

BRANDON SCUBA CLUB

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Autumn, 2002



Well another summer has come to a close. With the record low temperatures in October it seemed to go that much faster.

Linda and I only got to participate in two of the club events this summer and autumn, the Gordon Lake dive on the July long weekend and the Pumpkin Dive.

Our dives at Gordon Lake were great. After the October we have just experienced it is hard to complain about it being too hot on the July long weekend. See the write up on page 2. The dives at Gordon Lake allowed us to practice our skills before our trip to Australia and New Zealand. We dove in the Whitsunday Islands off the Queensland coast in Australia and I did a couple of dives in the Poor Knights Islands which are off the North East coast of New Zealand's north island. I hope to do an article with some photographs in the winter edition of the newsletter.

As you can see from the picture above I think everyone had a great time at the Pumpkin Dive this year. The turnout this year was a little smaller than in past years, probably due to the fact that snow fell the night before in Winnipeg and in Brandon. Some great pumpkins were carved. I would like to thank our many sponsors, and especially C+L Scuba and the Shilo Inn for the great meal. Thanks to Ed R. for the use of his generator and Jim Crang for the huge tent. The bonfire under the "Big Top" kept everyone toasty during the day.

We are considering changing our annual dive from October to July. If anyone can think of a theme for a July dive please give your suggestions to John Kennedy.

Please see the Up coming events on the last page and come out to the Christmas party on November 16th and also support your club by coming out for our AGM which is December 5th.

We have quite a number of new members and a number of renewals. Welcome to Cameron Hodgins, Jordan Anseeuw, Jarett Ketcheson, Lawrence Michaluk, Faye Chamberlain, Brett Crowe, Kirsten Ault, Larisa Matwee, Erin Crowe, Justin Seniuk, Daniel Morley, Tyler Pod, Mark Catenacci, Ryan Douselaere, Greg Little, Michael McKenzie, Darell Naismith, Caroline Lanoie, Terry McKenzie, Dave and Terry McCartney, Jonathan Hopkins, Mitchell Carefoot, Tim Pinette, Bill and Marie Gordon, Peter Doig, Jim Fisher, Andre Fournier, Jamie Legault, Richard Hannam, Vince Hartery, Bill Nichol, Scott Gyug, and Quinton Pearce.

Would any members receiving a renewal form with this newsletter please renew as this will be your last newsletter. Dive safe.
Ed Burrige



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The leaves have turned different shades of color and the air is a little crisp. This would indicate to many of us that the dive season has come to an end. This year has been a busy one for a lot of divers. Dives at Gordon, West Hawk and Child's Lake are a few to mention. While attending most of these dives, I have noticed many common points. All dives showed enthusiasm, excitement, accomplishments and enjoyable times with fellow divers and friends. One night at Child's Lake stands out in my mind. While standing under a big tent with a roaring fire, divers began to tell the tale of the big 6 foot mystery fish that got away. They then proceeded to discuss their plans for the next day's dive. How deep and what was the best spot to explore was much of the conversation. Then we found that we were listening to and being entertained by Glen Hansworth and Elton Adams under the BIG tent, with guitars in hand and many a tale full song. GREAT JOB GUYS!!! Simple things like friends, campfires and music are truly one of the finer things in life.

This year's Pumpkin Dive was a great success. Many hours of hard work from the pumpkin dive committee and volunteers put together another awesome day at Glen Beag. Bouquets to all that helped to provide a safe and well run dive. Please remember to support our sponsors as they have supported the B.S.C. Congratulations to Murray Karton for his talented carved pumpkin that took 1st place.

This year's Xmas party will be a little different. Over the years we have outgrown a house party due to the number of fun loving divers and friends. I have been informed that we will be holding this year's party in a nice sized hall. Games, prizes, etc. are being planned with the main ingredient being people having fun.

To the newly certified divers of 2002 joining our club, congratulations on your new under water achievements. I encourage you to attend our social functions and club meetings as I'm sure you will learn more about diving and have some fun times. Looking forward to meeting you all!

To all club members going south this winter! Please bring back tales and photos of your adventures so we may share them in our news letters for others to enjoy.

Keep your fins in the water
Dive Safe

B.S.C. President
John Kennedy

Gordon Lake Excursion

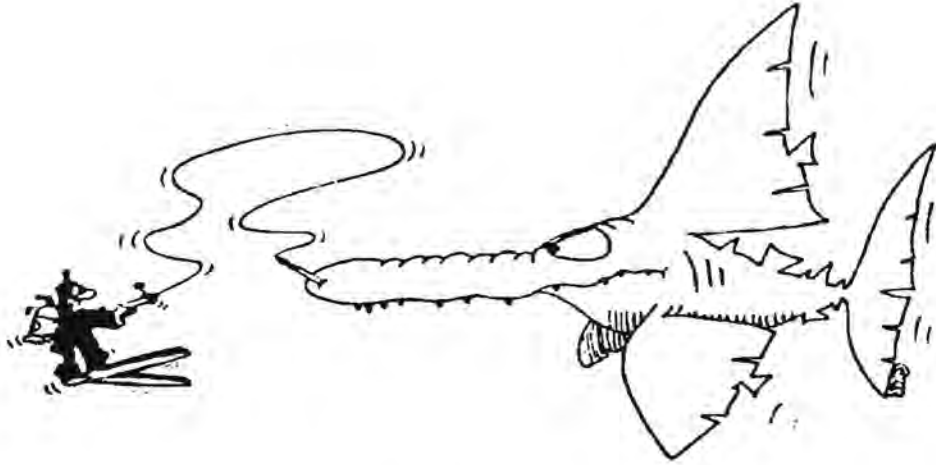


On the July long weekend several of our members headed down #1 Highway to Gordon Lake which is located about 45 minutes north east of Kenora, Ontario. The weather was HOT. Almost too hot for diving.

The weekend started out with the advance group of Ed & Elaine and Terry & Sandy securing our camp spots. George & Faye, Jim & Sherri, Sam, Ardith and Nick, Ed & Linda, Tyrel & Brodie, and Scott came later in the day. It was a great weekend. Did some really good diving, told lots of tales around the bonfire, Ed R. almost sunk his pontoon boat (Elaine said she now knows how the people on the Titanic felt), a wonderful fireworks display courteous of Jim Crang, and of course great company.

If you haven't been out to Gordon Lake to dive, it's very similar to West Hawk Lake except much warmer and visibility much better. There are a lot of rock formations and you do need a boat to get to the really good dive spots. Sam, Jim & Ed both brought their boats, so there was lots of room for all divers. Besides being too hot and having black flies chomping away at our ankles, it was a great weekend.

Child's Lake Spearfishing Contest



Again, the Dauphin Dolphins did an outstanding job at hosting this event. If only they can take control of the weather, it would be perfect.

The weekend started on Friday evening with two of our members performing live. Glen Hainsworth and Elton Adams kept the group entertained with their guitars. What a twosome they make. Throughout the evening requests were being made and they knew every song. Sometime through the night, the skies opened up and drenched everything including the insides of tents. Those that camped in the low areas were soaked. Not a good start to a weekend.

After the first two dives, the score sheets were put up and the battle was on. Rob Baker and Gerald Sparrow were neck to neck. By the end of the four dives, Max Kingdon and Gerald Sparrow came out as this year's event team winners. They were two happy guys, so close in other years but never could take the title until now.

Saturday evening the Dolphins put on a fabulous meal followed by an outstanding fireworks display (the rain held off till the wee hours of the morning). Divers woke up Sunday morning to the smell of pancakes and fresh coffee. What a way to start the day. Presentations to the winners and prize giveaways were done later Sunday afternoon with the event wrapping up around 4:00 p.m.

For those that attended, they will be back next year. For those that didn't, mark August 9 & 10, 2003 on your calendar. This is an event that no one should miss!

West Hawk Lake Excursion

#1 Highway between Brandon and West Hawk again became the main travel route for several BSC members on the August long weekend. John & Jen, Ed & Elaine, Jayson, Scott, Phil & Kara, Rick, Denise, Brian, Brodie, Patti and Verne and Norma spent three fabulous days diving the waters at West Hawk Lake. Terry & Sandy made a day trip on Saturday to join the group.

Several of our divers made it down the wall. Ed took Jen and got almost to the bottom but not quite. Jen vowed that next year she's going to the bottom with Patti & Elaine! A couple of years ago, Elaine made it to the edge but never made it down. Patti wanted to go down, but time was not on her side and she missed the dive. So next year, the three ladies have decided to do it on their own, bringing an experienced wall diver with them to hold their hands. Will they do it? Hmmmmmm.....will let you know next year!

Jayson brought his German Shepherd with him and used Phil to demonstrate how well trained his dog is. You should have seen the size of Phil's eyes! You should have also seen the cat on the leash! Poor thing lost a few lives in two seconds.

The weather actually cooperated this year. Not too hot, not too cold, and not too wet. It was a great time and as the dive season progresses so do the tales.

PUMPKIN DIVE 2002



A big thank you to all that helped at the 13th. Annual pumpkin dive. It was another great success with many wonderous carvings. It was nice to see many of our new divers out trying their hand at underwater carving. We were pleased have Ron Kimmel and his wife from Winnipeg attend our dive and present the \$100,s from M.U.C.. Congratulations to Patti Wharf who was the lucky winner. Ron was also kind enough to be one of the judges along with James Taylor from HOT 101. James also brought the HOT 101 events van and plugged our dive event live on the air. A BIG bouquet to the Shilo Inn and C&L Scuba for the terrific food that warmed everyone. Our winner of this years dive was Murray Kartin. Again thank you to all that participated and helped make it a successful one

Events chairperson

Jennifer Kennedy