

The FACEPLATE

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



September, 2008

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Hello, Divers, and welcome to Fall. As you probably know, we're going into the best season for diving in Ohio. September and October give us warm water, generally the best visibility of the year, and not much in the way of crowds. If you haven't visited a nearby scuba quarry this year, treat yourself.

And check out the **schedule on page 11**. Plenty of things happening, including three (that's 3!) Underwater Pumpkin Carving contests. Will future generations wonder why there are no pumpkins left on earth? Ohio divers might be the reason.

First off, an apology. *Faceplate* should have come out in **latter July or early August**. However, this has been a happening summer for me. First there was a major change at my job in July. Then I got into a major argument with a neurosurgeon. You know they always win. That pretty much took away my August, and from what they say my diving is done for 2008, along with pretty much everything else.

Anyway, I promise to behave more in the future. The next issue will come out in early November. Because of the delay, there are two sets of OCSSDI minutes in this issue.

Since I couldn't sit down in front of a computer to print up a *Faceplate*, I made use of our **e-mail capability** two times this summer. Those of you whose e-mail I currently have got the information and reminders regarding the DAN Barbecue, the *Legends of Diving*, White Star Quarry's Digital Photo Contest, the Handicapped Scuba Association's barbecue, and the Dive! Put-In-Bay cleanup.. I will try my best to keep you current. Meanwhile, mention this at your next club meeting. If we have OCSSDI members who only get the *Faceplate* via regular mail, they do miss out a bit.

At the April Council meeting, it was pointed out to me that I listed (page 2) the names of **dive clubs that had gone inactive**. I'd like to say that I have tried to contact all those I was told of. My answer in each of them has been, yes, the club is small, and yes, they've not been real active, but they still consider themselves a club, and a member of Council. I will investigate this more, but for now there are no changes. That's 26 of them!

Linda Pansign writes to tell us "Each year the Ohio Archaeological Council sponsors **Ohio Archaeology Month** and advertises talks and special events that different organizations will put on during the month of October. Past topics covered land based archaeology, but this year underwater archaeology in Ohio is the focus, for the first time ever.

"The poster inside highlights the work that GLHS, MAST and CLUE have done in documenting the shipwreck *Dundee*. And or those who are interested, a list of activities during the month can be found at www.ohioarchaeology.org."

Next **OCSSDI meeting** will be Sunday, November 23, at the *Shipwrecks and Scuba* get together. Look inside (page 4) for info on an exciting new Midwest Regional U/W photo contest.

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ScubaFest Regional Photo Competition

For 2009, ScubaFest and Underwater Images have dissolved their partnership. For 10 years the two organizations worked together, ScubaFest giving UWI a forum for advertising their contest and exhibiting the winning entries. UWI in return produced a Friday evening film show, and gave a wonderful show during the Saturday evening banquet.

Underwater Images has continued to grow in entries and in status, to the point where they felt it was appropriate to charge OCSSDI and ScubaFest for their participation. For 2009, their request totals up to @ \$2,000. The ScubaFest committee has declined the offer.

We wish the Underwater Images Competition all the best. They have told us that there are several other dive organizations who want to team up with them, or they might make the Competition a website-only enterprise. As we hear more it will be announced here.

In the meantime, we are excited to announce the **ScubaFest Regional Photo Competition**. This will be a competition open to divers from Ohio and the surrounding states – Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, and Michigan.

Final details are still being put together. This is a digital photo contest; if you still shoot slides or film, all you have to do is scan it, or get it done at your nearby photo shop. Since this is for Midwest-based divers, we have heard from several agencies seriously interested in being co-sponsors along with OCSSDI. And you, the diver who might get one or two diving vacations per year, will not be competing with someone living in Indonesia or Hawaii.

We are still open for suggestions, but we plan on having everything finalized in October, to announce in the November *Faceplate*. At this point we have decided on the following categories (so far):

- Great Lakes
- Macro/closeup
- General & wide angle
- 16 & under. (Get the next generation started)
- Fresh water

Besides for prizes in each category, and a grand prize for the overall winner, we will also have a *People's Choice* winner, where ScubaFest attendees can pick their favorite.

What do you think? What suggestions can you give us? You can send your comments to photocontest@ScubaFest.org.

And here's a special note to the dive shops and scuba clubs. You very like have your own photo pro or photo enthusiasts (you know who we mean). Tell that person we'd love to have him or her involved, as a committee member, a judge, an advisor. Contact Rich Lauer at (614) 759-0357, or at the e-mail address above.

For now, look over your shots. Be a participant in the inaugural event.

Call for Volunteers

by Bill Libecap

Based on a vote by the Trustees at the OCSSDI meeting held in April, ScubaFest 2009 will continue to be an OCSSDI-sponsored event and organized by volunteers. It will celebrate OCSSDI's **50th anniversary**. We want everyone to have a good time while honoring the history of one of the oldest state Councils in the United States.

OCSSDI members, the Scholarship Fund and divers in the Ohio region all benefit from the ScubaFest event. Not only is it a forum for the sharing of knowledge regarding equipment, diving techniques, medical and travel information, ScubaFest is a great opportunity for divers to renew old and form new friendships with others who share a passion for the underwater world.

The Trustees have received offers from other entities to take over the organization of ScubaFest. If that were to happen, OCSSDI would lose control of the event making it much more difficult to promote the organization and create revenue the Council can use to subsidize the Scholarship Fund and donations to other charitable groups.

The Trustees' decision is for ScubaFest 2009 to remain an OCSSDI event, but we need and expect OCSSDI members to step forward to make it a great weekend. More ScubaFest Committee members are needed immediately to plan and organize the many details that are required to create a successful event. Additional volunteers will be recruited later to implement the plan during ScubaFest.

The current ScubaFest Committee is off to a busy start – selected March 20-22, 2009 for the event; secured Crowne Plaza Columbus North as the venue; booked some excellent speakers (See Darrell Logan's letter), scheduling several workshops; contacting exhibitors; and the list goes on! The website is being updated regularly as details are confirmed, so take a look at www.ScubaFest.org.

A number of the ScubaFest Committee positions are already filled but they are still looking for help as this is going to be a BIG EVENT. It is time for members to show their support by contacting Bill Libecap, Webmaster@Scubafest.org or 513-608-3858, or Darrell Logan, Info@ScubaFest.org or 614-226-3006. A lack of support could result in future ScubaFests no longer being sponsored by OCSSDI or the disappearance of the event altogether. That would be a sad loss for all regional divers and the diving industry.

October 2008

Ohio ARCHAEOLOGY Month

For complete information about activities in your area visit the Ohio Archaeological Council's website at ohioarchaeology.org or contact:

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Underwater images of the Puchman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Centre of the Great Lakes Historical Society and Maritime Archaeological Survey Team survey of the shipwreck *Desola* (JOC150) are provided courtesy of Jack Papes. Solo was some image of the shipwreck *Desola* (JOC150) is provided courtesy of David M. VanZandt of the Cleveland Underwater Explorers.

The following individuals and organizations generously donated to this year's event: The Ohio Archaeological Council, The Ohio Historical Society, The Great Lakes Historical Society, Environmental Resources Management, Inc., The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc., Boonshoft Museum of Discovery/Dayton Society of Natural History, Ohio University, Hardlines Design Company, Heritage Education & Research Services, Maritime Archaeological Survey Team, Inc., Dennis Cramer, Linda Pansing, and Linda Whitman.



Ohio Council of Skin & Scuba Divers

Spring, 2008 Meeting

Held Sunday, April 27 at the Roberts Centre, Wilmington, OH
following ScubaFest 2008.

The meeting was brought to order by Ohio Council President, Elex Ali. Elex welcomed everyone in attendance. A sign up sheet was passed around.

Those in Attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Elex Ali	Lake Erie Divers	John Holly	Bay Area Divers
Richard (Dick) Colwell	ColumbusSea Nags	Jane Holly	Bay Area Divers
Bill Libecap	Gavia Dive Club	Scott Pansing	MAST
Vivian Duff	Independent	Roger Roth	Gavia Dive Club
Darrell Logan	TA Dive Club	Mark Beatty	Dayton Kittyhawks
Sue Smith	Independent	Carol Kender	ASK Snorkel Divers
Gary D. Venet	Rec & Tec Dive Charters	Bob Lucas	Underwater Adventurers
David Leander	PSI	Jack Hornsby	Aquatic Adventurers
Patrx S. Heschel	Bay Area Divers	V. David Rauch	Newark Poseidons
Barbara Eller	Bay Area Divers	Mary Ann Higginbotham	Newark Poseidons
Cheryl Patterson	Deep Blue Adventures	Joseph E. Higginbotham	Newark Poseidons
Rich Synowiec	White Star Quarry	Lu Howard	Buckeye Divers
Ernie Naples	TA Dive Club		

The Secretary's report was read by Vivian Duff from the November 18, 2007 meeting held at the Sawmill Creek Resort, Huron, Ohio. There were no additions or corrections. Mark Beatty made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Scott Pansing seconded the motion. It was approved by everyone in attendance.

Treasurer's report was received from Lu Howard. Check book balance at the end of March, 2008: \$7,669.18 which includes the Scholarship balance of \$2,118.47. An additional expense of \$516.60 was incurred for the new Ohio Council booth display used at ScubaFest 2008 and in the future to promote the Ohio Council. Several noted how nice the booth looked. It was noted that clubs still need to update their information with Rich Lauer. Gavia and Buckeye Divers' information is current. Information on the upcoming Put-in-Bay clean-up is needed for the next Faceplate. Lu and Patrx provided information. Dave Rauch made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Carol Kender seconded the motion. The report was accepted.

Vivian Duff read a roll of the clubs present so it could be determined if a quorum was present. 12 clubs were present.

Oxygen Report & Bill I-68: Scott Pansing gave an update on Bill I-68 (reference previous Faceplate) regarding crossing into Canadian waters on a dive boat could put the boat and captain subject to search and the American citizens on board need to declare their intent to cross into Canadian waters before boarding and report to a videophone upon return to the U.S. shore. The verbage of the bill is hard to interpret. Scott reported as of April 14, 2008, the bill was quietly repealed and overridden in Washington, D.C. The Outlying Area Reporting System (OARS) phone box, videophone at Put-in-Bay, Sandusky and Cleveland are subject to being vandalized and out of service. For now, going into Canadian waters for diving or fishing remains status quo. A patrol boat can approach only when you make landfall. Upon stepping out of your boat, you must present a valid passport. If you don't tie up and step out, you don't have to report to officials. Anchoring offshore in Canadian waters there is no call needed nor a passport.

Oxygen bill is good for another 2 years until 2010/2011. Source: www.ohio.gov website

Carol Kender commented regarding Oxygen providers are unaware of what form the diver/requestor of oxygen should bring with them for a fill. It was discussed that you can print and take the form from the Ohio Council website link. Keep Mark Beatty, webmaster, informed if the link is bad so he can correct it.

Faceplate: Rich Lauer is asking for help to verify e-mail addresses bounced back. Roger Martin, lifetime OC member, had not been receiving his Faceplate for a number of years. His updated e-mail address is: rjmartinservice@aol.com. Ken Davis in Florida has withdrawn his lifetime membership. It was brought to Rich's attention that Aquatic Adventures contact information was wrong in the last Faceplate.

Speaker's Bureau: Annette Soule was not present; therefore, no report.

Scholarship: Dick Colwell has received one application. 5 of 6 votes confirmed the applicant would receive \$1,000. Dick receive the bio for Jennifer Berger and he read her thank you.

Environmental Report: No report. Patrx is getting ready for the Put-in-Bay clean-up to be tentatively held on Monday, Sept 15, 2008.

Old Business

Ernie Naples reported there has been little activity on the diver's license plate petition. Darrell Logan was entering the names into an Excel file to eliminate duplications. Scott Pansing plans to talk to a legislator to see if there is a shortcut to getting the plates approved. The current method

of signature collection requires 1,000 signatures with either a driver's license number or social security number both of which many divers rightfully consider sensitive information subject to identity theft hence they don't sign the petition. Typically this type of plate request passes within 1-1/2 to 2 year window. Scott said an alternative is to go with a legislator for a petition to get money from the state to assist with the process. The downside is that Ohio Council cannot ask for a legislative sponsor and expect to receive \$5 a plate proceeds from the sale of the license plate. At this point, those present felt it was worth pursuing an another option if feasible. Scott plans to follow-up.

Roger Roth plans to ask Cincinnati retail stores for assistance in getting petition signatures. Darrell Logan confirmed that there are 850 valid signatures. Lu Howard is providing Darrell with the signatures collected at ScubaFest this weekend for input into the Excel spreadsheet or database.

Ernie Naples explained that the petition method allows Ohio Council to assess a \$5 fee on the sale of the plate which could be used to promote the Ohio Council or other worthwhile cause. If we use a legislator, Ohio Council does not get the \$5 fee, but the visibility on Ohio license plates. Elex suggested we continue to collect signatures. Rich Lauer asked for an update on where we are with collecting signatures. Carol Kender asked for clarification of how to get the tags now given the length of time. Why not pursue a legislator's help? Scott Pansing said the Scholarship fund could be funded by the per plate fee.

Mary Ann Higginbotham made a motion to pursue the non-additional funded plate. Scott Pansing, Ernie Naples, Darrell Logan, Dave Rauch are willing to work on it and approach a legislator. The motion was seconded by Carol Kender. Motion carried.

Scott Pansing showed the basic Ohio Council template design of the license plate which was originally drawn up at the start of the campaign. The design is subject to change.

By-Laws

Ron Smith was not present. Dave Rauch read the minutes. Mark Beatty states the updated By-Laws are not on the website. Mark gave Ron's package with Dave Rauch's notes. No copy was kept. Ron may be the only person who has documentation where a 3 man board runs the Ohio Council versus a President, Vice President and Secretary.

Dave Rauch will contact Ron Smith regarding the By-Laws. Dave Rauch will report back and bring a hard copy to the next meeting at Portage Quarry during the DAN BBQ, Sunday, July 20, 2008.

Handicapped Soldiers

Barbara Eller, of New Wave Dive Shop August, 2008 needs dive buddies or an instructor for the disabled. Dive Heart plans to adopt a disabled diver providing \$1,500 for a trip to the Florida Keys and Ohio local weekends of \$500. Dick Colwell asked about the cost to support training (no equipment included). Ohio Council would need to pay just for training and certification. Barbara Eller to send information to Rich Lauer at Faceplate@ocssdi.org. The Handicapped Scuba Association (HSA) BBQ at Portage is set for Saturday, Sept. 13-14, 2008.

MAST

Carrie Sowden, MAST, is moving forward with the Lake Erie buoy program. They plan to set out 10 buoys. Ben Ford, past scholarship recipient, is to return to Ohio in May, June and July. www.Ohioshipwrecks.org is a new website to promote diving in Lake Erie. Lake Erie is divided into four areas to encourage interest, giving coordinates and a description of the wrecks. MAST currently has 3 Texas A&M students to work on underwater archaeology.

New Business

ScubaFest 2008

Dick Colwell said financials are not in, site for ScubaFest 2009 not yet selected. Last 60 days focus was on current ScubaFest 2008 event. The new and on-going committee members are in place for 2009. Volunteers should be thanked. Rich Lauer said last year's exhibitor attendance of 40 was an all time high, but this year was still good. Rich sent invitations to 70 shops. Rich asked everyone present to go back home and tell others about the good time. Rich Synowiec, White Star Quarry, said he was disappointed the past 4 years because of the small number of vendors and overall attendance. He asked what is our measure of success? Is foot traffic considered? Dick Colwell expressed the well attended banquet, comments from attendees, etc. There was lengthy discussion regarding the dates in April conflicting with good weather and local Spring dives. Underwater Images (UWI) and contract negotiation. St. Croix dive shop was not present this year because they do all of their shows in the U.S. between December and March each year. Dick Colwell stated that the Roberts Centre facility gave the committee two dates March and April. The exhibitors selected April over the mid-March date which happened to be the blizzard weekend in Ohio this year. Rich Synowiec gave the perspective from the vendor regarding attendance and ROI. Approximately \$500 cost to attend. If he charges divers \$10 a person admission at the gate to White Star Quarry, he needs 50 divers at the quarry to recover his costs, but he needs and is looking for new divers. Ideally, 25% of booth visitors need to be new divers as foot traffic. Ohio Council acknowledged that original booth pricing was wrong and they won't make that mistake again and the event needs to move to an earlier month.

Darrell Logan explained there will be three speakers for next year. Terry Bacus is making contact with this year's exhibitors to ensure their return. Bill Libecap explained the need for volunteers. Cheryl Patterson, Deep Blue Adventures, asked about the commitment of the committee to ensure a better event in 2009. A lengthy discussion occurred regarding the expectations from the vendors and the efforts of the committee members. Carol Kender, representing Underwater Images observed that six years ago attendance at ScubaFest started to go down. When the event outgrew the Dublin, OH hotel and attendance rebounded, a two year contract was signed with the Roberts Centre in Wilmington. It was noted that the Wilmington, OH location is not good for local exposure and one day visits. Carol said overall in the dive industry, diving is off, sales are off and training is down. It can be due in part to the economy and lack of good advertising.

Extensive and sometimes heated discussion of the pros and cons of the Ohio Council continuing to run the 50th year of ScubaFest took place. Underwater Images, Carol Kender, Roger Roth and Mark Beatty said they were set to take over the event as a for profit entity and Ohio Council would just run the banquet and sign a non-compete agreement. Ohio Council had concerns on the future of the event if it were not profitable for UWI. In the end, Elex Ali asked Roger Roth for a commitment to support the next Ohio Council ScubaFest 2009 committee and consider submitting a proposal for presentations at the event. Darrell & Judy Logan along with Bill Libecap will be Directors of the committee. A vote was taken and the majority in attendance agreed the Ohio Council should continue to run ScubaFest 2009.

The vote was as follows:
Lake Erie Wreck Divers in favor
Gavia Scuba Club abstain
TA Club in favor
Rec and Tec Dive Charters had left the meeting
Bay Area Divers in favor

MAST rep had left the meeting
Kittyhawk Scuba Club abstain
Underwater Adventurers in favor
New Wave in favor
Buckeye Divers in favor
Aquatic Adventurers in favor

7 in favor, 2 abstain and 2 left

The next meeting will be held Sunday, July 20, 2008, 10 a.m. at Portage Quarry during the DAN BBQ.
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Duff, Secretary

Mid-Ohio Divers is Sponsoring the **3rd Annual Handicap SCUBA Divers BBQ**

WINKING LIZARD TAVERN **HSA** **Diveheart**

Location:
Portage Quarry
1207 S. Dixie Highway
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Contact:
Andy Silverman
614.353.DIVE (3483)
andy@columbuscuba.com

Enjoy a weekend of diving and camping while raising money for a great cause.

- ★ September 12th to 14th
- ★ Winking Lizard BBQ on the 13th
- ★ OSU vs USC on Big Screen
- ★ Dinner/ Raffle Ticket \$10
- ★ Swap Meet on 14th

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Ohio Council of Skin & Scuba Divers

Summer, 2008 Meeting

Held Sunday, July 20, at Portage Quarry, Bowling Green, OH
prior to the 2008 DAN Barbecue hosted by the TA Dive Club.

The meeting was brought to order by Ohio Council President, Elex Ali at 10:04 AM. Elex welcomed everyone in attendance. A sign up sheet was passed around.

Those in Attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Elex Ali	Lake Erie Wreck Divers / 3-year Trustee	Patrx Heschel	Bay Area Divers
Dick Colwell	Sea Nags Dive Club	Ernie Naples	TA Dive Club
Bill Libecap	Gavia Dive Club	Rich Lauer	Buckeye Divers
Darrell Logan	TA Dive Club	Bob Lucas	Underwater Adventurers
Judy Logan	TA Dive Club		

Minutes of the Spring meeting, April 27, 2008, read by Darrell Logan for Vivian Duff. One correction by Dick Colwell: Sea Nags also voted yes on leadership of ScubaFest 2009. Motion to accept by Rich Lauer and seconded by Patrx Heschel. Motion carried.

Treasurer report read by Rich Lauer for LuAnn Howard. Discussion on whether ScubaFest funds should be part of LuAnn's report. Motion made by Dick Colwell, seconded by Ernie Naples to separate scholarship report from regular report. Motion carried. Motion made to accept treasurer report, subject to audit, by Darrell Logan, seconded by Rich Lauer. Motion carried.

March 31, 2008 Balance 8753.18; Income 230.12; Expenses 1326.96; June 1, 2008 balance \$7656.34.
Scholarship Breakout: 3118.47; Expenses 1000.00; Balance 2118.47.

Old Business:

Scott Pansing reports:

O2 – Nothing to report.

Legislation – There is nothing to monitor for Ohio or the surrounding states, nor the National level.

License Plates – Nothing, all representatives are off until the middle of September.

Speakers Bureau – Dick Colwell – None

Scholarship – Dick Colwell - Needs to be a better way to market the fund. Typically only one report a year, which means duplicates from year to year. Most ever, four. School counselor made a comment that it was very restrictive. Need to check web to determine search engine capabilities.

ScubaFest 2008 - Dick Colwell - Suggest that we open discussion for donation of UWI funds. According to Dick's calculations, UWI funds should be 1464.50. Rich Lauer motioned to split the money from UWI between MAST and DAN, the donations being from Scubafest and OCSSDI. Motion seconded by Darrell Logan. Motion carried.

Bill Libecap brought up the issue that the ScubaFest guidelines need to be updated. A discussion followed. Rich Lauer motioned, seconded by Darrell Logan, that the items discussed be accepted. Motion Carried. Items include

- 1) Excel is to be used for the books.
- 2) Instead of an organization, such as UWI, donating money to our charities when they participate in ScubaFest, they will be accessed a fee of 25% of all income to be donated to ScubaFest.
- 3) Modify guideline of ScubaFest report to Council to be changed from two months to the next council meeting.

New Business:

Dick Colwell motioned, seconded by Bob Lucas to donate 600 to the Put-in Bay cleanup. Motion carried.

Motion by Rich Lauer, seconded by Patrx Heschel to donate \$500 to the Legends of Diving weekend. Motion carried.

ScubaFest 2009 report – Darrell Logan – see next page.

Bill Libecap read Carol Kender's proposal for taking over the exhibitor chairmanship. She wants complete control of who is to participate and where they will be placed during the show. There is to be no second guessing on her decisions. Discussion followed: It was mentioned that the ultimate decisions were to be made by the Directors of ScubaFest, therefore giving any chairman absolute control is against OCSSDI guidelines for ScubaFest. Darrell Logan motioned, seconded by Ernie Naples, to pass the request back to the ScubaFest committee for final action, with a recommendation to deny Carol's request to take over the Exhibitor Chairmanship. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM.

Vivian Duff, Secretary

TO: Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Divers, Inc.

Subject: ScubaFest 2009

DATE: July 20, 2008

At the present time, ScubaFest 2009 is on track for hosting an outstanding event March 20-22, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza North in Columbus, Ohio. We have secured a room rate of \$104, plus tax. This venue has ample facilities for our current needs. Several of our committee members have attended events at the Crowne Plaza and have an extremely high opinion of the place. Additionally, we have tentatively put ScubaFest on the Crowne Plaza schedule for 2010. This was done to insure that we will have a venue and facilities booked, which allows the committee to have a 2010 exhibitors' packet prepared for distribution at the end of our 2009 show.

Our primary goals this year are to rebuild ScubaFest, putting it on track to become a show to remember, and also to have a great 50th anniversary of OCSSDI's yearly celebration and banquet. To accomplish this we have sought out a distinguished keynote speaker as well as two prime presenters from the world of shipwreck discovery and research. These renowned speakers will highlight an eminent staff of presenters, and will help us increase attendance and move ScubaFest forward to being a premier event.

John Chatterton of "Deep Sea Detectives" and a principle of *Shadow Divers* has agreed to serve as our keynote speaker. We have also asked John to consider hosting a workshop or seminar during the event. We felt that the attendance potential will be greatly enhanced with a speaker that is known not only to the diving community but to the general public as well.

Additionally, Dave Trotter, an extremely well-known Great Lakes wreck diver and explorer has agreed to present multiple programs. Dave is one of the principles of the book *Shipwreck Hunter* and his organization has discovered more than 90 ships. As a result of his activities in the diving community, Dave has a large following in Ohio and the Great Lakes region.



And we're excited to announce that Valerie van Heest has agreed to present *Icebound Found! The ordeal of the SS Michigan*, and *She died a Hard Death. The Sinking of the Hennepin*. She is a well recognized wreck diver and explorer, and the Director of the Michigan Shipwreck Research Associates. Valerie is a member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, has directed more than a dozen documentaries and has appeared on major television news networks and the Discovery Channel.

The workshop schedule is well under way. Dave Leander has agreed to provide PSI workshops on both Friday and Saturday. By adding the PSI courses on Friday, we anticipate that more fire and police departments will take advantage of the workshops. Rich Lauer is scheduled to present a workshop on Photoshop Elements 6.0 to teach divers who take digital photographs a method to improve their pictures. We are working with Dave Haas of Haas Photography to promote a workshop on digital photography. As many of you know, Dave

is an excellent photographer both above and below the water. Carrie Sowden has agreed to present on behalf of MAST. She will conduct a MAST Workshop in addition to her general-interest presentation. Other presenters have been contacted as well. As they agree to attend the website will be updated.

We have contacted the exhibitors who have so graciously supported us in the past. At the end of ScubaFest 2008, Terry Bacus and I personally thanked each exhibitor present for their support. We also took time to ask them for their suggestions and concerns, and what they would like to see changed for the 2009 event. – we listened to them and are taking their suggestions. And we are contacting many other exhibitors who have not taken part in the past.

We are again going to ask the Ohio area scuba stores and facilities to take time to visit with us by providing a free 1-day show pass. As before we will encourage them to pass the ticket to a customer if they are not able to attend themselves. Last year six single-day passes were redeemed. While this was not a large number it was at least encouraging. We will also provide each dive store with a display poster and other forms of advertising to let their customers and clients know about ScubaFest.

During this year's show we captured the e-mails or addresses of all the attendees who came to see only the exhibitors (the free part of the show). Along with the e-mail addresses of the registered attendees we are starting to a nice e-mail address book. Hopefully this will help to build repeat attendance. All will be sent information on the 2009 show.

Pay Pal registration will shortly be operational on the website. We had a significant increase in registrations for the 2008 show once Pay Pal was set up. The registration and the workshop prices will be included.

The Committee is pleased to be hosting ScubaFest on behalf of Council and is working hard to make it a memorable and successful event.

Darrell Logan, Executive Director
ScubaFest 2009

Schedule of Events

September 13 & 14: **Handicapped Scuba Association Barbecue**

at Portage Quarry Sponsored by the Mid-Ohio Divers

September 15: **Dive! Put-In-Bay 2008**, South Bass Island

September 20-21: **Underwater Treasure Hunt**,

White Star Quarry

October: **Ohio Archaeology Month**, focusing on the work on the shipwreck *Dundee*, by GLHS, MAST and CLUE

www.ohioarchaeology.org

October 4: **Haunted Quarry & Pumpkin Carving Contest**,

Gilboa Quarry, to benefit the National MS Society

Splash Water Sports (Pittsburgh) at 412-531-5577

October 11: **Pumpkin Carving Contest**,

Bay Area Divers and Toledo Submariners

October 26: **Pumpkin Carving Contest**, White Star Quarry

November 8: **Treasure on the Lakes**, the Union Club, Cleveland

Special benefit for the Great Lakes Historical Society

November 22: **Shipwrecks and Scuba**, Bay Area Divers

Sawmill Creek Resort, Huron, Ohio Bayareadivers.net

November 23: **OCSSDI Meeting, Huron, Ohio**

December 31: **Deadline, Beneath the Sea Photo Contest**

www.beneaththesea.org

January 1, 2008:

New Years Day Dive

White Star Quarry Park,

10am-4pm



SCUBAFEST 2009



OCCSDI 50th Anniversary

MARCH 20-22, 2009

COLUMBUS, OHIO

10,000 SQ. FT. OF EXHIBITS:

TOP MANUFACTURERS

TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

BANQUET AND CASINO NIGHT

PHOTO COMPETITION



FEATURED SPEAKER

JOHN CHATTERTON

CO-HOST OF THE HISTORY
CHANNEL'S DEEP SEA DETECTIVES



SEMINAR PRESENTERS INCLUDE:



DAVID TROTTER

DAVID IS A RENOWNED SHIPWRECK DISCOVERER, DEEP DIVER, AUTHOR, LECTURER AND PHOTOGRAPHER. THE ADVENTURES OF DAVID TROTTER AND HIS TEAM ARE THE SUBJECT OF THE BOOK, SHIPWRECK HUNTER, WRITTEN BY GERRY VOLGENAU.



VALERIE VAN HEEST

DIRECTOR OF MICHIGAN SHIPWRECK RESEARCH ASSOCIATES (MSRA), VALERIE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN SHIPWRECK EXPLORATION FOR 20 YEARS. SHE HAS DIRECTED MORE THAN A DOZEN DOCUMENTARIES AND APPEARED ON TELEVISION NEWS NETWORKS INCLUDING THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, COMPLETE SPEAKERS
AND EXHIBITORS LIST AND MORE VISIT:**

SCUBAFEST.ORG