



Anne Judge, Membership Director  
The Scuba Sports Club  
2 Pine Mountain Road  
DANBURY CT 06810

## November Meeting

8:00 pm, Wed, November 12  
Michael Emmerman

on

The "Rules" of Diving—  
What to Believe,  
What Not to Believe

at

Whitby Castle Restaurant  
at the Rye Golf Club  
330 Boston Post Road  
Rye, NY

See page 6 for more details.

# Sea Swells



## LOG

The monthly  
newsletter of  
The Scuba  
Sports Club

November 2003

### the anchor line



**President  
Soliman  
Shenouda**

#### A Year Reviewed

This is the time of year when we review what our administration has achieved and failed to deliver for TSSC. In January 2003, as club president, I proposed very ambitious goals. Here is what we accomplished.

1. We established a vision and policy for TSSC to direct the board's efforts toward our long-term goals. The details of this vision were published in the February *Sea Swells Log*.
2. The club meeting was relocated in April 2003 to the Whitby Castle at the Rye Golf Club.

3. Our monthly meetings featured a selection of famous speakers such as Mike Emmerman, Glenn Butler, Bill Hamilton, and Dr. Eric Larson. Speaker selection and confirmation were completed early in 2003.

4. We offered a variety of dive activities to match our divers' diverse tastes. This year TSSC offered

- A dive trip to La Paz, Mexico, organized by Gregg Maccaulay
- A dive trip on the *Caribbean Explorer*, led by Jim McNeill & Michael Prange
- Two shore dives at Fort Wetherill in Rhode Island, led by Rick D'Amico
- An Easter egg dive at Dutch Springs quarry, led by Gregg Maccaulay
- Three New Jersey shipwreck dives on the dive boat *Sea Hawk*
- Two local Long Island Sound dives on Captain Lada Simek's boat
- Three Cape Ann weekend trips for scallop and wreck diving, led by Bob Bak
- One weekend trip to New Hampshire for seal watching, led by Bob Bak
- A week-long trip to dive North Carolina's shipwrecks, led by Dick Smith
- A long weekend of diving the St. Lawrence Seaway, led by Gregg Maccaulay
- A Caribbean trip to Salt Cay, led by Lada and Judy Simek

5. Social activities this year included the TSSC open house dinner, a winery tour, a canoe trip on the Delaware River, and the upcoming holiday party.

6. Our newsletter was well-edited by Anne Judge, supported by contributions from many of the directors.

7. An online calendar was set up to inform members of TSSC activities and who is participating in them.

8. A "Member of the Month" presentation by the director at large at general meetings was re-introduced.

9. Membership increased by roughly 10%.

*Continued on page 3*

*See What The Scuba Sports Club Has to Offer...*

### Have you dived the Max lately?

This is a note of thanks to club member **Lada Simek** for the many great diving experiences he has offered fellow club members aboard his dive boat *Max*.

Lada is a man of many talents, like his ability to find wrecks both virgin and old favorites. Divers aboard his boat have been known to come up with old bottles, wreck artifacts, and lobster when legal. On a dive trip with Lada and his wife Judy there is always an expectation of adventure when he opens up his charts. An instructor as well as a captain, he matches his destinations to the divers' level of experience, from beginners to old salts. There's a lot to be said for diving on

Lada's boat. Departure times are never early in the morning, so there are no early-morning wake-up calls. Seasickness is never a problem, because of the general calmness of the sound and because he doesn't dive when it's rough. At lunchtime we have enjoyed pulling up to waterfront restaurants with beautiful views; for those who like to experiment we have visited Thai, Portuguese, and Chinese restaurants. Often we prefer just to relax with a bag lunch aboard the boat. And did I mention bottle-collecting dives with bottom times of an hour or more?

If you haven't dived the *Max* you are missing out on a great adventure!

**Camille Platzek**

### inside

#### ▶ Our Club ..... 2

Keep up to date on club news. Find out what happened at the last directors' meeting. Check the criteria for diver of the year: who do you think best satisfies them?

#### ▶ Education and Safety ..... 3

Do you know what to do with your gear—or yourself—in the off-season?

#### ▶ Recent Club Activities ..... 3

Pictures and stories from a wonderful weekend north of the border. Plus a final Cape Ann dive—for this year, but they'll be back!

#### ▶ Coming Events ..... 6

#### ▶ 2004 Ballot ..... Insert

It's your club—vote! A ballot for the election of 2004 officers and directors is included with this newsletter. Send it to Bob Bak, or respond to the electronic ballot that will be sent to the TSSC email list. Family memberships are entitled to two votes.

### calendar highlights

#### ▶ TSSC November Meeting Nov 12

Michael Emmerman talks on *The Rules of Diving: What to Believe, What Not to Believe*. See page 6.

#### ▶ Holiday Party ..... Dec 13

Celebrate the holidays with your friends and dive buddies! In the clubhouse at the Turners' condominium complex with potluck goodies. Full details on page 7.

## TSSC Directors' Meeting Highlights

October 1, 2003

**2003 Holiday Party:** Location will be Sy & Judie Turner's condominium clubhouse in Hartsdale, New York on December 13. Members will bring food that does not require heating. Liquor will be BYO. The facility has the equipment for music such as a tape and CD player and speakers. Rick D'Amico will give out dubious achievement awards and create a "Waterlog" newsletter. The committee will decide whether a clean-up person will be hired or members will clean up. Paper goods, non-alcoholic beverages and entertainment will be provided.

**Diver of the Year:** The directors reviewed the criteria for choosing the club's diver of the year (DOY): a diver who supports safe diving, contributes service to the club and the community, and is a member in good standing. The decision was made that present officers and directors and past DOYs who remain club members in good standing will all be eligible to vote on this year's DOY; however, they must be present at the December directors' meeting to vote.

**Elections:** Bob Bak discussed the upcoming elections. E-mail ballots will be sent to all members possible. Elected positions are vice president, secretary, membership director, planning director, program director, social director, and director at large. Bob Bak will post the positions with a description of each position on a poster board at the next TSSC meeting for all members to view. It was noted that the 2003 Board accomplished many things for the club and did a great job!

**BTS:** TSSC graciously declined a room at BTS 2004. The paperwork for our booth registration was submitted. More weekend volunteers are needed. Bob Bak was nominated to be a BTS Trustee.



### THE SCUBA SPORTS CLUB

P.O. Box 644

Rye, NY 10580

<http://BeneathTheSea.org/TSSC/>

[TSSC@BeneathTheSea.org](mailto:TSSC@BeneathTheSea.org)

#### OFFICERS

**President** Soliman Shenouda  
**Vice President** Bob Bak  
**Treasurer** Paul Dengler  
**Secretary** Dorothy Knudsen  
**Past President** Ben Brush

#### DIRECTORS

**Executive Director Dive Operations** Vreni Roduner  
**Education/Safety** Vadim Ternovski  
**Enviro/Legislative** Rick D'Amico  
**Membership** Rick D'Amico  
**Newsletter** Anne Judge  
**Planning** Bill Kligallon  
**Program** Michael Prange  
**Wreck Diving** Jeff Pagano  
**Director-at-Large** Gregg Macaulay  
**Public Relations** Judy Klotz-Simek

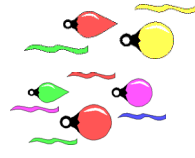
**LEGAL ADVISOR** Robert Schragger  
**FOUNDER** Armand Ziggann

**CO-FOUNDER** Soliman Shenouda  
 Submissions to Sea Swells Log may be made in electronic or paper form by the 20th of the month. Electronic submissions (email) are preferred and should be sent to [SeaSwells@BeneathTheSea.org](mailto:SeaSwells@BeneathTheSea.org)

Submission of paper copy should be sent to

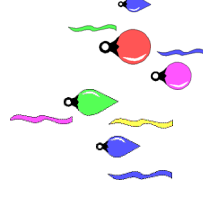
Anne Judge  
 2 Pine Mountain Road  
 Danbury, CT 06810  
 Fax (208) 485-4641

Please call or email to confirm fax receipt. For information send email to [SeaSwells](mailto:SeaSwells) or call Anne at (203) 778-3584.



## Celebrate the Holidays with TSSC

7:00-11:30 pm, Saturday, December 13  
 200 High Point Drive, Hartsdale, NY



It's that time of year when we deck the halls with boughs of seaweed—uh, holly! This year's festivities have moved west from their recent location, to the clubhouse of Sy and Jodie Turner's condo in Hartsdale. We have had many great parties there in the past and plan to make this one even better!

Using a tried-and-true format from that long-ago 20th century, we are asking everyone to bring a dish of food to share. A nominal charge of \$15 per person will provide this great venue; plastic "silverware," napkins,

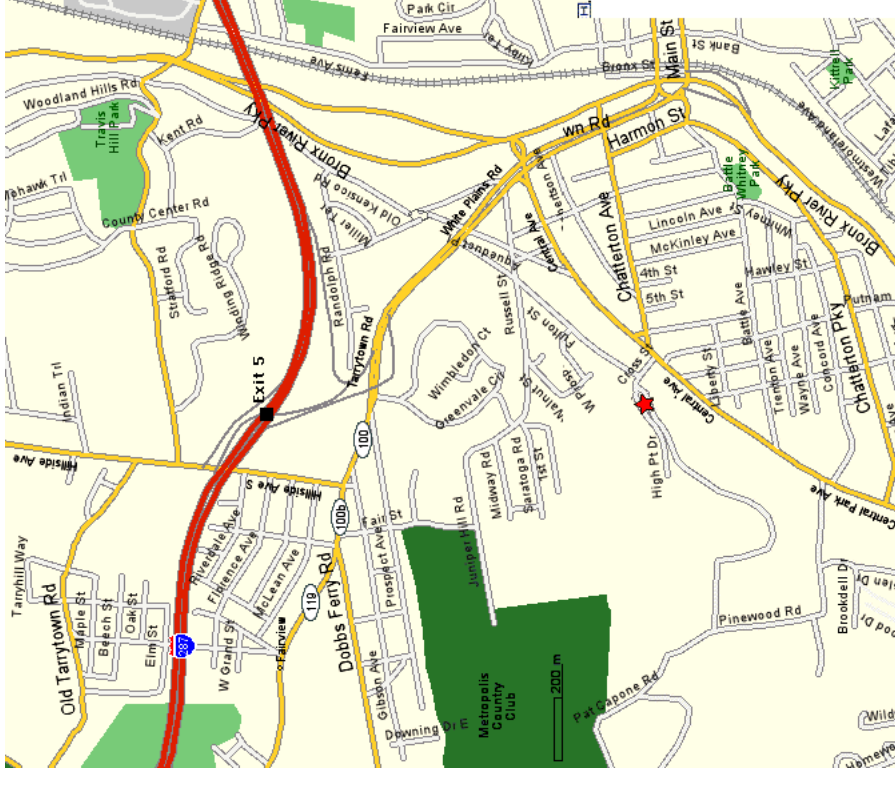
and plates; soda, coffee, and tea; and best of all, good company & a great time!

In the interests of everyone's enjoyment, the organizing committee is making a few requests. Please do not bring food that needs to be cooked or reheated at the party, as the committee does not wish to spend the evening in the kitchen. Also, please let me know what you will be bringing. Much as we all love lasagna, 20 different varieties and nothing else can get a little monotonous. We need appetizers, entrees, and desserts. The

old standards are great but so are exciting, off-the-wall creations. It's your choice. You can sign up by responding to the invite you will be receiving in your email box, emailing [TSSC@BeneathTheSea.org](mailto:TSSC@BeneathTheSea.org), or calling me at (718) 884-4611.

The revels begin at 7 and officially last until 11:30. After that you're welcome to stay and automatically become part of the cleanup committee. We have to be out around midnight and leave the clubhouse clean.

Judy Klotz-Simek



## Directions to TSSC's Holiday Party

Club House at High Point, Hartsdale, NY  
 (914) 946-1062 • (917) 612-8421

**From the east (I-95, I-684, or the Hutchinson River Parkway):** Get on I-287 westbound. Get off at Exit 5. Turn left at the stop sign onto Hillside Avenue and go to the traffic light. Turn left onto Rte. 119/Tarrytown Road. At the 3rd traffic light turn right onto Central Avenue, by the City Limits Diner. *From this point follow the directions from Central Avenue, below.*

**From the west (Thruway, Sprain Brook Parkway or Saw Mill River Parkway):** Get on I-287 eastbound. Get off at exit 5. At the traffic light turn right onto Rte. 119/Tarrytown Road. At the 3rd traffic light turn right onto Central Avenue, by the City Limits Diner. *Follow the directions from Central Avenue, below.*

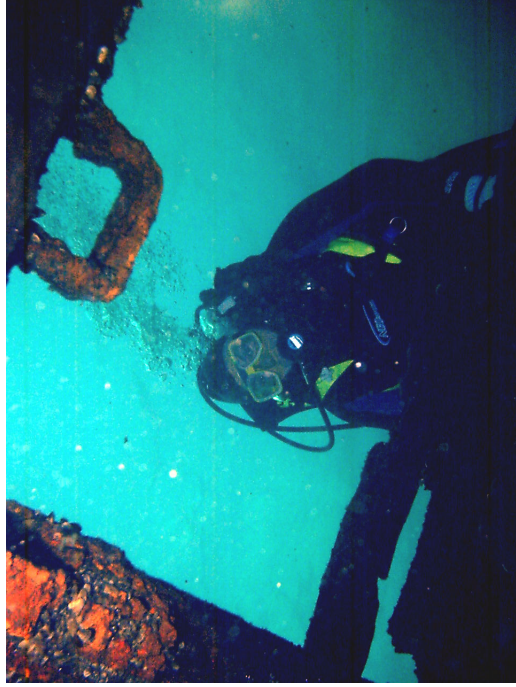
**From Central Avenue:** Take Central Avenue 3 traffic lights to Cross Street. Turn right. Cross Street will start to curve to the left. Before it becomes Fieldstone Drive, bear right. You will see a red sign—"High Point at Hartsdale." Go up the hill to the white complex. At the guardhouse bear to the right, for visitors. Tell the guardhouse guard you are there for the Turners' party in the Club House.

There is parking in front of and behind all buildings, except in numbered spots. The Club House is between buildings 200 and 400, overlooking the pool.



## Diving the Saint Lawrence Seaway

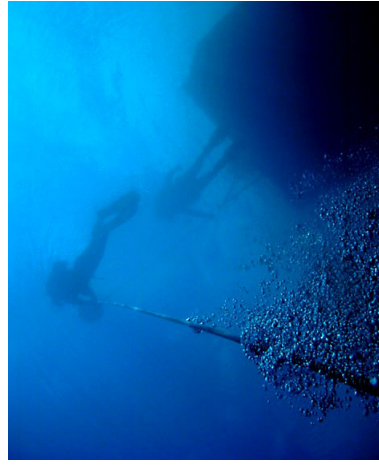
19–21 September 2003



As the remnants of Hurricane Isabelle passed to the west, we headed north towards Brockville, Ontario. Since we did not plan to dive on Friday we enjoyed our trip, making a side trip to Howe Caverns. We found them to be worth seeing but not as impressive as the Pennsylvania systems.

Some of TSSC's intrepid group did plan to dive on Friday, and got in one dive on the *Henry C. Daryaw*, a 219-foot freighter that lies upside down in 90 feet of water. The current can be strong on this wreck, but there are areas amidship where you can get out of the current. There is a line along one side that allows you to pull yourself along. Once around the bow it's a nice drift back to the stern mooring line.

On Saturday morning a mob of TSSC divers drove upriver to Rockport to meet the boat for dives on the *Kingshorn* and the *Keystorm*. The *Keystorm* lies in U.S. waters and is one of the best dives in the area. Its location meant that after our first dive on the *Kingshorn* we had to proceed to US customs before diving the *Keystorm*. After finally getting everyone back on the boat we headed back upriver for the dive. The *Keystorm* is a 256-foot freighter that lies on her starboard side with her bow at 20 feet and her stern at 155 feet. This makes for a nice multi-level dive. The *Keystorm* is a busy wreck site and we had to wait awhile before rafting up



Clear water and plentiful wrecks rewarded TSSC's divers north of the border.  
Photos by Zeke Petryszyn

schooner built in 1868 which sank in a squall on the west side of Sparrow Island. She sits in 70 feet of water and is perfect for drift diving. The dive boat dropped us slightly up-current in the shallows. After pulling ourselves around the wreck a couple times, checking out the artifacts displayed near the stern, we finished the dive with a swift drift along the island. The stopping point has two down lines that run from the surface to the bottom along the wall to allow safety stops. We finished the day with a slow ride back to the docks.

Sunday morning we loaded up at the Abucs scuba docks and headed out for our two morning dives. The first was on the *Muscallonge* which was another freighter sitting in 90 feet of water. The wreck did not have much current on her and had a nice profile as she lies on her side with a wheelhouse still attached. There are usually more fish on this wreck than most of the others we dove. Our last dive was on the *Daryaw*, the same wreck that some of our group had dived on Friday. It's a nice wreck to finish the weekend on and close to the docks.

The weather throughout the weekend was nice and almost everyone enjoyed the experience. I plan to return next year, probably in August, spending more time and checking out new sites. I plan to dive a few days on the US side, visit and dive Kingston near Lake Ontario, and also dive again near Brockville. Next year we will use dive operations with faster boats and stay in hotels or B&Bs. This will not raise the cost much.

For all of you who joined me, thanks for making this a great outing! Divers and nondivers alike had a great time and have already asked when we are going back next year.

**Gregg Macaulay**

## Saint Lawrence Scenery

I hadn't been out of this country in a few years—not since 9/11, but not because of 9/11. It is because I have been enjoying what our own beautiful country has to offer. Having said that, I forget how beautiful Canada is until I go there! Canada, from sea to shining sea, is litter free and majestic. It has a real "comfortable feel" to it. There are a lot of jokes about Canadians and Canada, but they are very friendly and hospitable. They are also ahead of us in some areas (at least everywhere but Quebec).

When we first entered Canada, just southwest of Brockville, Ontario, we crossed over a most impressive bridge. It went up, and up, and up some more, until we could see both east and west for miles and miles. Below us were stretched out the Thousand Islands. We passed right over quite a few of them. The sight made me glad that we had chosen this trip, not just for the diving, but for the area we would be relaxing in. As we passed over these islands, even though the foliage had not yet turned, there were many hints of it; golds and reds peeked out all around us. As we passed over the crest of the bridge and descended to the Canadian side, dusk started to fall, and customs awaited us.

Coming from such a cosmopolitan area, we take for granted the hustle and bustle of a 24-hour world. We had just passed into the "roll up the sidewalks early" zone. We could see more stars than I have seen in many years. Once we got settled into our room, we stepped out into the patio outside the room and gazed out over the St. Lawrence River. We could see all the way over to the US side, and



Pat Forgacs stands with (L to R) Anne Judge, Michael Prange, Izzy Tahlil, and Vadim Ternovski on the Abucs Scuba dock  
Photo by Zeke Petryszyn

just over an hour to drive to Ottawa, the capital. We took the scenic route, which took longer, and also ended up being the long way to where we were headed, but now we know our way around pretty well. When we got downtown there was some weekend traffic, and many stores were getting ready to close. We found an open restaurant, the Elephant and Castle, right by the Parliament Building. We enjoyed the most wonderful soups and appetizers suggested by our waitress. And the desserts were incredible! Fortified from the cold, we wandered around a bit more, and found a tabletop raised map of the city. It was cast in metal, and had all the street names shown. It was like taking a virtual tour of the area. By this time, most of the shops and restaurants were closing down, or were already closed. Again, the sidewalks were rolled up right before our eyes!

It was a bit overcast for the drive home the next day. We made a few stops at some tourist areas and of course at the duty-free shop at the border. In Brockville we found some playing cards, each depicting a local business or area attraction, and some local crafts and ornament. Before we hit the duty-free, we found some holders from Canada and the ever-popular key chains. At our final stop (you know, the duty-free) we found some cute Canadian toys, chocolates and t-shirts.

Going through customs into the US as citizens took about 3 minutes, even with cars ahead of us. What a change from going into Canada as a US citizen! That had taken us about 25 minutes. But as we left Canada, we went up and up over the bridge, over the Thousand Islands, that we had not had time to visit at all. Goodbye to Canada and Brockville for now! But we will return, and we will allow more time to see more of this beautiful area called Canada.

**Pat Forgacs**  
Editor's note: I need to learn Pat's secret—we had to wait 30 minutes in line at US Customs on our return!—AJ