



# Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

## Upcoming Events

10/25 8am Club Dive

10/27 Movie Night Out

11/3 General Membership Mtg

11/10 Board Meeting

11/17 General Membership Meeting

1/30/2016 AWARDS BANQUET,  
Common Market \$30

Ken Hayes as President

Mike Vaughan as VP

Teri Hayes as Secretary

Theresa Czerepica as Treasurer.

Board: Doug Eaton, John Blackadar,  
Jeannine, Jay Theriault, Rich Bowers,  
Deb Osborn, Carl Yngve, Joe  
McAndrew, Tom Guild

Alternates: Tommy Lo, Rob Vice.

## Never a Dull Moment!

The divers have been very busy this fall starting with the **BSC Treasure Hunt** which was held Sept 20 at Stage Fort Park in Gloucester. The weather was sunny and pleasant and the food team did an excellent job keeping the hungry divers sated. A total of 61 divers participated in either the scuba and or the snorkeling event and there were enough prizes for all participants to win a prize. Four teams competed in the snorkel event and the winner was Boston scuba. Second-place was Salem State Scuba Club #1. Third Place was an open team and Fourth place was Salem State Scuba Club #2. One diver even caught a large spider crab!

Mike V, Lisa and Rob R participated in the **Fish Rescue** on Sept 26 in Ft Wetherill Rhode island. Of all the divers in the water, Mike was the only one to capture three butterfly fish with the help of his diving buddy Rob. Mike was explaining on how tricky it is to capture the fish with a small net and then the trickier part is transferring the fish into a ziploc baggy, all while underwater.

The annual **River Run** was held on Sunday, October 11 and 13 intrepid floaters (Jeannine, Ken, Todd, Doug, Erica, Jan, Lisa, Ed, Peter, Mike, Bono, Amanda, Rob V, Paul) entered the water at 1:20 PM and after a leisurely to our journey down the North River exited at 3:20pm. Many thanks to Paul Green for shuttling us back and forth from the parking area to the drop off point. The scuba members have many ways of keeping warm on the way down the river. Some include proper attire (more than a 3ml suit was necessary on this particular jaunt). Some included internal heat sources such as moonshine or fireballs as liberally produced by Doug and Jan. We may have gone in as fellow scuba divers but we came out as family members who joyously showed our love to each other. I'd say more but what happens on the river stays on the river!

On October 10 we held our annual Flea Market as organized by Angelo Correnti and hosted by John Blackadar in the Building 19 parking lot down in Hanover. Many thanks to all the volunteers who showed up on Friday and Saturday to make our

## Dive Notes From Rob Robison

New England Diving - Sept 20 and 26.

I finally got it together and made my first dives in New England since arriving August 5. At the South Shore Neptunes meeting I learned of the Annual Bay State Divers (Ohio Council counterpart) Treasure Hunt fundraiser. Fifteen dollars purchases registration and all you can eat post-dive BBQ. Prizes range from new gear to bag tags. Held at Stage Fort State Park on the outskirts of Gloucester, all of the diving takes place in a lovely little cove adjacent of the harbor and Annisquam River out flow. We dove for colored golf balls and quarried marble tailings in about 3 – 10' of water (67°, 45 min). I found two prize worthy marbles from last year's event but nothing of prize-worthy value for this one in 2015, except for a lot of fun diving!

Dive 2, the Annual New England Aquarium-Sponsored Fish Round Up was held at a small cove at Fort Wetherill State Park in Newport, Rhode Island (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m0O4ljvn6A>). Each year the Aquarium takes advantage of the Gulf Current, which brings warm water and tropical fish all the way to New England, to supplement its collection. This year, the aquatic museum was hoping we could help it collect these four species: banded butterfly fish, snowy grouper, yellow cow fish and short big-eyed fish. And toward the end of the dive on our way back to dry land, we ran across a baby sea robin. Mike spotted a small school of squid, we both saw myriad schools of slivery baitfish, and a kid seined a pipefish and squid close to shore. Also, a few common starfish were collected by others. It was a nice leisurely dive, punctuated by a cookout afterwards, enjoyed by all on a lovely fall Saturday.

annual flea market a huge success. The weather was gorgeous and there were many attendees and vendors. The grill was hopping as many ordered hamburgers and hot dogs. Thanks to Marty and Theresa, no one went hungry. Our new routine of checking in with the vendors before they vacated their space meant that we did not have the trash issue that we had in years passed. All in all, another great Flea Market success!

### Who's Been Diving?

Doug and Todd went to Plum Cove and the ocean was too rough since it was blowing all week.

### Recent Passings

Time marches one and the cycle of life continues. Jeannie Chamberlain bid a fond farewell to her mother, Irene (the most organized woman I've ever met!), and Dave Ingliss said good bye to his father (a man of great strength, discipline and love).

### TDI/SDI: How to choose your scuba tank purchase

Their newsletter had an excellent article (of which I included the link here <http://tinyurl.com/qearaqo>) about choosing a scuba tank to buy for yourself. I'm including the following excerpt:

"Should you go with steel or aluminum?"

Opinions vary on which is better. It really depends on circumstances.

To better decide, you need to understand the fundamental differences between steel and aluminum cylinders.

Steel cylinders are available in a wide variety of sizes. There are steel tanks with largely the same capacities as the most popular aluminum models, as well as ones with substantially larger internal volumes, such as a 19-liter monster capable of holding nearly 150 cubic feet of gas at a rated pressure of more than 3400 PSI or nearly 240 bar.

As steel is a heavier metal than aluminum, steel cylinders tend to be heavier under water, yet may weigh less on the surface, due to their thinner walls. Divers who use steel cylinders generally need to wear less weight than divers who use aluminum tanks.

## Movie Night Out

In September we got lucky and had to movie nights out as there were five Tuesdays in October and September. On the first week we saw "Black Mass" the story of James "Whitey" Bulger and James Connolly. It was an excellent movie. All who saw it were very pleased with it. It wasn't too gory and it wasn't too bloody. The movie dealt with the relationship between Bulger and the FBI.

On the second movie night out, we saw "The Intern" with Anne Hathaway and Robert deNiro. I noticed that throughout most of the movie I was smiling. The movie was witty, it was entertaining and it didn't have any sappy romantic love stories that go along with Sappy Hollywood movies.

Aluminum cylinders tend to have more metal at the bottom, as this allows the tanks to stand upright without a tank boot. This can tend to make divers more tail heavy. In contrast, divers often praise steel cylinders for their excellent fore-and-aft balance characteristics.

By far the biggest difference between steel and aluminum cylinders is this: Steel cylinders can rust; aluminum cylinders can't.

Moisture that gets inside an aluminum cylinder may cause only a minor amount of oxidation or scale and will not likely cause any permanent damage. Even salt water getting into an aluminum cylinder will not cause significant corrosion.

In contrast, even a small amount of fresh water getting inside a steel cylinder can cause a significant amount of damage if not caught in time. With salt water, the corrosion occurs even faster. If left unchecked, the resulting oxidation and pitting can damage a cylinder beyond repair.

Epoxy-coated steel cylinders can also trap moisture between the exterior coating and the tank wall, leading to unseen tank damage.

If you do a substantial amount of diving in salt water, and aluminum cylinders are available in sizes that will meet your needs, you may be better off sticking with aluminum.

On the other hand, if you dive mostly in fresh water, or you need the additional capacity, better overall balance or more compact size — and can provide the higher level of care and maintenance these cylinders require — you may be happier with steel.