

Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

Calendar, 2017

9/5/General Membership Mtg

9/12 Board Meeting, newsletter assembly

9/13 Bay State Council Mtg

9/17 BSC Treasure Hunt & Coastal Cleanup (See ad Page 7 of newsletter for more info)

9/19 Bill Zarillo, speaker on Coral Farming in the Caribbean

9/23 NE Aquarium Tropical Fish Rescue (See P. 6 for info)

9/30 Sat Neptunes Flea Market (401 Columbus Rd Hanover, 9 - 4pm);

Rain date Sat Oct 7

10/3 General Membership Mtg

10/10 Board Meeting, newsletter assembly

10/11 Bay State Council Mtg

10/14 Saturday North River Float @ 10 AM

10/17 Jerry Shine, on his new book, A Year Underwater; tentative

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Welcome: Please join us in welcoming prospective **New Members Eric Cantor, Amelia Carrera Truco, Jeannine Largess** (family membership), and **Gerardo Bacchus**.

Volunteers Needed for the Neptunes Flea Market! We need help Friday loading the trucks, Saturday setting up, running the show, tearing down the tables and equipment, cleaning up, reloading the trucks, and returning everything to the clubhouse. Contact Todd Alger (todd.alger@gmail.com) or Doug Eaton (diverssn11@gmail.com). Also, please note the **rain date has been changed to Saturday October 7**, instead of Sunday October 1. This is our main source of income for the year, so we need all hands on deck!

Shark Dive charter opportunity slated for mid September has been **canceled**. Maybe next year.

Newsletter Delivery: 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).

August/September Dives

Stories & photos by Rob

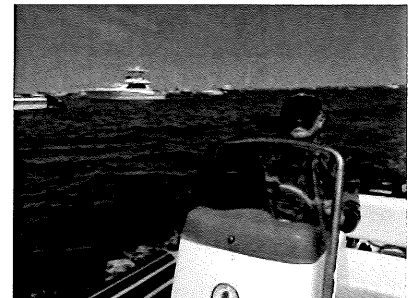
August Diving, Part 2

Story and photos by Rob

August diving has been blessed in the main by beautiful

Capt. Commando —>

weather, calm seas, and good to great visibility. As a case in point, Mike Gardner, a church friend of mine and fellow South Shore diver, and I took a plunge off *Commando* one

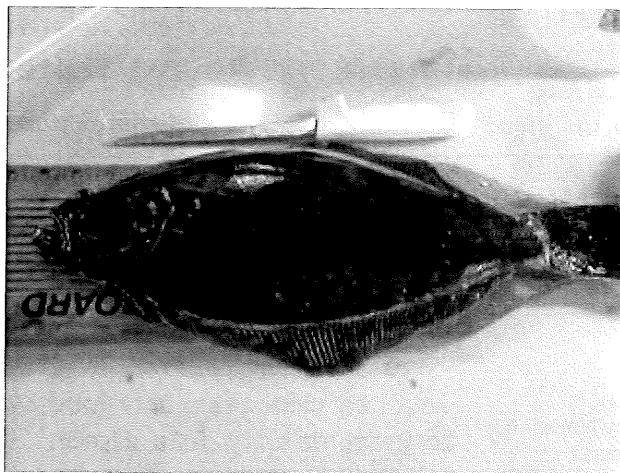


Friday (Aug 11) morning near **Beagle Rock Ledge** (Rexhame Beach) in Marshfield on a one tanker. We dropped into discover 25'-30' vis., and refreshing 50° water on the bottom at 37 feet. About half way through the dive we ran into a couple of keeper lobsters, a large one-clawed select and a chick, plus we found some small closed-up anemones under a large boulder on the return. Dive time: 37 min. 'cause neither of us had a full tank.

On **Sunday Aug 13**, former Neptunes Peter Ninh, Mike Vaughan, Maryellen (ME) McPhee, and I wound up at **Old Garden Beach** in Rockport, along with myriad student divers from East Coast and Cape Ann Divers shops. After suiting up, ME paired up with Mike and Peter and I formed a team and headed off in different directions. Peter and I found lots of small flounder, he a couple of chick lobsters, and yours truly a select.

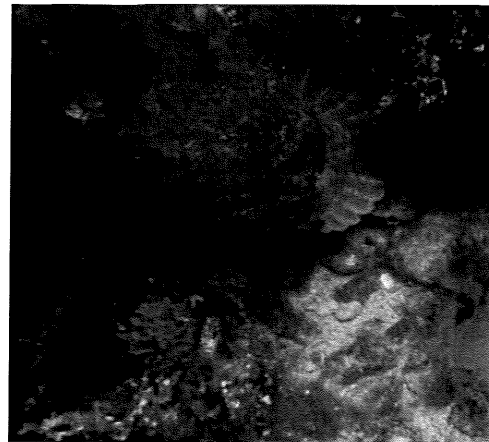
Toward the end of the dive, Peter and I cruised the shallower areas near the rocks searching for more flounder and lobsters lurking under the protection of the large submerged boulders. I found a flounder, speared it, and went looking for Peter to put it in his game bag because I can't carry a spear pole, camera, and game bag at the same time. It's just too much gear to manage simultaneously and be successful at both hunting and photography. However, Peter was in full hunt mode, meaning I couldn't get his attention by tugging his fin or tapping him with the blunt end of my pole spear. So, I tapped him on the head with my camera, got his attention, and stuffed the flounder into his game bag. In the process, my photo-video cam light fell off its perch and dropped into the dense kelp and seaweed below. Unfortunately, neither of us could find it. Back on land, we discovered that not only had my video light been lost to Davey Jones, but a few lobsters had escaped from Peter's bag, including mine, as well. Dive stats: 53°, 62 min., 34'.

Dive 2, Mike, ME, and I teamed up while Peter broke off on his own to make a gung-ho meat dive. We reversed course and started our diving up the south side of the cove turning north northeast at the 35' mark until reaching a depth of 42-43 feet. We followed the outer cove contour and began heading back to the beach from the northwest point. Along the way, we found a pair of beautiful 22" stripers, whose greenish rays kept us enthralled and continually circled by us looking for handouts, a few lobsters, a flounder Mike caught by hand and bagged, and an 18.5" fluke, which I brought home with my pole.



Rob's Fluke on the fillet board

The water temperature was slightly warmer on this dive, 54°, which helped because our dive time increased by 10 minutes to 72 minutes total run time. Vis on both dives ranged from 10 –



20 feet or more. Just a lovely day on and in the water. (Ed. Notes: No pics of these two dives because my camera's memory card malfunctioned! Also, Mike linked me to a post on the NE Scuba Divers Group FB page indicating he had found a photo-video cam light at Old Garden. Turns out it was mine. I am in luck!)

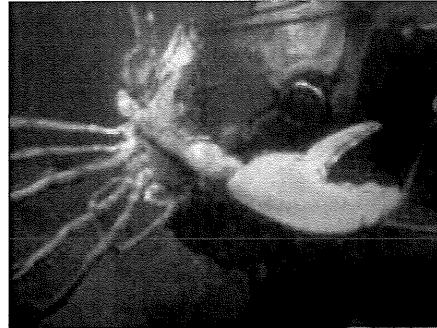
Sunday Aug 20, Mike Vaughan and I met up with Dan Sprague, dive coordinator for the New England Aquarium Dive Club, at the Burger King/Beverly Service Center and headed for Pebble Beach. Parking was nonexistent when we arrived because we were a bit behind schedule and it was a banner day in terms of weather. Everyone and his Uncle Tom wanted to be at the beach! Fortunately, a dive team was exiting the water and clearing out, so we didn't have long to wait for a spot.

After suiting up, we headed for the ledge straight out in front of the beach, instead of angling for the rock ledge to the west of the parking area, which was submerged at the moment due to high tide. Vis was easily 20'+. We dropped down just short of the rock line and found a few lobsters in the sand, at least one of which was a hairline keeper. Once on the ledge, we discovered many jumbo females laden with eggs, a red sea raven, a few flounder, one with a bad eye (Photos above), moon snails, and a pipe fish (No pic—sorry!). Plus, Mike extracted three beautiful selects, and Dan finished the dive with one. Our dive time ran 69-70 minutes, at 27', with a water temp of 55°.

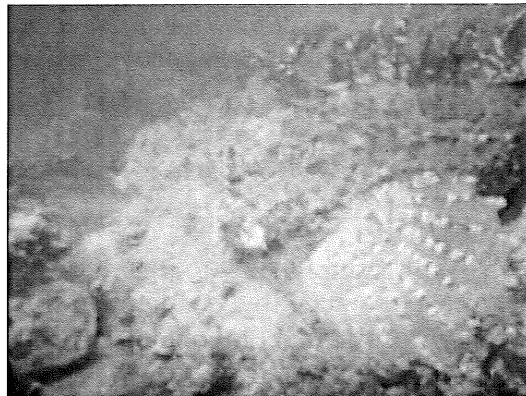
Thursday Aug 24. Former Neptune Maryellen McPhee was on vacation, so we met at the Green Harbor Town Launch for a Commando dive. The morning was delightfully sunny and there was a

L-R ME & lobsters; Blood star

bit of breeze and some scattered scudding clouds at launch time. We headed to **Beetle Rock** and anchored a bit farther north of where Michael and I had dived the week before. Although



visibility (5' - 15', depending on the spot) had deteriorated from the week previous due to windier conditions, the dive was still outstanding. We suited up, rolled backwards off the port tube, and headed down the anchor line, touching bottom around 32 feet or so. Almost immediately, ME found a keeper. Over the course of the dive, she dug out a total of 4, 3 of which were selects, while I snapped away with my camera. In addition to portraits of her in action, I found a beautiful nice sized Blood star and a colorful Sea Raven to photograph. Forty-three minutes after exploring the reef

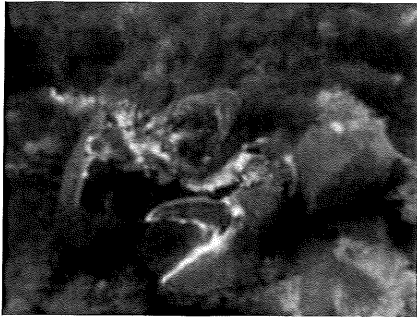


in 51° H2O, we ended our dive (Ave. depth 35'),

Red Sea Raven; closeup

reboarded the Commando, stowed our gear, cranked the engine, hauled up the anchor, and headed back to the harbor, having thoroughly enjoyed ourselves in the hydrosphere. Thanks, ME!

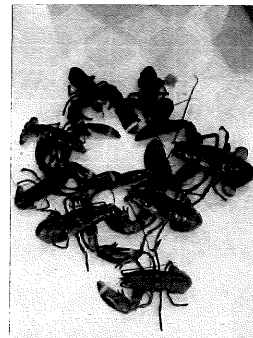
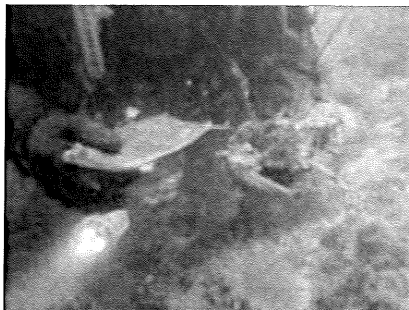
Sunday Aug 27, Pebble Beach. Former Neptunes Peter Ninh (Pictured on the prow), Mike Vaughan, Lisa Ledeith, Erica McGuire (Pictured underwater below), Rob Christian, and I met at Cape Ann Divers. I had driven up ahead because I needed to retrieve my lost and found photo-video cam light, and because I had to return home to Kingston early that day to attend an early PM function with my wife. We queued up and made a beeline to Pebble Beach in time to find enough parking for all of us. Peter, Rob C, and I formed a team, while Mike, Erica, and Lisa made



up the second one. We headed for the rock ledge on the right and dropped in around 12' at low tide. Crossing the short strip of remaining sand, we quickly found the rocky area, and the two human vacuum cleaners went to work scouring every nook and cranny for keeper-sized specimens of

homarus americanus. With 20'+ visibility it was easy to stay together. Juvenile lobsters were everywhere; large eggers, dug in deep, abounded. All of us found a number of them, which is encouraging,

and all of us found lobsters, 15 keepers among the three of us alone. Rob C took the cake with a 3.8lber, plus I

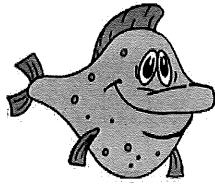


found a 17 1/4" flounder, a doormat for sure, which made its way into the game bag. Added pluses were Mike holding a juvenile flounder in one hand and a lobster in the other and a baby skate flitting about us. Dive stats: 51°, 65 min., 19'.

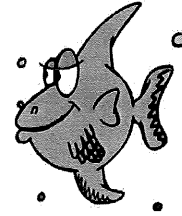
Clearly, August is going out with a bang! If you haven't taken the plunge yet this summer, there is still time to dive into it, folks, and enjoy the wonders of the liquid planet. Before the ocean cools off too much more, throw on your gear and hop in. The water is just fine!

Rob





Join the
New England Aquarium Dive Club
for the



2017 Annual

Tropical Fish Rescue & BBQ

Fun for "kids" of All Ages!

Come dive, snorkel or bring the kids for seining.



Location: Fort Wetherill, Jamestown RI

Date: Saturday, September 23, 2017

Time: Diving/Snorkeling 9:30am-4:30pm

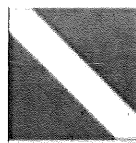
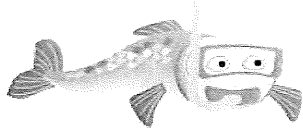
Seining starts at 11am in the shallows

*Picnic 11:30am-2pm**

Think BLUE! Join our NEADC *Clean Up Each Dive* campaign!

- Pick up trash whenever you can both above and below water
- At the picnic, bring along a bottle for free drink re-fills!

*For more information or to register
visit www.neadc.org*



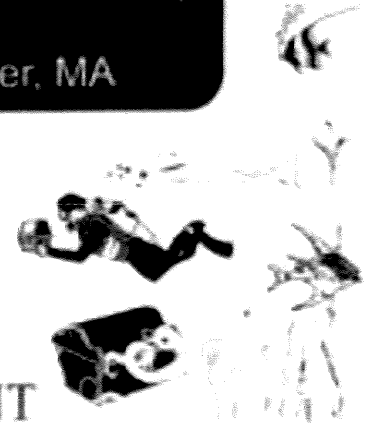
New England Aquarium
DIVECLUB
www.neadc.org

Bay State Council of Divers 32nd Annual Treasure Hunt

Date: Sunday Sept. 17th, 2017 (Rain or Shine)

Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Place: Stage Fort Park Gloucester, MA



A MULTI-CLUB EVENT

All Divers and Diving Organizations Welcome

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Take-out food available
- Parking is available in the park



TREASURE HUNT

- \$10.00 Entrance Fee
- Objective - To find small objects in shallow water
- Prizes - Diving equipment, dive charter, etc.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- For SCUBA Event - Wet or dry suit with BC, tank, regulator with pressure gauge, weight belt, mask, fins, snorkel, knife and catch bag

- Equipment Demos
- Bring your own food and beverage (no alcohol)
- Cooking OK - Bring your own grill or participate with dive clubs
- Reasonably priced food will be available
- 6 person max team/ club or shop
- SCUBA Event - Everyone will be on their own in this scramble for prizes
- Proof of certification is required for SCUBA event



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9:00 - 9:30 AM Registration
- 10:00 - 11:00 AM SCUBA Event



- 11:30 - 12:30 PM Snorkel Event
- 2:00 - 3:00 PM Trophies and Prizes



Bay State Council of Divers Treasure Hunt - Advanced registration Helpful. Can sign up day of!

Yes, I want to participate in the 2017 Bay State Council of Divers Treasure Hunt. Enclosed is my registration fee of \$10 (non-refundable). Make your check payable to Bay State Council and mail it to: Bay State Council of Divers P.O. Box 690518 Quincy, MA 02269

NAME _____

BayStateCouncil.org

