



Sounding

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

Calendar

2019

7/2 Club Meeting
 7/9 Board Meeting
 7/14 ClubDive, from clubhouse, 8AM
 7/16 Parking lot cookout and movie, Das Boot / newsletter assembly
 7/21 ClubDive, from clubhouse, 8AM
 7/27 President's Party @ Irish Cultural Center. Details on flier, last page of newsletter
 8/4 Dux bury Outing. Details TBA
 8/6 Club Meeting
 8/10 (Sat.) Duxbury Outing?
 8/13/ Board Meeting
 8/18 ClubDive, from clubhouse, 8AM
 8/20 Program TBA/ newsletter assembly
 9/3 Club Meeting
 9/10 Board Meeting
 9/15 Bay State Council Treasure Hunt
 9/17 Program/newsletter assembly
 9/21/28 Club Flea Market (tent.)
 10/1 Club Meeting
 10/8 Board Meeting
 10/12 Club River Run on North River
 10/15 Program TBA/newsletter assembly
 10/27 ClubDive, from clubhouse, 9AM

ACTIVITIES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & REMINDERS

- Rockport Town Council dive issues meeting with BSC postponed until further notice.
- Neptune and underwater rugby player, **Tori Steffi**, is going on active duty with the Navy in Afghanistan for a six-month tour. We wish her well and safekeeping!
- **President's Party July 27.** See flier on last page of newsletter for details
- **Duxbury Outing August 4.** Details TBA
- **Saturday Sept 7 Shark Dive** on the **Snappa'**, (SnappaCharters.com)
 Boat Location Address: 33 State Street Narragansett, RI 02882. **\$100 deposit to Ken Hayes immediately** reserves spot and obligates your total financial participation. **Cost \$200-\$225.** Balance due BEFORE trip departs. Contact Ken for details :617-462-3920 or email <kenhayesdl@gmail.com>
- **Spring 2020 Bonaire Club Dive Trip:** Blackie announced members should save their money because he's planning a club dive trip to Bonaire. Details will be spread upon the club at a later date.

EVENING PROGRAM

MASS. Environmental Police Officer Jack Chapin was on hand to update us on all regulations concerning scuba diving. Thanks, Jack! (See photo on FB)

MAY/JUNE CLUB ACTIVITIES & DIVES

Loblolly Cove

Story, photo, and video clip by Jon Willis

For the Father's Day Club Dive, four of us made the trip to Rockport to dive at Loblolly Cove. In attendance was Ken Hayes, Mark Zipeto, our new member Will Tienny, and I. Visibility was 20' or better, when it wasn't blurred by crossing the thermocline. Not exactly sure what the temps were inside the cove, but as we made our way further out, it dropped to a slightly chilly 47°.

Personally, I think I saw a grand total of 5 lobsters, all short, except

Calendar cont.,2019

11/3 ClubDive, from
clubhouse, 9AM
 11/5 Club Meeting
 11/12 Board Meeting
 11/17 ClubDive, from
clubhouse, 9AM
 11/19 Program TBA/
newsletter assembly
 12/1 ClubDive, from
clubhouse, 9AM
 12/3 Club Meeting
 12/10 Board Meeting
 12/15 ClubDive, from
clubhouse, 9AM
 12/17 Program TBA/
newsletter assembly

2020

1/1 Sober Up Dive, Pleasure
Bay and after-dive party



Center for a hot meal, but unfortunately everything in town appeared to be closed. We wound up trying Heath's Tea Room for lunch. They make a mean sausage and vegetable soup. Nice place, but I don't think they get a lot of divers in there.

To view Jon's videoclip of the dive, go to: <<http://www.jw-ocean-stuff.net/posts/2019-06-16/index.html>>.

Jon

Tommy finds a mooring!

Story by Tommy Lo

Saturday, June 15, 2019. I was scheduled to look for a mooring Friday night. Got to the Quincy Yacht Club and it looked a bit rough where the mooring was to supposed to be. We took a ride out to drop a marker and got soaked. I decided to try again Saturday morning.

Saturday morning was flat calm. I dropped in and discovered that the current was ripping. I swam down to the bottom and had to use my rebar probe to help me swim into the current. On my second circle pattern I found chain and followed it to the mooring stone. I used my lift bag to raise the chain to the surface. Once on the surface, I tied a couple of jugs on to the chain.

The vis was approximately 5'. I saw two flounders or maybe the same one twice! Who knows? The water was warm enough I was able to wear thin mechanic's gloves.

Success and \$\$!

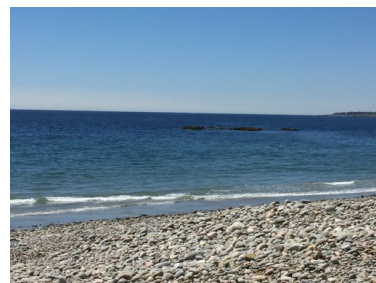
Tommy

Pebble Beach

Story & photos by Rob Robison

Sunday, June 9, 2019. A few local dive buddies and I headed to Pebble Beach on a gorgeous Sunday morning to enjoy a relaxing dive at Pebble Beach. They did the diving, I did the beach-mastering, having forgotten my boots in the rush to wake up and get out of the house in time to meet up with them at South Shore Plaza.

When we arrived, the beach was full of divers practicing their open





water skills or completing certification dives. My friends suited up and headed in opposite directions around the rock island immediately off shore. On the swim out, one stopped to help a weekend lobsterman free a trap before continuing his own dive. He came back with a 2.5-3lber, another nice one for the dinner table, plus 4 flounders. The other returned with two lobsters. We all enjoyed the sunshine together, and they loved the 25-30' vis and mid 50s water temp that made the day a rousing success. Dive into it everyone. The time is now!

R

Diving the U-853

Story by Rob Robison. Photos by Rob & Chuck Z

Saturday, June 8, 2019. Ever since learning of the existence of



U-853, the last German naval casualty of WWII in US waters, not long after becoming a certified diver in the spring of 1976, I have always wanted to dive the depth-charged sunken submarine (Ed. note: Google search U-853 for the sub's story). Undoubtedly, I owe this desire to the fact my dad was



Capt Rick & Priority Too

the diving officer and pharmacist on a WWII US submarine in the library, there were numerous such as *Das Boot* and *Run Silent*, eponymously titled movie Lancaster. I read them all and opportunity to board and tour a Chicago, more than a decade graphically the claustrophobic ridiculously idealized in the novels

It was a reaction of surprise, when Todd's unexpected text inviting other Neptunes (Todd Alger, Rob and Matt Meyer) popped up in my ago. He explained one of the original the first alternate on the prospective still interested. I quickly answered Zarba, texted to see if I would mind driving to and from the dock in Narragansett, RI. I said just tell me when. He said 5, I replied, "I'll be there between 4:30 and 4:45 AM," which I was. Ugh!

We arrived at the dock around 6, took care of our potty needs, unloaded our gear, and immediately began tossing our equipment to the Priority Charters (priorityfishingcharters.com) captain of the Priority Too, as the others arrived. When Matt Meyer showed up, he was startled to see me because he knew I didn't normally make dives beyond 100' in depth. I told him this sub was an exception!



South Pacific. As part of his novels about submariners, *Run Deep*, also made into an starring Clark Gable and Burt many more. Having had the relic from WWII, moored in ago, helped me understand reality of life on those subs, and movies about the experience.

excitement, and just a few nerves, me to make the dive trip with 5 Vice, Doug Eaton, Chuck Zarba, text message Inbox a short time divers couldn't go, neither could list, and wanted to know if I was back, "Yes." Club President, Chuck carpooling to help him stay awake



Chuck on the sub

There were six of us plus the captain in total on the 36' sport fisherman-type offshore boat, complete with large head, lounge, outstanding custom dive ladder, and large open stern deck with 2 sport fishing chairs. An enclosed fly bridge topped the boat. We got under way early, around 6:45-6:50 AM, after a two-minute briefing about the boat, safety, etc. We began assembling our gear immediately in order to be ready when the relatively short 45-minute run to the site was completed.

Matt Meyer wasn't feeling well. Just after the captain grappled us to the sub, he threw up (motion sickness), proclaimed himself ready to go, and hopped in when it was his turn. Chuck and I geared up last, rolled off the boat one after

the other, dropped down to the hang line suspended 20' beneath the charter, and began to traverse it with some difficulty to the far (bow) end where it was tied into the anchor or down line. Chuck moved faster than I because I was struggling to keep from entangling my camera and me on the line. There was a 1-2' chop on the surface, increasing the difficulty and causing a lot of up and down bouncing motion, but I made it to the anchor line OK and headed down. At that moment, Matt appeared out of the gloom and passed me on his way back to the boat. He didn't look happy. I continued on down into the dark murky 3-5' vis, in 48-degree water, and finally touched down at 111' on the grapple hook. Chuck was waiting for me in full excitement mode, arms out, extending them above his head, Rocky style, in exclamation that I'd made it! We shook hands! 😊 He understood what it meant to overcome one's nerves and go beyond one's comfort zone. Anyone watching us at that moment might have thought we were suffering from nitrogen narcosis (AKA rapture of the deep). Thank goodness for a 28% Nitrox breathing mix to prevent just such an occurrence. 😊

It appeared as though we had landed on the foredeck just in front of the conning tower, but was nigh impossible to know for on the sub many times before. bounce dive on our first dive photos of each other, and I photograph a few of the the sub. The particulate matter tremendous flash back, so I gave ascent to the surface. Following meticulously, we ascended cautiously, hung on the line for a minute around 90,' again around 50,' and in excess of 3 minutes around 20-25,' to be certain we'd off gassed sufficiently before finally surfacing 21 minutes after we began the dive.

After climbing back into the boat, everyone chattered about the dive, except for Matt who was clearly in agony. He told me he returned early because of lingering motion sickness, aggravated by the churning surge going up and down the line, the weight of his monster camera, coupled with the gloominess, cold, and severely reduced vis. It was just too much for him--totally



*Return of the creature, or
Rob on the sub?*

visibility was so poor, it sure, unless you'd been We had agreed to do a down, so we took attempted to anemones on the rail of was such it created up, and we began our

our dive computers

understandable. He asked for a Dramamine, which I happened to have, but clearly that was insufficient. He lost it again 15 minutes later and fed the fish a few more times after that until we were back in port. I felt bad for him. There's nothing worse than looking forward to a special dive, making the trip, and suddenly being unable to enjoy the experience because of the onset of an illness or an unexpected equipment malfunction.

Having completed our hour and a half surface interval, we geared up again for dive 2, the last dive of the morning. My regulator was leaking. I reinstalled it on my tank, which seemed to take care of the issue, splashed into the water, and hung on the trail line to join me so we could descend was still leaking air. After back down to the sub, I climbed discovered the leak was caused regulator (Yay!), and got a new have now replaced the O-ring on February. Despite the mishap, it weather, delightful sea breeze,



Doesn't a story like this just make you want to dive into it yesterday? I'm definitely psyched for the next dive adventure that comes my way. Maybe we will meet up when that next time happens. Hope it's sooner rather than later. Safe diving, everyone!

Rob

PARTING SHOTS

Clubhouse Cleanup. Billy Burchill, Paul Greene, and Chuck Zarba mopping up.

Photos by Emily Wang



Bay State Council at Ocean Day

Photo by Theresa Czerepica



*L-R: Bay State Council VP Jim Nannery
& Pres. Angelo Correnti*





South Shore Neptunes Skin Divers Club

Cordially invites you to attend our

2019 President's Annual Summer Party

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2019

Time: 5:00 PM until closing

***Cocktail hour 5 – 6 PM (Cash Bar); Buffet 6 – 7 PM, times approximate;
Menu: steak tips, sausages, burgers, hotdogs, salad, water, and more!***

Location: Irish Cultural Center

200 New Boston Drive, Canton, MA

***Cost: \$18.00 per person Includes cookout, games, prizes, and
entertainment. Tickets may be purchased at club meetings or online by
following our website link at:***

<<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-south-shore-neptunes-annual-presidents-party-tickets-60228555230?aff=SSNWebsite>>

***Who: South Shore Neptunes Dive Club and all members of
the dive community, including family and friends.***

***We encourage you to invite anyone you feel would enjoy the party,
whether part of the dive community or not. Check out our website for
all the details using the QR code:***

