



UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VOL. 32 NO. 4 FOURTH QUARTER

A Chance of a Lifetime The Southern Gulf Island Shipwreck Project



The Point Grey Propeller Photography by Dean Driver

The Underwater Archaeological Society of BC (UASBC) announces our latest exploration project. Starting fall 2016 the UASBC plans to survey and document the Historic Shipwrecks of the Southern Gulf Islands. The project is expected to take three years to complete and will involve archival research, underwater fieldwork, site documentation and mapping.

Once complete, the UASBC will publish the results as permanent record of these historic shipwrecks and this important chapter of BC history.

The Southern Gulf Island waters contain several large sailing ship wrecks from the 1870's, as well as a 1868 side wheel paddle steamer and early passenger ships. The most modern major wreck is that of the Point Grey, which was lost in tumultuous Porlier Pass in 1949. Many of these wrecks were part of the early coal trade, which played a significant role in the early BC economy and the development of a number of Vancouver Island communities. Several of these vessels were enroute from Nanaimo

to San Francisco when they got off course and tragedy struck.

Diving operations will start in the fall of 2016. Simultaneous with the start of this project the UASBC will be running a series of Nautical Archaeology Society Survey courses to prepare new divers for underwater survey work.

You can learn more about the project by attending either the Victoria Chapter or Vancouver Chapter Underwater Explorers Speakers Series meeting in September. The Victoria meeting will be on September 14 and the Vancouver meeting will be on September 28. Details can be found on the website under "Events".

The first dives are planned for September 23 – 26, 2016.

Details can be found at

<http://www.uasbc.com/exploration/dive-trips>

If you are interested in getting involved in this project contact Jacques Marc - jmarc@shaw.ca

President's Message

by: Keith Bossons

This is my first message since taking over from Bronwen as President this past June. First of all I would like to thank Bronwen for her hard work and leadership. I am very glad that she has agreed to stay on in the Vice President role.

Summer is usually a pretty quiet time for the UASBC but this summer has found a number of members busy volunteering their time to move our initiatives forward.

Early in the summer Tom Beasley and yours truly took Sun Reporter Jeff Lee and Vancouver Maritime Museum (VMM) Curator Duncan Macleod for a short boat ride down the Fraser River to the final resting place of the fish packer Sunny Island. The Sunny Island was built in Barkley Sound by Jirokichi Arimoto in 1929. It now rests in the intertidal zone

in Ewan Slough. This vessel was part of the Japanese Canadian fishing fleet that was seized by the federal government during world war two. The mission was two fold. Jeff was gathering information and photos for an article that



Japanese Fishpacker Sunny Isle in Ewan Slough

appeared in the Vancouver Sun on June 17 (<http://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/nikkei-built-wreck-gives-up-its-japanese-boatbuilding-secrets-to-b-c-maritime-experts>). The second reason for going to the site was to evaluate its potential for an excavation project with the VMM sometime in the spring of 2017.

Jacque Marc, our Explorations Director, has been busy organizing the fall dive schedule and planning our Southern Gulf Island Shipwreck Project kick-off expedition latter in September. I encourage you to participate in this project in what ever way best suites your interests. While there will definitely be a significant number of dives logged to complete this project, there are also lots of non-diving activities such as archival research that will be require volunteers.

If you are interested in participating in the September expedition to dive some of our target wrecks please get in touch with Jacque Marc.

We are also planning a NAS 1 course in Victoria on October 1st and 2nd. There will also be a NAS Intro Course run on November 19.

The first monthly Speakers Series meetings meeting of the season are coming up on September 14 in Victoria and September 28 for Vancouver. The plans for the Southern Gulf Islands Shipwreck Project will be discussed at these meetings.

The details for these events can be found on the UASBC website.

NAS 1 Certificate Course October 1, 2016

Special Notice

The UASBC will be offering a NAS I Certificate in Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology course on October 1 & 2, 2016 in Sidney BC.



This is a two-day course with a practical session in a controlled open water environment, or alternative dry site. It builds on the knowledge and experience gained during NAS Introduction & covers the following topics:

- Project designs & strategies: Case study
- Area search / survey methods and position fixing
- Project safety and logistics
- Finds handling & problems with waterlogged material
- Review of 2D survey methods & introduction to 3D survey
- Documentation and dissemination
- Practical survey sessions



Course Cost is \$125.00 for UASBC Members and \$165.00 for non-members. For more information or to register contact: Jacques Marc at 250-474-5797 or e-mail jmarc@shaw.ca
Note-Registration closes September 26, 2016.

PLEASE REFER TO WWW.UASBC.COM FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!

Special Notice

The UASBC will be offering a NAS Introduction to Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology Course in Victoria at the Crystal Pool, on November 19, 2016.



The NAS Introduction to Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology is a course designed to introduce students to the essential skills required to undertake basic underwater archaeological recording work. The course will cover principles of archaeology, instruction in basic survey techniques, an overview of sites around the world and the legal aspect of underwater heritage sites. The workshop includes a hands-on session where divers practice in the pool and non-divers practice on the pool deck. Both divers and non-divers are welcome!



Course Cost is \$110.00 for UASBC Members and \$145.00 for non-members. For more information or to register contact: Jacques Marc at 250-474-5797 or e-mail jmarc@shaw.ca
Note-Registration closes November 12, 2016.

PUNNED-IT

When the sailor wanted a two masted boat, why did the broker have to sell him a yawl?
He didn't have any ketch of the day.

Why did the crew feel much better about coming into the Fraser River than the captain?
They felt that the chances were good that they could hit the right kind of bar.

UASBC Diver Explorations

Fall Diver Schedule 2016

Friday, September 23 to Monday 26th

Gulf Islands Historic Shipwreck Inventory- kick off expedition.

To initiate the Gulf Islands survey we have chartered the MV Cape Able for four days to act as our base of diving operations. We will base our operations out of Wallace Island Marine Park. Accommodation will be on board society member boats while diving will occur off the Cape Able. The goal of the expedition is to establish baselines on the Panther and Del Norte wrecks in order that we can conduct survey operations over a 3 day period. This will be a good opportunity to practice your NAS skills. More details on the expedition will be released closer to the trip date

These are moderately easy dives so everyone is welcome.

Cost estimate \$300-350 per person. Limit 12 divers.

Contact Jacques (250) 474-5797 or email: jmarc@shaw.ca.

Sunday October 16th

Gulf Islands - We will visit the wreck of the sailing ship Robert Kerr to establish a survey baseline. Our second dive will be to explore the remains of the collier Maimi which Struck Danger Reef and sank January 25, 1900.

Charter Cost: \$80 per person. Limit 8 divers.

Contact Jacques (250) 474-5797 or email: jmarc@shaw.ca.

Sunday November 13th

Gulf Islands – We have chartered the MV Cape Able to visit some new wrecks located by the Canadian Hydrographic Service during their 2016 summer survey work. The second dive will be off Captain Passage, Salt Spring Island in search of the SS Emily Harris. The Emily Harris was a one of the first steamers built in BC. She blew up under mysterious circumstances in Trincomali Channel in August 1871.

Charter Cost: \$90 per person. Limit 10 divers.

Call Jacques (250) 474-5797 or email: jmarc@shaw.ca

PLEASE REFER TO WWW.UASBC.COM FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!

UASBC Vancouver meets

at 7:30 PM - Last Wednesday of the month (except July, August and December)

Vancouver Maritime Museum

1905 Ogden Street

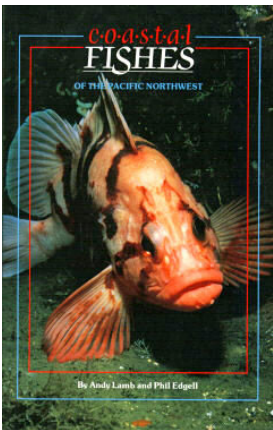
Vancouver, BC

**The Victoria Chapter of the UASBC meets
on the second Wednesday of each month (except July & August)
at 7PM in the Buckerfield Room,
Swan's Hotel and Brewpub, 506 Pandora St in Victoria
All are welcome to attend and there is no charge
For more information please
visit our website at www.uasbc.com**



**September 14
Shipwrecks of the Gulf Islands
Jacques Marc, Explorations Director, UASBC**

Jacques will provide an overview of the many shipwrecks to be found in the Gulf Islands, including, the Zephyr in preparation for a renewed effort to update surveys of many of these vessels for the Archaeology Branch.



**October 12
Rockfish and Their Plight
Andy Lamb, Marine Naturalist and Author**

Andy is a marine naturalist who has worked as both Chief Collector and Education Coordinator at the Vancouver Aquarium, and as a fish culturist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Andy is best known for his books on marine life including "Coastal Fishes of the Pacific Northwest". He will talk to us about the plight of rockfish and how divers can help to protect their dwindling numbers.

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**November 9
18th Century Spanish Exploration of the Pacific Northwest
UVIC Professor (TBD)**

A professor from UVIC will talk to us about 18th century Spanish exploration of the Pacific Northwest.

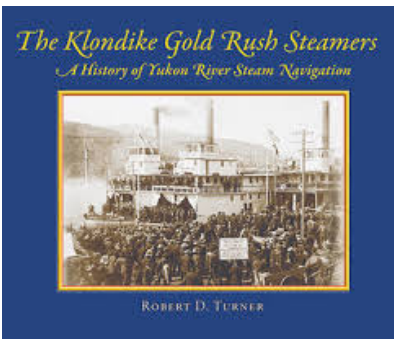
**December 14 - *A Trail of Empty Bottles*
Tom Bown, Author & Historian**

Global expansion from the 17th century on could likely be studied just by the trail of bottles left behind. Glass preserves well and, based on the style and method of manufacture, can offer some very precise dating tools. During his talk Tom will offer an overview of how to identify and date glass bottles along with some "hands on" examples. Feel free to bring some of your own samples.



**January 11, 2017
Canadian Hydrographic Service - Facility
Tour Dave Jackson, Manager CHS**

Dave Jackson, is a manager with the Canadian Hydrographic Service at the Institute of Ocean Sciences in Brentwood Bay. He will give us a tour of their facility with a focus on the hydrographic survey and chart work they do and will relate this to the work the UASBC does in searching for shipwrecks.



**February 8
Robert D. Turner, Author/Photographer
*The Klondike Gold Rush Steamers; A History of Yukon River
Steam Navigation***

Over 250 sternwheeler steamers ran on the Yukon River during the years of the gold rush. Robert will share with us the dramatic story of these amazing steamboats, the people who built and ran them and the services they gave to a vast, lonely, sometimes frenzied and always challenging frontier. Robert is a multi-award winning author who has authored 15 books and is the leading authority on BC transportation history. He is also curator emeritus at the Royal BC Museum.



For NAS 2, Gary and I are exploring our local Powell River logging history underwater. The research is almost done. Now we are undertaking the diving and photography part of our project.

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