



Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

Calendar 2018

8/5 Duxbury Beach outing
 8/7 General Meeting
 8/14 Board Meeting
 8/19 Club Dive, @clubhouse
 8 AM
 8/21 Program John Stella from
 ScubaPro on diving ancient
 shipwrecks in Greece; newsletter
 assembly
 8/24-26 NC Wreck Diving trip
 8/26 Club Dive, @clubhouse 8AM
 8 AM
 9/2 Club Dive, @clubhouse
 8 AM
 9/4 General Meeting
 9/11 Board Meeting
 9/16 Bay State Council
 Treasure Hunt & Coastal
 Cleanup (tentative)
 9/18 Program Zack Whalen: diving &
 photographing on the Isle of Shoals
 (tent.); newsletter assembly
 9/22 NE Aquarium Tropical
 Fish Rescue
 10/2 General Meeting
 10/7 River Run
 10/9 Board Meeting
 10/16 Program TBA &
 Newsletter assembly
 10/28 Club Dive @ clubhouse 9 AM
 11/4 Club Dive
 @clubhouse 9 AM
 11/6 General Meeting
 11/11C Club Dive
 @clubhouse 9 AM
 11/13 Board Meeting
 11/20 Program TBA &
 Newsletter assembly
 12/2 Club Dive

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **Saturday Aug 5, Annual Duxbury Beach Outing.** The cost remains \$15.00, which covers food - chicken, brats, burgers 'dogs, -and soft drinks We'll have all the traditional games: corn hole, 3-legged sack race, and tug-o-war. Fun for the entire family, intones Blackie! Duxbury's non-resident parking fee at the beach is \$20.00. To keep our food costs under control, we will need a head count by Tuesday Aug 31. Please respond to Tommy Lo's emailed headcount request if you haven't done so already.
- **Tuesday Aug 21. MARK YOUR CALENDARS: John Stella**, head sales rep from ScubaPro will share his behind-the-scenes experiences from **the 2015, 16, and 17 expeditions to Greece**, where he was part of the team that dove on **53 newly found ancient shipwrecks. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!**
- **Saturday Aug 25. North Shore Frogmen Celebrate 60th with party for all.** We are invited! Details at <www.northshorefrogmen.com>
- **Go to pages 6-8 for special and trip announcements.**

JUNE-JULY ACTIVITIES AND DIVES

The **June 23rd President's Party and Clambake** was a huge success, thanks to the attendance of nearly 30 Neptunes, friends, and family members of club president Chuck Zarba. Entertained by a corn hole game, a couple of hired troubadours who sang and played songs by Jimmy



Buffett and others of similar vintage, festive party decorations supplied by Chuck along with three grills turning out 'dogs, burgers, brats, scallops and clams, plus

Calendar 2018 (cont.)**2/11 Board Meeting****12/18 Program TBA &****Newsletter assembly****2019 Calendar****1/1/2019 Club Sober Up****Dive, Pleasure Bay**

assorted sides and personal libations, attendees were well fed and happy. The high, or was it the low, point, was reached when Chuck donned swim trunks, mask, and snorkel and hopped into the water (dunk) tank. He was drubbed a number of times. Chuck was a great sport and host and everyone



went home entirely happy. THANKS CHUCK!!! (Photos by Theresa C & Rob;

See also Club Facebook page for more photos.)

Saturday, July 7. Boston Harbor (location unknown).

Story by Tommy Lo

We went out on the Kevin's McKenna lobster boat, the Sandra Jean. His son, Alex, was the first mate. I was the back seat driver. Neptunes divers (in no order of importance) were **Ken Hayes, Jon Willis, Doug Eaton, Rob Vice, Chuck Zarba, Todd Alger, and me**. We loaded up the boat with all of our dive gear. What a pile of junk that was, but the lobster boat was up to the task. As we passed Boston Light, we could smell something burning. Apparently, the exhaust pipe was starting a fire with some of the plywood that it was mounted to. A little water took care of that, but we had to keep an eye on it. Kevin and Alex made some repairs while we dove.

We arrived at the dive site, anchored in 22 ft. of water at the top of the rocks, it went down to around 50 ft. on one side and 70 on the other side. The current was running pretty good. We had to chase after one diver who could not make it back to the boat. The Vis was dependent on where you were on the rocks. Some spots I got 15 to 20 ft., others were 5 to 10 ft.. Temp was 46 degrees. Entry off the boat into the water was either step off the stern or back roll off the side where one could almost do a complete somersault on the way down. Getting back into the boat was finning up on to the back of the lobster boat like a seal. (I brought a ladder but was shamed out of using it.)

As we all suited up to go in, I had an issue with the zipper of my wetsuit coming apart and was the last one in the water. Jon had to abort his dive after 10 minutes because of a free flowing regulator. I won't mention any names, but one of the guys who lost a lot of gear this year lost his tickle stick, which was later found by Todd on his second dive. And I don't want to embarrass him, but he also lost his computer which was later found (After a 30 minute search) in his fin with his foot and it. They looked all over the boat for it

We had a couple of seals swimming around to join us for a dive. One of the seals was spinning around and barking for a while. I caught one female lobster that was a half an inch over the big gauge. We had to throw it back. Rob V caught another female that had two eggs on it, so she had to go back as well



On the way back, Chuck wanted to swing by the Narrows where he found his plate earlier this year. When we got back to the Yacht Club to unload the boat, we found that one of the catch bags with 9 lobsters in it had come off the hang line. So I did a third dive to retrieve a bag of lobsters at the dock.

We had a few mishaps but everybody made it back safe and sound and we all had a great time.

Sunday, July 8 Boston Harbor boat dive. Neptune **Jon Willis and I** joined Mike Vaughan, his daughter Michelle and a friend named Matt diving



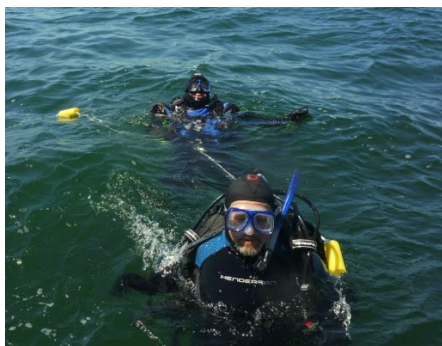
Calf Island and Boston Ledge.

The day was sunny and clear, auguring well for a good dive experience



on Steve Bonnarrigo's boat, Sage Coach, which we launched from Weymouth. However, despite the calm water, the vis ranged from only 2-5 feet at Calf Island, at a depth ranging from 25 - 43 feet. The water temp was @ 51°. No lobsters or flounder. Dive 2 on Boston Ledge brought increased visibility but colder temps below 43 feet, dipping down into the 46°-48° range. Mike picked up 5 lobsters total. Despite the underwater issues, it was good day to be out on the water.

Thanks, Steve! To watch the video of our dives, created by Jon Willis, use this link: <<http://www.jw-ocean-stuff.net/posts/2018-07-08/>> and click on Calf Island and Boston Ledge, Boston Harbor.



Saturday, July 14. Northeastern Point off The Graves Lighthouse and Tewksbury Rock. Neptunes Tommy Lo, Ken Hayes, Jon Willis, Mary Rose Largess, Garrett Kane, Rob Vice, Doug Eaton, and Rob Robison stowed their gear on the Sandra Jean at the Quincy Yacht

Club dock a little after 8AM and headed out to the northeastern side of The Graves Lighthouse for the first dive of the morning. What a beautiful morning we had to kick off our dives. As we were setting up

our gear, I opened my bag only to discover that I had remembered everything *except* my wetsuit. Captain Kevin offered me an extra suit he happened to have on board, but it was a size or two too small. As a consequence, I enjoyed the dubious distinction of sitting out both dives. Oh well. Lobsters were

abundant, everyone came back with at least one or two, some even more.

Dive 2 near Tewksbury Rock was even more productive for some. Vis ranged from 10 - 20 feet across the two dives,



depending where the divers were on the ledges, and depth varied from the high 20s to as deep as 70ft. Water temps fluctuated between 46° and 51°, depending on the depth reached. We finished our dives just in time because the tide had turned and the wind had begun to pick up creating some rough chop on the way back to the yacht club. By the time we reached the QYC dock, it was rocking and rolling quite a bit, making it a challenge to offload our gear and seek the shelter of the club bar. There, we quaffed a few suds and told stories for the remainder of the afternoon. A great time was had by all, including this writer, despite having lost his mind, not to mention having forgotten his wet suit. To watch the video of our dives, created by Jon Willis, use this link:<<http://www.jw-ocean-stuff.net/posts/2018-07-08/>> and click on **Boston Harbor 14 July 2018**. See the club Facebook page for more photos.

Sunday, July 15. Story by Tommy Lo We met at the Quincy Yacht Club at 8 am. We loaded up **Tommy's** boat and left. **Ken** was a little late due to the police incident by the South Shore Hospital. Possible Dive sites were going to be Martins Ledge, Tewkesbury Rock, and the Graves.

Ken and **Todd** donned their scuba gear and went in for their first dive. As I was getting ready, I experienced an equipment problem. My mask was not working because it was too far away. (Left it in my locker at QYC.) So I spent the time cleaning up the boat.(*Ed. note: See? I'm not the only one!*)

Todd surfaced behind the boat and needed a little assistance getting back to the boat. He reached the flag we floated behind the boat and I pulled him in. Just as Todd reached the boat. Ken returned as well. We counted up the catch and both had caught 12 lobsters each. After a short break, Todd went back in to catch his daily limit. Ken decided not to do a second dive.

On the way back in to port, I noticed something unusual in the water. As we approached it, we found it was a large bunch of Mylar balloons from someone's 60th birthday party. We picked them up and promptly deflated the balloons before any fish could mistakenly eat them.

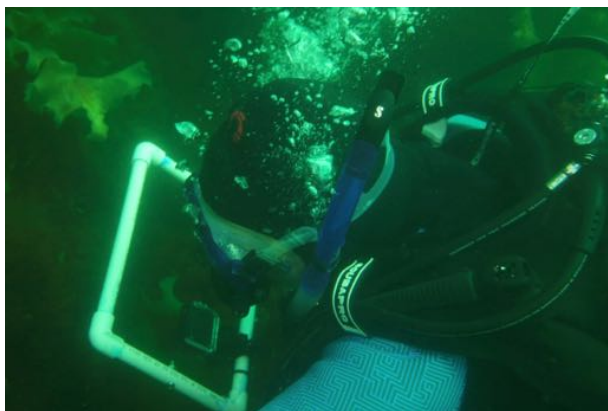
We noticed the air was getting cooler as we headed in.

Another great day of diving!

Wednesday, July 18. Ocean Bluffs (Brant Rock) Evening Dive. Neptunes **Doug Eaton, Rob Vice, Todd Alger, Garrett Kane, MaryRose Largess**, Neptunes friend **Yuriya Kalita**, and I met at Ocean Bluffs, where Ocean Street (Rt 139) intersects with Puritan Street. Doug and I reached the site around 5:30. A group of divers out of North Atlantic Scuba was gearing up and hopped into the water before 6 PM. Their presence, every Wednesday evening during the summer dive season, took up a lot of the parking. We should avoid this site on summertime Wednesday evenings because of the parking issues presented by the local dive shop divers. Too crowded. In any event, Doug and I slowly suited up waiting for the rest to arrive and get dressed.

Yuriya, Doug and I were ready first and walked down the stairs to the water. For those who haven't dived the site in years, the entry is now very difficult due to the severe storms of the past decade or so. I had a difficult time, lost my footing, fell, and decided to get out before some calamity struck. Doug and Yuriya made it safely and dove for 61 minutes or so. Sometime during the dive, the two became separated, but both returned at more or less the same time. Yuriya found one nice lobster, while Doug came up empty handed. Both reported poor vis and shallow depth, not deeper than 20', with lots and lots of tall seaweed and sea grasses to contend with. Water temps ranged from 65° at 10ft. to 61° at 20. Rob Vice and Todd decided to free dive, took their

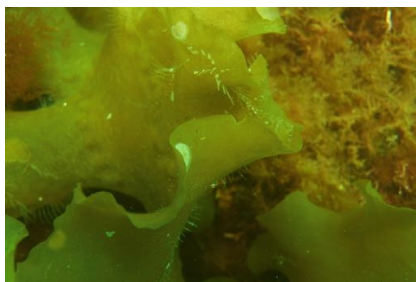




sized GMC truck before heading north to Old Garden Beach in hopes of making a dive or two ahead of the forecasted weekend

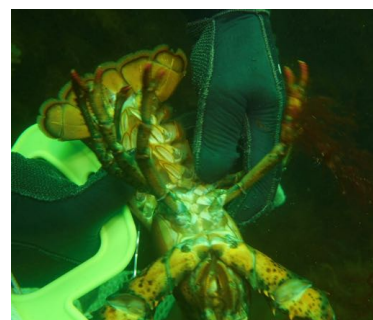


weather change. By the time we reached the park and beach, at least three sets of divers were already in the water. So, we geared up, walked down the ramp the beach, checked into the New England Aquarium Fish Count with Kim Malokowski, donned our fins, and kicked out about 50 yards before dropping down on the left hand side of the cove. Swimming across a small stretch of sand to the boulders, we saw a baby flounder well camouflaged in the sand, followed by a flounder poking its nose straight at me out of the sand, and trio combo of a flounder, large sea raven, and skate, which Ken and Jon saw but not I. I was too busy trying to take shots of the sea raven to notice anything else at that point. As we cruised in and around the boulders, there were many short lobsters, crabs, hermit crabs, a few rock and large encrusting and green algae, organisms, sea lettuce, sugar kelp, Irish and more. Ken and I each found one flounders. He stuffed his into his wide hand, while I resorted to spearing my tipped pole spear whose services I have years. We closed the dive hugging the back to see if we could find any flounder or lobsters hiding in the large boulders protecting the beach. Our max depth was 34', H₂O 51-52°, vis around 30' or more, with at least 65 minutes of bottom time. Just a terrific dive! To watch the **video** of our dives, **created by Jon Willis**, use this link: <<http://www.jw-ocean-stuff.net/posts/2018-07-08/>> and click on *Old Garden Beach, Rockport, MA, 21 July 2018*.



float out, and realized up to 20 dives before calling it quits. I think Garrett and MaryRose decided staying warm together was the better part of valor. When all was said and done, we met up afterwards at Haddad's Ocean Café for chowder, dollar shrimps and oysters, dinner rolls, and beer. Yummy!

Saturday, July 21. Old Garden Beach. Neptunes Ken Hayes, Jon Willis, and I met at the clubhouse at 8AM on a beautiful Saturday morning and merged gear into Ken's full-



gunnels, cunners, small plus sponge-like moss, green hair weed, keeper plus a couple of mouth game bag by duo with a paralyzer enjoyed for nearly 40

shoreline on the way After packing up our gear, we drove over to Stage Fort State Park to record our fish count data, sample the cookout menu, and catch up with other **Neptunes: Theresa Czerepica, Garrett Kane and MaryRose**

Largess, who were at the park for the Women's Day Dive, plus former Neptune Mike Vaughan, his daughter Michelle, and dive buddy Matt. We stuck around for the group photo and prize drawing—there were numerous excellent prizes. I think Michelle walked away with one of the best ones, a new Aqua Lung i100 one-button dive computer. In fact, all of us walked away with something worth having. Special thanks to the New England Aquarium Dive Club for pulling this wonderful event together.

As you can tell, club members have been busy diving the past four weeks, taking advantage of the good weather and water. Additional special thanks to **Theresa Czerepica**, **Tommy Lo**, and **Jon Willis** for their contributions to these pages. I hope to see many more of you out there diving into it in the weeks to come and at the club's annual **Duxbury Beach Outing** on **Sunday August 5**. Be safe diving into it, everyone!

Rob

Free Cruises to Georges Island and Spectacle Island. There is space available on our four free Share the Harbor cruises in July and August. These cruises will take place on Monday July 16 and 23, and August 6 and 13 to either Georges or Spectacle Island. While these cruises are family friendly, they are geared towards adults with more time for independent exploration rather than guided activities. They will return to the World Trade Center dock by 2:30pm. Reserve your spot on a Share the Harbor cruise [using this Google form](#) (You will need to *submit one form for each cruise* you wish to register for).

Hope to see you on the Harbor!

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay
Boston Fish Pier
212 Northern Avenue, Suite 304 West
Boston MA 02210 United States



Bay State Council of Divers
33rd Annual Treasure Hunt

Date: Sunday Sept. 16th, 2018 (Rain or Shine)
 Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
 Place: Stage Fort Park Gloucester, MA

bsc
 bay state council of divers

A MULTI-CLUB EVENT
All Divers and Diving Organizations Welcome

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Take-out food available
- Parking is available in the park
- Equipment Demos
- Bring your own food and beverage (no alcohol)
- Cooking OK - Bring your own grill or participate with dive clubs
- Reasonably priced food will be available

TREASURE HUNT

- \$10.00 Entrance fee
- Objective - To find small objects in shallow water
- Prizes - Diving equipment, dive charters, etc.
- 4 person max teams club or shop
- SCUBA Event - Everyone will be on their own in this scramble for prizes
- Proof of certification is required for SCUBA event

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- For SCUBA Event - Wet or dry suit with BC, tank, regulator with pressure gauge, weight belt, mask, fins, snorkel, knife and catch bag
- For Snorkel Event - Same as SCUBA except for tank and regulator

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9:00 - 9:30 AM Registration
- 10:00 - 11:00 AM SCUBA Event
- 11:30 - 12:30 PM Snorkel Event
- 2:00 - 3:00 PM Trophies and Prizes

Bay State Council of Divers Treasure Hunt - Advanced registration Helpful. Can sign up day of!

Yes, I want to participate in the 2018 Bay State Council of Divers Treasure Hunt. Enclosed is my registration fee of \$10 (non-refundable). Make your check payable to Bay State Council and mail it to: Bay State Council of Divers, P.O. Box 895018 Quincy, MA 02269

NAME _____

BayStateCouncil.org

Revised 2-22-18

Dive trip to the Philippines



8-20, June 2019

Atlantis Resort, Dumaguete Philippines

Included:

- Accommodation in a deluxe room (double occupancy or twin share)
- All meals at Toko's Restaurant (breakfast drinks, Italian and specialty coffees are included)
- Coffee, tea and filtered water are available during restaurant's operating hours 6AM-9:30PM (Italian and specialty coffees are not included after breakfast)
- Unlimited internet access
- Unlimited scheduled boat diving (up to 5 dives a day including night diving; excludes dawn dives and additional day trips)
- Two day trips to Apo Island or similar island



South Shore Divers

KEY LARGO DIVE TRIP

August 18th -24th 2018

Diving with Sea Dwellers Dive Center
Boat Located Steps away from the Hotel

www.seadwellers.com



5 Days – 6 Nights
5 Days of Wreck, Deep and Reef Diving

\$875

Price Includes

- 6 Nights at the Holiday Inn Hotel
- 10 Boat Dives
- Tanks and Weights

To Sign-up for the Trip

Contact Us at South Shore Divers
(781) 881-1144
or
diversouthshoredivers@gmail.com

