



Great Lakes Division Report

www.greatlakesdivision.org

First Summer SCUBA Training

July 3-12, 2009

Advanced SCUBA Training in the Great Lakes

- Underwater Archaeology
- Discovery
- Certifications



Cadets Certified in Underwater Archaeology

This summer, Sea Cadets had a remarkable opportunity to train in underwater archaeology methods when they participated in the NAS (Nautical Archaeological Society) course while on the ten day advanced training offered through the Great Lakes Division, NSCC headquartered in White Lake, Michigan

The three day session began with classroom lecture led by professional NOAA archaeologists at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary in Alpena, Michigan.

Right Techniques were practiced on dry land first before a series of four dive operations commenced in the following two days.



Sea Cadet divers measure artifacts and record data on site.

Below Data recorded during dive operations was painstakingly transferred onto an eight foot drawing to scale. The drawing will be completed in ink by NOAA staff and considered for an educational guide produced by the NOAA sanctuary.





Dive operations aboard the ship are carried out with precision.

Certifications

PADI (Professional Association of Dive Instructors) is recognized world wide.

The 3 July-12 July 2009 SCUBA Training offered by the Great Lakes Division resulted in the following numbers of certifications:

8 Cadets Certified in Advanced Open Water Diving

9 Cadets Certified in Enriched Air (Nitrox) Diving

21 Cadets and Officers/Instructors certified in the

Nautical Archaeological Society Underwater Archaeologist Certification, Level One

Number of Dives

The number of dives for the July session aboard the training ship "Pride of Michigan" was 202.

Dive Operations : Making It Work

How is it possible to carry out a complex activity like diving aboard a ship with all that equipment and numbers of divers?

Part of the reason is that each cadet and officer on board has an assignment as a diver and an alternate assignment as soon as they return to the surface. A constant rotation is in place with cadets and offi-

cers moving smoothly through rotating assignments on the deck which include a log keeper, watches for radio, spotters at specific stations, dive deck operators, tank fill operators and cadets to operate the inflatable while divers are in the water. Good training, safety first and excellent organization is key.

More Good News

"This training is like an opening a Swiss Army knife!

All these cool activities keep unfolding and unfolding. There is always something new going on!"

- Cadet Kyle Sunday who joined Great Lakes Division SCUBA Session

Drowned Forest Discovered during Sea Cadet Dive Operations!

PRESS RELEASE



Drowned Forest discovered in Northern Lake Huron. Ancient trees reveal the prehistoric past of the Lake Huron shoreline.

White Lake, Michigan July 13, 2009

Divers working with the Noble Odyssey Foundation have located the remains of an ancient drowned forest in the waters of Northern Lake Huron.

The forest, now located under approximately 25 feet of water, is a major discovery which will provide absolute dating information about the water levels of the distant past, and information about the environment during the time that the trees were living.

The drowned forest was discovered while divers were participating in archaeological study nearby. Two members of the Great Lakes Division Dive Team, PO Richard Cover and PO Marek Pilarski, recognized the submerged objects as tree stumps and immediately reported their observations to Captain Clyburn.

"Our cadet divers have been trained to recognize a variety of important artifacts which they may see underwater." LT Kathy Trax stated.

Noble Odyssey president and underwater film maker, Captain Luke Clyburn, deployed a dive team to establish a baseline record of forest remains which cover the area. The preliminary survey revealed a phenomenal count of 19 rooted tree stumps. Rooted tree stumps provide proof that the trees once grew at this underwater site.

The area was filmed and photographed, and documentation will continue on the site throughout the summer of 2009.

Another Drowned Forest had been researched with the Sea Cadets of the Great Lakes Division in 2000-2001 in lower Lake Huron.

For more information contact Luke Clyburn
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Affiliated websites: www.nobleodyssey.org <http://greatlakesdivision.org/>



"Our cadet divers have been trained to recognize important artifacts which they may see underwater."



Ancient tree stump named "The Monarch".

Training the next generation of underwater explorers.

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Graduating cadets and officers with NOAA Instructors of the Nautical Archaeological Society certification program, 2009

