

The FACEPLATE

The voice of
The Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Divers, Inc.



OCSSDI Officers for 2002

3 YEAR TRUSTEES

Scott Pansing
Columbus Sea Nags
238 Fairway Rd.
Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 369-8299
OCSSDI_sp@yahoo.com

Annette Soule
Lake Erie Wreck Divers
1417 W. 37th St.
Lorain, OH 44053
(440) 989-1086
diverdown@centurytel.net

Donald Hudson
*Cincinnati Underwater
Explorers*
PO Box 062
Cincinnati, OH 45224
(513) 681-7802
dhudson513@aol.com

SECRETARY

Joyce Hayward
Bay Area Divers
1791 CR 296
Bellevue, OH 44811
(419) 483-3074
joycehayward@cros.net

TREASURER

Joe Higginbotham
Newark Poseidons
690 Tall Oaks Drive
Newark, Ohio 43055
(740) 344-4242
higginbotham@alink.com

COMMITTEES:

- Legislative Action: **Joyce Hayward**
- Archeology: **Linda Pansing**
- Speakers Bureau: **Marty Bailey, Annette Soule**
- Dive Ohio Video: **Roger Roth**
- Membership: **Rich Lauer**
- Publicity: **Dave Soule**

1 YEAR TRUSTEE

Marty Bailey
Columbus Sea Nags
646 Noe Bixby Rd
Columbus, OH 43213
(614) 866-9943
bailey.11@osu.edu

Dick Colwell
Southern Ohio Scuba
5791 Dublin Rd.
Dublin, OH 43017
(614) 766-8120
dcolwell@ohiohealth.com

Mary Anne Higginbotham
Newark Poseidons
690 Tall Oaks Drive
Newark, Ohio 43055
(740) 344-4242
higginbotham@alink.com

Roger Roth
10632 Cinderella
Cincinnati, OH 45242
(513) 793-9896
rroth2@cinci.rr.com

WEBSITE DIRECTOR

Mark Beatty
Gavia Scuba Club
321 S. Waynesville Rd
Oregonia, OH 45054
513-932-5983
mbeatty@diveflag.com

FACEPLATE

Rich Lauer
rlauer@subaquatics.com

Spring, 2002

And so dive season, 2002, begins.... And none too soon.

Before we get into the spring issue of the *Faceplate*, it's time 2002 dues were paid. If you're getting the hard copy of the newsletter, please look at the date following your name. If it says 2002, or life, then you're fine. If it says 2001, your membership is due, and this will be the last *Faceplate* you receive unless you renew for 2002.

If you've received the electronic copy, then I know you're renewed, since this is the first issue being done via e-mail. I've got a year to figure out how to handle 2003 renewal reminders.

So much is happening, from the lakes to the river. Keep in touch! Please renew for 2002.

OCSSDI.org Update

by Mark Beatty, OCSSDI Webmaster

The ocssdi website has recently had some updates and there are more in store in the coming months. Here are some of the new additions to look for now:

- ❑ Club Map – This is now a map with icons representing the member dive clubs in Ohio, to visually see where the clubs are present. Club contacts and websites have been updated as well.
- ❑ Events List - has been updated. Please send additional items to be added to the webmaster.
- ❑ Legislation – Updated with info on Oxygen and Buoying Lake Erie issues, as well as more info on laws that affect diving in Ohio.
- ❑ Scholarship – application is now available online
- ❑ Speakers Bureau – First list is posted of potential speakers. Clubs should contact the committee for contact information.
- ❑ Email Lists – detailed information on how to join members and other discussion lists it posted. If you're a member and want to join the email discussion group, please visit the website.
- ❑ A map of Ohio and nearby dive sites is also now on the web, with links to dive sites. If anyone would like to contribute quarry maps, wreck diagrams, site reviews or other info, please send the information to the webmaster

continued pg. 3

Members of the Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Diving

Aqua Amigos Scuba Club
Cleveland, Ohio
PO Box 32004
Cleveland, OH 44132
www.aquaamigos.com

Aqua Mariners, Inc.
Canton, Ohio
Jean Griffin
PO Box 8064
Canton, OH 44711-8064
(330) 452-5582
beejay@cannet.com

Aqua Masters, Inc.
Lakewood, Ohio
Ted Green
6001 Flowerdale
Cleveland, OH 44144
divrdown42@aol.com

Ashland Scuba Club
Dublin, Ohio
Gary Tolhurst
Ashland Specialty Chemical Co.
5200 Blaze Parkway DA3
Dublin, OH 43017
(614)799-3443
gtolhurst@ashland.com

Bay Area Divers
Sandusky, Ohio
Joyce Hayward
1791 CR 296
Bellevue, OH 44811
(419) 483-3074
joycehayward@cros.net

Buckeye Divers
Columbus, Ohio
2603 Youngs Grove Road
Columbus, OH 43231
DennisLaRue@columbus.rr.com

Central Ohio Divers
Columbus, Ohio
Ken Karst
2501 James Road
Granville, Ohio 43023
(740) 522-1667
kkxray@alink.com

Cincinnati Underwater Explorers
Cincinnati, Ohio
Ernest McAdams Jr.
PO Box 0062
Cincinnati, OH 45224
therock633@aol.com

Columbus Sea Nags
Columbus, Ohio
Andrew Dennis
4455 Jenny Dawn Place
Hilliard, OH 43026
(614) 777-0882
andrew@dennis.org

Gavia Scuba Club
Cincinnati, Ohio
Bill Libecap
4349 Clifford Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45236
(513) 793-7589
Mr_Bill@mailcity.com

Kittyhawk Scuba Club
Dayton, Ohio
Barb Fissell
1554 Mapledale Drive
Kettering, Ohio 45432
(937) 252-9041
fizz30@msn.com

Lake Erie Wreck Divers
Lorain, Ohio
Dave Soule
1417 W. 37th St
Lorain, Oh. 44053
(440) 989-1086
diverdown@centurytel.net

Lima Scubanauts
Lima, Ohio
P. J. Schaub
12692 Wapak/Buckland Rd
Wapakoneta. OH 45895
(419) 657-2076
oak_thorn2@yahoo.com

Newark Poseidons
Newark, Ohio
Dave Rauch
362 Coffman Blvd
Heath, OH 43056
(740) 522-4710
rauchhouse@alink.com

North Coast Aquatic Scuba Explorers
Cleveland, Ohio
Yvonne Ladd
16201 Sunny Glenn Road
Cleveland, OH 44128
(216) 662-4613
scooterladd@aol.com

Quarry Commandos
St. Marys, OH
Luann Lee
401 N. Main Street
St. Marys, Ohio 45885
(419) 394-2703
star@quarrycommando.com

Southern Ohio Scuba Club
Portsmouth, Ohio
David Vetter
P.O. Box 1582
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
(740) 353-7811
dvetter@zoomnet.net

Springfield Scuba Society
Springfield, Ohio
Jody Lewis
1238 Shrine Road
Springfield, Ohio 45504
(937) 323-2545
wtjalscubaharley@aol.com

T. A. Dive Club
Reynoldsburg, Ohio
Linda White
1082 Richland Road
Marion, OH 43302
(740) 389-4485
divellw@gte.net

Toledo Submariners
Toledo, Ohio
2041 McIntosh Dr
Holland, OH 43528
419-865-4184
ttloar@cs.com

check us out on the web
www.ocssdi.org

OCSSDI PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

- **Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center**
Vermilion, OH
(440) 967-3467
- **Aquatic Realm Scuba Center**, Centerville, OH
(937) 428-9836
- **ASK Scuba & Snorkeling Center**
Dublin, OH
(614) 889-2822
- **Blue Water Consulting**, Baltimore, OH
(740) 862-8992
- **Buckeye Diving School**, Bedford, Ohio
(440) 439-3677
- **Dive Mates Scuba**, Mansfield, OH
(419) 524-6210
- **Diver's Paradise**, Toledo, Ohio
(419) 535-6828
- **Huntington Sport & Commercial Diving**,
Huntington, West Virginia
(304) 528-6622
- **JRS School of Scuba**, Rootstown, Ohio
(330) 325-2233
- **Lakeview Park**, Lancaster, OH
(740) 653-4519
- **Long Lake Scuba**, Lima, OH
(419) 331-3483
- **New Wave Dive Shop**, Port Clinton, OH
(419) 734-2240
- **North Coast Adventures**,
Cleveland Heights, OH
(216) 932-6315
- **Portage Quarry Recreation Club**,
Bowling Green, OH
(419) 352-8488
- **Quarry Divers**, Gibsonburg, OH
(419) 637-7911
- **Scuba Recovery Dive Charters**, Findlay, OH
(419) 422-3215
- **Sub-Aquatics, Inc.**, Reynoldsburg, OH
(614) 864-1235
- **Todd's Scuba Sales**
Circleville Twin Quarries
(740) 474-9530
- **Tri-State Scuba**, Cincinnati, OH
(513) 271-2800
- **Underwater World Scuba**, Portsmouth, OH
(740) 353-7727

- **Member Area** – There is now a member area of the website. From this area there are links to web email checking for officers and committees, info on the discussion groups and other member and officer specific links and information.

In addition to the above updated and new features, there are more in the works. A photo album is planned with photos of past events, please consider sending digital or scanned photos if you would like to contribute. The ScubaFest area will be coming with information on the upcoming annual shows and Banquet Ball. The domain scubafest.org will bypass the OCSSDI homepage and eventually lead directly to that area. OCSSDI.org emails will also make contacting officers and committees more convenient and consistent in the very near future. A new links page will be coming, and we can offer a single information page for any clubs who don't have their own website. Other suggestions are welcome, just let us know what features and information you would like to see on the council website. Contact webmaster@ocssdi.org for questions, suggestions, or information updates.

Kelley's Island Preserve Dedication

Please check our calendar on page 6. You will notice that we have scheduled, on June 15, the official dedication for the Kelley's Island Dive Preserve.

We don't know at this point whether that will happen or not. Plans for the preserve have been under study since Fall of 2000, and we thought we were pretty much done. However, at a meeting earlier this month, strong opposition to the preserve was voiced.

The Coastal Program Administrator and a representative from the Ohio Historical Society will be going to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review meeting Monday April 22nd. Says Debbie Paul of the Ohio Coastal Management Program, "At this point we are worried that some opposers to the project may go to the meeting and everything may change. So we are unclear about what will happen until Monday, the 22nd."

There will not be another *Faceplate* before June 15. We will announce the results of that meeting, via our e-groups, and on the web. Please stay tuned.

Dear Council Members,

I am very sad to report the death of Chris Massie, OCSSDI member, and President of Southern Ohio Scuba. Those of us who knew him, or just met him at the Scuba Expo in Portsmouth last year, will miss his friendliness, and his love of scuba, and his service to the sport and the dive community.

We hear he was diving with friends just a couple days before his death, which came as the result of complications from a long-time illness.

Our condolences and prayers go out to his family, and to our friends in SOS.

OCSSDI MEETING

February 10, 2002

Aqua Fest Eastlake, OH

Clubs in Attendance

Aqua Amigos
Bay Area Divers
Cincinnati Underwater Explorers
Columbus Sea Nags
Gavia Scuba Club

Kittyhawk Scuba Club
Lake Erie Wreck Divers
North Coast Aquatic Scuba Explorers
Newark Poseidons
Southern Ohio Scuba Club
T.A. Dive Club

Professional Members

Atlantis
D & M Sport Diving Inc

Additional independent and individual members

Meeting was opened by Mark Beatty. Roll call of clubs was taken and members introduced themselves round the room.

Old Business: Minutes from the November meeting were discussed. A correction was made that it was Scott Pansing, not Mark Beatty who ran the November meeting. (The minutes incorrectly combined both names as Mark Pansing.)

Mark Beatty volunteered to take over the website. He expressed his desire to stay involved with Council and promised to keep the site up to date. He explained that the site will go with a public web host which will not be free, but will stay available. In addition, any club representative who has not signed up for the Ohio Council e-group news should contact Mark at mbeatty@diveflag.com

Gavel was then turned over to Scott Pansing new Chairman of the 3-year trustees.

Scott began his term with some personal comments regarding his overview of what he would like to accomplish during his year as Chairman. Scott expressed the importance of volunteering and being dependable and responsible when given a job or position. He asked attendees to consider volunteering later in the meeting to be a Trustee and expressed his intention to work with Mark Beatty on the web site. He stated that the Council's e-group would be an important method of staying in contact and asked that it only be used for official Council business.

Faceplate: Rich Lauer explained his first attempt to put the Faceplate "on line". He sent it to only a few officers as a first-try attempt to see how it would work out. He found that some were unable to open it, and others found it took much too long and tied up their computer. Rich has found out some issues that created too much space and will change the format accordingly, and plans to try to have the Faceplate as a link to the web site. The cost of postage would be reduced by sending the Faceplate to as many members as possible in this format (projected savings of over \$120.00 per year); however, one "hard" copy will still be sent to each club representative in hopes that it will be shared with their club members during meetings. Funds have already (2 years ago) been approved for expenditures toward expanding the web site. Options being reviewed include a web site link to the Faceplate or an email link to the Faceplate.

Speakers Fund: Following the Aqua Amigos concern about the building expenses of speakers for the Aqua Fest, an "adopt a speaker" project was initiated by Joyce Hayward. Steve Harrington sent Joyce a case of Dive Michigan books to aid the Council in fund raising, and a book was sent to each club (requesting it) to use as a raffle item with the proceeds to be sent to Aqua Amigos. A motion was made to continue this project on a yearly basis so that each club in the Council would be actively participating in the yearly event. Seed money will be placed under a special account for this purpose. Hal McKinney of Atlantis volunteered to donate a jewelry item next year to continue this new tradition.

Legislation: Joyce Hayward, Chair, explained the background for the Oxygen legislation. Although Rich Lauer had researched and found that administering oxygen during an emergency would fall under the "good Samaritan act" it became evident that obtaining and possessing the oxygen was the problem since in Ohio Statute, oxygen is listed as a *controlled substance* and falls under regulations as such. She then turned over the report to Ron Smith, Council lawyer, who explained how the Bay Area Divers had contacted Rex Damschroder who is an Ohio Representative and also a diver. Rex had written a proposed amendment to the revised code and sent a copy to B.A.D. for review. Ron found one change that he suggested, and read the amendment with the revision. Basically the change would read as follows with the change suggested by Smith printed in bold.

LSC 124-139 124th General Assembly Regular Session 2001-2002 To amend section 4729.51 of the Revised Code to allow the sale of oxygen to an individual who holds a valid certificate from a nationally recognized SCUBA diving school. Section 4729.51 (B) (1) (i) An individual who holds a valid certificate issued by a nationally recognized SCUBA diving certifying organization, but only with respect to oxygen that will be used for the purpose of emergency care or treatment "**at the scene of an emergency**" Smith suggested dropping "at the scene of an emergency" so that any diver found in possession of oxygen while not at the scene of an emergency would not be subject to the laws and penalties that apply to possession of a controlled substance as per presently in the code. Motion made by Landa Pansing and seconded by Roger Roth to support the amendment as modified by Smith.

Discussion. Motion passed. Smith will now notify Rex Damschroder who will introduce the amendment. Joyce Hayward, chair, then took the floor to explain how this item would undergo review and hearings. She explained how the Council had rallied on the legislative effort for representation on the Abandoned Shipwreck Act and subsequent Ohio Shipwreck Law, and the importance and process of Legislative committee hearings. Damschroder will notify B.A.D., Smith and Hayward when the bill has its hearings, and Hayward and Smith will in turn notify the Council and member clubs. Clubs who have a representative on the committee hearing the bill will be encouraged to contact their representative and request that they support the bill. Hayward will notify these clubs and provide text toward that goal. Timeliness will be extremely important, and someone other than Hayward or Smith may be called upon to testify at the hearings if Hayward and Smith are not available.

Membership Flyer: Scott showed the membership the updated flyers which had been produced as samples and would require review. Discussion included whether or not to include officers, and if officers and contacts were listed, the importance of **dating** the flyers so that someone would not accidentally pick up an old flyer and try to contact an out-dated source. Tim McCloud volunteered to become the printing source for the flyers.

Council and Ohio Diving Promotion: As well as flyers, web sites and the Faceplate, a project was suggested two years ago to produce a video about Ohio diving. About 10 years ago Twink Miller, Ken Davis and Joyce Hayward had created a slide program called "Dive Ohio" which showed dive sites throughout the state. As this became out-dated, the desire to create a video featuring short "snips" of the activities of dive clubs in Ohio as well as Council events and diving locations was suggested. As visuals are collected, perhaps two videos could be produced with one being VERY short and would be run at the Council booth at events. The second would be more in depth and could be used as a promo or at dive clubs meetings. This would feature more visuals of the quarries and shipwrecks, particularly around the newly proposed Ohio preserve of Kelley's Island. Rick Mathew has volunteered to create a video collection of all the quarries as a start. An additional idea shared by the Illinois Dive Council was discussed. In Illinois, each dive club member of their Council produces a one page information sheet about their club. Each club's promo sheets are printed on different colors, and this rainbow of colored forms is placed on the table at any convention where the Illinois Council is present. Linda Pansing volunteered to come up with literature and format suggestions for each club to develop their one page promo.

Audio Visual Costs: Dave Wear suggested that the Council research purchasing a high quality video projector to be used at Council and club events. Each club now finds it necessary to rent a projector at the cost of about \$450-800 per rental. Wear will research possible fund raising or grant writing possibilities for purchasing such a unit as well as the cost of purchase and maintenance, bulbs, carrying case and shipping. Motion made by Mark Beatty and seconded by Don Hudson that Wear be given the go ahead to pursue information. Discussion about the cost of renting verses changes in technology and how to move the unit around the state resulted in a recommendation that Wear focus primarily on grant writing or donation of a unit. Motion carried

Speakers Committee: Annette Soule and Martin Bailey are continuing to work on this committee and will work with Mark Beatty and the web site.

Membership: Rich Lauer reported that there are 70 members so far for 2002. Clubs are asked to run membership forms in their own newsletters.

Publicity: Scott Pansing asked for volunteers to help run the booth.

Public Hearing: John Holly reported on a public hearing devoted to creating an Emergency Response plan for the Kelley's Island region once it receives the Ohio Diving Preserve designation, which is expected to occur in May or June of 2002.

Elections: Don Hudson 3 - year Trustee 1 Year Trustee positions: Marty Bailey, Dick Colwell, Mary Ann Higginbotham and Roger Roth. Treasurer Joe Higginbotham and Secretary Joyce Hayward accepted by acclamation

Handbook: Update needed. John Holly volunteered to contact clubs regarding their handbooks and provide information regarding updating the Ohio Council handbook.

Treasurers Report:

Balance as of November, 2001	\$5,124.90
Income from memberships 12/01	351.00
Income from memberships 1/02	181.00
Balance as of February 10, 2002	\$5,651.98
Scholarship Fund as of 2/02	\$2,082.94

Banquet Ball **Scuba Fest 2003** The TA Club in concert with other Columbus clubs will host the 2003 event on the 1st Weekend in March, 2003. It has been realized that this date conflicts with the Boston Sea Rovers, who had established the first full weekend in March as their annual date for their show. The Columbus show cannot be changed at this time as the contracts have been signed; however, discussion began regarding changing the date for subsequent years. The concern that vendors and major speakers would not be available due to attendance at the Boston show was discussed. Roger Roth stated that he had heard from show producers regarding the selection of the first weekend in March by the Ohio Council, and his response to them. Discussion included: if the Ohio show is to grow, it cannot use the same weekend as another major show; the Ohio show needs a permanent date; the Ohio show needs to reflect diving in Ohio and move from region to region each year. After much discussion, it was decided that: the Ohio show is very small and no club is willing to put in the money, time and effort to make it a mini-Our World Underwater or other major competition; it will not impede the success of our show if we are on the same weekend as Boston since basically none of the members of Ohio Council attend their show or vice versa, vendors attendance will not be adversely impacted, and by having the show rotate from North to Mid Ohio to Southern Ohio, it provides the opportunity for local State businesses and dive facilities to be promoted and participate. Motion carried to keep the 1st weekend in March as the annual date for Scuba Fest.

Submitted by Joyce Hayward, Secretary

Schedule of Events

until September 2...Titanic, the Exhibition

Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland

www.clevelandtitanic.com, or call (216) 694-2000

April 13: **Shipwrecks 2002**, Niagra Divers Association

www.vaxxine.com/nda

April 14: **Scuba for Diabetes**, Cleveland State University

www.dagc.org/scuba

April 21: **Easter Egg Dive**, Lake Cable

Aqua Mariners, (330) 452-5582

April 26-28: **Our World Underwater**, Chicago

www.ourworldunderwater.com

May 17-19: **Ocean Fest 2002**, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

www.oceanfest.com

June 1 & 2: **DUI Demo Days**, Gilboa Quarry

June 15: **Kelleys Island Dive Preserve Dedication (?)**

SEE NOTE ON PAGE 3!!

July 27-28: **Barbecue for DAN**, Portage Quarry

TA Dive Club

July 28: **OCSSDI meeting**, Portage Quarry

November 2: **Shipwrecks Remembered**, Pt. Huron, Mich.

(810)-359-8660, www.greatlakes.net

November 16: **Shipwrecks and Scuba**, Sandusky

Bay Area Divers

New OCSSDI email contacts

Chairman	Scott Pansing	chairman@ocssdi.org
Faceplate Editor	Rich Lauer	editor@ocssdi.org
Council Secretary	Joyce Hayward	secretary@ocssdi.org
Council Treasurer	Joe Higginbotham	treasurer@ocssdi.org
Speakers Bureau	all committee members	speakers@ocssdi.org
Webmaster	Mark Beatty	webmaster@ocssdi.org

All elected board members can also be emailed by using the first initial and last name @ ocssdi.org as an email address. (i.e. spansing@ocssdi.org for Scott Pansing). These addresses will remain consistent on the website and will be passed on to succeeding board and committee members. The new ocssdi.org emails will make communication for council business more consistent and professional, as well as easier to remember. Any other committee members who have a need (council, not personal) should contact Mark Beatty about setting up an email address.

LETTER FROM SCOTT PANSING, 2002 CHAIRMAN

Hello everyone,

As the 2002-2003 Chairman of the Board (a three-year trustee in his third year), I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Scott Pansing and I work in the Semiconductor industry, for a research and development firm. But as for many of you, my real passion is diving.

I've been a diver since the early eighties and a member of the Ohio Council for more than ten years. Over the years the sport has grown in leaps and bounds. There have been changes in diving, and divers. From black rubber outfits to colors that would make a parrotfish envious. From a few styles of equipment to an endless array of items and accessories some good, some outlandish. From mostly small groups of male divers, to an equal number of men and women (sometimes more women than men), with more and more young adults added to that number. In the past diving was sometimes looked at as the sport for the hardy or foolhardy. An activity for a small group of the society, especially here in a non-coastal states (we have Lake Erie, but it was not as pleasant to dive as it is at present). Now you can't swing a regulator around with out hitting someone that is a diver, or who knows a diver.

The Ohio Council, like any group, only works when people get involved. I want to commend the many people who have stepped up to the bat and are providing all of us with a valuable service; their time and talents.

3-YEAR TRUSTEES

Annette Soule
Donald Hudson

1-YEAR TRUSTEES

Marty Bailey Mary Ann Higginbotham
Dick Colwell Roger Roth

SECRETARY

Joyce Hayward

TREASURER

Joe Higginbotham

WEBSITE DIRECTOR

Mark Beatty

FACEPLATE

Rich Lauer

STANDING COMMITTEES

Archaeology: Linda Pansing

Dive Ohio Video: Roger Roth

Legislative Action: Joyce Hayward

Parliamentarian: David Rauch

Publicity: Dave Soule

Speakers Bureau: Marty Bailey, Annette Soule

I also want to encourage all members and clubs to take advantage of a great resource; the Faceplate. Free publicity is never bad, let other clubs know what you are doing, advertise your activities, reach out to the diving community. It's as easy as sending an article to the newsletter editor. Getting involved does not always mean fund drives, or solicitations. A simple email listing your club's activities speaks volumes.

I look forward to seeing you at our next OCSSDI meeting (July 28, at the DAN BBQ at portage quarry).

The Ohio Council, and you, are doing many things to help divers in diving.

Membership for 2002 Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Divers, Inc.



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

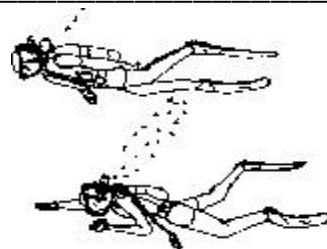
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE _____ **E-MAIL** _____

CLUB AFFILIATION, if any _____

Dues: \$12 per year. \$8 per year, if a member of an affiliate club. Make checks to OCSSDI, send to:

Rich Lauer
710 Ravenna Circle
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068



Club News from across the state

Here's the heart of the *Faceplate*, quick blurbs on what's happening in among our member clubs...

There are now 20 member clubs in the OCSSDI. How do I get the information for this page? First I got what I could from the newsletters I get in the mail, and from the newsletters I get on line. For those who don't publish a newsletter, or choose to not send it to me, I e-mailed the OCSSDI rep and asked for your story.

If there is a particular thing you want listed in our club news, or a flier you want published for a special event, drop a line, or e-mail, early in June, September, December, and March.

Southern Ohio Scuba

We'll do our first Ohio diving at Gilboa Quarry, the weekend of June 1. Meanwhile, we're making plans for a couple trips to Panama City Beach, and a wreck diving weekend to North Carolina.

Toledo Submariners

First in our regular, bi-monthly club dives is the evening of April 17 at White Star. It's nice to live nearby! In September we head north to Kingston, Ontario; meanwhile, we plan our Cozumel weeklong in the fall.

North Coast Aquatic Scuba Explorers

We're in Cleveland, and we love the lakes. In August we head to New York for a Niagara River dive, and in September we'll hit the wrecks in our own Lake Erie.

Aqua Masters

Our annual scuba swap is rapidly coming up, at the May 1 meeting. We're wreck diving with Osprey Charters in July and in August, and head over to the Thousand Island region over Labor Day.

Lima Scubanauts

Monthly pool swims continue through April, until we get outside to play. We cross the border to Cozumel, Mexico, June 15, for a week at Plaza Las Glorias.

Central Ohio Divers

Our first time in the Faceplate -- it's nice to be here. COD heads south to Cozumel July 16. We promise to bring a report.

Aqua Amigos

We head south(east) in April to dive Mt. Storm, W. Va. You'll see us at White Star and Portage Quarries in May, and east in the Niagra River in July. And every month this summer, we'll be diving the wrecks with Osprey Charters.

Cincinnati Underwater Explorers

March found us underground and under water, at the Bonne Terre mines. No time to rest -- April 20 is the CUE Open House, and we're off to Grand Cayman in May. See you at the quarries in June & July.

Buckeye Divers

July finds us visiting the WWII wrecks of Brittany and Normandy, off the coast of France. Meanwhile our holidays are all booked -- we'll have our regular Mother's Day quarry dive, then head to Palm Beach over memorial Day. July 4th it's Carolina Beach, and Labor Day it's Kingston, Ontario.

Ashland Scuba Club

We arranged for a "Discover Scuba" session for three of our members who have never dived -- they did well, so you're going to see them very soon under water. Meanwhile, four of our members are headed to Bonaire, September 3-10, staying at Buddy Dive.

T.A. Club

Like so many others, we hid from the cold weather under ground at Bonne Terre mines. We also had club members at Panama City Beach and Dominica, while several get ready for the Coral Sea. Our planning and work goes on for Scuba Fest 2003.

Columbus Sea Nags

April sees us heading to Mt. Storm, WV for some relatively warm water to start the season. Of course, some of us have never stopped -- we're at the quarries every weekend. But for warm salt water, we do the Bahamas with Blackbeard's Cruises in June.

Springfield Scuba Society

See us at Gilboa June 9, unless we lose all our scuba gear during our Ohio River riverboat gambling outing in May. Looking ahead, we're planning on joining the Nekton Pilot for the Bahams or Belize.

Bay Area Divers

Whitestar is our first official dive for 2002 -- May 11. First, though, try a rebreather at the Tiffin YMCA pool May 5. In August we'll join Blackbeard's Cruises, and in September we head north again to Tobermorey

Newark Poseidons

We start the spring with a dive to Twin Quarries, April 27. This outing will include our famous GROUP SOUP and Stickbread. To partake, YOU should bring one can of your favorite soup to add to the batch.

Aqua Mariners

It's spring, so it's time for the annual Easter Egg dive. This year it's April 21, at Lake Cable. Then we plan ahead to diving at Whitre Star over the Memorial Day Weekend.

Aqua Mariners

The last weekend of April is a pool party at Washington Township Recreation Club -- get ready to have fun. We look forward to a summer Familay Dive Day at France Lake, and our trek north to Lake Huron and the St. Clair River.

Gavia Scuba Club

We start the year with a pool party April 13 -- food, fun and games. We'll stay above the waterline in June with a Father's Day canoe trip,

In August we head north for some exciting diving in the St. Clair River, then it's a white water rafting weekend in September.

Lake Erie Wreck Divers

In March, we attended the Ghost Ships Festival in Milwaukee, and visited the Titanic exhibition in Cleveland. Looking ahead, we do the WYC Cruise to the Huron Boat Basin in June; then in July we head to New York for a charter with Osprey, and over to Kelleys Island the end of the month.



Oxygen Legislation

By Rich Lauer

For the past couple years, the OCSSDI, and some Council members, have been actively working on making changes in the Ohio law regarding oxygen for diving emergencies. There is much discussion and speculation regarding the issue. So here I will try to set the facts straight.

Two things we know about oxygen. First, it is a miracle drug when it comes to diving injuries. For decades, the immediate first aid of choice in suspected scuba accidents has been to treat for shock and administer pure oxygen, while waiting for emergency assistance. It might be more important than recompression, since chambers are hours away.

Second, oxygen is a prescription drug, mandated by the FDA, which technically cannot be prescribed or administered except by a doctor or trained medical personnel. There's the rub.

But it's not so bleak as those two paragraphs make it sound. Oxygen's value in emergency has long been recognized. Since 1953, the FDA has allowed the use of medical oxygen in emergency use. And in 1972, the agency formally considered changing its policy regarding emergency oxygen. Although they decided to not change the guidelines *officially*, FDA still considers the 1972 Proposed Statement of Policy to be its guiding principle.

This was reinforced in a letter to the Compressed Gas Association in September, 1996 — for applications, **other than emergencies**, a prescription is necessary. (You may read this in more detail on the DAN website – www.diversalertnetwork.org.) To be sure, you should label the cylinders as they recommend.

We are further aided by our limited field of potential victims.

Our World Underwater, and Ocean Fest 2002

Two excellent scuba celebrations are coming up within the next month.

The first is a favorite with us. The 32nd **Our World Underwater** takes place in Chicago April 26-28. This is a regular event for many Ohio divers -- 200 exhibits, in-depth workshops, film festivals, what a show!

Tickets for the entire show, including film festival, are \$75; exhibits only tickets are \$10 per day, plus there's all kinds of combinations.

You can get more information on speakers and exhibitors, and you can order tickets, by visiting their website at www.ourworldunderwater.com.

Or, you can head south to Florida, to Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, the **Ocean Fest 2002**, May 17-19. There will be more than 200 exhibits here, with live music and free seminars. This one also offers diving off the beach, with a treasure hunt and an underwater music festival.

We don't have prices for this one. You can go online at www.oceanfest.com

Under certain conditions – severe emphysema, for example — oxygen might actually injure a person. But we want to use oxygen for diving emergencies only. We won't be running into a situation where we might be giving oxygen to a person who cannot tolerate it.

So what is the problem? It's a state issue – most states have not yet adopted FDA's emergency use policy. Technically, oxygen use by anyone other than trained medical personnel is a potential violation. In fact, some people have problems getting their emergency cylinders filled, without a prescription.

To date, no one in Ohio has ever been arrested, charged, indicted or sued for using oxygen in suspected diving emergencies. However, as memory serves me, sometime about 15 years ago there were questions asked by an Ohio state legislator. When presented with the facts by DAN, OCSSDI, and PADI, he backed off. (I don't know all the details here – it was before my time. Can one of you old-timers help me?)

So the effort by our Oxygen Legislative Committee is a proactive one – let's get this issue resolved before a problem occurs, before some new lawmaker decides to make it a problem.

We also look for a uniform understanding about what is the proper training. Obviously a person completing an Oxygen Provider course is trained enough. How about a Rescue class. Open water?

Nothing Has Changed

So there are the facts. Now I want to address a related issue. *The rest of this article is opinion, my own, and not the Council's....*

It is the goal of Council to do something good for the divers of Ohio. Across the nation, and throughout the entire diving industry, it is acknowledged that pure oxygen is the procedure of choice for a suspected diving accident – this is not new. This is not debated. But, it seems that with these efforts of Council to forestall future problems has led, in some cases, an over-reaction bordering on panic.

I hear stories about a dive quarry not allowing people on the premises who carry emergency oxygen (I have no verification of that story). I also hear of some dive clubs who own oxygen equipment, but refuse to allow its use, because of a vague fear of liability (that story is definitely true). This is wrong, folks. Wrong. Wrong.

I repeat, no one has ever been arrested, charged, indicted or sued for using oxygen in suspected diving emergencies. In the meantime there have been many, many divers, over the decades, who have been helped by quick administration of emergency oxygen. Nothing has changed.

We also have the Good Samaritan Law. This is something definitely on the books, today. You are protected unless your actions in the rescue were contrary to common accepted knowledge, or if they caused harm to the injured person. Giving oxygen is not contrary to accepted knowledge – it is the prescribed, accepted standard of rescue by everyone from the YMCA to DAN to PADI to CMAS.

You cannot make a bends victim worse by providing oxygen. You cannot hurt a drowning victim by providing oxygen. If you do it wrong, you don't help. But you can't hurt.

The goal of our Oxygen Legislation is to put Ohio ahead of the rest of the country, and to possibly become a model for other states. It would be a tragedy if, because of a Chicken Little reaction, Ohio instead takes a big step backwards, and falls out of synch with the rest of the world.

Think about it – if you refuse to provide oxygen because of some ambiguous fear of liability, then I suggest you never dive with a buddy. Or lend a fin strap to a friend when his breaks. Or offer a companion a Sudafed if her sinuses act up.

Your opinions on this subject are welcome. In fact, they're encouraged.

AQUAFEST 2002

AquaFest 2002 is in the history books now. And, although I get tired of saying this....if you missed it, you missed a great one!

This was the first one in the Cleveland area for a while, and the Aqua Amigos and friends put on a great show. First, the weather was fantastic! (Cleveland in February -- who would have guessed it?) The Radisson Hotel was a nice meeting spot, and the Saturday evening banquet was excellent.

The setting was friendly cozy, so we were able to meet and socialize with two great people, pioneers of diving in the States. Stan Waterman was as entertaining as ever, offering three shows, and mixing much of the weekend with guests. Dr. Jose Jones, in his first visit to the Banaquet Ball, gave an excellent presentation, keeping much of the audience (especially some other old-timers) chucking with the memories.

Winners of Underwater Images 2002 were announced Saturday evening. You can view the winning entries by visiting www.uwimages.org.

There were too many speakers and presentations to list them here. Suffice it to say it was a great weekend in Ohio. Next year we return to Columbus for ScubaFest 2003. Cleveland rocks!

Remember, I steal from the best. So I feel it's important to share this gem from the March newsletter of the Columbus Sea Nags

Ten Signs That You're A Redneck Scuba Diver:

- 10) Your purge valve is sticking because you spit Copenhagen into your regulator.
- 9) You steal the tires from the school bus at Circleville and mount them on your monster truck.
- 8) You get arrested for buddy breathing with your sister.
- 7) You spend hours at the dive shop searching for "bootcut" Farmer Johns.
- 6) Your weight belt features an over-sized buckle embossed with your name.
- 5) When your buddy said he "got narc'd", you think he got busted for possession of "sea weed"
- 4) When someone asks you what kind of gas is in your tank, you reply, "Depends on what I ate."
- 3) You dive boat's trailer consists of four cement blocks, and is docked on your front porch.
- 2) Your regulator keeps falling out because you don't have enough teeth to get a good grip on it.
- 1) Your wetsuit hoo no longer fits because your mullet has gotten too long in the back!!!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Remembering the *Needa Clue* letter mess, please let me point out that this is a joke. This casts no aspersions on any section of Ohio, and does not mean to poke fun at any neighboring states to our south or west. I apologize in advance to anyone I offend, especially those who have no idea what the words *bootcut*, *Copenhagen*, or *mullet* actually mean.)

AQUA MARINERS, INC.
Presents
**Their Annual
Easter Egg Dive & Picnic**

DATE: April 21, 2002
WHERE: Lake Cable, Canton, Ohio
WHEN: Check-in 12:00 • Enter water 1:00
PICNIC: 2:00 in the shelter facilities; complete with bathrooms, and warming fire.

FOOD - We provide: • Hot Dogs & Buns • Relishes • Hot Coffee
You Bring: • Table Settings (plates, cups, napkins, forks)
• Covered Dish to Share





**DRAWING FOR EGG PRIZES TO FOLLOW PICNIC
WITH A RAFFLE FOR A SPECIAL GRAND PRIZE**
(Item to be announced)

**Price for admission: \$12.00 & C card for divers •
\$3.00 non-divers
*\$2.00 goes to D.A.N.**

Prizes for the Egg Hunt are provided in conjunction between
AQUA-MARINERS, INC. DEEP SIX SPECIALISTS
Other prizes may be from: Paradise Cove Scuba, D&M Sports,
Ka Puka Wai and H2oZone.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Bob or Jean Griffin, 330 452-5582