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www.greatlakesaquanauts.org

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We value your comments!*

Membership: 40  
DAN Sponsor #28939

Volume 37, Number 7

# The Flipper

Official Newsletter of the Great Lakes Aquanauts

July 2004

## GLA Board

### PRESIDENT

Tim Ouellette

### VICE PRESIDENT

Ken Anderson

### TREASURER

Linda Walton

### RECORD SECRETARY

Jan Ouellette

### THE FLIPPER

Jan Ouellette

### PROGRAMS

Joanne Westman/  
Sandy Prochazka

### CHARTERS

John Westman/Hugh Walton

### MEMBERSHIP

*Everyone*

### SAFETY & EDUCATION

Chris Price/Ken Anderson

### LIBRARIAN

Jan Ouellette

### MEETING TREATS

Linda Walton

### HISTORIAN

Vern Tratechaud

### WEB SITE COORDINATOR

Kristina Troxell

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

1. Thanks to Janet from Sea The World for her excellent presentation on exotic diving in the Indo-Pacific region.
2. Don't forget the dive at Maceday Lake this Sunday.
3. The Monarch dive in June was a success and was followed by socializing and food at Dave Albright's and Judy Eldred's new house. Thanks Dave and Judy.
4. The White Star quarry dive was fun for four divers.
5. The Straits trip is coming up in mid-August. We need you to sign up if you are going so that we can make arrangements for food at Dave's and for diving.
6. New board members are needed. Please consider participating as a board member or a committee chairperson.

## Reminder

Don't forget to attend club functions so you can  
take pictures for the photo contest.

## JULY BOARD MEETING, JULY 12

Because of the Fourth of July holiday on a Sunday, and Monday being the day most people have off, we have moved the board meeting to the next Monday, the 12th at 7:00 PM, Tim and Jan's house.

Hope to see you there.



**PROGRAMS**

*Mark your calendars!*

**August 18** *Amazing Caves*. This is a MacGillivray Freeman film, originally created for IMAX exhibition and features journeys into the world of caves and ice caves along with songs and performances by Moody Blues. Should be a great presentation on a hot August day.

**September 15** Robert McGreevy, maritime artist

**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).

**November 17** Elections and Pizza Party (location TBD)

**SAFETY AND ED**

**DAN O<sub>2</sub> Courses**

For the course nearest you, check out DAN's website: [www.DanAlertNetwork.org](http://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](http://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 Sitko5.
- **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 October general meeting with prizes awarded at the banquet in December. Winners will be selected by members of the Ann Arbor Camera club.

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.

**EQUIPMENT RECALLS AND PROBLEMS**

**Halcyon Power Inflator Defect**

Halcyon Mfg. is recalling the stainless steel power inflators for its wing-style buoyancy compensators shipped after October 21, 2003. The inflators can be identified by their stainless buttons.

Hacyon's Dave Sweetin told *Undercurrent* that a defect in the air barrel can cause a slow leak into the bladder. Although some divers have reported the leak, Sweetin was unaware of any inwater incidents. The defect is showing up in pockets of unacceptable failures in which customers or dive shops seem to have a grouping of unreliable units.

Don't dive with a stainless steel Halcyon inflator. Halcyon says to "bring your inflator to your dealer, trade it for a new unit, and have it fitted to your buoyancy compensator." You can also return it directly to Halcyon, but call or e-mail first, 800-425-2966 or [techservices@halcyon.net](mailto:techservices@halcyon.net).

--*Undercurrent*, July 2004

**2004 DIVE SCHEDULE**

DATE	DIVE SITE	LOCATION
Sun. July 11	Quarry	White Star
Sun. July 25	Maceday	Waterford
Aug. 13-15	Straits of Mackinac	Dave Albright's place
Sat. August 21	Lake Huron	Pt. Sanilac
September 4-6	Tobermory	Tim Ouellette's (tentative)
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

## THE HURON RIVER

The Huron River is the quintessential Southeast Michigan flowage; mud banks, slow stream flow and a low gradient define this river. With its 100+ miles of fishable water it offers the opportunity to seek out just about every major species available in the state including Trout, Muskie, Salmon and Steelhead.

Native American tribes used this river as a major canoe route; just north of the river around Ann Arbor used to exist a major interchange of old trails. The Native Americans called the river "cos-scut-e-nong-sebee", meaning "burnt district river", due to the periodic openings or clearings in the dry oak on the highlands above the river.

Stretching roughly 125 miles from its source in Big Lake and the Huron Swamp northwest of Pontiac, the Huron flows southwest past Milford, Brighton, and Pinckney before turning south-east and passing the towns of Dexter, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Belleville and finally Flat Rock. It stays on course for a couple more miles until finally entering Lake Erie at Pt. Mouille. The rivershed is comprised of over 900 square miles and drains a large percentage of metro Detroit. With a total elevation change from source to mouth of 446 feet, a raging river it isn't. Coupled with the installation of well over 90 dams and lake level control structures, almost all the high gradient stretches have been lost. Of these 900+ square miles of river shed, more than 570,000 acres (85%) is under private ownership. Most of the remaining 32,000 acres is under either state game area control (9,942 acres) or part of the Huron-Clinton Metroparks (6,595 acres).

The State of Michigan has designated 27.5 miles of the mainstream, plus an additional 10.5 miles of three tributaries as "Country Scenic River", the only state designated scenic river in Southeast Michigan.

The DNR has been very active stocking the river over the past decade with various types of cold water fishes. From at least 1979 to 1989 it stocked an average of 30-40 thousand Coho Salmon each year. Limited returns and no natural reproduction halted the stocking shortly afterwards. Currently it stocks a large number of Steelhead fingerlings. In 1999 and 2001 massive stockings took place. In 1999 over 300,000 fingerlings were planted and 2001 found over 200,000 unclipped fish plus another 50,000 RP clipped fish placed in the river. Watch out in 2003-2004!! In 2002 about 60,000 RP clipped fingerlings found a new home and with any luck are currently out in Lake Erie growing. Stocking has taken place each year since at least 1983.

There are 11 private campgrounds within the Huron River watershed, which provide 585 vehicle campsites and 1,285 tent sites to the camping enthusiast. In addition, other campgrounds in the counties encompassing the watershed provide roughly 2,000 campsites of various sorts. Other recreational activities provided by private sources include golf courses, archery ranges, horseback riding, boat and canoe rentals and fishing ponds and lakes.

The Huron River above Barton Pond is classified as top quality warm water. Although game fish are common and species will vary from area to area, generally Rock Bass are the most abundant; Bluegill, Sunfish, Small and Largemouth Bass are common and Northern Pike are occasionally taken in the area. Kent Lake is heavily fished and provides an excellent winter fishery for Bluegill and Black Crappie. A short segment of the upper mainstream near Milford has received attention and special management for Trout in recent years. The planting and "catch and release" harvesting of trout in this area has proved to be very popular with local anglers.

It should be mentioned that rough fish such as suckers and carp are present throughout most of the river system and probably make up a large part of the entire fish population. Rough fish populations caused serious competition to game fish populations in the river and impoundments below Barton Pond. Fisheries managers initiated chemical treatment of Barton Pond in 1972. From the initial treatment until 1974, the lower river and impoundments were treated down to Flat Rock Pond to eliminate or reduce rough fish. Restocking game fish has produced a varied fishery, which should be good to excellent for a number of years.

In general, the following species are found in the impoundments and river to Flat Rock: Northern Pike, Walleye, Tiger and Northern Muskie, Large and Smallmouth Bass, Channel Catfish, Bluegill, Hybrid Sunfish and Black Crappie. The river from Lake Erie to Belleville Dam receives fall and winter runs of Coho (most abundant), Chinook and Steelhead. Spring spawning runs of Walleye, Northern Pike and White Bass also contribute to the fishery.

The Huron is truly a diverse fishery. From fall run Salmon and Steelhead to summer Smallmouth and Muskie it provides the high-density population of southeast Michigan the chance to experience a wide variety of species in an unlikely urban environment.

## GENERAL MEETINGS

The July general meeting will be held at:

Place: Farmington (Hills)

Community Library

Date: Wednesday, July 21

Time: 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM

Program: Longtime GLA member, George Archer, will display a number of his model ships and explain the parts of each ship. This is especially interesting to Great Lakes' divers in identifying parts of the various shipwrecks they dive. George has been constructing model ships for many years.

**August-- Amazing Caves,  
a MacGillivray Freeman film**



## BOARD MEETINGS

**Note: New time: 7:00 PM**

The August 2004 board meeting will be held at:

Tim Ouellette's

Time: 7:00 PM

Date: Monday,

**August 2**

The September 2004 board meeting will be held at:

Tim Ouellette's (date tentative)

Time: 7:00 PM

Date: Monday,

**September 13**

The October 2004 board meeting will be held at:

Tim Ouellette's

Time: 7:00 PM

Date: Monday,

**October 4**

## GLA GOES ON A BLACKBEARD'S CRUISE

**WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9 TO FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2004**

### SEVEN NIGHT/SIX DAY LIVEABOARD INCLUDES:

3 to 4 Dives a Day

Bunk accommodations

3 Meals a Day

Snacks

Beverages

And More

### LIVEABOARD

**\$839.00**

**\$55.00 port taxes**

**\$894.00 Cruise**

### HOW TO BOOK:

**CONTACT: Hugh Walton to be  
added to trip list**

**734-522-1631**

### MAKE PAYMENT:

**CONTACT: Beth or Peggy at  
Blackbeards**

**(800)327-9600**

They take credit cards or can set up a monthly payment plan if it works better.

### AIR:

Since we did not get 11 or more participants, each traveler, will need to make their own flight arrangements into and out of Miami. Fares are currently running about \$300 RT. Seats are still available on NW and American for \$294.20.

### FINAL PAYMENT

**Aug. 8, 2004**

**Cancellations allowed up to 60 days prior  
to trip on Blackbeard's only.**



# Maceday Lake Dive

## Sunday, July 25, 2004

<b>Dive Coordinator:</b>	<b>Tim Ouellette</b>		
Type of dive:	Lake	Arrival time:	10:00 AM
Max. depth (approx.)	110'	Dive time:	11:00 AM

**What to bring:** Basic scuba equipment including mask, snorkel, open heel fins, regulator with octopus and gauges, tank, weights, BCD, and cold water hood and gloves.

**Directions from Farmington Hills:** Take I-96 west to M-59 N to Pontiac Trail, go left to Haggerty Road. Turn left onto Richardson Road, and right onto Union Lake Road. Turn right on Cooley Lake Road, left on Williams Lake Road to M-59 (Highland Road). Go right to north Willaims Lake Road, turn left. Follow Williams Lake Road north to Maceday Lake Road.

