

BRANDON SCUBA CLUB

Volume 7, Number 2

Summer, 2003

Well summer has arrived and the diving season has begun. It started with putting out the buoys at Glen Beag on the May long weekend. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Linda and I went to the Brandon Scuba Club's annual West Hawk dive on the July Long weekend and had a great time. We had plenty of members out for a weekend of camping and diving. The water was a little cool (43 degrees F) below the thermocline but was actually a relief for those of us who were diving dry. We dove several times at Cat's Ass including night dives and several at Miller's Beech. It was the first time "over the wall" for several divers. We celebrated a belated 50th birthday for Terry and made him a wind chime he is sure to cherish for years.

Dave from Divers Den in Winnipeg is taking divers to Lake Superior to dive the Welcome Island wrecks on the August long weekend. The cost is \$340 + GST for the 6 boat



Divers getting ready to install Buoys at Glen Beag May long weekend

Accommodation will be approximately an additional \$100. Call Dave at 204-453-6300 for more details.

I have included a membership list which includes phone numbers with this newsletter. If you are interested in going

A dive give someone a call.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the Brandon Scuba Club, Cheryl Hanke, Wayne Wells, Don & Colette Robinson, Greg Kaminski, Earl Leblanc, Jason & Leah Summer, Trevor Shewfelt, Patrick Lamborn, and finally Ron "Yogi" Audet and Neil "BoBo" Billedeau who were great sports at West Hawk.

For newly certified divers I highly recommend the Clear Lake Parks Day dive being held on July 19th. We are going to have some fun doing underwater navigation and at the same time make the public aware there is a Scuba Club in Brandon. We are having a BBQ following the dive. See the Upcoming Events for details.

Dive Safe
Ed Burrridge
burrridge@mb.sympatico.ca



Ty Richardson, Ed Burrridge and Phil Kennedy cooling down at Cat's Ass July long.

Presidents Message

Summer is here along with the new dive season for 2003. Our new dive buoy is in place with all the others. All the buoys, have now be secured on a chain to ensure longevity. Bouquets to all the brave souls that endured the cold water putting them in place at Glen Beag. Word has it that the water temp. was only around 6 degrees (Ed & Elaine Riesmeyer, Ed Burr ridge, Brian Kooistra, Jason Gramchuk, Ron Curtis, Doug Preston, Terry & Sandy Spence, Tyrel & Brodie Richardson).

Thank you again to Ron Kimmel, President of the Manitoba Underwater Council (M.U.C.) for their financial support in this endeavor.

With the dive season upon us I would like to remind all divers to practice safe diving. Please remember to think about the basic "do's and don'ts" WHEN DOING THIS GREAT SPORT.

I wish you all a great summer diving in the many lakes and water ways.

P.S. If you have any dive stories to tell over the summer, please contact myself @ jandivers@westman.wave.ca or Ed Burr ridge burr ridge@mb.sympatico.ca as we would love to pass them on in the next news letter.

Take care
Keep your fins in the water.

John Kennedy
B.S.C. Pres.



Diving in Australia



Fish on Great Barrier Reef taken By Caroline Lanoie.

I just wanted to give everyone an insight on my trip to Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia. Since I was off to spend six months overseas, I decided to take John Kennedy's advice and take my open water course. (Thanks John!). My trip was awesome, and the diving was amazing!

From Clear Lake to the Great Barrier Reef...what a change! I did an overnight trip from Cairns with Down Under Dive. They were very friendly and helpful. I did 6 dives, including a night dive. Six things I learned are:

- you only have to forget to hold onto your mask once, during entry, to realize salt water really stings
- there are way too many yellow and blue fish to remember them by the time you get back to the boat to look them up
- its scary to think that you may have to share air with your dive buddy on your second dive out. I TOLD them I sucked air-I didn't mean to get back to the boat on 50 psi.
- crayfish eyes glow gold at night
- coral can give you nasty scrapes
- even if you flunk your back roll during pool classes, you can still ace it in real life

Our head instructor couldn't believe the temperature of the water at Clear Lake, and thought we were nuts when I described the ice diving.

In Bundaberg, I did 2 wreck dives on an artificial reef with 2 boats and a plane. The crew with Bundaberg Aqua Scuba was good, but the dive shop was a little shady when I asked about adventure dives. Lesson number seven, no matter how slow turtles are on land, they swim way too fast to catch up to them for photos.

I didn't dive in New Zealand, but I went snorkeling with the seals. It was 14 degrees in the water, and the seals would rather bask in the sun.

Malaysia was good diving also. I was on Redang Island, and decided to take my Advanced course. My first attempt at my navigation dive off by 25 feet since I kept looking at the fish! It was great weather the first 2 days, 35 degrees on the surface, and 28 at 20 meters, and the viz was great!

I must admit that I blew my safety stop during my last dive (peak performance bouyancy yet). Rough seas and the worlds worst stomach brought on the dry heaves. The crew were laughing when I hit the surface before everyone else. And I was getting the hang of everything too!

To coin an Aussie phrase...it's all good! The diving was amazing, the crews great, and the fellow divers friendly and interesting. I stayed a week with a Aussie dive master over Christmas holidays. His photo albums and dive logs were amazing. I've got tons of memories, photos and several scars to remind me of my diving overseas. The coral was diverse, but the fish were my highlights. Turtles, rays, reef and wobbegone sharks, giant clams, crayfish, damselfish, hamburgs, parrotfish, wrasse, puffers, clownfish, starfish and fusilier will name the ones I could find in the books. All I could think was "this is just like a documentary!" A big thanks to John, Rick, Carl, Ed and Elaine for making a dream come true!

Caroline Lanoie.



Coral on The Great Barrier Reef taken By Caroline Lanoie

BSC Scuba Club Upcoming Events

- July 19 Parks Day at RMNP
Let's show the public that we can navigate
underwater!
To make this event happen, we need someone to
set up a navigation route. Please call Jen at 725-
3212 or Elaine 763-4943 if you can help.
B-B-Que to follow at Jayson Gramchuk's cabin
- August 9 & 10 Dauphin Dolphins Annual Spearfishing Contest
Child's Lake, Duck Mountains
A must attend event!
- Weekends Phone list of members is attached
July/August Phone a buddy, Go Dive, Dive, Dive
- October Let's try another car rally
- November Christmas Party, more info to follow

If anyone has any new ideas for an event
Call our events chairperson
Jen 725-3212