

Soundings Newsletter

Massachusetts' Oldest Dive Club



DATES AT-A-GLANCE

October 29: Chamberlain Halloween Party
 November 1: SSN Regular Membership meeting 7pm
 November 8: SSN Board Meeting 7pm
 November 15: SSN Regular Membership meeting 7pm
 November 30 Bay State Council Meeting

WHO'S BEEN DIVING???

November 2011

Tis THE SEASON FOR SUNFISH

Rich Bowers took advantage of the beautiful weather over Columbus Day weekend to do a very early morning dive on Monday in Gloucester off of Atlantic Ave. On his second dive, an ~36" sunfish went swimming by him. He got the attention of his dive buddies and followed for a short distance. Another diver reported that a sunfish was spotted near Brandt Rock. Sunfish sightings while diving are rare. And two of our club members had the chance to swim with these fishes.

OTHER MEMBERS DIVING:

Jeannine, Deb, John Blackadar, Paul Greene and Bill Burchill enjoyed a GORGEOUS day as they floated down the North River on Sunday Oct 9 for the Neptunes Annual River Run. It would not be a club dive without some drama. First, Jeannine sat for 30 minutes at Mary's Landing waiting for the rest of the members. They were on the other side of the river at the parking area. She found them at King's Landing and quickly joined in. Augusto (Dancing Jay) drove up & down route 3A but never found the meeting spot. Jeannine lost a fin which was found by Bill as Blackie, Paul & he heroically searched for it. Debbie's improvised flotation device got sucked in by the current to a boat & dock. Blackie & Paul bravely freed her from her entanglement. Once we got going, things went smoothly. It took us 1 hour & 20 minutes to travel down the river. We were treated to delicious chowder, chicken sandwiches and brownies at Netta Burchill's kitchen (all were home made). We solved the world's problems before the night was over.

BAY STATE COUNCIL

BSC TREASURE HUNT

Another rousing success for the Treasure Hunt. Lots of participation. Perfect weather. Plenty of prizes, food and treasures. No one went away with out something. Even Rich Bowers won something!! How did 2 Neptunes walk away with the big prize? Really! I'm guessing favoritism, nepotism, the Gods were smiling –ism. Rich won the dry suit inflator. Deb won the BCD. Jeannine won the mask strap protector. Generosity from our dive shops knows no bounds. HATS OFF TO THE DIVE SHOPS! I will say that there were so few Neptunes in the crowd. Other clubs were well represented. WHERE WERE YOU ALL? Where ever you were, you missed a great day. Many thanks to the Froggies for the delicious cook out.

UNDERWATER ARCHEOLOGY BOARD has a position available for a recreational diver. This is a chance for a diver to be involved at a more global level. The term is 3 years. The board meets approximately 5 times a year. The state is taking applications now.

FLEA MARKET

The 2011 Flea Market date happened in spite of the weather. It also meant that since we held it on Sunday fewer vendors were present and our profits were less than other years. We are contemplating for 2012 having the rain date the following Saturday. This would bring more traffic through the flea market. This would allow the vendors to reschedule their participation.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the all the volunteers. Your participation made this years flea market a success. Many hands made light work. Thank you, thank you, thank you for donating your time and efforts.

RECENT EVENTS

IMPROMPTU DINNER NIGHT OUT was held on Saturday Oct 15 at 5pm at the Charlie Horse in West Bridgewater. Neptunes members (& their guest) present were, Jeannine & Jon Willis, Deb Osborne & Curt B. Lit, Steve Marshall, Stan Snowman, and Steve's nephew, Rich & Donna Bowers, Ted Hotz. We found the food to be delicious. Stan even splurged on dessert. Jeannine found the pumpkin martini to be irresistible. Service was a little slow and since we were having such a grand time, we didn't mind.

OCTOBER GUEST SPEAKER Victoria Stephens came to the clubhouse to give us a glimpse into the history of the Hull Lifesaving Museum. Her presentation focused on the evolution of lifesaving from The Humane Society to the modern day Coast Guard. She also spoke extensively on Joshua James who devoted 60 of his 75 years to lifesaving and no one ever perished on a rescue led by J James. She gave us Lifesaving techniques from the breachers buoy to the surf lifesaving boat to the tally board (which we have one of in the clubhouse) were covered. If you missed this guest speaker night, you missed another outstanding talk.

Bill Schwabe has given the members an open invitation to be a guest at his home in the Vineyard where you can hike, dive, bike, etc.

THOMPSON ISLAND CLEANUP

Thompson Island Clean-Up

The second annual Thompson Island underwater clean-up took place on September 17th. It was another beautiful day on Boston Harbor and the island. Again this year we had a good turnout of South Shore Neptunes and hearty volunteers from the dive community to perform the clean-up. Dive Kulture also participated again this year. It was great to see these young kids moving through the various certification stages. Some were using this dive as part of their advanced open water certification.

Dive conditions were great on the surface but the underwater visibility was very poor. That limited our "catch" of trash but Carl Yngve and others came through with beach trash.

Thanks again to our chase boats - Tommy Lo and "Dancing Jay" and Mark Driscoll. They were joined by the Boston Harbor Police this year as well.



NEWSLETTER

It has come to the attention of the Board and Officers that some members prefer the email version of the newsletter rather than the printed version.

We will include similar articles pertaining to the distribution of our newsletter in future newsletters. Plus, we will conduct surveys at the upcoming Club events, other major club meetings. Please email President Pell at pmcjpp@verizon.net and let him know if you prefer your newsletter printed and sent via First Class Mail, or sent electronically to your email address. Other ideas and suggestions to send out our newsletter are encouraged. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE: Rich Bowers reports that all message sent from Rich to Verizon emails are being rejected due to a new Verizon policy.

The Seeker, of Shadow Divers fame, is available for sale.

The current owners had hoped to have the time to restore her to her original glory, and use her for charitable work, but the current economy has necessitated that time be spent on their primary business - boat building, and have regretfully decided to put the boat on the market.

The movie rights to Shadow Divers has been picked up by Scott Free Productions (Top Gun etc), and the movie is in development now.

<http://www.yachtworld.com/boats/1986/Harker%27s-Island-Rhodes-Craft-2384729/RI/United-States>

If any individual, group, or consortium, have an interest in The Seeker, please have them contact Larry Rutter.

Larry also offers that if anyone is in Rhode Island and would like to visit this famous dive boat, he would be more than happy to accommodate a tour.

Larry Rutter, Senior Partner
[Rudders & Moorings Yacht Sales LLC](#)
401-338-3554

TANKS FOR CASH

Keep bringing in that metal! Let's keep up the good work. Bring down to the clubhouse your old tanks, weights or anything that contains metal. We can make some good \$\$ for the club, but only with your help!! Keep That scrap coming!

NEPTUNES GEAR FOR SALE

BASEBALL HATS: \$15 COFFEE MUGS: \$5
POLO SHIRT: \$22 PATCH: \$2
STICKER: \$2 TANK TOP: \$9 T-SHIRT: \$16