



Soundings

February 2023

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

Upcoming Events

03/05/2023	Club dive
03/08/2023	Bay State Council
03/11/2023	Club dive
03/18/2023	Sea Rovers Film festival
04/02/2023	Club dive
04/16/2023	Club dive
05/06/2023	Bonaire trip
05/19/2023	Ragnar race fundraiser

2022 Annual Award Winners

Diver of the Year	Sokol Prifti
Rookie of the Year	Sokol Prifti
Photo of the Year	Sokol Prifti
Video of the Year	Doug Eaton
Artifact of the Year	Jason Brown
Largest Lobster	Alex Wieck

Letter from the Editor

It looks like everyone had fun at the Annual Banquet from all the photos I saw on Facebook, 59 total attendees!

The club continues to dive 2+ times per month and we continue to have new applicants and members. Additionally, there are many activities and initiatives in the works.

The Online Store and Electronic Payments has become a hot topic. Especially, since the IRS is making changes to online payment processor 1099-K reporting requirements from \$20,000 to \$600 gross. This topic is so hot that we need your input and have put together a survey. **Please follow the link to read Treasurer's comments and to fill out the survey:**

<https://bit.ly/payOnlineSurvey>

Big welcome to our two new Neptunes, Jill O'Neill and Colin Magee! Both unanimously voted in at our February General Meeting.

Want to advertise in the Soundings newsletter? For details contact newsletter@southshoreneptunes.org

– Rob Vice
2023 Secretary (secretary@southshoreneptunes.org)

Club Activities

January 28 - Annual Banquet, Common Market, Quincy

Writeup by Rob Vice

The annual banquet (culminating dive years 2020, 2021 and 2022) returned after the COVID pandemic canceled the previous years. While I was still in the southern hemisphere, it looked like everyone had a great time. The backdrop created for the Sea Rovers booth was set up with the step and repeat pattern showing with a light system. The club would like to thank Doug Eaton for the cake and lending the display lights.



February 25 - Special Olympics Polar Plunge, Nantasket Beach

Writeup from Facebook

Thanks to our president, Adrienne, who braved today's frigid temperatures (20 degrees) raised \$1246 for the Special Olympics. She threw a shoe but went in anyway.



February General Meeting Report

- The **Annual Awards Banquet** was a success with 59 people attending and the Common Market graciously waiving the cost of the cheese table and Doug Eaton providing the Cake and Lighting.
- **Bonaire Trip**
 - Spaces are still available. Contact John Blackadar or Debie Isroff at Wayland Travel (debie.isroff@frosh.com or 800-552-0300) if interested. There are over 30 people going
- Adrienne Murphy brought up the **Surfrider Foundation** for a possible co-hosted event to clean up the beaches and has requested photos of any cleanups we do. Look for more details at one of the next meetings.
- Another fun event mentioned was an **escape room**. These are “puzzle rooms” where you are locked inside and must find a way out through clues strewn about. It’s a lot of fun. Look for more details at one of the next meetings.
- **Ragnar Race** - South Shore Neptunes largest fundraising event May 19-20
 - Rob Foley provided an update that we will run the same three sites as the previous year and are still looking for volunteers. This year there is a first, second and third place prize for best theme at the exchanges.
- **Underwater Rugby**
 - Jay Theriault provided an update to the pool hours.
 - Mondays 8:15-10:00 pm at Westwood High School
 - Wednesdays 6:45-8:30 pm at Brookline High School.
- **New Members** all voted unanimously to be members of the South Shore Neptunes:
 - Jill O'Neill, sponsored by Adrienne Murphy
 - Colin Magee, sponsored by Todd Alger
- **Bay State Council**
 - March 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm online **Zoom Meeting Only** link to be sent closer to the meeting date

Motions

1. Motion to get the membership roster delivered in the formats from years before
 2. Motion to have the Board prepare/present the budget
 3. Motion to have the Board look into reducing the costs of the annual awards
-

Other Announcements and Activities

To all the life members



Just to make you feel a little older, this is John Jr, out of the Special Forces after 35 years.
Remember when he came to recovery dives years ago?

– John Blackadar

Dr. Greg. Skomal, “Living with Sharks,” presented by Cedar Hill Retreat Center

March 10, 2023 from 7-9 PM

First Parish Church Duxbury, 826 Tremont Street (Rt. 3a), Duxbury, MA

Mark your calendars! Cedar Hill Retreat Center of Duxbury, MA is pleased to announce that Dr Greg Skomal will speak on “Living with Sharks,” Friday March 10, 2023, from 7-9 PM, at First Parish Church Duxbury, 826 Tremont Street (Rt. 3a). He will also be available immediately following his presentation to autograph his books, “The Shark Handbook” (\$20.00), which will be available for purchase onsite.

Dr. Skomal is an accomplished marine biologist, underwater explorer, filmmaker, photographer, and author. He has been a fisheries scientist with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries since 1987, and currently heads up the Massachusetts Shark Research Program. Greg has been an avid SCUBA diver and underwater photographer since 1978. He has written dozens of scientific research papers and has appeared in a number of film and television documentaries, including programs for National Geographic, Discovery Channel, BBC, and numerous television networks. His most recent book, The Shark Handbook, is a must buy for all shark enthusiasts. He is a Boston Sea Rover and a member of The Explorers Club; his home and laboratory are on the south coast of Massachusetts.

Tickets go on sale online February 1, 2023, for \$25.00 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Cedar Hill Retreat Center. For tickets and more information about our speaker, go to the Cedar Hill Event page at http://cedarhillcenter.org/cedar_hill_events.aspx

The Boston Sea Rovers 69th Annual Film Fest

March 18, 2023 at the New England Aquarium IMAX Theater 7:30 PM open

The filmfest will be at the NE Aquarium's IMAX THEATER, March 18, 2023. Doors open at 7:30 PM, show starts at 8:00 PM. Cost is \$40 per person. Check the website below for a list of the filmmakers presenting. Cash bar reception to meet the speakers following the program.

For tickets, go to <https://boston-sea-rovers.idloom.events/boston-sea-rovers-69th/register> Only 300 tickets are available to the general public. To date 111 have been sold!

The Boston Sea Rovers' recommend the Harborside Inn a few blocks away for those wanting overnight accommodations. For restaurants, Stateside Provisions and the Bostonia were recommended.

Fishing upside down under ice!

Below is the link to the best video ever! It shows a group of divers walking upside down under ice. Back in the old days we Neptunes used to do that in the quarries sometimes, but we never made a video. Buoyancy control is a phenomenon usually experienced only by divers, and I think it's fun and very special. And I'm sure most non-divers could not even imagine what it's like.

Safe diving! – Dave Clancy

<https://bit.ly/fishingUnderIce>

Bill Gallagher had a reporter reach out regarding the USS S-4

Amelia here; I'm a reporter for the Provincetown Independent. My editor, Ed Miller, alerted me to David Robinson's Zoom talk this evening, which I thoroughly enjoyed. (I think someone addressed me just as I was closing out of the tab and I couldn't respond in time!)

I wanted to clarify your plans for a Provincetown dive site based on your emails to Ed and what you said in the Zoom. Are members of the South Shore Neptunes planning on diving off of Provincetown this summer to look for the shipwreck of the S-4, or to look for four different unknown shipwrecks?

Thanks very much.

Best,
Amelia Roth-Dishy (she/her)
Reporter, The *Provincetown Independent*

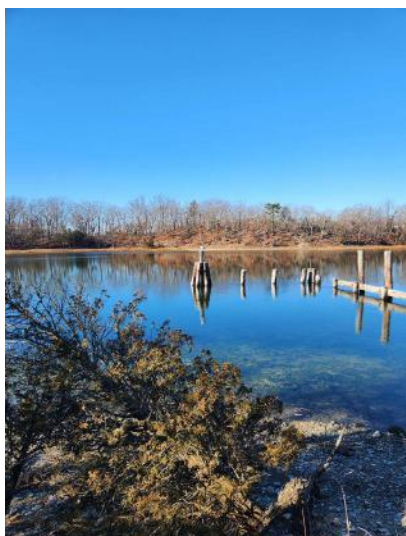
Dive Reports

January 8 - Back River, Weymouth

45 minutes, vis 10-12 ft, 39°F, 25 ft max

Report by Doug Eaton

Chuck Zarba and I dove the Back River in Weymouth. There were no other takers interested in the dive. It's too bad because it turned out to be a great day. There was no wind and the air temp was 34 degrees Fahrenheit. The water temperature was 39 degrees at a depth of 25 ft and the visibility was 10-12 ft. After a bottom time of 45 minutes, I surfaced to find Chuck Zarba already heading in. I caught up with Chuck onshore where we went over our treasures for the day. I found a 1923 NEHI soda bottle. People who watched the TV series MASH remember it as Radar's favorite drink.



February 12 - Boston Scuba Scallop Dive, Nahant

Story by Doug Eaton

On February 12th, I chartered the boat at Boston Scuba to go scalloping with fellow Neptunes, Chuck Zarba, Tim Burke, Alex Wieck, Matt Meyer and Matt's friend Jeff Smith. We met at the boat at 9:00 am and headed towards Nahant. Reaching the dive site we all geared up and jumped in and the chase was on to beat everyone else to the food. After ending the first dive we shucked our catch, switched tanks and headed in for round two. We finished the second dive with everyone on the boat, we shucked the catch and headed back to Boston Scuba. Everyone was talking about doing this again. It turned out to be one of those days where everything came together and the end result was we all went home with food and diving with people we don't dive with all the time. Leaving East Boston Chuck and Doug headed to Darcys for food and beer and the others headed home. (pictures on page 6)

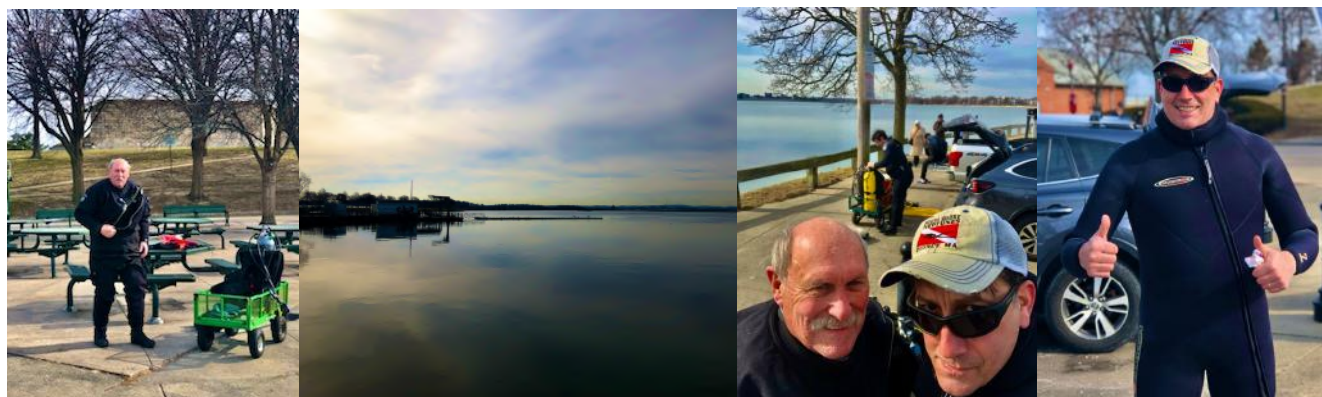


February 19 - Club Dive

45 minutes, vis 10-12 ft, 38°F, 25 ft max

Story by Sokol Prifti

We met at the former house club Sunday, February 19 at 9 o'clock. We decided to go local (South Shore) due to the weather and water conditions! The temperature was in the mid 40s. Four members of the Neptunes showed up that day: Doug Eaton, Rob Foley, John Wang and Sokol Prifti and we decided to go to Pleasure Bay in South Boston! When we arrived, the water seemed to be calm and clear enough and promised a good dive! We started to gear up and suddenly I heard air leaking from my gear! I was first to jump in the water, and the rest of the group followed me! The visibility was good and the water temperature was 38°F! No sign of fish or lobsters, but in general it was a good dive! I was first to go out and right away Doug Eaton showed up and also had an air leak from his O-ring! A few minutes later, Rob Foley joined us outside! We discussed the good and the bad parts that day and 15 minutes after John came out with a big smile! Definitely, a good dive for all of us!



South Shore Neptunes



Information Page

Want to **Go Diving** and **Need a Buddy**?
 Call or Text the **Club Hotline: 617-804-5637**
 Email: info@SouthShoreNeptunes.org

Don't forget to visit the club store: <https://bit.ly/Neptunes-Store>

Update your profile, access the membership roster via the Membership Portal:
<https://Members.SouthShoreNeptunes.org>

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