



Soundings*

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, & REMINDERS

Calendar 2022

August

2 General Meeting 7PM
7 Duxbury Outing (Tent)
9 Board Mtng 7PM
14 Club Dive 8AM
28 Club Dive 8AM

September

6 General Meeting 7PM
11 Club Dive
13 Board Mtng 7PM
16-17. RAGNAR Road Reach
the Beach
20 Program TBA
25 Club Dive/BSC Treasure
Hunt@Stage Fort Park,
Gloucester, See flier PP 10-11
30 - 2 Boston Sea Rovers
Annual Clinic Doubletree
Hilton Danvers. P.12

October

4 General Meeting 7PM
9 River Run Club Dive
11 Board Mtng 7PM
18 Program TBA
23 Club Dive

November

1 General Meeting - 7PM
6 Club Dive
8 Board Meeting 7PM
13 Club Dive
15 Program TBA

• **RAGNAR Reach the Beach Road Race** scheduled for **September 16 & 17**. It's time to gear up for another fundraiser. We need a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 9 volunteers for the Friday-Saturday event. Watch for the email flier to sign up.

• **The Bay State Council Treasure Hunt** has been scheduled for **September 25**. It also serves our **second Club Dive** of the month. For more info see the Flier on **PP. 10-11** of the newsletter.

• **Women Club Members Only Night Out**. Details TBA. Watch for a special email in the near future!

• **Underwater Rugby hours:** *Wednesday* nites 8:00-9:30 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.

***RE Soundings:** A member of long standing discovered that the original name of

1

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the newsletter was Soundings (plural), which had gotten lost over time. So, at the July board meeting, it was decided to restore the "s" to the newsletter's name, making it plural. Thanks for the sharp eye and historical knowledge, Jay T.

In Memoriam



South Shore Neptunes gathered at the MacDonald Funeral Home in Marshfield on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, to pay their respects to **Annetta (Netta) Burchill**, wife of Neptune Bill Burchill, who passed away on July 25, 2022, at the age of 83, after a long illness. Netta is the wife of Life Member Bill Burchill and mother of Neptune David Burchill. Netta has been our gracious hostess after the Annual River Run and always made a delicious chowder to warm up the wobbly legged Neptunes, fresh out of the 2.5 hour fall drift down the North River. All the Neptunes mourn her loss and send their prayers to Bill and his family. May she rest in peace. For more information, go to: <<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/annetta-burchill-obituary?id=36057871>>.

EVENTS, DIVES,



Duxbury Beach Outing. Sunday, August 7, 2022. *Story by Rob;*

photos by Theresa C & Rob

More than 60 South Shore Neptunes, family members, and friends gathered on Sunday at Duxbury Beach to resume the annual Duxbury Beach outing, after a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19. We



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Happy Diving

From

JOHN & KATHY BLACKADAR

set up from 8:30 - 9:30 AM or so, and then enjoyed a near cloudless sunny day on the Duxbury sands. It was high tide when we arrived, but by noon low tide was fast approaching. Numerous attendees took refreshing dips in the water, only to be shocked by how cold it was. Needless to say, they didn't stay long in the ice cold drink, though the numbing water did help cool them off from the 90°+ temperatures on the beach.



Blackie lines up the racers(Above); The food! (Rt); Cars & trucks await



About noon time, Angelo, king chef of the outing, bellowed

“Food,” and all came running to find trays of cheeseburgers, burgers, ‘dogs, and sausages grilled to perfection and ready to be consumed. A short while later, he bellowed “Corn,” and the attending

hordes descended yet again to sample the terrific flavorful butter-and-sugar corn-on-the-cob, slathered in melted butter. Simply delicious!

As the tide began to roll back in, Blackie had a blast organizing and orchestrating the sack races. The tug-of-war was postponed until next year. Just as well. The green heads and mosquitos had begun their painful exploration of our bodies and the heat had begun to take its toll, despite the gusting winds. It was time to slowly pack up, head home, and dream of returning next year.



Special thanks to Angelo Correnti, Theresa Czerepica, Ken Hayes, Tommy Lo,

Adrienne Murphy, Sokol Prifti, Jay Theriault, Chuck Zarba, and all the other unsung heroes who pitched in and lent a hand for their efforts trucking the equipment, prepping and serving the meal, loading and reloading the

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trucks, and cleaning up. It was an enormous group effort for a great club gathering on the beach.

Club Outing: Cape Cod Canal Cruise, Onset, MA. Saturday, July 30, 2022.

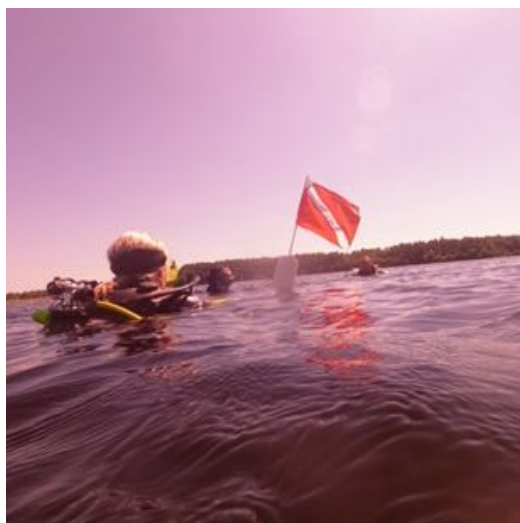
Story & photos by Rob

Twenty-nine Neptunes, family members, and friends, descended on the town of Onset to board the Cape Cod Canal Viking cruise boat. Many of us arrived early and ate lunch at the small beach front restaurant and bar beforehand. We had signed up for the two-hour cruise



instead of the 3 hour excursion to keep costs down, ensure that families could participate, and enjoy a wonderful afternoon on the canal together. A couple of ladies who happened to be sitting in our midst, enjoying the cruise and our company, said they were having fun and were "born ready." You will see them in a photo from the excursion, as well as in the group photo at the end. They were a lot of fun.

Special thanks to John and Cathy Blackadar, who handled all of the arrangements, which made this event possible. See you next time!



Pond Diving in Mary's Pond. Saturday, July 30, 2022. *Story by Adrienne Murphy; photos by Cheryl Marcinko.*

A small group of us, mostly women, met in Rochester, MA, at Mary's Pond for a nice easy dive but mostly to meet new dive buddies and check out our gear. Our gear worked great, though some will need service, and those who rented did great with it but are now looking to start buying their own. The water was warm enough most of us didn't wear hoods or gloves, and we really enjoyed that. The night before, it rained, so the normally clear pond wasn't so, and trying to see everyone and keep the group together underwater was

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impossible. We were going to look for the sunken canoe and the rumored sunken plane, but just happy when we all surfaced and found each other. Skills were practiced and we all had some laughs. Then, the two guys, **Neptune Rob Foley** and his friend, **Troy**, braved the dark waters for a second dive, while we 6 ladies headed to a local Mexican place to brave a margarita or two.

Thanks **Carol Hamilton, Alisa Daniels, Cheryl Marcinko, Sarah and Angela** for joining me and for those ladies that couldn't make it, hope to see you soon! Ladies on the South Shore uniting!



met the boats at their respective marinas. It was already hot as we loaded the boats. We set out for the **Roaring Bulls** for our first dive. The seas were calm and flat. It cooled off after we went past George's Island.

We met at the Bulls, anchored in about 30 feet of water, and went in. It was slack tide, so there was not much current. Vis, depending on where you were, went from 5 to 20 ft. I caught my first lobster next to the anchor. So much for people checking on the anchor as they go down. We did catch a bunch of lobsters and

P.S. Thank you, Cheryl, for the pictures, and thanks to Rob Foley for letting us invade his dive time.

Adrienne

Club Dive - Boston Harbor. Sunday, July 24, 2022.

For Sunday's club dive we had 3 boats: Boat 1: New member **Alex Wieck** with **Shayne Kennedy**, and **Paul Greene**; Boat 2: **Joe Kilcommons** with **Sokol** and **Rob Foley**. Occupying the third boat were **Tommy Lo, Ken Hayes, Rob Vice, and Allie Genevieve.**

We met at 8 am at QYC. The other divers



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Rob V brought one up that just had started to molt. It was the second time I had seen one molting. The shell split down the line on the top of the body and you could see the new shell underneath the old one. The new shell was very soft. I spoke to a lobsterman and he told me when he gets one of these, he breads it and fries it to make “soft shell lobster.” Anyhow, we took a video to upload to Facebook and released it.

To save someone some embarrassment, I won't mention their name. We had to do a recovery for a dive computer dropped off one of the boats. We had a successful recovery effort and found the rookie gear.

For our second dive we headed over to the **Outer Brewsters**. Halfway there we could feel the temperature rise.

We anchored the boats in about 30 to 40 feet of water. Again, I caught my first lobster next to the anchor. Then, I headed for deeper waters but only found shorts. I turned around and tried up close and was finding more lobster in the shallow waters (15 ft).

The Brewsters are kelped over, making it a bit harder to find lobsters. The vis was about 10 to 15 feet in about 50 ft of water. In the 30 ft. deep area, vis was down to 5 to 10 ft., and in the shallows it was about 10 to 15 ft. Rob V reported that he saw a horseshoe crab.

When we came up from our dive, the winds had picked up and we all had a bumpy ride home. After we unloaded the boats, we sat inside Quincy Yacht Club (QYC) (air conditioning) and enjoyed some

after-dive beers. A great day was had by all.



Tommy Lo

Women's Day Dive at Stage Fort Park in Gloucester on Saturday, July 16, 2022, (Story & photos by Adrienne Murphy) was an awesome day. A lot of ladies were interested but three of us were able to get off work,

not get sick, and grab our gear to do a dive. I met Jill O'Neil and Cheryl Marcinko for the first time at the event and we dove together. Cheryl brought her camera and took some really nice pictures and we just enjoyed water. No real fish to be found and the lobsters were small but loved every minute of it. Afterwards there was the BBQ, some vendors, and tons of raffles. Ann Clifford from Spain spoke, and we all need to take a trip to Spain now! We all won something and I was extra excited to win a year membership to the Women's Hall of Fame. I plan to make this a yearly venture for the club and any woman that is looking for dive buddies.

Friday's Dive, July 15, 2022. Story & photos by Tommy Lo

Todd and Joe met me at the Quincy Yacht Club at 8 o'clock. We loaded up the boat and started heading out. Due to the full moon, we have had some really low and high tides. As we passed through Hull Gut, I saw what appeared to be a rock that I have never seen before. I asked Joe if

he had ever seen a rock there, and as we started getting closer, we noticed that it was floating. We got a little closer and realized that it was a deceased turtle, a Leatherback turtle. We could see that the number 79 was written on the on its back. As it happens, the department of conservation resource rangers' work boat was driving by. We flagged him down and told him about the deceased turtle and said there was a 79 written on it. He said, Yes, the New England Aquarium had come out and already performed a necropsy on it. The 7/9 was the day they performed the necropsy.



We proceeded to our first dive site, the Roaring Bulls. As we made our first dives, there was a lot of current. Todd was caught in it and was getting



swept. We had to go and pick him up. Anyway, I caught three lobsters, Todd caught a bunch, and Joe got 2.

For our second dive we decided to do something different and went to Little Calf Island. Joe went one way and Todd went the other. The area was picked over, so I cut my dive really short because I was not comfortable where we anchored. As it turns out, Joe found some scallops, and he kept following the scallop bed. He surfaced a ways from the boat and I picked him up. Todd was also on the hunt for scallops with but did not find many. I went in and found a few more scallops and had a long swim to find the location. Visibility was about 10 to 15 feet with a strong currents. The water was and has been really cold this season. I also caught a Sea Raven because my wife was talking about them a couple of weeks before. So, I brought it up, took a few pictures, and then let it go. It was a great day to take off from work and go out for a dive!

Tommy Lo

& WRECKS

World's deepest shipwreck, the Sammy B, is discovered by explorers

By Adela Suliman *The Washington Post*. Updated June 25, 2022, 1:41 p.m.

The long-sought wreckage of the USS Samuel B. Roberts, a World War II U. S. Navy destroyer escort that sank in the Western Pacific Ocean nearly 78 years ago, has been found off the Philippines, explorers have announced.

The vessel, now broken in two, lies at a depth of around four miles, the deepest shipwreck yet discovered. That's deeper than Mount Kilimanjaro is tall, or 18 times the height of the Empire State Building.

The wreckage was identified and surveyed by American explorer Victor Vescovo, founder and sub pilot of Dallas-based Caladan Oceanic Expeditions, alongside Britain-based EYOS Expeditions.

"It was an extraordinary honor to locate this



USS Sammy B torpedo tubes

incredibly famous ship, and by doing so have the chance to retell her story of heroism and duty to those who may not know of the ship and her crew's sacrifice," Vescovo said in a statement.

"Resting at 6,895 meters, it is now the deepest shipwreck ever located" and the group is now on its way to Guam to begin further expeditions in the Western Pacific.

PARTING THOUGHT & SHOTS

Boaters in the Bay fronting Kennebunkport, ME witnessed a Great White Shark feeding on a whale carcass. By the time the tide rolled in and swept the feeding shark and carcass to the inner harbor, the carcass was stripped clean as a whistle. The ultimate back scratcher if there ever was one, huh?



Special thanks to **Dr. MaryBeth Luca**, Dublin, OH dermatologist extraordinaire, for sharing the story and her photos.



Bay State Council of Divers 35th Annual Treasure Hunt

Date: Sunday Sept. 25th, 2022 (Rain or Shine) Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Place: Stage Fort Park, Cressy Beach Gloucester, MA



All Divers and Diving Organizations Welcome

GENERAL INFORMATION

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



- 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

TREASURE HUNT

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

- 6 person max teams club or shop
- SCUBA Event - Everyone will be on their own in this scramble for prizes
- Proof of certification is required for SCUBA event



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

- For Snorkel Event - Same as SCUBA except for tank and regulator

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 2022 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 690716 Quincy, MA 02269-0716

NAME _____ PHONE _____ BayStateCouncil.org
EMAIL _____

Revised 02-13-2020



Rules for the 2022 Treasure Hunt, 9/18/2022

Entrance fee is \$10 for one or both parts of the event, diving and/or snorkeling.

Diving Event:

Purpose: Individual SCUBA divers will dive in a controlled, supervised environment for submerged items. Raffle tickets given out in exchange for these items will afford participants a chance at some great raffle prizes.

The start time for the diving event is 10 AM; divers are expected to be at the edge of the water ready to be counted at that time. If a diver is not ready to get in the water at 10:00, he/she will be at a disadvantage.

There will be a limited number of special tokens in the water for specific top prizes. If you find one of the special tokens, you will want to come out of the water immediately to claim your prize.

Snorkel Event:

Purpose: Teams of snorkelers will dive for specific items. The team that retrieves the largest number of those items wins the event.

The start time for this event is 11:30 AM. This is a one hour event. Snorkel teams are expected to be ready to enter the water at that time. If a team is not ready at 11:30, that team will be at a disadvantage.

Maximum team size is 6 snorkelers.

The number of teams is not limited.

A trophy will be awarded to the winning team.



South Shore Neptunes

Information Page

Want to Go Diving and Need a Buddy?

Club Hotline: Call or text **617-804-5637**

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