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The Flipper

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Official Newsletter of the Great Lakes Aquanauts

February 2008

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President's Corner

Notes from Tim:

#1 Board mtg. T&J's, Feb.11'th 7:00.

A) Dive sch. to be set in stone.

B) Summer events sch. set in granite.

C) These will be tentative, of course.

D) Some food &could also be involved.

E) Bring your aching back & ideas.

#2 Thanks to Janna Smith & the DDRA (Detroit river regatta association) Great video & presentation. You may have a good one. Also Bob Evans sent some U/W shots, Rachel's descriptions were even better. David Albright & Myself spoiled a few of the frames.

#3 Mtg. Feb20'th. Be there

#4 Looking forward to an exciting summer. Get involved with GLA.

Tim

Programs

2008 Meeting Schedule

.February Meeting: Farmington Community Library. 7:00 pm.

February 20th. Program: Hugh Walton/ Bonaire/Dive Planning . Meeting treats: Bunny Kunder

March Meeting Farmington Community Library, 7:00 PM

March 19th Program TBD.

Meeting treats: Bunny Kunder

FOR SALE

Call, or email Steve Kunder to place your ad.

O'neil Drysuit, size XXL with weights. \$250.00 Gary Morgan

DIVE RELATED INFO

The Ford Seahorses are putting on their Shipwreck Festival on April 19, 2008. This will be held at Schoolcraft College on Haggerty Rd in Livonia. There will be more info to come. Thanks. Iva Moore-

Hay www.shipwreckfestival.org



Published: 2007-11-14

Thanks for the memory

Park worker finds couple's photo card lost in lake two years earlier; pictures still intact

By JEFFREY SIMPSON Staff Reporter

One of the last photographs Bill Collins took with his Canon Power-shot camera was of his wife as they paddled their canoe through the partially frozen water at Kejimikujik National Park two years ago. A short while later, the strong current of an icy stream capsized them. The digital camera was lost.

"We're experienced backcountry canoeists but it was just one of those things," Mr. Collins, 56, a Dartmouth management consultant, said in an interview Tuesday.

"It happened so fast that (suddenly) you're just looking up at the sky from underwater."

It was a potentially tragic accident because the canoe almost drifted away, which would've left them stranded in freezing temperatures far from civilization. But Mr. Collins caught it in time and the couple managed to make it back to their island campsite three kilometres away, then out of the park in southwestern Nova Scotia.

"It was cold," he said. "My wife caught her foot on the bottom and pulled her boot off."

While they were in the water, he grabbed a package of birdseed as it floated past but lost his cellphone, a \$750 pair of glasses and his camera.

All of the items remained somewhere in the murky water at the site — until a couple of months ago.

Mr. Collins had mentioned the accident to a park maintenance worker who often passes through the same area, so the next time Charlie Hearn was nearby, he went out of his way to have a look.

Sure enough, the now-rusted camera was nestled among rocks in some shallow water. Upon trying the memory card in another camera, Mr. Hearn found that it contained almost 300 photographs.

"I tried to find his glasses but I couldn't," Mr. Hearn said.

He has turned up all kinds of things in the park over the years, including other cameras.

"Usually, I just throw them in the garbage," he said.

"I found a wallet one year."

It belonged to a dentist from Middleton and contained \$128 in bug-chewed bills. The owner came to the park and picked it up, leaving without even thanking Mr. Hearn.

"I would have loved to have met him but he just took off," Mr. Hearn said.

"It was there for a couple years."

Mr. Collins and his wife, Lori, were much more appreciative. Mr. Hearn called them immediately but they didn't get a chance to pick up the camera until this past weekend.

"I said there was one picture in there of a bare-naked woman," Mr. Hearn said. "But he knew I was just teasing."

Mr. Collins said it was a little eerie viewing the photos, especially considering that he and his wife could have died because of the accident and the memory card would have been the only documentation of their last moments.

"We didn't have any expectation that it would ever be recovered because it was really off the beaten track," Mr. Collins said.

Now he just needs to find his glasses.

"Some day I'm gonna go back in the summer and put a mask and snorkel on and crawl along on the bottom," he said.

EDITORS NOTES

Well February is upon us. I do not know how the rest of you are feeling, but I have had enough winter. I am looking forward to the upcoming dive season. This month, we will be meeting at Tim and Jan's for a board meeting to firm up our schedule. So please plan on being there so we can get your ideas included. You do not have to be a board member, to attend. See ya there FEB 11th. Don't forget our regular meeting on the 20th at the library.. Please keep sending me the Flipper food, as I am getting thin on material. Also all of you old members send me something for "the remember when" section. Happy Valentines Day!! And have a great month.

Steve



The 27th Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival

Sponsored by The Ford Seahorses

The Ford Seahorses are proud to announce the return of the Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival on April 19, 2008

After a three year absence the Ford Seahorses will bring back the show in a new facility with a new venue. Our new home is Schoolcraft College, located in Livonia Michigan on Haggerty Rd. between 6 and 7 Mile Roads. Livonia is a Western suburb of Detroit with easy access from I-275. We will keep you posted as the program develops and notify those on our mailing list.

If you would like to receive email notification of the show as the date draws nearer please register your email address on this site. If you prefer to receive information via the post, you can also register your mailing address. We will be mailing out two fliers prior to the show. The first announcing the show with limited program information in November of 2007 and the advanced ticket sale flyer in January with full program details.

As usual our show will feature Great Lakes shipwrecks Salt Water programs 5,000 Sq. Ft. of exhibit space and much more. Our featured speaker this year is Dave Trotter one of the most prolific shipwreck hunters in the Great Lakes who's story is the focus of the new book "Shipwreck Hunter".

For contact information please visit our web site at

<http://www.shipwreckfestival.org>

Annual GLA Dues

Payable now thru January 31, 2008.

\$30 per year per individual or per family member at the same address.*

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Your email address (if you have one) is important to notify you of last minute club information such as scheduled dive changes and meetings. Also, we need it if you wish to receive the Flipper via email.

Mail your dues payable to GLA to:

Linda Walton, 38483 Lancaster, Livonia, MI 48154.

*Each family member must have a membership app on file.

REMEMBER WHEN This picture supplied by Joanne Westman. If you have items from the clubs past you would like to see in the Flipper Please get them to me.

Never too cold for a swim



Divers wearing wet suits and festive garlands bob with the current in the St. Clair River on Thursday during their annual New Year's Day plunge. Some of the divers later shed their

wetsuits for a quick dip in swimsuits. The water temperature was 37 degrees — balmy, by their standards. A story and more pictures are on Page 3A.

Times Herald — RALPH W. POLOVICH