



Soundings

November 2023

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

Upcoming Events

12/5/2023	General Meeting
12/10/2023	Club dive
12/12/2023	Board Meeting
12/17/2023	Club dive
12/19/2023	SSN Election night
1/1/2024	Club dive
1/2/2024	General Meeting
1/9/2024	Board Meeting
1/23/2024	Banquet Ticket Cutoff!
1/27/2024	Annual Awards Banquet
1/28/2024	Club Dive

Annual elections are coming up this month! Also, you can get your banquet tickets online or in-person (cash/check) at any of the meetings before the banquet.

Register your Membership Profile or login at:

<https://members.SouthShoreNeptunes.org>



Please send your reports, gear for sale, stories from years ago or anything else that you would want to have in the newsletter to: newsletter@SouthShoreNeptunes.org

Summary

It's the holiday time of year again! And with it, comes the joy of family...and, competitions close and winners chosen. The deadline is/was November 30 for all the contests. We already have entries for Artifact, Largest Lobster, Photo and Video contests. Can't wait to see the results at the Awards Banquet coming up the last Saturday of January (the 27th).

The club will continue the booth at the Boston Sea Rovers 2024 show, where we do tend to get quite a few visitors to the booth. If you have time, come out and volunteer some time to share your experiences with new prospective members and others from the dive community.

We're still missing contact information confirmation from 106 people (66%), including two of our very own board members 😞😞. Hopefully, we're reaching everyone, but if you could ask those that you are friendly (or even not so friendly) with if they replied to the mailing.

Please consider running for an officer or board position. Nominations are the first and third meeting in December.

November General Meeting Summary

- **New Prospects**
 - Erika Ryan - Lives in Quincy and just did sailing this year. She wants to get into scuba diving and decided to check the club out.
- **Old Business**
 - Member Info update (Rob Vice)
 - 46 responses of 160 mailed, whether by phone, email or by signing up in the portal
 - Embroidered Shirts Cost: Shirts \$40, hats \$22
 - Speaker Night
 - November 21 booked at Quincy Yacht Club for Maura Keane from iDive New England will present in person
 - Election Night - December 19
 - Cash bar, pizza and likely a salad
 - Nominations are December 5 and December 19. Reach out to a board member or officer if you have any questions about running for a position.
 - MeetUp - October 19 at the 99 in Plymouth
 - Had a good turnout of members and some new prospects
 - Pumpkin Carving - Adrienne Murphy
 - 11 people turned out to carve pumpkins followed by voting at the Life Saving Museum in Hull. There was food and drinks were had after at Jo's Nautical Bar. Discussed making it more of an outing next year.
 - Container Cleanup/Painting - Chuck
 - Everything is covered including the roof and walls are all done. Could use a bit more fill-in in the areas not impacted by rust, and can put that off until next year.
 - Lecture Series on Young Women in Marine industries
 - Paula Donahue and Stephanie Beels and a few others will go for their dive night
- **New Business**
 - Upcoming Dives
 - Sober up dive Monday Jan 1 - Will be the 50th Anniversary of it
 - January 28
 - Artifacts and potential issues
 - The Facebook page has been good at attracting the club. The authorities are looking at the postings as well. Taking of artifacts can actually be against the law. David Robinson, from the Boston Underwater Archeological Board (BUAR), called Chuck Zarba on friendly terms with regard to the collection of artifacts and provided him with a few links: BAUR statutes and limitations, the isolated artifact reporting form, ships sight reporting form and the BUAR website. The club recommends acting within the BUAR guidelines when collecting artifacts
- **Bills**
 - Sea Rovers - \$400 due by 11/24/2023 n° BSR 70th #0017 for just the Neptunes.
- **Motions**
 - Board moves that the cost of embroidered shirts be \$40 and embroidered hats be \$22. Seconded by Jay. Motion Passed.
 - Board moves that the party reimbursements go from \$75 to \$100. Motion Passed
 - Motion to pay the 2024 Sea Rovers booth at \$400 by Ken Hayes, seconded by Jay Theriault. Motion Passed.

Competitions

Deadline for competitions is November 30, 2023 (today). All of the rules and forms are available on the club website: <https://southshoreneptunes.org/membership.html>

1. [Artifact of the Year](#)
2. [Photo Contest](#)
3. [Video Contest](#) - Videos must be between one to five minutes. Prefer YouTube links.
4. Largest Lobster (certified scale reading and photo)
5. Largest Fish (snorkel only)

Entries may be made to SouthShoreNeptunes@gmail.com or Secretary@SouthShoreNeptunes.org.



Nominations: Tuesday, December 5 and December 19. Reminder dues are due by election night (\$35 + \$8 for Bay State Council [club will pay the extra \$2 for the council])

Elections: December 19 Come for **FREE** 🍕 pizza and 🥗 salad with a cash bar 🍹 at The Common Markets Restaurants, Willard Street, Quincy, MA.

Come out for the future of the club. As the saying goes, We Need You. There are four officers and up to nine board positions to run for. You may also nominate others in addition to yourself.

Annual Banquet - January 27, 2024

The Annual Awards Banquet will again be hosted at The Common Market Restaurants, 97 Willard Street, Quincy, MA

Cash bar opens at 6:30 pm

Dinner at 7:00 pm

Cost: \$35 per person or on the club store <https://Store.SouthShoreNeptunes.org>



Club Dives Do's and Don'ts

The club schedules at least two club dives per month with the focus to get as many divers into the water at the same location. This is more than two fold, it allows new members a chance to get out with experienced divers, it also increases the camaraderie and allows people to make more dive buddies to go with on the non-club dive days. We schedule these in advance to allow our members the opportunity to schedule their dives around them in the hopes to achieve the objectives previously mentioned. It is important to participate in the club dives and events to provide new members a welcoming environment and to keep the vitality of the club.

Due to the diversity of our club members, it is not always possible to make the club dive or the dive of your choice. It could be because you may partake in a boat dive with a friend while the club is doing a shore dive. Or, if you're really into finding bottles, taking pictures or diving a wreck while the club is going out to lobster or scallop dive. We know it happens and it is OK to miss the club dive, things come up that cause plans to change or in some cases plans to stay fixed.

With that being said, we do have to remind folks of the way the club operates on Club Dive days. We have had some issues in the past where the location was changed and not communicated, others getting confused as to whether an individual's post about a dive location is the actual club dive location.

Here's a few rules to ensure communication is solid and nobody is left wondering why the club didn't show up somewhere.

1. Club Dives always begin from the former clubhouse on the corner of Joyce Rd and Quarry St in Quincy (unless previously announced at a meeting and published in the newsletter) at either 8 am or 9 am depending on the time of the year. See the club calendar on the website for exact times.
2. If for whatever reason, you cannot make it to the club house meeting point or you're running late. Call or text the club hotline 617-804-5637 to find out where the club will dive or if they will wait for you.
3. If you will not go to the club dive, please do not share invitations or requests for a dive buddy through the club channels (Facebook, GroupMe or other group texts). Effectively, keep your activity (dive or otherwise) "private" on club dive days. All other days, utilize all the channels to find dive buddies.

Please consider these guidelines when you're diving on a club-dive day. Sometimes we forget and make honest mistakes. Let's have more fun together doing what we love!

Bay State Council - Treasure Hunt

The Bay State Council of Divers and all of its members would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your organization for donating prizes to our annual Treasure Hunt Fundraising dive and snorkeling event. The event is designed to get members and nonmembers together for a great day of diving and snorkeling competitions and activities.

This year was one of our biggest successes to date! We had a lot of participants. Everyone had such a great time and thanks to you, the donors, we could give everyone some terrific prizes!

The main focus of the Bay State Council of Divers is to keep the lakes and oceans accessible to skin and scuba divers. Every year individual towns and the state introduces new bills to stop the diving community from lobstering and spear fishing, wreck and beach diving. This requires the Bay State Council of Divers' members to spend a great amount of time at local and state meetings educating officials about sport diving. At 99% of these hearings, we are the only representatives from the dive community present. Members donate their time in these efforts.

In 2023, the goal for the council will be to continue the campaign to get back the beaches that are closed to divers and the public. Everybody needs to help with this. It will take several years to accomplish this.

We have a very good relationship with the Environmental Police as well as NOAA to name just a few of the organizations that attend our meetings. One of our main goals is to keep our waters clean and accessible to the future generations. By getting young people involved and with your continued support, we will be able to accomplish our goals. We appreciate your support in this past year's Treasure Hunt and hope we can count on your continued support.

If you would like more information on the Bay State Council of Divers or to attend a meeting, all are welcome, please visit our website at www.BayStateCouncil.org

Sincerely,

The Bay State Council of Divers board of Directors and its Members

Dive Reports

Club Dive - Sunday, November 26 - Gun Rock

~70 minutes, 15-20 ft viz, 43°F

Story and Photos by Evan Bodell



Several Neptunes met at the old club house including: President-Adrienne Murphy, Alex Wieck, Calvin Stephenson, Rick Hovey and myself. We decided to head South to dive Gun Rock Beach. Upon entering the water, we broke up into groups and headed out to the right and around the point to explore the jetty and adjacent beach area. We explored many pass-throughs and shallow ravines looking for lobsters and finding an abundance of sea life. Water temp was around 43 with 15-20 feet of visibility. Total dive time was between 60 and 70 minutes. Alex came back with a nice catch of lobsters. We were greeted by VP-Ken Hayes and Paul Greene on our departure from the water. We followed the dive with food and drinks at The Snug Pub in Hingham

November 11 - Canoe Beach, Nahant

~60 minutes, ~10-20 ft viz, ~40 ft max depth

Story by Rob Vice, photo by Maura Keane

Sokol Prifti, Alex Weick, Paul Greene and I met up at the former club house to go diving. We called the Nahant Police department in advance and confirmed we could dive at Canoe Beach. Alex truck-pooled us up and we suited up. Three of us dove wet, while the other dry. We also ran into Maura Keane and Ferdinand Vesely from iDive New England (<https://www.idivenewengland.com/>) who were there before us preparing to dive (both dry).



Unfortunately, Alex isn't in the picture above as he was already underway to search for lobsters. Paul and I buddied up and headed out. We swam past the rock pile/chimney area where we saw Sokol and Alex's flags and dropped down heading directly away from the beach. We did not see much other than some boulders spread across the sand due to swimming perpendicular to the beach entry. I'd have to guess we were about the same distance from the chimney to the shore when we surfaced at half-tank, i.e. a pretty long swim back. On the way back in in, I ran into Alex's flag and found him still hunting. We all pretty much ended the first dive at the same time. At this point, Paul and I were both cold and called it a day. Sokol and Alex went in for another dive, with Sokol having the most bottom time...and he did two dives diving wet! Alex, was a bit dryer on the second dive after switching out his wrist seal that had a hole in it to dry gloves. All-in-all we had a good dive and both Sokol and Alex had some success lobstering.

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>

President	Adrienne Murphy	President@southshoreneptunes.org amarym31@yahoo.com	781-603-4113
Vice-President	Ken Hayes	VicePresident@southshoreneptunes.org edkenhayes@gmail.com	781-335-7607
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(561) 736-0712

SplashdownDivers.com

Boat diving off the LoggerHead
Recommended by Paul Greene