

# SOUNDINGS

South Shore Neptunes' Newsletter  
MARCH 2005



## SOUTH SHORE NEPTUNES FIFTY YEARS OF DIVING 1955 ----- 2005



*Fifty years is a long time no matter how you look at it. But when you look at it as your birthday, it is a milestone, a significant point in development. And this year marks the fiftieth birthday of the South Shore Neptunes. From a few guys meeting in someone's house fifty years ago to the present day, the Neptunes, with a membership that stays around 100+, have been a solid part of the New England dive community. In last month's newsletter our president, Kathi Bell, mentioned membership. Membership is key to being a success and we want our Fiftieth Anniversary to be a success. So as a member of the South Shore Neptunes, your getting involved will insure a successful year. Kathi mentioned checking the website and the newsletter for updates and plans for activities in 2005. And the planning has started. In February, the Board of Directors brought three suggestions before the membership for their approval. The members approved holding a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner/dance, a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative pin and a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary '50 dives for 50 years' shirt. Elsewhere in the newsletter, these events will be expanded on. Lastly, by the time you receive this newsletter you will have received a letter from John Blackadar and the Anniversary committee. Try to be in attendance at the meeting on Tuesday, March 29, 2005.*

### Past Events

**On Sunday morning, February 13<sup>th</sup>,** nine hardy soles met at Bickfords in Kingston where they had a hearty breakfast in anticipation of cutting through some thick ice for the annual ice dive. But upon their arrival at Long Pond the ice was very questionable. It was decided that it was not a safe situation. Roy Chamberlain was ready to go in the water but he had no takers to join him.

**The Bay State Council of Divers** met at the clubhouse on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Angelo Corenti reported that Vinny Malkowski from the state was present along with three other employees who are currently involved in some work in the bay and on the waterfront. Two of

these parties are involved in the recent project that laid a new gas pipe from up North down through Hingham Bay. They are overseeing the work which will restore the bottom to where it was before the pipe was laid. The third person is involved in an eelgrass planting project. This party will be looking for some diver assistance as he gets further into the project. Angelo also reported on the artificial reef project. He stated that they have scheduled dates for some underwater camera survey work at the proposed site. The dates scheduled are Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. At the meeting there was some talk of moving to the next stage. For this stage funding in the area of \$100,000 will be needed.

## Upcoming Events

**On Saturday evening, February 26th**, the club will be enjoying a night out at the Museum of Science Mugar Omni Theater. There are 22 tickets sold. It should be a good evening.

**On Sunday, February 27th**, the point dive for the month will take place at Pemberton Pier, Hull. Prior to the dive, we will meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at Star's Rest/Diner on Rte. 3A, just North of the Hingham rotary. To get to Pemberton Pier from the North or from Quincy, you take Rte. 3A over the Fore River bridge and follow it to Hull. When you enter Hull you follow the shore out to the end and you will arrive at the pier. From the South, take Rte 3 North until you get to the exit for Rte. 228. Take Rte. 228 and follow it into Hull and then follow the shore out to the end of Hull until you arrive at the pier. If you are coming up the highway from the South and are going to breakfast, take a left onto Rte. 3A when Rte.228 intersects it. When you get to the Hingham circle go around the circle and head North on Rte. 3A and go up the road a quarter mile or so and Star's will be in front of you.

**The club point dive for March** is scheduled for Sunday, March 13th. The dive will be at Marblehead Light. This site has provided divers with a good scallop feed on past visits. To get to the light from the South Shore you will take the Southeast X-Way to Boston. After you pass the Frontage Rd. exit you come to the exit for the airport and Mass Pike. Take the exit to go to the airport, you will see the sign with the airplane, and once you get to East Boston you will pick up signs indicating Rte. 1A. Get on Rte. 1A and you will go thru Revere, Lynn and into Swampscott. In Swampscott you will pass a shopping center. You will pass the Marshall's store and come to a Mobil station on your right. Here you turn right onto Tedesco Street. Continuing on Tedesco Street you will pass a golf course on your right. At the next traffic light, Tedesco Street becomes Humphrey Street. Continue on Humphrey Street. At the next light, Humphrey Street becomes Pleasant Street. Continue on Pleasant Street to the second traffic

As you are aware from the mailing you received at the end of February, there is a special Meeting on Tuesday, March 29th at the clubhouse. The primary reason for the meeting is to locate past members of the Neptunes. We want our fiftieth year to be a memorable one and locating old members and past members will help to achieve this goal. Also, if you have ideas for celebrating our anniversary come by and present your ideas to the committee.



**2005 Club Logo**

**Tuesday, March 22nd is the fourth Tuesday of the month and Ted Hotz will be showing a film at the clubhouse. The film is titled Shipwrecks of Lake Michigan. It is a one hour flick and details the stories of eight prominent Lake Michigan shipwrecks.**

light. There will be a fire station at this light. Turn right. You are now on Ocean Street. Follow Ocean Street across the peninsula and continue on and you will come to Chandler Hovey Park, the location of Marblehead Light. If you go via Rte. 128, you get off at exit 25B. Get onto Rte. 114 and follow about six miles into Marblehead and get on Pleasant Street and onto Ocean Street and proceed as above. These directions were furnished by the Marblehead Police Dept. Breakfast will be at 8:00 a.m. at Lincoln's Landing, 156 Humphrey St., in Swampscott.

**The non-point dive for March** is on Sunday, March 13th and will be a location on Cape Ann. Breakfast before the dive will be at 8:00 a.m. at the Friendly's at the rotary on Rte 128 in Gloucester. The dive site will be selected at breakfast.

**HOW TO GET A MEMBER  
ASK HER**

**The Fiftieth Anniversary  
Dining & Dancing --- Wear Your Colors --- 50 Dive for Fifty Years**

The 50th Anniversary committee has met several times since January. There have been several ideas discussed and as mentioned on page one of the newsletter there have been three ideas the committee has brought before the membership and the membership has given its approval to go forward with the three projects.

The membership has approved a 50th Anniversary dinner dance to be held in late summer, 2005. The committee is at this time seeking out an appropriate location for this event. If you have any ideas you think may be helpful to the committee, please put them in writing and either bring them to a meeting or mail them to the club to the attention of the 50th Anniversary Committee.

The second item which was approved by the membership at the last general meeting was having a pin made commemorating the first fifty years of the South Shore Neptunes Skindiving Club. This will be a lapel pin and a pin will be given to each member of the club.

The third item approved by the general membership was a shirt. This shirt will be given to any member who makes, and documents, 50 dives in the 2005 calendar year. The dives do not have to be local, they can be made anywhere. The only stipulation is that the dive must be recorded with the president, Kathi Bell, and it must be recorded no later than the first club membership meeting following your dive. For example, you make a dive March 19th - you must make a report to Kathi by April 5th - the first meeting following your dive. An exception in reporting will be made for any dive made between January 1, 2005 and March 1, 2005. These dives must be recorded with Kathi no later than March 8th. Your submitted record must contain the date and the location of the dive. We would prefer that you attend the meeting in person to record your dive, but reports will also be accepted via e-mail ( [kathi\\_bell@southshoreneptunes.org](mailto:kathi_bell@southshoreneptunes.org) ) or phone (781) 777-1872. Club point and non-point dives you make will be counted toward your total.

Any member who reaches his/her goal of fifty dives will receive a shirt at the Annual Awards Banquet.

#### **Junior Membership Program**

At the board of directors meeting on February 9th, the subject of a junior membership program was discussed and the board was in favor of the idea and recommended that the idea be put before the general membership. At the general meeting on Tuesday, February 16th, the program was introduced to the membership. It was well received and The president appointed Doug Meyer and Angelo Correnti to co-chair a junior membership committee. Anyone interested in joining this committee contact either Angelo at (617) 645-0721 or Doug at (508) 224-4794. The committee will be responsible for reviewing the current policy and rewriting the policy to put together a program for junior membership in the Neptunes.

#### **Dues --- Dues --- Dues**

**Your dues are overdue. If you fall into that category, you will be dropped from the membership roster on April 1, 2005 if your dues are not current and paid on or before March 31, 2005. The matter of dues was discussed at the February 1st meeting and it was sent to the board to be acted on at their meeting. It was the boards recommendation that the above action be taken. This is not the year to fall by the wayside. When you get this newsletter take a moment to write the check and bring it by or drop it in the mail.**

The club president was recently contacted by a Robert Reynolds who was at one time a member of the dive club. But more importantly, he stated that his father was a founding member of the South Shore Neptunes Skin Diving Club. Mr. Reynolds, when contacting Kathi Bell, told her his father had passed away. He was sorting through his dad's property and found some items from his father's days as a membsr of the skindiving club. He wanted to know if the club was interested in having this memorabilia. No one initially recognized the name, so it was thought that Mr. Reynolds himself was probably a member in the early seventies. John Blackadar did a little research and found that Mr. Reynold's father was indeed one of the original members of the Neptunes. John has since been in contact with Robert Reynolds, the son, and arrangements were made for Robert Reynolds to transfer the items to John. At this time the only item I am aware of is an old club jacket. And I believe that that is where the logo printed on the mailing you received came from. John Blackadar will be bringing the club current at the next meeting on his meeting with Robert Reynolds.

## Local Dive Happenings

**The Boston Sea Rovers will be running their 51st Annual Clinic and Dive Show on Saturday and Sunday, March 5th and 6th, 2005** at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, Ma. The Boston Sea Rovers are one of the country's oldest and prestigious dive clubs. This year there will be over forty daytime seminars covering every aspect of diving and the marine environment, including a dozen detailed workshops on advanced diving techniques. There will be over sixty booths, the year's largest display of dive equipment and services in New England. On Saturday evening they will present a World Class Film Festival, a show that will run from 8:00 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. The Rovers are once again welcoming back legendary cinematographers Al Giddings and Stan Waterman, who will be joined by Norbert Wu, a world-renowned underwater photographer and film maker. Tickets for the clinic on Saturday, which includes exhibit displays and the programs offered are \$25.00 per person. The Film Festival is also \$25.00. On Sunday, tickets for the exhibits and seminars are \$20.00. Children under 12 are free. For students and senior citizens, who have valid ids, tickets are \$15.00. Daytime events run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

**The South Shore Neptunes will** once again have a booth at the Sea Rovers Show. We can always use assistance in staffing the booth. If you are able to volunteer some time, it would be appreciated. To volunteer your time contact Angelo Correnti at (617) 645-0721.



**1955 Club Logo**

**The New England Aquarium Dive Club is running a** fund raiser raffle to help the Aquarium with various projects for which funding has been cut due to budget problems. They are raffling off a spot on their 2005 NEAq Collecting Trip to the Carribean. The trip is to Cay Sal Banks and Bimini, Bahamas from April 23 to May 2. Tickets are \$10.00 each, and there will only be 500 sold. Certified SCUBA divers age 18 and older are eligible. It is a 'working' vacation. You will be diving and collecting at some of the most beautiful sites in the world. The prize package includes airfare, shipboard accomodations on the R/V Coral Reef II (meals, lodging, cocktails), and up to five dives a day (weights and tanks are provided). Also included is a rare opportunity to dive in the Aquarium's GOT. For \$10.00 you can try the raffle, or pay up front for yhe trip. Trip fees are \$3800.00 for Aquarium members and \$3845.00 for non-members. For more information contact Holly Martel Bourbon, Senior Aquarist/DSO at (617) 973-5248 (Wednesday through Saturday or e-mail Holly at (hbourbon@neaq.org ).



**U-Boats and Subs**  
**When: Saturday, April 2, 2005**  
**8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**Where: Keefe Technical School**  
**Framingham, MA**

The Metro West Dive Club will present **"Wrecks 2005"** on the above date at the above location. Dive into history with the Metro West Dive Club and learn the fascinating story of U-Boats. The key speakers are: Paul Lawton - U-Boat Activity in the Atlantic, Kandall A. Raine - Discovery and Exploration of the UB-88 off Los Angeles, and Michael C. Barnette - Exploration of the U-2513 off Floreda Keys. At this event there will be dive equipment vendors and exhibits, displays of the latest dive equipment, artifacts and shipwreck treasure displays, book signings and raffle and door prizes awarded throughout the show. And to complete the day there will be a speaker decompression party at nearby LaCantina Restaurant.



**The club president has been stocking the club library. Kathi has donated two dive mysteries, 'SWIMMING WITH THE DEAD' and 'DARK WATER DIVE'.** Kathi has been in contact with the author via e-mail and the author sent her a brief autobiography of herself. The space was available so I have included it in the newsletter.

### **Diving into Mystery by Kathy Brandt**

When I decided to plunge into mystery writing, I knew what the “who, what and where” of my novels would be. I’ve been a scuba diver for almost twenty years and have been sailing in the British Virgin Islands for ten. So my character, police diver and underwater investigator Hannah Sampson, was a natural. I published the first book in my underwater investigation series, SWIMMING WITH THE DEAD, in 2003, followed this year by DARK WATER DIVE (Penguin Putnam/Signet). My third book, DANGEROUS DEPTHS will be released in May, 2005. How lucky could I get? I’m doing what I love and writing about it! And even better, the reviewers are calling the books “first rate thrillers, the underwater action top-notch.”

I’ve tried to keep my books authentic. I have dived the sites that my character, Hannah Sampson, dives when she sets out to solve heinous crimes, though I admit with relief that I have never encountered a dead body on a dive! Like me, Hannah finds wrecks dark, claustrophobic places, where air tanks clanging off hulls serve to emphasize the fact that she is jailed by steel. She experiences the same fear that I do at depth, when nitrogen narcosis sends her to the edge of panic. I want the reader to feel what Hannah feels when she is caught in a wreck and out of air or swims right into the body of a murder victim.

I’ve also been awe struck in the underwater environment. Most of you know what I mean. It is like being submerged in Alice in Wonderland, gliding under arches blanketed in color, my bubbles catching and sparkling like mercury in the rocks above my head; swimming along underwater walls covered in reef life, the sea floor thousands of feet below. I’ve followed turtles and Manta Rays, played with sea lions, touched Christmas Tree Worms, and encountered Hammerheads that completely ignored my presence.

I want to share this wonder with those who have not experienced it and also let people know that the environment is fragile. As a result my books all have environmental sub-themes, focusing on the damage to coral reefs worldwide, on the decimation of shark populations for a bowl of shark fin soup, on endangered sea turtles.

When I started these books, I knew a respectable amount about the ocean environment and the basics of diving. But I knew absolutely nothing about dive rescue and recovery, underwater investigation, or even some of the particulars about reef ecology or sea turtle preservation. I had a lot to learn.

I got certified in dry suits on a snowy day in a Colorado lake, elevation 10,500 feet. I’ve joined rescue and recovery divers for training both in the classroom and in the water, murky with sediment, where the diver swims blind. Those divers showed me the ropes---how to interview witnesses, find the last seen point, handle the radio, act as line tender, and develop search patterns.

I learned about evidence retrieval and preservation from the experts, people like Bob Teather who wrote the definitive book on underwater crime scene investigation. By the way, did you know that fingerprints, fibers, even blood can be recovered if the diver handles a weapon or body correctly underwater?

Recently, I accompanied a team of researchers in the Caribbean as they tagged turtles as part of a study that will hopefully provide enough data to change laws. I’ve spent hours in the dusty environmental library in the BVI and days at home buried in articles and research studies about the marine environment. Even that is fun, especially when it all gets turned into a mystery.

**Kathy Brandt is a mystery writer and a landlocked diver, who lives in Colorado. To find out more, visit her website at : [www.ksbrandt.com](http://www.ksbrandt.com).** Her books are available on line ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and other sites) and in bookstores. They are also available for loan from the South Shore Neptunes library.

## MARCH 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1 HT 2:15</b> Regular Meeting	<b>2 HT 3:00</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>3 HT 3:51</b>	<b>4 HT 4:50</b>	<b>5 HT 5:55</b> Boston Sea Rovers Annual Shows, Fair- mont Copley Plaza, Boston
<b>6 HT 7:01</b> Boston Sea Rovers Annual Shows, Fair- mont Copley Plaza, Boston	<b>7 HT 8:07</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>8 HT 9:09</b> Board Meeting	<b>9 HT 10:06</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>10 HT 10:58</b>	<b>11 HT 11:48</b>	<b>12 HT 12:13</b>
<b>13 HT 12:57</b> Point Dive, Mar- blehead Light. Brkfst at Lincoln Landing.	<b>14 HT 1:41</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>15 HT 2:26</b> Regular Meeting	<b>16 HT 3:13</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>17 HT 4:05</b>	<b>18 HT 5:02</b>	<b>19 HT 6:03</b>
<b>20 HT 7:04</b> Non-point dive, Cape Ann, Gloces-ter. Brkfst at Freindlys, Ret.128	<b>21 HT 8:01</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>22 HT 8:51</b> 4th Tuesday @ the clubhouse. Film, 'Wrecks of Lake Mich.	<b>23 HT 9:36</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>24 HT 10:17</b>	<b>25 HT 10:56</b>	<b>26 HT 11:35</b>
<b>27 HT **:**:*</b>	<b>28 HT 12:26</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>29 HT 1:05</b> Special Meeting 50th Anniversary Informa- tional	<b>30 HT 1:48</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>31 HT 2:37</b>		

## APRIL 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1 HT 3:31</b>	<b>2 HT 4:33</b> Metro West Dive Club Show at Kee fe Tech, School. Framingham
<b>3 HT 6:41</b>	<b>4 HT 7:50</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>5 HT 8:57</b> Regular Meeting	<b>6 HT 9:56</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>7 HT 10:51</b>	<b>8 HT 11:42</b>	<b>9 HT 12:02</b>
<b>10 HT 12:45</b> Non-point dive, site to be announced and posted in April Newsletter	<b>11 HT 1:27</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>12 HT 2:09</b> Board Meeting	<b>13 HT 2:52</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>14 HT 3:38</b>	<b>15 HT 4:28</b>	<b>16 HT 5:23</b>
<b>17 HT 6:21</b>	<b>18 HT 7:21</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>19 HT 8:18</b> Regular Meeting	<b>20 HT 9:10</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>21 HT 9:57</b>	<b>22 HT 10:41</b>	<b>23 HT 11:24</b>
<b>24 HT **:**:*</b> Point dive, site to be announced and posted in April Newsletter	<b>25 HT 12:16</b> Underwater Rugby Linc-Hanc. Pool, Qcy, 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.	<b>26 HT 12:57</b>	<b>27 HT 1:41</b> Underwater Rugby Rand.H.S. Pool 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>28 HT 2:29</b>	<b>29 HT 3:21</b>	<b>30 HT 4:19</b>

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**REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** First and third Tuesday of each month at 8:00 PM.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 PM.

Members, applicants for membership and other interested parties are invited to attend all Membership and Board of Directors meetings. All meetings are held at the Quincy Emergency Management Dive Team headquarters building at the corner of Quarry and Joyce Streets in Quincy. To reach the building take the Furnace Brook Parkway exit from the Southeast Expressway and follow Furnace Brook Parkway to Quarry Street (at the second set of traffic lights). Turn left onto Quarry Street and travel one short block to Joyce Street. The Dive Team headquarters is the small stone building on the right.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Membership is open to all sport divers and other interested persons. Application for membership can be made at any Membership or Board of directors meeting. Membership applicants are required to attend at least one Board of Directors meeting and after that one regular membership meeting. Membership fees are:

Regular member dues	\$35.00 per year
Initiation fee	\$25.00 one-time charge
Corresponding membership (to receive mailings only)	\$10.00 per year

**DIVER'S HOT LINE**

Looking for a diving buddy? To find out who is diving when and where call Angelo Correnti at (781) 391-1034.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

To learn more about the club's activities and membership please feel free to call one of the club's officers, or call John Blackadar at (781) 826-4696.

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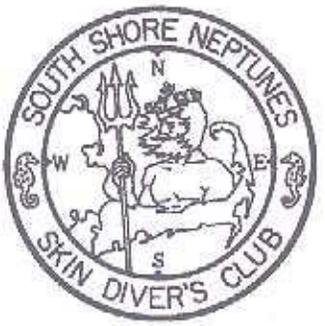
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Booster Listings - \$25 Per Calendar Year

# South Shore Neptunes

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