The Niagara Divers’ Association Presents

A Full Day Symposium On Shipwrecks Saturday, April 13, 2019
Progressive Scuba Dive Training at all levels:


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### Shipwrecks/2019
Saturday, April 13, 2019

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<td>NDA Club Promo - The Dives of 2018</td>
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<td>12:30 to 1:30 P.M.</td>
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Tom Wilson
Master of Ceremonies

Tom has presented both short and primary presentations at previous "Shipwrecks Symposiums" and was Master of Ceremonies for seven years. We are very pleased to have him back again this year!

One of Tom's favorite phrases is,

"The more I learn, the more I learn how little I know,"

from Socrates, which he finds translates perfectly into Great Lakes diving.

"The more I dive the more I realize there's more out there to discover than I ever imagined,"

Drawing on over 1,000 dives in environments from caves to ice and training from Open Water to Full Trimix, he brings a unique perspective to scuba that usually includes a few laughs along the way.

By his own admission Tom Wilson dives essentially for one reason: to capture photographs. You may have seen the fruits of his efforts in the magazines such as Diver, Advanced Diver, Scuba Press, Immersed, Ottawa Outdoors, and even the Toronto Star, all concentrating on the amazing wrecks of the Great Lakes which he firmly believes offer the best wreck diving in the world.

To compare he has traveled to such places as Roatan, Truk Lagoon, Turks and Caicos, Bahamas, Florida and North Carolina, but has found they pale in comparison to the diversity and numbers we have in our own backyard.

Tom is a PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer, and holds various certifications from IANTD, TDI, and GUE all the way up to full trimix and full cave. He enjoys teaching underwater photography, along with ice diving and nitrox courses.

“Things They Didn’t Teach on Your Open Water Course”

As well as being MC, Tom will also have a short presentation entitled “Things They Didn’t Teach on Your Open Water Course”.

Cris Kohl and Joan Forsberg

Cris Kohl and Joan Forsberg, well-known maritime historians, scuba divers, authors, lecturers, photographers, and videographers, are a husband-and-wife team who love to explore shipwrecks, particularly those in the Great Lakes.

They both have university degrees in History, and underwater archaeology certifications from Great Britain's Nautical Archaeological Society (NAS). Cris, a prize-winning underwater photographer, is a past board member of the Ontario Underwater Council. In 2008, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from "Our World -- Underwater," and in 2013, the Save Ontario Shipwrecks Marine Heritage Award.

Joan was a three-term President of the Underwater Archaeological Society of Chicago and was inducted into the international Women Divers Hall of Fame (WDHOF) in 2010, for which she became a three-term Chairman of the Board and continues to work on various committees.

The authors of 17 books and the producers of 16 documentaries and five shipwreck maps, they have been interviewed many times about shipwrecks on radio and on television venues such as the History Channel, the Discovery Channel (including its "Expedition Unknown" series), CBC, CBS, and PBS.

"DIVE ONTARIO! Here We Go Again!"

This program starts with a bit of reminiscing -- with some of the images that Cris Kohl used in the very first presentation (called "DIVE ONTARIO!" and based on his third book, published in 1990) made at the very first "SHIPWRECKS!" Show in the spring of 1995. He and Joan will transition into "update mode," complete with underwater video of various shipwrecks in Ontario waters that they have both explored over the years since then, such as the wreck of the dredge MUNSON in Lake Ontario, the schooner WILLIS and the tragic composite steamship, CLARION in Lake Erie, plus the wrecked schooner, JANE MCLEOD and the purposely-sunk freighter NIAGARA II in Lake Huron.

They will also provide information about a few shipwrecks in Ontario waters that are still being sought by scuba divers. But this presentation will culminate with the most recent discoveries of the two historic Georgian Bay shipwrecks, the J. H. JONES and the MANASOO found in 2018 by the team of Ken Merryman, Jerry Eliason, and Cris Kohl AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NEW SHIPWRECK DISCOVERY IN ONTARIO WATERS!

Web Site: www.seawolfcommunications.com
Kayla Martin

Kayla Martin made her first dive trip at six weeks old and could swim before she could walk. This naturally led to a love of the underwater world. In 2013 at just 13 years old she got certified and has since logged over 250 dives exploring the history of Great Lakes Shipwrecks and the beauty of tropical coral reefs.

Since 2014, in hopes of inspiring the next generation of divers, Kayla has been creating videos to share her experiences and love of diving.

For the last five years she has been presenting at dive shows across North America, including the prestigious Our World Underwater Evening Film Festival in Chicago, where Kayla stood out as the youngest presenter ever in the 45-year history of the event.

A Women’s Day of Diving

Join Kayla in the celebration of women coming together to share their passion for our underwater world.

In 2015 PADI started the first International Women’s Day of Diving. On this day women all over the world came together to celebrate their passion for diving and the underwater world. Over the last four years, the excitement has continued to grow, resulting in over 100 countries now participating.

Kayla will share her experiences in organizing her own event this past year diving Shipwrecks in the St. Lawrence River.

Web Site: www.loveofdiving.com
Mike & Georgann Wachter

Mike and Georgann Wachter are scuba divers and the authors of the Erie Wrecks series on Lake Erie shipwrecks and lighthouses. They have been diving all over the world, but they especially enjoy diving and speaking on the Great Lakes.

They have discovered or rediscoved 35 shipwrecks which are documented with 325 other wrecks on a published shipwreck map.

When Mike was President of the Maritime Archaeological Survey Team, six shipwrecks in Ohio waters were first moored. He now co-chairs the Shipwrecks and Scuba conference in Sandusky which is the largest dive group gathering between Chicago and the east coast. He maintains the shipwreck website www.eriewrecks.com.

Georgann is a maritime historian who was inducted into the International Women Divers Hall of Fame in 2013 for documenting over 300 shipwrecks with her writing, research and marine artwork.

Romancing the Lake; 40 years of Lake Erie Shipwreck Discovery and Exploration

Georgann and Mike Wachter have been documenting and discovering Lake Erie shipwrecks for over 40 years.

They will present many of their best discoveries and share the stories, romance and intrigue of shipwrecks including rum runners, pristine, ancient, and newer shipwrecks; plus, some targets that are not even boats.

For Mike and Georgann, unlocking this Great Lakes’ secrets has been exciting and often frustrating, but is always rewarding.

Web Site: www.eriewrecks.com
Scarlett Janusas

Scarlett Janusas is the President of Scarlett Janusas Archaeology Inc., which conducts both land and underwater archaeological assessments, and cultural heritage assessments in Ontario. Scarlett holds a BA and MA in archaeology, served as President of the Ontario Marine Heritage Committee for 10 years, President of the Ontario Association of Professional Archaeologists for 4 years and is the current chair of the Tobermory Hyperbaric Facility. Scarlett was also a NAUI scuba instructor, teaching courses at the University of Western Ontario and independently.

She was part of a team conducting excavations on a 16th century Basque whaling ship, the San Juan, which sank in 1565 in Red Bay, Labrador with Parks Canada, was the principal archaeologist for the Prehistoric Submerged Shoreline study north of Tobermory, and has been involved in numerous consulting projects for proposed dams, marinas, waterfront improvements, etc. recording resources such as fish weirs, marine railways, cribs, shipwrecks, and other marine related infrastructure. She has been working in underwater archaeology for over 35 years.

The AVRO Arrow Model Search and Recovery Project

In 2017, 396 targets were identified in the area of search for the AVRO Arrow models using synthetic aperture sonar. This year, an additional 800 targets were located, and some ground truthed. While there appeared to be several promising targets, these were disappointingly identified through ground truthing and diver reconnaissance as rocks and missiles, and not parts of the elusive 9 models fired from Point Petre in the 1950s to assist with the development of the supersonic interceptor, the AVRO Arrow.

The target identified in 2017 therefore became the focus of recovery in 2018, and former top-secret documentation aided in identifying this target as one of the most important finds of the program. With the assistance of the Air Force, the Navy, the Coast Guard, the Army, commercial divers, the recovery of this artifact was conducted under the supervision and direction of the project archaeologist.

Web Site: www.actionarchaeology.ca
Jonathan Moore

JONATHAN MOORE grew up in Kingston, Ontario where he got his start in both land and underwater archaeology. He learned to dive in 1988 and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Classical Studies (Queen's University) and a Master’s degree in Maritime Studies (University of St. Andrews, Scotland). In 1994 he joined Parks Canada’s Underwater Archaeology Team based in Ottawa where he is now a Senior Underwater Archaeologist. For over a decade he has been directly involved in the search for and study of historic ships in Canada’s Arctic. He is part of the Parks Canada-led team that searched for and is now studying the wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror from the 1845 Franklin Expedition. He took part in the team’s discovery of Erebus in September 2014 and five subsequent underwater archaeological expeditions to the wreck between 2015-2018. He participated in the team’s examination of the newly discovered wreck of HMS Terror in September 2016 and April 2017. Jonathan was an inaugural recipient of the Governor General's Polar Medal.

“The White North Has Thy Bones”: The Wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror

The hunt for Sir John Franklin's lost ships HMS Erebus and HMS Terror was arguably the longest shipwreck search in history. As a story the 1845 Franklin expedition has it all: two state-of-the-art ships and experienced Royal Navy men vanishing in the Arctic barely without a trace; a life and death struggle for survival in an unforgiving environment; cannibalism; relentless contemporary searches, and fascinating stories from Inuit who both witnessed the expedition's demise and went aboard and salvaged the deserted HMS Erebus before it sank. And the story’s got two incredibly well-preserved shipwrecks as well! This presentation will set the historical and archaeological stage, describe Parks Canada's diving and underwater research accomplishments to date, give a brief dive tour of each wreck from bow to stern, and showcase some of the many artefact finds from the wreck of HMS Erebus.

Web Site: www.pc.gc.ca/en/culture/franklin

A Parks Canada underwater archaeologist examines the bow of HMS Erebus, 2015.

Photo by Jonathan Moore.
Copyright Parks Canada
Kevin Magee & Cindy LaRosa

Kevin Magee was certified for scuba in 1984, moved to Cleveland, Ohio in 1993, and discovered shipwreck diving in the Great Lakes shortly afterwards. He enthusiastically practices diving shipwrecks in Lake Erie and the other Great Lakes. Kevin is the co-founder and Deputy Director of the Cleveland Underwater Explorers (CLUE), an organization that searches for shipwrecks in Lake Erie and has found more than 35 shipwrecks since its creation in 2001. He is a Senior Mechanical Engineer for ZIN Technologies, Inc., and is a contract engineer at the NASA Glenn Research Center.

Cindy LaRosa began diving the Great Lakes in the early 1990s, has over 1,000 logged dives, and holds numerous dive certifications up through Advanced Nitrox. Cindy is a member of the Cleveland Underwater Explorers (CLUE) and regularly assists in the shipwreck survey work of both CLUE and the Maritime Archaeological Survey Team (MAST). Cindy works as an Official Court Reporter and has two decades of experience working at Cleveland Municipal Court and Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas providing a verbatim record of criminal and civil court proceedings.

Diving Iceland: The Cold and the Beautiful

Iceland is becoming an increasingly popular destination for divers. It presents challenges with its very cold 3-degree C water, but the stark beauty of its volcanic landscape above and below water is incredible. It also offers the unique opportunity to dive between tectonic plates. Great Lakes divers are uniquely prepared for diving this destination, and wonderful dive sites and landscapes abound.

Web Site: www.greatlakeswrecks.info
Web Site: www.clueshipwrecks.org
Art Amos & Dan Lindsay

Art Amos has been diving since 1966. When he saw his first shipwreck, he realized the wealth of history that was on the bottom lands of the Great Lakes. Since that time Art has been involved in numerous underwater archaeological projects. He participated in the research of the shipwrecks to be included into the Fathom Five Provincial Park which embraced the 1972 survey of the Arabia and the 1973 survey of the Tobermory ferry dock.

Also, in 1975, Art worked on the excavation of an historic naval slip in Penetanguishene Harbour with a group that included avocational and professional archaeologists.

Dan Lindsay has been diving since 1972 and is a NAUI divemaster. Six years of his career were spent in the commercial diving industry. He worked as Diver-EMT with Canadian-based companies in the Beaufort Sea, Davis Strait and the Great Lakes. Dan is now an Automation Designer, but his greater love is in deep-water wreck exploration, videography and photography.

As a member of the Ontario Marine Heritage Committee he and his team members were successful in identifying the famous Mystery Schooner X in Lake Erie as the schooner St. James. Through his company Sea-View Imaging, he has created video from several tropical locations, the Andrea Doria, Tobermory, Lake Erie's Long Point, The Empress of Ireland, Gunilda, Hamilton & Scourge, the Avro Arrow project and many other shipwrecks in the Great Lakes.

Dan’s video production on the “Empress of Ireland” has been distributed throughout the world and many schools and libraries in Canada.

Four Gems of Tobermory

More than 20 known shipwrecks lie on the lake bottom in the vicinity of Tobermory, all with their own story to tell. Dan and Art have put together the stories of 4 of these well-known wrecks in this presentation “Four Gems of Tobermory”. The Forest City built in 1870, Alice G launched in 1902, San Jacinto in 1856 and the Arabia built in 1853 are the focus of this presentation. Dan and Art will be portraying the history of these ships, including interviews with key people that aided in their discoveries.

Web Site: www.sea-viewimaging.com
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Ian Marshall
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Photo: Alisha Postma, www.divebuddies4life.com
This is our 25th year for Shipwrecks and we would appreciate your help in filling out a short survey. Every year we have incorporated your suggestions into the program. Thanks for your response and your attendance here today.

Based on your feedback, we have gone to an on-line survey only

It is available on-line at:

www.niagaradivers.com
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www.eriewrecks.com
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Donated by John R. Schertzer
Operated Pearl Dive Charters from 1993 to 2010. Many times he supplied his services and boat at no charge to assist the Lake Erie (Eastern Basin) Mooring Project in the original mooring of the region’s wrecks.
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