



Bottomtime:

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Underwater Council

NSUC TREASURE HUNT '96

Grand Barbados Beach Resort:
First Prize

Crystal Crescent Beach Provincial Park
-September 8, 1996-
-11:30 AM Start-
-Treasure Hunt Registration:
opens at 9:30 AM-
-Registration Fee: \$10.00-
-Members and Non-Members Welcome/Family B.B.Q
available.-

The NSUC Treasure Hunt '96 is the largest and longest continuous running SCUBA diving event in Atlantic Canada. It will be held once again on Sunday, September 8, at Crystal Crescent Beach Provincial Park, near Halifax, Nova Scotia. Beginning at 11:30 AM sharp, registered divers enter the water to search for numbered "shells" which are returned to the "Hunt" divemaster. When all the divers have returned, numbers are drawn for prizes. A B.B.Q. will be available and the family is welcome.

This year's prizes include a diving trip for two to The Grand Barbados Beach Resort (dep. between March 1- April 15, 1997); hotel, diving and airfare provided by the Barbados Tourism Authority, The Grand Barbados Beach Resort, PADO Barbados and Fraser and Hoyt Worldwide Travel. Additional prizes include incredible diving equipment provided by dive shops throughout Nova Scotia. Crystal Crescent Beach is Nova Scotia's most beautiful and the event is definitely a family affair. Rain or shine: hurricanes excepted! Information: NSUC 425-5450 ext. 325.

Membership Fees - 1996

The Nova Scotia Underwater Council has made several substantial changes to its membership fee structure for 1996. This revision comes after a year-long process of re-evaluating the goals and mandate of the Council, and attempting to discover how best to serve the diving community of Nova Scotia.

Commercial Membership: Eliminated. All divers are eligible to be members of the Nova Scotia Underwater Council, and we believe that there should be no distinction between them because of how they earn their living.

Family Membership: Eliminated. All persons are members individually.

Individual Membership: \$10. Over the years, the Council has attempted to provide more membership services by distributing Dive Slates, pins, and other paraphernalia. While useful and appreciated by those who received them, they had to be paid for, and one method to do so was by increasing membership fees. The mandate of the Underwater Council is "to preserve, support, and promote diving and diving safety in the province". One of the best ways we can think of to do that is by having as many divers as possible become part of the Council. That way, if there are safety issues or concerns, or important events that should be publicized, we can inform the widest possible audience. Many people thought that our fees were too high, and that this prevented some divers from joining. Well, now hopefully, this should not be a problem.

Newly Certified Diver (within past 6 months): Free. (Yes, we mean it). If anyone needs to know more news about the diving community in Nova Scotia, it is the newly certified diver. We want to assist these people enjoy their new hobby as much as possible, and we believe that it is vital that they become connected to the greater community. There is no better way to ensure that they join then to make it automatic. We hope you agree.

These are substantial changes, but we believe they are justified. In order to fulfill another portion of the Council's mandate, "to cooperate and participate with...governments on projects and policies that lead to the recognition of sport diving as a significant recreational activity", we must speak with the largest voice possible. We must try to represent all divers, and advocate their needs. To do this, we need them as members.

The Executive of the Underwater Council has decided that it is important to take all necessary steps to ensure that occurs. We invite your participation. Join the Council today!

Notes from the South Shore...

Lunenburg Marine Park has been busy as ever this summer. Future artificial reef project Matthew Atlantic has been prepared for scuttling in the Spectacle Marine Park (Port Mouton) and advertising for the Ocean Dumping Permit has commenced. The M.V. Matthew Atlantic has been moved to Bridgewater by the DFO. Get Wet Madness '96 was a tremendous success with participants visiting from as far as B. C. (next year to be held Aug1-4). NSUC Annual Meeting was held at White Point Beach, with diving visits to Spectacle Marine Park and a reception at Quarterdeck Beachside Villas at Summerville Beach (also attended by Barbados High Commissioner to Canada). Dave Williams elected as NSUC Director for area.

Nova Scotia Museum

Curator Bob Ogilvie (902 424 7344) is circulating a letter requesting that groups interested in participating in developing a strategy for protecting and managing Nova Scotia's ship wrecks should contact him in advance of a future meeting to be held this Fall. The NSUC will be participating in these meetings...

Bottomtime: The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Underwater Council (ISBN 1100-2050) is published six times annually. Members of the Council are encouraged to submit to the editor photos (including captions) and articles of interest to the general membership. Deadline for submissions is the 1st. of every other month beginning January. Submissions, address corrections, comments or general suggestions should be send in writing to:

The Editor

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