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We value your comments!*

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The Flipper

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Official Newsletter of the Great Lakes Aquanauts

May 2004

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1. I'll bring this issue up again. GLA board positions are a great position to be in. No pun intended. Last Monday night's meeting at Frank Troxell's was a good example. 7:00 PM, steaks began to cook on the grill and all the other fixings were getting prepared. A meal fit for me, the Pres. Ha-Ha! Thanks, Frank.
2. Keep taking photos at club events, both above and below the interface of air and H₂O. Great awards await you.
3. Thanks to Dave Trotter once again. Your program on the wreck of the Goodyear was inspiring. I was fortunate to see it two more times in Chicago and I'm looking forward to seeing what you have in store for us next season. We're fortunate to have you as a regular presenter.
4. The Chris and Ken or Ken and Chris show is on for this month: "Safety and Ed." Come and review your skills or simply learn what O₂ is and what it's for. Good useful knowledge. It may save a life.
5. Thanks to John and Joanne Westman for their hospitality for the Huron River Run on April 3. We had quite a few participants for the run itself and a lot of hungry members showed up for the potluck after. It was a beautiful day for getting together with friends.

OUR WORLD UNDERWATER, 2004

Tim and I, along with Frank Troxell and Sue Lowell, traveled to Chicago on April 23 for the weekend-long Our World Underwater. We went to a lot of the presentations given by such notable speakers as Cris Kohl, Joan Forsberg, Joyce Haward, Ric Mixer and Dave Trotter. There were other speakers as well including Stan Waterman and an up-and-coming photographer, Richard Gagne, who presented some of the most spectacular macro digital video I have ever seen. Tim bumped into Dave Brinkerhoff. We also had dinner with a couple Tim and I met on our Nekton Pilot dive trip.

If you've never been to Chicago for this event, I would highly suggest putting it in your schedule for next year. It will be in January 2005.

--Jan Ouellette

DIVE BARCELONA, NY -- June 26-27, 2004

This dive trip is scheduled in conjunction with Aquatic Adventures in Brighton. There will be 4 dives, 2 on Saturday and 2 on Sunday. The trip is chartered through Osprey Charters and Capt. Herbert. The cost for the Barcelona Expedition is \$140, which includes 2 days of diving. Deposits are required by March 1 and final payment is due by May 1.

Contact Aquatic Adventures of MI, LLC at 866-600-DIVE or www.aquaticadventuresofmi.com to secure your spot.

Lodging is available (up to 10 miles away).

PROGRAMS *Mark your calendars!*

May 19 The GLA Safety & Ed team will do a hands-on demonstration of the Club's O₂ equipment. The safety record of the club has been excellent, but one never knows when a situation will occur that necessitates knowledge of the equipment. Plan on attending!

June 16 Janet of Sea The World Dive Shop will present a digital slide show entitled, *Exotic Dive Travel in Indo-Pacific*. Janet is the travel coordinator at Sea The World.

July 21 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 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 8 x 10 glossy photos of 2004 GLA dives taken above and below the water surface will be judged by members of the Ann Arbor Camera Club. Prizes will be awarded including *The Cedarville* by Robert McGreevy.

November 17 Elections and Pizza Party (location TBD)

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 Mixter 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

FOR SALE

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

- **Contour weights**, any size.
- **Underwater Metal Detector**, Garret Sea Hunt XL500VLF, \$500.
- **Wetsuit**, medium, women's with farmerjohn pants and tunic top, hot pink/black.

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.

TENTATIVE RIVER CLEAN UP DIVE -- SATURDAY, MAY 22

We are in receipt of information from Mike Manchester, an attorney who is organizing a clean up of the Huron River/Ford Lake area in Ypsilanti for Ypsi Pride 2004.

All dive participants will meet at North Bay Park, which is the bay that the Huron River flows into. It's quite a hike from the parking lot so Mr. Manchester is lining up golf carts to haul divers and equipment to the water. There will be one boat and possibly more depending upon the need for shuttling divers and collecting trash, etc.

The day will start at 7:00 AM and will continue until noon. A get together for all participants will be held at Riverside Park in Ypsilanti with food and music from noon until 2:00 PM.

2004 DIVE SCHEDULE

DATE	DIVE SITE	LOCATION
Sun. May 16	Quarry	Gilboa
Sat. June 5	St. Clair River	Marysville
Sun. June 13	Monarch and potluck	Sarnia
June 26-27	Eastern Lake Erie	Barcelona, NY (Sign up thru Aquatic Adventures/Brighton)
Sun. July 11	Quarry	White Star
Sun. July 25	Maceday	Waterford
Aug. 13-15	Straits of Mackinac	St. Ignace
Sat. August 21	Lake Huron	Pt. Sanilac
September 4-6	Tobermory	Dyer's Bay (tentative)
Sun. October 17	Pumpkin Carving and potluck	Silver Lake
Sat. December 11	Annual Awards Banquet	Mama Mia's

GLA-WEAR



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



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

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:
fcebdt@earthlink.net

AGING OCTOPUS FINDS LOVE AT LAST

Romance blooms in Alaska aquarium

ANCHORAGE, Alaska--It looks like J-1 is in love. After meeting the very fetching and slightly younger Aurora, he changed color and his eight arms became intertwined with hers. Then, the two retreated to a secluded corner to get to know each other better.

We're talking about giant Pacific octopuses here.

Aquarists at the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward introduced the two Tuesday, and evidently they hit it off: Spermatophores were seen hanging from J-1's siphon.

"We really were not sure he had it in him," SeaLife Center aquarium curator Richard Hocking said Wednesday.

Love almost passed J-1 by. At 5 years of age and 52 pounds, he's reaching the end of the line for his species, the largest octopus in the world. J-1 is in a period of decline that occurs before an octopus dies. His skin is eroding. His suckers have divots.

"He's not as strong as he used to be," said aquarist Deanna Trobaugh. With so little time left, J-1, who was collected on a beach near Seldovia in 1999 when he was about the size of a quarter, wasn't going to let the sweet Aurora slip through his eight arms.

Aurora sank to the bottom when aquarium staff put her into J-1's 3,600-gallon exhibit tank and promptly made the first move, reaching out to touch J-1 before retreating to her corner. But J-1 was soon in hot pursuit.

"They both were gripping the back wall of the tank. He just about covered her completely," Hocking said.

The two remained intertwined for about eight hours. It's possible that during that time he passed his sperm packet to her, Hocking said. When they separated, J-1 flashed some colors, turning almost white and then dark red. "It looks like instinct took over during that encounter and they did what they were supposed to do," Hocking said.

If Aurora did accept J-1's spermatophores, she will produce 60,000 to 100,000 eggs. If with many, many children, Aurora — who was about the size of a grapefruit when she was found in 2002 living inside an old tire in front of the SeaLife Center — will stop eating while she tends her eggs. She will then weaken and die — a fate that J-1 also seems soon to meet.

"The goal for this was to let him lead a full life," Hocking said.

--May 13, 2004, from MSNBC.com

GENERAL MEETINGS

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

Place: **Farmington (Hills)
Community Library**

Date: **Wednesday, May 19**

Time: **7:00 PM to 8:45 PM**

Program: The GLA Safety & Ed team will do a hands-on demonstration of the Club's O₂ equipment. The safety record of the club has been excellent, but one never knows when a situation will occur that necessitates knowledge of the equipment. Plan on attending!

June -- Janet (Sea The World) Dive the Indo-Pacific



BOARD MEETINGS

Note: New time: 7:00 PM

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

Tim Ouellette's

Time: **7:00 PM**

Date: Monday,
June 7

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

Tim Ouellette's

Time: **7:00 PM**

Date: Monday,
July 5

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

Tim Ouellette's

Time: **7:00 PM**

Date: Monday,
August 2

GLA GOES ON A BLACKBEARD'S CRUISE

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

SEVEN NIGHT/SIX DAY LIVEBOARD INCLUDES:

3 to 4 Dives a Day
Bunk accommodations
3 Meals a Day
Snacks
Beverages
And More

LIVEBOARD

\$839.00

\$55.00 port taxes

\$894.00 Cruise

HOW TO BOOK:

CONTACT: Hugh Walton to be
added to trip list

734-522-1641

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: If we get 11 or more people
then we will look into group air.
Approx. air Detroit to Miami on
American is \$274.20

FINAL PAYMENT

Aug. 8, 2004

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



MAY 2004

Gilboa Quarry Dive

Sunday, May 16, 2004

Dive Coordinator:	Chris Price		
Type of dive:	Quarry	Arrival time:	9:00 AM
		Dive time:	10:00 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 Detroit: Take I-75 south past Toledo and Bowling Green, to State Road 224 (Exit 159). Turn right onto State Road 224, go about 14 miles to Gilboa Road. Turn left onto Gilboa Road (at the big cow!), then turn right onto Main Street (Old 224). The Quarry is on the left, about 1 mile down Main Street. Look for the Gilboa Stone Quarry sign.



Gilboa Quarry Policies

To maintain Gilboa Quarry as a safe and enjoyable place for everyone, we have adopted some policies for use of the facility. If you have any questions, please ask Mike.

There will be no fishing permitted under any circumstances. Fishing line is an entrapment hazard, and the fish are for diver's underwater enjoyment.

Graffiti is not permitted on any of the underwater sights. Violators have and will be prosecuted.

Please observe the 5 mph speed limits in the parking lots and driveways. We are concerned for the safety of our smaller visitors, who might not be tall enough to look for cars.

Use lift bags for responsible practice only. Do not move the underwater artifacts.

Observe good buoyancy practices to avoid stirring up silt. Keep fins, stage bottles, lights, cameras, and yourself off the bottom so that others may enjoy the visibility. Several parts of the quarry are also fish nesting areas. Please help do your part to avoid disturbing the eggs.

You are welcome to feed the fish with trout chow (50 cents/bag), available at the office. We ask that you not feed other substances. The fish can be aggressive, so release the food and back up to give them room to feed. Do not try to handle the fish. Contact with humans removes their protective layers, spreading fungus and infections.

Instructors will be asked to show proof of insurance as well as certification cards. Please bring a copy of your information for our files.

- When visiting for the first time in each year, we ask you to fill out the long form. On subsequent visits, you may simply sign and date this form.
- If you are diving the deep side, a dive plan is required as well.
- Instructors will fill out a form for any classes they are teaching. The forms are available in the office.
- Bubble-watchers are invited to play volleyball, throw Frisbee, or just sit around and socialize.
- Do you enjoy camping? There are over 26 shaded, primitive camp sites all with easy access to diving entry points. To make your camping experience a little less primitive, we offer the convenience of clean restrooms and hot showers.
- Visit [Vertical Reality](#), our on-site climbing headquarters, for a ride on the zipline or a rock-climbing experience.
- Remember to stop in the Gilboa Quarry office and pick up a T-shirt or memorabilia before you head home!
- The quarry is equipped with men's and women's heated & air conditioned changing rooms, restrooms and showers, all handicapped accessible. The entire bathhouse is under renovation, so please bear with us as we upgrade this facility for you.
- There are gear benches near all entries for your convenience.
- If you have ideas for new sights or locations, speak to Mike about them.

Gilboa Quarry Dive Sunday, May 16, 2004



Arrival time: 9:00 AM
Dive time: 10:00 AM



Hot dogs and chips to follow.

FEES

Admission:

Diving \$12.00 (summer season only)
Snorkeling \$12.00
Non-Divers \$6.00

Pets \$10;

All pets must be registered in the office

Gas:

Air Fills \$7.00

Nitrox fills \$12.00 per cylinder up to 40%;
\$15 over 40%



Gilboa Quarry, a 14+ acre stone quarry located in Northwest Ohio, is a great location for diving and dive training. The quarry provides two distinct personalities: the shallow side at 5-65 ft, which provides great recreational enjoyment, while the deep side of the quarry offers cold, dark depths of 120+ ft making it suitable for technical training.

There are a multitude of items of interest for all divers. Whether it is our training platforms, 5-120+ ft. depths.

The **Shallow** side has docks, benches, and underwater platforms provided for your Open Water certification dives, enjoying the submerged sites, or for feeding our zealous fish including a rare opportunity to see a number of paddlefish swimming around as they feed! There are also our many sunken treasures such as the Grumman airplane.

The **Deep** side provides access to water suitable for technical classes, to keep your skills tuned for cold & dark Great Lakes wreck diving, or even that trip down to 'Cave Country'. *Please file and get approval for a "DEEP DIVE PLAN" before diving the deep side. Exercise proper consideration before diving on this side.*

A Platform has been placed below the Deep Docks made up of four submerged blue barrels float the dock out from the entry steps. The depth of the platform is approx 70 ft. Breathing Gas is available onsite. Up to 20,000cf of hyper-clean air is banked to provide for those peak periods when we all want to get wet. Be sure to check the Viz and hydro dates on your cylinders prior to coming out to the quarry. Partial pressure Nitrox blending is available for tanks that are O₂ clean.



Cash or check only. We do not accept credit or debit cards at this time. ATMs can be found in Ottawa or Findlay.

Gilboa Quarry is open all year round, except Easter & Christmas.

Air and partial pressure nitrox fills are available any time.

Bring your certification cards.



All divers need to register before diving, NO EXCEPTIONS!