

Soundings

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, & REMINDERS

Calendar 2022

November

- 1 General Meeting 7PM
- 6 Club Dive 9AM
- 8 Board Meeting 7PM
- 13 Club Dive
- 15 Program Joy Marzolf on Diving Belize (tent)
- December
 4. Club dive
- 6 General Meeting 7PM
- Nominations
- 11 Club dive
- 13 Board Meeting 7PM 20 Elections -Free pizza, cash bar

<u>2023</u>

January

- 1 Sober Up Dive -
- Pleasure Bay 9AM
- **3** General Meeting 7PM **10** Board Meeting 7PM
- 17 Program TBA
- February
- **7** General Meeting 7PM 14 Board Meetina 7PM
- 21 Program TBA
- March

Boston Sea Rovers 69th Annual Clinic - Film Fest

- Please welcome the following new members: **Cheryl Marcinko, Mike Whiteside, and Alisa Daniels**
- For **Annual Award Entry Forms** for **Artifact of theYear**, **Photo of the Year**, and **Video of the year**, go to: < http://southshoreneptunes.org/membership.html; **Membership**; & scroll to the bottom of the page for the Contest Forms link to each individual form.
- Women Club Members Only Night Out. Details TBA. Watch for a special email in the near future!
- Underwater Rugby hours: Monday eves ONLY: 8:30-10:00 PM; at Westwood HS pool. Joe Gomes is working on a history of underwater rugby and needs photo credits and any sorts of media that could help him illustrate the sport across time. He can be reached at: <jsgomes@gmail.com>
- Club General, Board, and Program night meetings are now in person (attend only if you are feeling well) or by Zoom until further notice. The Annual Banquet has been postponed indefinitely. On the other hand, All Club Outdoor Activities listed on the Calendar remain live with social distancing rules in effect, as per 2022.
- Newsletter: To help add interesting content to the newsletter, please send me (robisonr25@yahoo.com; or newsletter@southshoreneptunes.org) any first-hand accounts, stories, photos, or both about your exploits as a Neptune for potential publication. Photos or clippings enhance stories, so please include them if you can.

ANNUAL AWARD ENTRIES DUE NOVEMBER 30! (See above)

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NOMINATIONS Tuesday, December 7 & 14

ELECTIONS Tuesday, December 21 - Free Pizza!

DUES-\$35-ARE DUE BY ELECTION NIGHT!

EVENTS

Evening Program

Special thanks to our October presenter, **Thomas Easop**, who shared an incredible slide show of "The Four Turrets of the Bayern," a WWI German battleship that was sunk in Scapa Flow at the end of the First World War. A professional photographer, writer, and publisher, his latest book, *The Guns and Armor of Scapa Flow*, which contains many of the black and white photos shared in his presentation for us, was photographed using custom made large format cameras of his own design and manufacture. It was an amazing photographic display of German wartime engineering and prowess. (See P. 6 for more info this topic) Thanks Tom!

Boston Sea Rovers 68th Annual Clinic and Workshops. 9/30 - 10/2. Those of you who attended the 2022

edition of the Boston Sea Rovers Annual Clinic were regaled by four daytime session seminar rooms filled with exciting presentations on everything from

BOSTON SEA ROVERS
EPICATENIA CAPATRIA COMMERCIATION

2-DAY EVENT
OCTOBER 11-8 2-9

2-O 2-2

INTERNATIONAL OCCAN SYMPTHUM & FILM FESTIVAL
INTEGRATIONAL OCCAN SYMPTHUM & FILM FESTIVAL
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wreck diving and shark activity to world wide trip and exploration opportunities to the far reaches of the globe. Ahalf dozen new workshops, spread out among the 19 workshop opportunities, included among others flying drones, dive planning for

New England waters, and dive computer selection, featuring a dive computer giveaway. The night time film festival again was a rave event featuring blackwater diving photography and much much more. Please note the 2023 69th Annual Boston Sea Rovers Clinic will be held in



Bill Burchill & Adrienne Murphy staff the Club booth.

More photos on Club FB Page

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Happy Diving

From

JOHN & KATHY BLACKADAR

March, not, October, and feature its film fest only. You won't want to miss it. March of 2024 will see the return of the full fledged BSR Clinic at it's regular March time slot, as well. Plan now on attending. You won't want to miss either event!



Annual (North) River Run. Sunday, October 9. Story by Rob; photos (PP. 6-8 & Club FB Page) by Theresa Czerepica & Rob.

From 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM, we dribbled in, in ones and twos, to the 3A parking lot across from the Roht 3A Marina and boat yard, nestled on the river bank on the Northeast side of the 3A bridge spanning the North River. We were 13 eager beavers--Todd Alger, Alisa Daniels, Paula Donahue, Ken & Jessie Hayes, Carol Hamilton, Mike Kairevich, Peter Ninh, Sokol Prifti, Rob Vice, Rachel and Alex Wieck, and I-excited by the prospect of floating down the North River on a beautiful sunny and windy Sunday morning.

Old friends and new greeted one another, donned their gear, and hitched

rides in Billy Burchill's Toyota Tundra to the canoe launch on Bridge Street in Norwell, where everyone assembled for the float ride down the river on the outgoing tide. Old faithful Theresa Czerepica, club treasurer, was on hand to record our progress from the river banks, and I from down on the water itself.

After a group photo, we waded into the river. Those who brought floats mounted them, and we shoved off on this traditional Neptune adventure. Along the way, we spotted other like-minded folks in their moored or anchored boats enjoying glasses of the grape or cruising or kayaking the scenic river waters, taking in the sunshine and delightful weather. Although the fall foliage color change was not yet in progress, the scenery was still beautiful and enjoyable and the water warmth pleasantly tolerable. We had two casualties, both of Sokol's fins. The wind took all those with floats down the river faster than those without. Or, the ones without floats parked on the side of the river to chat it up

As we reached the end of the run, Theresa awaited us from her usual perch atop the river bank, to record us arriving at the bridge ending of our journey with her trusty camera. Thanks, Theresa!

We rushed out of the water and back to our vehicles into dry clothes and headed to the post dive rendezvous at Bill Burchill's--Thanks, Bill!--for traditional clam chowder and a whole lot more.

What a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon - getting wet in the North River together!

REMEMBERING Local Scuba Pioneer JOHN BALDI

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Club Dive/Scallop Boat Dive. Sunday, October 16, 2022. Story & photos by **Alex Wieck**

Prior to the first club dive of October, a group of Neptunes met at the clubhouse to discuss our options for the day. The consensus was that we should take advantage of the final days of Massachusetts boat diving season and prospect for scallop sites. Though Doug wasn't able to join us for the dive, he provided a few sites he'd heard held scallops and also supplied the group with lift bags.

A subset of the group then headed down to South Shore Yacht Club -- the divers were **Todd Alger, Sokol Prifti, Rob Foley, Rick Hovey, and I.** For mid-October, it was pleasantly warm down in the Back River and even out in the harbor, it felt more like a summer day than mid-fall.

We arrived at the first site that Doug recommended and decided to dive in groups so that we could live boat but also get all of the divers in the water. Todd and Rob went first, those of us who remained topside could quickly tell that they were on the beds based on how slowly their flag was progressing. As

the first group scalloped, Sokol and Rick suited up and got in the water, targeting a slice of sea bottom just to the north of the first group. Just as they descended, Todd and Rob's lift bags broke the surface.

Curiously, as I slowly approached their flag in the boat, one lift bag disappeared. Todd and Rob then



surfaced, I picked them up, and we chatted about two things: the fact that the scallops were fairly thick and that one lift bag malfunctioned, leaving a full catch bag on the bottom and tied to Todd's dive flag. After some debate, we decided to try raising the bag on the thin line connecting the flag to the full lift bag, which sadly, was the wrong choice. The line quickly broke but thanks to some quick thinking by Todd, we marked the spot on our GPS and tossed a weight belt on a float as a point of reference for our search and recovery efforts.

I volunteered to retrieve the bag which turned out to be more challenging than anticipated due to a strong current. After some effort, I was able to

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descend and used circle patterns to eventually find the bag and attach a lift bag.

When I ascended and we had collected the final bag, we took inventory and decided to forgo a second dive in the interest of time and because we already had a ton of scallops in the boat. We headed to Portuguese Cove to shuck. The conditions in the cove were incredibly nice with the only major concerns among the group being the possibility of a sunburn on Oct 16!

Ft. Wetherill. Sunday, October 16, 2022. *Story & photo by Rob Robison* My phone GPS took me on an unusual path to Ft Wetherill due to a marathon race. Peter and i arrived at the RI site at the same time, suited up, and waded into the water. I took a couple of photos of Peter, and then we surface kicked to the other side of the cove and dropped down.

Once one the bottom, I raised my camera to take a picture and realized the housings was flooding. So I motioned to Pater my camera was kaput and that i was surfacing.

Back on the surface, I told Peter I was returning to the car to dump the water out of the camera housing and rinse the camera and that I would be back in 5 - 10 minutes. He could dive on or wait. He decided to wait. Five to-10 minutes later I was back in the water, we retraced our steps, and made a 44-minute dive to 29,' in 61,° water. Vis was 5' - 8', typical Ft. Wetherill viscosity.

We stopped for Whoppers on the way home. On reaching the front door, I walked in house, took our daughter's dog, Zoe, out for a short walk, and then promptly fell asleep for a 2-3 hour nap. It was a busy day with a great dive *buddy*.



Peter Ninh ready to hunt



Whydah Pirate Museum. Saturday, October 22. Story and photos by Rob.

Eighteen
Neptunes and
relatives — Ken
Hayes, Adrienne
Murphy, Theresa
Czerepica, Todd
Alger, John
Blackadar and
daughter Debbie,

Mike O'Brien, Bill Burchill, Charlie Matthew, Joe McAndrew, Doug and Matt Meyer, Tommy and Marie Lo, plus Sokol Prifti and his two kids, and I—descended



5

Dive Safely

Dave Clancy

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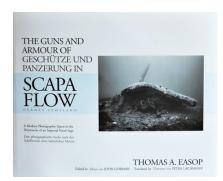


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on renowned wreck hunter and author Barry Clifford's Whydah Pirate Museum in West Yarmouth, MA. Fully stocked with the only authenticated pirate treasure in the world, all retrieved from the local wrecked pirate ship, there was plenty of loot and history for everyone to ogle and enjoy. At the end of the museum tour, there were numerous displays of concretions in various stages of dissolution to reveal the artifacts contained within the conglomerations. The museum book store was a pleasant finale. Lunch at the next door Capt. Parker Restaurant was terrific. You missed a great time, which the rest of us enjoyed to the hilt.

Club Dive. Sunday, October 23. Potential new members **John Wong** and **Mike O'Brien** joined **Sokol Prifti** on the Sunday morning Club dive. Check with them for all the exciting details.





CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFERS

The holidays are approaching and will be fast upon us before you know it. Here is an idea for the scuba diver(s) in your life: *The Guns and Armour of Scapa Flow, by Thomas Easop*. Self-published, 2021. Cost: \$48.50 Available only from the author at < diver@easophotography.com >. The Guns and Armour of Scapa Flow is a book born of the passion of an underwater photographer diver who fell in love with the story and the wrecks he found scuttled in the Orkney Islands off the coast of Scotland. The history of these sunken German WWI military vessels is told in English and German. It is beautifully and at times hauntingly illustrated via the incredible black

and white images, created by the author with a large format homemade film camera, which capture the drama and essence of these ships in their current state. If you are a naval history or WWI buff or just interested in shipwrecks, you won't want to miss adding this book to your library.

PARTING SHOTS & THOUGHT

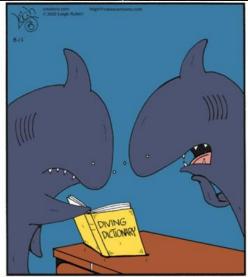












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South Shore Neptunes Information Page

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