



SWODA Guidelines

Providing positive direction to SCUBA divers



June 2007 Edition

Next Meeting

October 15th, 2007 at the Elephant and Castle Restaurant.

President's Corner



Hola!

With our season opener in the books and June in our sights, the dive season is officially in full-swing!

This means a return of the routine trips to the dive store, preparing for those great

weekends away, seeking out the latest and greatest in dive gear, and soaking up some rays while enjoying your favourite sport. Personally, I am extremely excited to get back in the water and blow some Great Lake bubbles.

Stay tuned for updates to the calendar as Dive Masters continue to refine trips and add dates. This month we have many great trips to look forward to. From Fort Erie river drifting to Tobermory shore and boat diving to diving on the Wexford, we've got trips available for divers at all levels. So, mark your calendars and contact your DM to get in on the action.

Have a great month everyone, hope to see you in the water!



~Patrick~

2007 Club Meetings

Just a quick reminder that SWODA will not be having meetings every month this year. Meetings will take place on the following dates:

- March 19th—8pm @ E&C *completed
- April 16th—8pm @ E&C *completed
- October 15th—8pm @ E&C
- November 12th—8pm @ E&C



Diving With Disabilities

Congratulations to Marlyn Smith who became certified to teach scuba to the disabled this month. The underwater world, as we know, is a place full of mystery, beauty, and adventure. However, not all people who want to explore this realm are able to do so without some extra catering to their physical or mental needs.

For this reason, entities such as Freedom at Depth and HSA International have been set up to help train specialized instructors who are able to work with and accommodate the needs of people with various abilities.

It is very rewarding to know that our club members continue to learn and expand their diving capabilities and knowledge. Our diverse membership is one of our greatest assets, so keep on diving, stay active in the sport, and most important of all, have fun!



Join Us in Fort Erie

On June 9-10, SWODA is heading to Fort Erie for some river diving. This is a fun trip and has dives to accommodate divers on many levels. We will be stationed at the Fort Erie Underwater Recovery Unit's building as they host us again this year. The Fort Erie UWRU opens its doors and takes good care of us throughout the weekend with the option to shack up overnight at Al Murphy's

(President) house on Saturday. Come on out and enjoy yourself. Contact Marlyn Smith (p. 3) for more information.



OUC Treasure Hunt 2007



The OUC is having their annual Treasure Hunt this year on the June 16th-17th weekend in Presqu'île Provincial Park.

If anyone is interested in taking part in the hunt, please see the OUC website.

“The Treasure Hunt’s bin sailin’ since 1971 and she’s not just the longest-sailin’ Treasure ship, she’s the biggest an’ she’s the best!

There’ll be an Underwater Navigation Competition for all ye sunken Treasure types. And a Car Rally for all ye Car Rally types. And Volleyball and Tug-‘O-War for ye sporty types. And Kid’s Olympics for the wee Pirates. And of course, the Treasure Hunt itself on Sunday, with tens of thousands of doubloon’s worth of prizes up just for the huntin’.”

Visit the Treasure Hunt page for registration details:
<http://tinyurl.com/2xhnph>

SWODA Executive 2007

Position	Name	Email
President	Patrick Briscoe	pbriscoe@rogers.com
Vice-President	Marlyn Smith (Mar Smith)	mar@divewithmar.on.ca
Treasurer	Ed Hatfield	hatfields@rogers.com
Secretary		
Webmaster	Luigi DiRaimo Patrick Briscoe	ouigiman@sympatico.ca
Newsletter Editor	Patrick Briscoe	
Promotions	Steve Brandow	scubasteve@amtelecom.net
Events Team	Phil Shelley	thephilguy@porchlight.ca
Events Team	Cathy Brandow	islandhopper@amtelecom.net

Changes in Toby

There have been recent changes to the Diver Registration Office in Tobermory. It has been moved to a new location on Codrington St. (see map provided by OUC). Now

included in the diver registration fee is a complimentary day pass to Visitor Centre attractions, including admittance to the 65’ high lookout tower. There are two ways to get to the new location:

Driving: From Highway 6, turn East onto Codrington Street, and follow to the end

Walking: From the Bruce Trail monument across from the LCBO, follow the beaver signs to the Visitor Centre, a 5-10 minute walk. Your walk will take you along Head Street and then onto a crushed stone pathway.



Ecotourism on the Rise

Ecotourism-Tourism involving travel to areas of natural or ecological interest ... for the purpose of observing wildlife and learning about the environment (dictionary.com).

With environmental concerns finally gaining the attention of the average person, people are starting to embark on more nature-conscious trips. As SCUBA divers, our dive excursions are considered ecotourism trips because we are traveling for the purpose of observing and learning more about the natural environment.



With developments in ecotourism increasing, our dive experiences may be affected. For example, on the coast of North Carolina, the Eastern Carolina Artificial Reef Association is pushing for the sinking of more sea vessels in order to create more artificial reefs and to attract tourists—something that may be a benefit both to the underwater environment and us divers (enn.com).

However, the ecotourism boom can also have negative affects. As we have witnessed over the past year, Sarnia has seen dramatic developmental changes along its waterfront to appeal to those visiting (and wanting to live) in the area. For divers frequenting Sarnia, this has been a hefty burden.

Whichever way we look at it, “tourism is the world’s largest industry and ecotourism is the fastest growing sector of that industry” (enn.com). SCUBA will be affected by this momentum both positively and negatively. It is time for us divers to start being aware of these changes and think about how we can help accommodate and mold them in a way that suits our (and the environments) best interests.

Newsletter submissions may be e-mailed to:
 Patrick Briscoe, pbriscoe@rogers.com

All users are required to sign a standard release of liability in order to participate in Club SWODA dive activities.
 A copy of the release may be obtained from the executive for your review.

Birthday Corner



May 2007

4th
Luigi Di Raimo
7th
Doug Taleski



SWODA Wear

Steve Brandow is your guy with the smart SWODA wear. Steve and Sean Dunn from Tommy White's Source for Sports in St Thomas are really coming up with great options this year. Steve can get SWODA wear with our logo on almost anything, so ask to see the catalog for all the great SWODA gear.. Come out to our next meeting to see what cool SWODA wear options we have.



SHARKS!

We also have the **Happy Sharks** available now. Great for stocking stuffers. These Happy Shark are for your vehicle or dive gear boxes, it is a dive flag too. We have them now so if your are interested.

Contact:

Steve & Cathy 519-773-5143

or email: scubasteve@amtelecom.net



The Gear Bin

- UK 1200 underwater light.
Mar Smith -(519)-672-3100
- Black Military Viking Dry suit - Men's med/large, bag/repair kit included \$800; Whites black neoprene dry suit 10 dives \$500...or \$1000 for both! Jeff Lindsay lindsaycave@gmail.com
- Canister dive light, with both long and sort batteries for long or short dives options with 2 charges.
Mar Smith. 519-672-3100



Please inform us of your progress so we can keep this column current. If you're not using your gear or wanting to upgrade, keep watching this column for dive gear you might be after.

Mar Smith



Looking for used Gear!

- L-XL Neoprene dry suit. 170-190 pds.
Dan Varewyck- (519) 686-8208



Dive Description Chart

Level	Description
1	Maximum depth 60 feet. No special conditions
2	Maximum depth 90 feet. No special conditions
2	Maximum depth 60 feet. Special conditions such as strong current or night dive
3	Maximum depth 130 feet. No special conditions
3	Maximum depth 90 feet. Special conditions such as strong current or night dive
4	Overhead environment, (i.e. wreck penetration, ice, cave or extended range, special gas mixtures, i.e. Trimix

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SWODA Dives and Events Schedule 2007

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	LEVEL	CONTACT	PHONE
TBA	Bonne Terre Mine	St Lewis, Missouri	Everyone	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
June-Aug	Wexford	Grand Bend/ Goderich	2	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
June 10-11	River Drifting	Forte Erie	1-3	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
June 16-17	OUC Treasure Hung	Presqu'île Provin- cial Park	Everyone	Patrick Briscoe	pbriscoe@rogers.com
June 23-24	Shore & boat diving	Tobermory	Everyone	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
July –TBA	Great lake wreck diving	Toby & North channel	Everyone	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
July –TBA	Great lake wreck diving	Alpena Mic	Everyone	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
Aug 11-12	Wreck Diving	Kingston	3	Steve Brandow Patrick Briscoe	scubasteve@amtelecom.net pbriscoe@rogers.com
Aug –TBA	Wreck Diving	Toby	Everyone	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
Sept 7-9	Wreck Diving	Brockville	2	Marlyn Smith	672-3100 mar@divewithmar.on.ca
Sept—TBA	SWODA BBQ	TBA	Everyone	Cathy Brandow	islandhopper@amtelecom.net
Oct 15	Club Meeting	Elephant & Castle	Everyone	Patrick Briscoe	pbriscoe@rogers.com
Nov 12	Club Meeting	Elephant & Castle	Everyone	Patrick Briscoe	pbriscoe@rogers.com
Nov 24	Christmas Party	Elephant & Castle	Everyone	Cathy Brandow	islandhopper@amtelecom.net

This schedule may change as the season comes closer. If Dive Masters do not get commitment or interest on promoted trips. This will bring changes to our coming dives and events calendar. Please contact the DM running the trip or event so we can plan great things for Your Dive Season! Help us help you!

Other Non-Club Dives and Events In our Area

THIS CHART WILL BE TO KEEP OUR MEMBERS INFORMED OF OTHER DIVE RELATED EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
July 14-15 2007	Kingston Dive Weekend	Kingston, Ontario	Ron Sisson ronsisson@rogers.com
OUC—Newsletter— http://www.underwatercouncil.com/news.htm			

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