



# Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

### Calendar, 2017

3/5 Club Dive

3/7 General Membership Mtg

3/11-12 Boston Sea Rovers  
Annual Show @ DoubleTree in  
Danvers <[bostonsearovers.com](http://bostonsearovers.com)>

3/14 Board Meeting

3/26 Club Dive

April 4 - General Mtg  
Speaker

4/9 Club Dive

4/11 Board Meeting

4/23 Club Dive

5/2 General Membership Mtg

5/7 Club Dive

5/9 Board Meeting

5/21 Club Dive

MAY 27-JUNE 3 Bonaire Trip

#### Club Officers, 2017

Todd Alger - President  
Doug Eaton - Vice President  
Rob Robison - Secretary/Newsletter  
Theresa Czerepica - Treasurer

**Board of Directors:** John Blackadar,  
Tom Guild, Ken Hayes, Garrett Kane,  
Joe McAndrews, Jay Theriault, Rob  
Vice, Jeannine Willis, Chuck Zarba

[southshoreneptunes@gmail.com](mailto:southshoreneptunes@gmail.com)

**DUES Reminder:** If you haven't already, **please pay your \$35 dues**, checks payable to *South Shore Neptunes*, as soon as possible.

**Newsletter Delivery:** Our printing costs doubled this past year; as a result, we need your help to cut costs. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please inform the newsletter editor, Rob Robison, at <[robisonr25@yahoo.com](mailto:robisonr25@yahoo.com)>.

**2016 Neptunes Award Winners:** *Most Interesting Artifact* - Chuck Zarba, *Photo* - Matt Meyer, *Largest Lobster* - Todd Alger (3.53 lbs.), *Diver of the Year* - Doug Eaton, *Rookie Diver of the Year* - Rob Robison. Additionally, lifetime memberships are being awarded to Ken and Teri Hayes, and Ed Reid. Congratulations to all!

**SAVE the DATES: March 11-12 Boston Sea Rovers Annual Show.**

Where: Danvers DoubleTree Hilton: <[bostonsearovers.com](http://bostonsearovers.com)>

**March 21 Speaker Matthew Lawrence** (NOAA) about new wrecks, plus Stellwagen Bank update & more! @Neptunes clubhouse, 7PM

**April 4 Speaker Victor Mastone**, Director & Chief Underwater Archaeologist, Mass State Archaeology Board, @Neptunes clubhouse, 7 PM

**April 12** Bay State Council meeting, Neptunes clubhouse, 7:30 PM

**MAY 27-JUNE 3 Bonaire Trip.** The dates are carved in stone for the Bonaire Trip! Saturday May 27 through Saturday June 3. We will be staying at the all inclusive Plaza Beach Resort. A deposit of \$100+ per person is required to hold your spot and 16 Neptunes have already signed up! We have coordinated with a travel person for the flights. Contact <[debi@waylandtravel.com](mailto:debi@waylandtravel.com)>. **ACT NOW!**

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## Annual Banquet

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On January 28 the South Shore Neptune's held their Annual Awards Banquet at the Common Market. We had approximately 60 members in attendance. Dinner included a cheese table, Caesar salad, mixed vegetables, Ziti, Chicken Marsala, and baked Haddock.

This year we introduced three new life members to the club, **Ken Hayes**, **Teri Hayes**, and **Edward Reid**. The Largest Lobster contest was won by **Todd Alger**. There were a number of entries for the Artifact of the Year contest, which was won by **Chuck Zarba**. The Underwater Photography contest prize was awarded to **Matt Meyer**. There were some impressive photos to choose from. **Doug Eaton** took home The Diver of the Year trophy, with 2nd place going to Todd Alger, Third place Diver of the Year is **Tommy Lo**. This year's Rookie Diver of the Year is **Rob Robison**. The amount of food, drinks, and stories being consumed and told ensured a great time for all. For banquet photos go to **page(s) 5-6**, and the **Club Facebook** page.

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## January Dives

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*Story & photos by Rob Robison*

January diving is a touch and go proposition week in, week out, due to the unpredictability of the weather and water. January 2017 proved no different than years gone by, whether in New England or Ohio. Looking at my log indicates in addition to the New Year's Day Sober Up dive, I made three additional forays into the the underwater realm. One was at Ft. Weatherill on January 22, with former Neptune Mike Vaughan and Bonnie Zeller, and the second one took place at Plymouth Beach on January 28 with Brian Smith, a dive buddy of mine who dives out of Divers Market in Plymouth. He and I also dove Morton's Pond earlier in the month. All three dives were marked by sunny days and relatively warm surface conditions of about 40°-45°F and underwater conditions ranging from 36-38°F, depending upon the location. Dive times were 30 minutes and 20 minutes, respectively, with depths ranging from 28-30' at the fort to @ 15' at Plymouth and the pond. Vis at Ft. Weatherill was a murky 5' - 7'. Bonnie found a star fish and Mike and I saw a few small animals. While at Plymouth Brian and I enjoyed 7 - 10' and found a dish, moon snail egg case, and a few other tiny critters. The pond dive was unremarkable.



Due to the very bulky dry gloves I wear with my dry suit, it is virtually impossible to take photos, so this lone surface shot taken by a stranger of Mike (l), Bonnie (c), and me (r) will have to do to record our Rhode Island dive. Although a bit nippy and less than ideal, it still feels good to get wet as the conditions allow. Now, it is time to sit back and enjoy the Super Bowl and hope the outcome reflects the game's special name, which I am certain everyone will agree, IT DID!!!!

Keep diving into it as you are willing and able this winter, everyone. Spring is around the corner!

*Rob*

### Back River Dives

Doug Eaton and **Rob Vice** made at least one dive in the Back River if not more in January searching for artifacts. Rumor has it they hit the tide wrong on one of the dives and almost got swept away, but you will have to ask them about it to get the real skinny. (The Editor)

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## From the Log Book

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Science Archaeology

**Oldest shipwreck in Central Mediterranean reveals clues about Phoenician trade networks**  
**A shipwreck found a decade ago is still yielding new clues regarding the Phoenician civilisation (*sic*).**



By Léa Surugue  
November 1, 2016 14:51 GMT



*Shipwreck Amphorae*

Divers have plunged 110 metres deep in the Mediterranean Sea to recover artefacts from a 2,700 year old shipwreck. One of their discoveries, an amphora from Malta, suggests the Maltese islands were an integral part of the Phoenician trade route in the Mediterranean.

The shipwreck was first found in 2007 off the coasts of Gozo, an island in the Maltese archipelago. It dates back to the first part of the 7th century BC, which makes it is oldest wreck ever found in the central Mediterranean to date. Between 2007 and 2009, archaeologists surveyed the site but limited equipment meant they weren't able to recover any objects.

In 2014, the team led by Dr Timmy Gambin from the University of Malta, along with colleagues from the University of Aix-Marseille, France, received funding from the French National Research Agency. This allowed them to record the site using very high-resolution imagery and to unearth four artefacts – two amphorae, an urn and a grinding stone. However, the expedition was cut short by bad weather so they were not able to map the site as it was when they left it, and to recover all the objects they wanted.

For some outstanding video footage and the rest of the story, go to: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/oldest-shipwreck-central-mediterranean-reveals-clues-about-phoenician-trade-networks-1589309>

### **Detroit River's muddy bottom conceals cannons, cars, guns**

**Robert Allen** , Detroit Free Press

Below the murky, rolling currents of the Detroit River is a floor loaded with centuries of artifacts: war cannons, old wooden ships, cars and hundreds of firearms, ranging from wooden muskets to automatic handguns.



Visibility is so poor that scuba divers make many of these discoveries by running their hands along the river bottom. City ordinance forbids the public from diving in the river within Detroit city limits — partly because of safety concerns, and partly because there's so much criminal evidence down there, said Sgt. Dean Rademaker with the Detroit Police Underwater Recovery Team.

"For as long as this city has been around, people have been throwing stuff into the water," he said. Detroit was founded in 1701.

Police have recovered hundreds of guns, including 11 at one time in the span of one archway of the MacArthur bridge connecting Belle Isle to the mainland. In the police dive team headquarters, there's a mounted M1 Carbine rifle from sometime between World War II to the 1960s. On the same wall, there's a propeller from a sunken Prohibition-era rum runner found near the bridge.

Numerous cars, including a DeLorean in the 1980s, and more recently, a Jeep Cherokee and Nissan Xterra, have been removed from the water. In 2009, a police diver was searching near a Jeep, in the water not far from Alter Road on Detroit's east side, when he found a bronze statue stolen from the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Rademaker said that if the river were ever somehow dammed above Detroit, "people would be just amazed" at the things that appear.

For outstanding photos, video footage, and the rest of the story, go to: <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2017/02/01/guns-cannons-cars-history-detroit-river/96833680/?ref=yfp>

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### Annual Banquet Photos

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*L Chuck Zarba, Best Artifact*



*R Matt Meyer, Best Photo*



*New Lifetime Members Ken & Teri Hayes*



*New Lifetime Member Ed Reid*



*Todd Alger (R), President, Largest Lobster  
2nd PI diver of the Year*



*Tommy Lo, 3rd PI Diver of Year (far R)*



*Rob Robison, Rookie Diver of the Year*



*Doug Easton, Diver of the Year*



*Doug Easton, Past President*

*Thanks, Doug!*



Avoid the Chamber.  
 Do Not Miss This  
 Presentation!  
 Speaker:  
**Dr Peter Buzzacott**  
**MPH,PHD.**, from  
 Divers  
 Alert Network expert  
 on accident review  
 and safety;  
 tech ,trimix, and cave  
 diver.

Decompression Update with advice on  
 prevention tactics for the over 55  
 year old diver.

Victim:

Dr Jim D'Urso, President of NSF will  
 be present to answer questions  
 regarding his recent accident and  
 subsequent treatment.

North Shore Frogmen, **Palmer Cove**  
**Yacht Club Thursday March 9th at**  
**8pm, 74 Leavitt**

**Street, Salem, Mass.** social at 7:30 pm, open to  
 public, refreshments



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## Parting Shot

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From *National Geographic* <<http://yourshot.nationalgeographic.com/photos/8839253/>>:



