



December 2015

November 18, 2015

Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

Upcoming Events

11/24 Movie Night Out

12/1 7pm General Membership Mtg

12/2 7:30pm BSC meeting

12/8 7pm Board Meeting

12/15 General Membership Meeting

1/1/2016 Sober Up Dive, 10am at Pleasure Bay

1/30/2016 AWARDS BANQUET, Common Market \$30

Ken Hayes as President

Mike Vaughan as VP

Teri Hayes as Secretary

Theresa Czerepica as Treasurer.

Board: Doug Eaton, John Blackadar, Jeannine, Jay Theriault, Rich Bowers, Deb Osborn, Carl Yngve, Joe McAndrew, Tom Guild

Alternates: Tommy Lo, Rob Vice.

Being Thankful!

We're wrapping up another successful year and reflecting back on what we have to be grateful for. We are thankful that our annual fleamarket brought in enough revenue to cover the expenses of being a club. Well we had the flea market on a holiday weekend, we noticed that there were fewer vendors and fewer attendees. Even with the numbers being slightly down from previous years, We still did well in the overall revenue.

We are thankful for the divers who weekend after weekend, weather permitting, dove in these New England waters exploring the life that exist beneath the waves and giving us access to what they saw through their reports and stories.

We are grateful to the members of the Bay State Council of divers who tirelessly work to ensure that divers and other nature lovers have access to the beaches.

We are grateful to the South Shore Neptunes who have persevered through 60 years of membership bringing the joys of diving to any person who has a desire to play beneath the waves.

And we are also grateful to Siri who as I dictate this newsletter keeps insisting that when I say "divers" she types "diapers". LOL.

ELECTION NIGHT is fast approaching, December 15. For those that wish to run as well as those that wish to vote, your dues must be paid.

Our gratitude is most evident at The Annual Awards Banquet which will be held on January 30 at the Common Market. The price has not changed in many years. It's only \$30! Come help us celebrate 60 years and going strong!

Thank You

There were several people who worked to repair the ceiling in the clubhouse. Joe and John D did the initial work, Jay finished up, Mike will be cleaning the carpet.

Dive Notes From Rob Robison

New England Diving

Oct. 18 Pebble Beach (Rockport), MA. It has been approximately 38 years since I last made a North Shore dive in Rockport on Cape Ann. I met Neptunes VP Mike Vaughan and Peter Ninh at the Quincy clubhouse at 8AM. We pooled our gear into Mike's truck and set off for the north shore, picking up Ryan Christian and his wife Kelly at a Burger King along the way. Loblolly Cove was blown out due to high winds in the 25 knot range, so we headed to the protected lee side of Rockport and found calm clear waters at Pebble Beach, so named for the glacial till heavily littering the beach and road area.

We suited up, placed Mike's wooden chair on the beach as an exit marker, and headed for the water on a beautiful sunny Sunday morning. What awaited us was refreshing fall-cooled water (53°) and visibility ranging from 20 – 30', wonderfully clear for New England diving! After so many years spent quarry and freshwater diving, I had forgotten the joy of discovering soft corals and sponges, moon snails, crabs, sea ravens, lobsters, and schooling Pollock. Turns out Mike was cracking open crabs and feeding a gang of juvenile Pollock, sending the school around all of us into a nonstop frenzy seeking handouts.

What a great way to spend a glorious Sunday, surrounded by a mini-sample of the wonders of the North Atlantic.

Dive into it everyone! The water is still fine.

Mike entered a bottle for artifact of the year which led to a discussion on good places for bottle diving. Salem Willows yacht club (also good for winter diving) and the bridge off of Morrissey boulevard.

Todd submitted his entry for largest lobster at 3.85 pounds. Who can beat that? You have until November 30 to submit your entry.

Some fun reading

A couple months back, Rob Robison gave us a demo and explanation of side mount tanks. I've enclosed a Tiny URL which is a link to the TDI article which goes into great detail of this subject. I've included the first few paragraphs below.

EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR SIDEMOUNT DIVING by: Dr. Thomas Powell

If you are a diver who watches the latest trends, keeps up with new scuba innovations, or just recognizes new things going on in the world of scuba diving, you may have noticed that many divers these days are no longer carrying cylinders on their backs. Instead, some divers have switched to sidemount configurations. In fact, sidemount diving has become so popular that major manufacturers are creating whole new lines of equipment designed to meet the needs of sidemount divers.

What is sidemount diving?

The most common mental image a person develops when thinking of scuba diving involves an individual underwater with a second stage in his or her mouth and a cylinder strapped to his or her back. Sidemount diving is a deviation from this norm. Essentially, cylinders are rigged to the sides of a harness and separate regulator systems are used to supply gas from each cylinder. Situating the cylinders in this fashion allowed early sidemount divers to remove and replace cylinders when the need arose to swim through confined spaces.

<http://tinyurl.com/otnc6p2>

BeTheMatch.org

Passings

After years of typing this newsletter, it is now my turn to share the passing of my father Alois Fabian on October 21. He passed away after a short illness. He had lung cancer that metastasized to his bones. As I often remind my friends and family, make sure that you're complete with every person in your life because you never know when they will pass away and you have no opportunity to speak with them before they do. My father died before I could make it back home to see him. We have a wonderful relationship and there was nothing unsaid between us. My memories of my father are not those of him lying in a hospital bed but rather those of us vacationing together.

"Thank you will never be enough"

Sandy and her husband Jared try not to take anything for granted. They believe that even the most trivial things, like walking outside or going to the store, are moments to be grateful. "You value life so much more when you have watched someone fight for theirs," said Sandy. Since their son, was eight weeks old, Sandy and Jared have watched him battle for his life and, ultimately, win.

When Dalton was only two months old, he started to experience frequent bacterial and skin infections. After months of appointments, which produced few answers, doctors finally learned that Dalton's symptoms were a result of a much larger issue: a genetic immune system disorder called severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). The diagnosis was very scary; Sandy and Jared were told that if untreated, babies with SCID usually die within a year.

Dalton's best hope was a marrow transplant. Unfortunately no one in Dalton's family was a suitable match. Dalton's doctors then turned to the Be The Match Registry to find an unrelated marrow donor.

Before his transplant, Dalton underwent eight days of high dose chemotherapy to prepare his body to accept the new donor cells. While Sandy and Jared knew that a marrow transplant was Dalton's best hope, watching their child suffer was emotionally taxing. For Sandy, the 100 days post-transplant were "the scariest and most stressful of my life," she said.

After a long recovery, Dalton was finally able to return home. "You look at him now," said Sandy, "and you would never know what he has been through. He has gained weight and has his hair back. He is making up for lost time!"

Without a transplant, Dalton might not be alive. This September at the Be The Match Annual Gala, the family got the opportunity they had been waiting for – the chance to thank the stranger that saved their baby's life. For the first time, Dalton, Sandy and Jared met Dalton's marrow donor, Dennis, a fire chief from Boise, Idaho and got the chance to thank and hug Dennis for the gift he gave Dalton.

This Thanksgiving, Dalton's family is thankful for Dennis and all Be The Match supporters. "Thank you will never be enough," said Sandy, "but it is all we have. It comes from the bottom of my heart."

(National Marrow Donor Program)