours of rain we had on Monday night.



All's calm on the "eastern" front-- sunrise.



Bath-time, water was 68 degrees!

Mike spent the week with Emma and survived.



GENERAL MEETINGS

The **October** general meeting will be held at:

Place: **Farmington (Hills) Community Library**
Date: **Wednesday, Oct. 20**
Time: **7:00 PM to 8:45 PM**
Program: Rick Synoweic from Divers Inc., Ann Arbor--to meet us and show us some new equipment

November--Elections and Pizza Party



BOARD MEETINGS

Note: New time: 7:00 PM

The **October 2004** board meeting will be held at:

Tim Ouellette's
Time: **7:00 PM**
Date: Monday,
October 4

The **November 2004** board meeting will be held at:

Tim Ouellette's
Time: **7:00 PM**
Date: Monday,
November 1

The **December 2004** board meeting will be held at:

Tim Ouellette's
Time: **7:00 PM**
Date: Monday,
December 6

FROM OUR FLORIDA CONNECTION!

Bob and Rachael Evans, living in Port St. Lucie, Florida, have really had some "hair-raising" experiences this year. Charlie wasn't too bad, just a lot of rain. But then Ivan came through. They experienced a considerable amount of roof damage. But Bob was able to get it fixed before Jeanne came through.

Frances: Pictures from Rachael and Bob, 9/3/04



Hi everyone....(9/23/04)

Well, we made it thru Frances, out of power for 2 weeks and a few days without food. Thank goodness we have a generator available. Then Ivan dumped on us for 34 hours that was a treat....now we are gearing up for Jeanne. We are told unless there is a change in the high pressure system we will be taking another direct hit. We ask you as before to keep us in your prayers. Our house is strong, but the roof took a good beating from Frances. Bob has patched it, but who knows how much more it can take before we put the new one up. I think Bob and one of our neighbors should have a tree cutting party tonight because one of his trees (the neighbor) landed in the middle of his roof. He still has a tree which is much closer to our house and towers above the power lines. Many of the Australian Pines just didn't survive Frances. We will let you know once again when we get our power restored as I am sure we will lose it.
Love, Rachael & Bob

Jeanne:

Hi everyone....(10/1/04)

Well, we made it through another hurricane. This one much tougher than the last. As with Frances, we took a direct hit. During the eye of the storm we went outside to find our 2 queen palms in front of the house on top of the garage. We had hoped the back side of the storm would put them back....and lo and behold one of them actually did end up in the right place! We also acquired a new lawn ornament (see below). Vero, Sebastian and Wabasso suffered the most severe damage as they were always in the western eye wall, they never got a break from the eye. You can see the pics at www.ircgov.com. Luckily the roof repair Bob did, did the trick, we didn't lose a single shingle this time, but our pool enclosure had more damage. One of the large beams just twisted and a door enclosure now has an elbow instead of being straight. Can you imagine the strength of those winds. They said at times we reached 126 mph. There are places that the bark is stripped off the trees. Only lost power for 5 days this time, we were so thankful for that (and so were the dogs!). So now we are back to the task of cleaning up and looks like things are finally going to settle down for the rest of the season.
Love, Rachael & Bob



