



# Yay.... Summer's Back!!!!

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## Editor's Note

Welcome to the JUNE, 2002 edition of the Scuba Shack / Muskoka Seals Dive Team Newsletter

After writing the SCUBASHACK newsletter for so long, Sandy was looking for help. So, I thought that it would be a nice break for her to have someone else take over the duties of editor. As a dedicated volunteer and all-around nice guy, I decided to help. I have no preconceived notion that I can do a better job, but I will try my best, besides she gave me no choice.

Although my experience at writing is extremely limited, I have contributed a few articles in another scuba club newsletter that I was a part of in Manitoba before my wife Jane and I moved into the Haliburton Muskoka area three years ago. To make myself more accessible for this task, Jane and I are moving to the Gravenhurst/Bracebridge area this summer. How's that for dedication.

As an avid diver {whenever I could be and Divemaster}, the coordinator for our Muskoka Seals position was also offered to me {again with no option}.

Along with information from Sandy and Chester, our instructors - Jeff and Johl, dive master - Gerry and anyone else that I could coerce, we have put together a tentative schedule for the club dives. From input received from the members, we have determined the following.

\*Mondays are out because you were diving all weekend or trained all weekend (the latter shouldn't matter, as we like to get wet anyway).

\*Tuesdays you are playing baseball, spending time with the spouse, cutting the lawn or attending other meetings.

\*Thursdays you are preparing to dive all weekend again and need this day to find all of your gear, dry it out and get it packed.

\*Fridays you are on the way to your dive sites and have to stop in at the Shack to top off tanks and replenish the gear you lost last weekend and say hi. (We've adjusted our summer hours to make that easier for you as well. You will find the new Scuba Shack summer hours listed later in the newsletter).

\*And guess what you're diving all day Saturday and Sunday (or should be). Well that leaves Wednesday right in the middle of the week - no excuses. So you will all be there, right?

\*The Wednesday night dive site list is tentative because as conditions change, we may need to find an alternate or just plain better site. We could even add a few weekend dives into the Wednesday night dive list (it made sense when I wrote it). Diving the Waome or the grotto at Lake Joe on a beautiful Muskoka sunny Saturday or Sunday may be kind of nice, don't you think? If you have a site and feel that the club would like to do the dive, let me know and we will do our best to make it work. If you have a significant other that may do some serious bodily harm to you if you

## New Summer Hours

Monday-Thursday:	10:00 a.m.-6:00p.m.
Friday:	10:00 a.m.-9:00p.m.
Saturday:	9:00 a.m.-6:00p.m.
Sunday:	10:00 a.m.-4:00p.m.

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leave them behind again, let's see if we can bring him or her along as well. Think of the sunshine and warm waters slapping at the side of the boat, don't mention waves and puking over the rails, okay.

As we continue on with the Wednesday Night Club dives, they should not be limited to just our immediate area (not that anything is wrong with Muskoka but). By taking our advanced, rescue, nitrox and or wreck diving course, fall dives can be made around Kingston, Brockville, Tobermory or out on Lake Erie. We will make sure that instruction, air, nitrox and trimix are available for those who require it. You tell us what you want and we will do our best to put it together. Remember that it always pays to be a member of the *Muskoka Seals Dive Team*.

For the hardy, and if we can find enough bodies and ice, we could even hold an ice diving course this winter (think about a dry suit). Or pouring warm water, no hot into your wetsuit will keep you warmer and not cause blisters.

As we think of shoveling the snow off our roof this coming winter, would you significant to other enjoy a cold beverage (such as a Pina Colada or Rum Punch), while soaking up the sun acting as shore support, while you are diving: Jamaica in January, Florida in February, Mexico in March or Argentina in April? Let the Techies have Truk Lagoon, we can do the Turks and Caicos.

As we look at our options for how and where we want to dive, they are unlimited... by putting our minds together, and a little loose coin, (right Paul?) we can make it happen.

If you are interested in specialty courses that are not on the list, let us know and if at all possible, we will offer them to you.

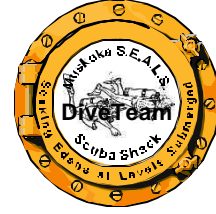
We look forward to having them join us for many a dive, maybe even the Pumpkin Dive this fall.... and our year-end Party! Please know that your calls are always welcome. I will be available and open to all suggestions.

Safe Diving to all

Dean Mark, DM 207685  
687-5879  
emailto: dean@scubashack.on.ca

*PS. Don't forget your club membership discount on airfills, store merchandise and weekly dives.*

## Seeking Edens At Levels Submerged



### New Staff Member

We would like to welcome Gary Hoadley to our staff. He has been working with us in our service department since mid March. He has been diving since... well let's just say forever. He comes to us with a wealth of knowledge. He is an Advanced Trimix diver and a Full Cave diver and of course has completed all courses up to that level. He is a Service Technician extra ordinaire with numerous manufacturer clinics under his belt, as well as holding certifications in Advanced Gas Blending, and PSI Visual Inspection. Welcome Gary.

Speaking of service work reminds me that if you haven't brought your equipment in for its annual service yet, you had better get to it as summer is upon us and you are going to want to use that equipment real soon.

### Wednesday Night Club Dives

#### June 26 Bracebridge Falls Dive

Join the fun and dive the falls. With a maximum depth of 48' and a little bit of current you get to practice your finning, your compass work and experience a bit of drift diving all at the same time. Remember to bring your light. Free for Team members. \$5.00 for non-members. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 6:00pm.

#### July 3 Green River Dive

Let's go exploring. Dive the Green River in Washago and dig for old bottles, ink wells, etc. You just never know what you'll find. There is a slight current but nothing severe and visibility is good. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 6:00pm. Free for Team Members. Non-members: \$5.00.

#### July 10 Bala Night Dive

Just a fun dive to get wet. It is a shore dive, therefore there is no charge for Team Members. There is a small fee of \$5.00 for non-members. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 8:30

p.m. Don't forget your lights and compasses. If you enrolled in the 'Night Diver Specialty', this is one of your course dives.

### **July 17 Clear Lake**

Excellent shore dive for any level diver with a maximum depth of 50', great clear, warm water. This dive is a course dive for those enrolled in the 'Dry Suit Diver' course. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 6:00 p.m. Free dive for Team members and \$5.00 for non-members.

### **July 24 Platform Night Dive**

Excellent spot to practice your navigational skills. Don't forget to bring your compass and light. Meet at Scuba Shack at 8:00 p.m. and remember to pre-register as we can only put two divers on the boat. Maximum depth is about 50'. Great spot for new and experienced divers. Boat fee: Non-Members \$15.00. Team Members \$10.00. This dive is a course dive for those enrolled in the 'Night Diver' course.

### **July 31 Sunny Bay - Lake Muskoka**

Fun dive among the rock formations with lots of fish. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 6:00 pm. This is a course dive for those enrolled in the 'Dry Suit Diver' course. Boat Fee - Team Members \$10.00, Non-members \$15.00

### **August 7 'Waome' Wreck Dive**

Dive this great wreck and enjoy some of our Muskoka history. Maximum depth is 70 feet, and lights are required. Boat leaves Milford Bay Dock at 7:00 p.m. Recommended Advanced Diver or an Open Water diver with at least 20 logged dives. Boat fee: \$35.00. Team Members: \$25.00. This is a course dive for those enrolled in the 'Deep Diver' course.

### **August 14 Eleanor Island Wall Dive - Lake Muskoka**

This is a neat wall type dive. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 6:00 p.m. Boat fee: Non-Members \$15.00. Team Members: \$10.00. This is a course dive for those enrolled in the 'Deep Diver' course.

### **August 21 Port Sydney Narrows Dive**

Fun exploration dive with a maximum depth of 40 ft. Great for new and experienced divers. Free for Team members, \$5.00 for Non-members.

### **August 28 T.B.A.**

### **Other Scheduled Club Dives**

#### **Saturday July 27 Platform + Lake Muskoka**

This will be a two-tank charter. One dive will be at the platform in Lake Muskoka and at the time of printing the second dive had yet to be determined. Both dives will be 50' or less. If you are enrolled in the 'Navigation Diver' course. These dives are your course dives. Boat Fee: Team Members \$30.00. Non-members \$45.00.

#### **Sunday July 28 To Be Determined**

Search and Recovery course dives.

#### **Saturday August 10 'Waome' wreck dive x2**

Two dives can be done on this great wreck almost back to back using your training as a Nitrox diver. If you don't wish to do 2 dives you can always just do one and enjoy the sun while the other divers hit the water for their second dive. These dives are course dives for those enrolled in the 'Wreck Diver' Specialty course. Boat leaves the Milford Bay Government Dock (Baycliffe Park) at 1:00 pm. Boat Fee: Team Members \$30.00 Non-members \$45.00.

#### **Sunday August 11 'Morrison' wreck dive x2 - Barrie**

This wreck sits in 30' of water within reach of the shore in Kempenfelt Bay, Barrie which makes it a great wreck for any level of diver. Those enrolled in the 'Wreck Diver' course will be doing 2 dives on this wreck. Meet at the Scuba Shack at 10:00 am. Free for Team Members. Non-members: \$5.00.

#### **Sunday August 18 Lake Joseph Walls**

This is a 2-tank dive - both on Lake Joseph walls. The maximum depth on dive one will be 120' and the second a maximum depth 90'. You must bring 2 tanks and don't forget your lights. Meet at Scuba Shack at 11:00 am or at Gordon Bay Marine at 12:30 pm. Boat fee: Non-members \$45.00. Team Members: \$35.00.

### **Other Dates Available For Waome Dives**

Dive this great wreck and enjoy some of our Muskoka history. Maximum depth is 70 feet, and lights are required. Boat leaves from Milford Bay Dock. Recommended Advanced Diver or an Open Water diver with at least 20 logged dives. Boat fee: \$35.00. Team Members: \$25.00.

#### **Saturday July 6-12 Noon**

#### **Sunday July 21-12 Noon**

#### **Saturday August 3-12 Noon**

#### **Saturday August 24-9am**

#### **Saturday September 14-9am**

# Course Schedule Summer 2002

**Skin Diving (Snorkeling)** ~ Learn proper snorkeling techniques & skills in just a few hours.

Cost: \$40.00

Dates:

Friday June 14: 9-11pm;  
Saturday July 13: 1-3pm;

**Basic Open Water** ~ Full Certification as a Scuba Diver

Cost: \$350.00

Dates:

Friday Evening, Saturday & Sunday July 12-14;  
Openwater: Sat & Sun July 20, 21  
Friday Evening, Saturday & Sunday Aug. 9-11;  
Openwater: Sat & Sun Aug. 17, 18;

**Rescue** ~ Learn the skills required to prevent and manage diving emergencies. Improve your diving skills.

Cost: \$300.00 + manual

Dates:

Friday Evening, Saturday & Sunday July 12-14;  
Openwater: Sat July 27

**Divemaster** ~ The first level in becoming a Scuba Instructor. Learn to organize, conduct and supervise recreational diving activities both land and boat based. Work as an instructional assistant.

Cost: \$400.00 + manual

Dates:

Friday Evening, Saturday & Sunday Aug. 9-11;  
Openwater: Sat & Sun Aug. 17, 18;  
Plus additional openwater T.B.A.

**CPROX & CPR 1st** ~ Learn the necessary skills to save a dive buddies life. You will learn the basics of CPR and Oxygen administration, or CPR and First Aid.

Cost: CPROX or CPR 1st \$90.00

CPROX and CPR 1st (combined) \$160.00

Dates:

Saturday July 6 CPROX 9:30am  
CPR 1st 1:00pm

**Nitrox Diver** ~ Certification allowing the open water diver to use Enriched Air Nitrox (EAN) mixes up to 40% Oxygen.

Cost: \$150.00 + manual

Dates:

Tuesday May 21; Saturday June 15;  
Saturday July 20; Friday Eve. Aug 9;

**Night Diver Specialty** ~ Learn the procedures, techniques, and potential hazards associated with night diving or limited visibility so that you will be able to enjoy night diving with maximum confidence and safety.

Cost: \$125.00 + manual

Dates:

Wednesday Eve. July 10 & 24

**Navigation Specialty** ~ Learn how to navigate properly underwater using both natural and compass type navigation.

Cost: \$125.00 + manual

Dates:

Saturday July 27

**Search & Recovery Specialty** ~ Learn the special skills and techniques necessary to successfully plan, execute and evaluate a search and recovery dive.

Cost: \$125.00 + manual

Dates:

Sunday July 28

**Wreck Diver Specialty** ~ Learn to use equipment and techniques commonly employed while wreck diving. This course is a limited penetration course.

Cost: \$150.00 + manual

Dates:

Saturday & Sunday August 10 & 11

**Deep Diver Specialty** ~ This course will provide the necessary training to plan and execute dives between the depths of 60ft to a maximum of 130ft. This course includes 4 dives.

Cost: \$190.00 + manual

Dates:

Tuesday Evening August 6 (academics)  
Wednesday Evenings August 7 & 14 (dives)  
Sunday August 18 (2 dives)

**Dry Suit Diver** ~ This course allows you to develop knowledge and skill to properly use a Dry Suit. It will discuss the different types of dry suits, accessories, maintenance and how to make basic repairs.

Cost: \$150.00 + manual

Dates:

Saturday July 13 (academics & pool)  
Wednesday Evenings July 17 & 31

**Equipment Specialty** ~ This course is designed to give you more in depth look at how dive equipment works. It will cover general repairs and maintenance of types of exposure suits, BCD's, Regulators, and other accessories.

Cost: \$90.00 + manual

Dates:

Saturday August 24

**PSI Visual Inspector** ~ Learn the proper techniques used to visually inspect and certify cylinders. Attendees of this course must show proof of employment with a retail scuba store or attend a request letter from scuba club president.

Cost: \$255.00 + manual

Dates:

Saturday July 27

**Open Water Scuba Instructor** ~ Certification to train students in Basic Open Water Scuba. (7 days - class & dives)

Dates:

Exact dates to be announced -  
Contact Scuba Shack for more details

**Courses are continually added to our schedule. If you don't see the one you are interested in, please call us.**

**Instructor Courses are also available for Nitrox, Advanced Nitrox, Deco Procedures, Rebreather, Trimix, Extended Range, Nitrox Blender and Service Technician. Call for information and registration.**