



# Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

## Calendar 2018

8/19 Club Dive, @clubhouse  
8 AM

8/21 Program John Stella from  
ScubaPro on diving ancient  
shipwrecks in Greece; newsletter  
assembly

8/24-26 NC Wreck Diving trip

8/26 Club Dive, @clubhouse 8AM  
8 AM

9/2 Club Dive, @clubhouse  
8 AM

9/3 Shark Dive

9/4 Program Zack Whalen: Diving &  
photographing on the Isle of Shoals

9/9 Club competition dive in Hull. Details TBA

9/11 General Meeting 9/16 Bay State  
Council

9/15 NEAG annual fish Roundup Fort  
Wetherill State Park

9/16 Treasure Hunt & Coastal  
Cleanup Stage Fort Park (Gloucester) 9/18  
Board Meeting & newsletter assembly

9/22 NE Aquarium Tropical  
Fish Rescue

10/2 General Meeting

10/6 Annual Neptunes Flea Market

10/7 River Run, chowder at Billy Burchills

10/9 Board Meeting

10/16 Program : Ethan Gordon Photography  
Newsletter assembly

10/28 Club Dive @ clubhouse 9 AM

11/4 Club Dive  
@clubhouse 9 AM

11/6 General Meeting

11/11C Club Dive  
@clubhouse 9 AM

11/13 Board Meeting

11/20 NC Wreck Diving by Rob Robison;  
Newsletter assembly

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **Tuesday Aug 21. MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** *John Stella*, head sales rep from ScubaPro, will share his behind-the-scenes experiences from the 2015, 16, and 17 expeditions to Greece, where he was part of the team that dove on 53 newly found ancient shipwrecks. ***DON'T MISS THIS ONE!***
- **Saturday Aug 25. North Shore Frogmen Celebrate 60th with party for all.** We are invited! Details at [www.northshorefrogmen.com](http://www.northshorefrogmen.com)
- **Monday Sept 3 Shark Dive.** Still 2-3 spots available. If interested, contact **Doug Eaton** ([diverssn11@gmail.com](mailto:diverssn11@gmail.com)) immediately!
- **Tuesday Sept 4. Guest speaker Zach Whalen**, underwater photographer, videographer, and camera operator for *Blue World TV*, will be on hand to share his work photographing the seals on the Isle of Shoals and more... ***DON'T MISS THIS ONE!***
- **Sunday Sept 9. Club Competition Dive in Hull.** Details forthcoming
- See Calendar at left and go to Pages 7-8 for more photos, videos, and special announcements.

## JULY / AUGUST ACTIVITIES AND DIVES

### Club Activity - Duxbury Beach Outing

**Sunday Aug 5.** At 8:30 AM **John Blackadar** and his wife **Kathy** pulled into the Duxbury Beach parking lot to the sound of "Hey Blackie, what took you so long?" Only to find that I had beaten them to the punch. Not that it was a race to be at the beach outing first or anything, but just to let Blackie know he wasn't the only one to arrive early. We unloaded his van, set up his Easy Up tent, and began to position some of the club equipment

**Calendar 2018 (cont.)**

**12/2 Club Dive**  
 @clubhouse 9 AM  
**12/4 General Meeting**  
**12/9 Club Dive, @clubhouse**  
 9 AM  
**12/11 Board Meeting**  
**12/18 Program TBA &**  
**Newsletter assembly**

**2019 Calendar**

**1/1/2019 Club Sober Up**  
**Dive, Pleasure Bay**

he was hauling from the clubhouse to where it would be best utilized on the beach by **Angelo** and **Tommy Lo**, our chief cooks, supported, by **Theresa C**, and the rest of the club crew for the outing. **Chuck Zarba** and **Ken Hayes** showed up next with their utility van and GMC High Sierra vehicles loaded to the brim with more tents, cooking equipment, flatware, plates, and napkins, folding tables and chairs, enormous container dispensers for water, Gatorade, and lemonade, the corn hole game, sacks for the sack race, tug-of-war-rope, and Brute trash barrels, to mention but a few.

Finally, Angelo arrived with a carload of family, offloaded all the food, and setup his camp kitchen. Chuck Z and I helped Ken raise the extra tents and Angelo make the salads, while the rest of the gang completed the kitchen set up as well as staking out their own spaces on the beach for their tents and beach gear. All told, we were expecting in excess of 60 Neptunes, family, and friends for the annual gluttonous beach barbecue feast of 'dogs, sausages, burgers, corn on the cob, chicken, salad, watermelon, and assorted confectioned pastries.

In the midst of all the excitement, Blackie found a moment to reprise his Rip Van Winkle disguise (See photo) because the clear skies, hot sun, and cool sea breeze did the job of putting him as well as the rest of us in the mood for conversation and occasional naps. It's just that his lasted a tad longer than the rest of ours. Go to Page 7 and the club FB page for more photos and video footage of the activity.



After all the kibitzing, eating, games, and fun, we began packing up around 3:30 – 4:00 and were gone by 5-5:30 PM, well sated and satisfied with a fun day at the Outing on Duxbury Beach. It goes without saying that a great time was had by all. See you next year, everyone!

**Diving**

**Friday Aug 3. Boat Status and The Graves, Part 1. Story by Tommy Lo** (Sorry. No photos)

I had the carburetors reinstalled on Monday, and we also found a fuel line that was deteriorating from the inside. We replaced that as well. **Todd** and I played hooky from work, and it was **Jon W's** last free day between jobs. I thought **Ken** had said **Rob Robison** was coming with us, so I was thinking, Great! The two shutterbugs can dive together. Well, I never heard from Rob R, so I buddied up with Jon.

So with rebuilt carbs and without my bad luck charm (KH), we left the Quincy Yacht Club for the Graves. The boat ran well and we found our spot, then anchored the boat. Todd went in and we discovered a bit of current. Jon jumped in and I followed him down the anchor line. My plan was to swim with the current the first part of the dive and then against it for the latter half of the dive (I should have shared the dive plan with my buddy).

We started the dive. I would catch lobsters and let Jon film it. I dropped into a hole for a nice sized male lobster. Jon lost me at this point, and when I came out of the hole, Jon was missing. I started swimming in the direction where I last saw Jon. I found a spot and caught 3 lobsters and wanted to look around the area for more, but I knew I had to find Jon. (If I lost him and his insurance was not paid up, Jeannine would kill me).

I surfaced and found Jon at the boat trying to get the ladder down .....Oops! I swam over and pulled the ladder down. As we struggled with the ladder, another boat pulled up and asked if I could check something on the bottom of his boat. I said sure and belted out orders for him to tie up alongside my boat. Checked his boat and found a hole in one of his transducers (He hit a log in the Charles River the day before). He thanked me and went along his way. So I ran off and finished off the rest of my tank

Our second dive was at the supermarket. We were either in the wrong spot or it has changed a lot since the supermarket days. We came across 3 or 4 lobsters, all too short to keep.

We went back to the yacht club and I crashed a Celebration of Life service. Free food and drinks!

**Saturday Aug 4. The Graves, Part 2. Story by Tommy Lo**

**Ken Hayes, Todd Alger, Rob Vice,** and I set out to try and make a dent in the lobster population. We arrived at the Graves and found the current from the day before was still there. Todd and Rob went in and I had to fish Ken out of the water. His regulator stopped working at around 38 ft. and then he got caught in the current. Luckily he grabbed a hold of a lobster buoy. I had to throw him a line and then pull him in.

As I started to gear up I felt the temperature drop about 20 degrees. I felt I should not go into the water, but head back as soon as Todd and Rob surfaced. The rain and fog started just after we picked up Todd. The ride in was not too bad except for me texting and driving. As we passed a lobster boat that had run aground on the Brewster spit, I had to deal with the whale watch boat revving his engine and flying past me.

When we cleared Georges Island and headed for the Gut, the winds really picked up, we had 3 to 4 foot seas, and the vis dropped. We went through the Gut and used Paddock’s Island to block the wind .... It worked!

Upon arriving back at QYC, a few people were happy to see us. A charter boat had wrapped some line around his prop, and it needed to be cleared. We volunteered Todd to clear the prop. It took him an hour to clear the line from the prop, while we waited in the rain.

**Friday July 27. Gun Rock evening dive with Neptune Rob Christian. Stories and photos that follow by Rob Robison**

Just before he left on vacation to go camping in the Adirondacks, **Rob Christian** wanted to take one last plunge. He and I met at Gun Rock at 5:30 PM on the last Friday in July, suited up, and headed for the newly constructed wooden staircase that leads down to the beach. Other divers had beaten us to the punch, so to speak, and were already on the staircase leading down to the water. Rob and I helped them square away their gear. By the time he and I were waist deep, they were nowhere to be seen. In the distance at the exposed protective rip rap, we could see a lobsterman tending traps. We could also see a number of lobster buoys clustered around the western end of the



*Juvenile flounder*



*Rob C*

protective rock formation.

We dropped down in about 7-8 feet of water and headed out across the sand toward the exposed rip rap. Vis was between 8'-10'; we ran into a small skate and a baby flounder reaching the underwater kelp fronds and some of the mooring and rock formations. As we began closing the distance to the rip rap pile, the vis began to deteriorate significantly. We found some interesting



cave-like formations in the rip rap and

a lobster or two, which were short, and some crabs. We kept moving westward toward the end of the pile and suddenly found ourselves in the midst of a tangle of lobster warp and traps. Fortunately, we were able to navigate out of the



mess and began to round the tip of the rock pile, at which time the vis dropped to near zero. That caused us to turn the dive and head back to shore. All in all, it was a refreshing dive on a Friday evening, even if we had little to show for it. My dive stats indicated 54°, 37 min, at 19 feet. Rob C told me his

computer read 65 degrees for water temp, but most likely he transposed the numbers by accident, which would account for such a huge discrepancy in readings.



**Sunday July 29.** Beetle Rock (Rexhame Beach, Marshfield). Neptune **Jon Willis** and I loaded up the Sport Commando, my 15.5' Zodiac with a 50hp Evinrude e-tec on the transom, and launched her at the Green Harbor town pier at 8:30 AM on a beautiful Sunday

morning. Heading out of the harbor, we opened the throttle and whisked out around the point northward toward Beetle Rock at a comfortable 18 knots, dodging numerous lobster buoys along the way.



We anchored in about 38-40' of water, raised the oversized dive flag I carry on the boat, and donned our gear. A half hour later, we back rolled off the tubes and headed down the



anchor line together. As we passed through the thermocline, the water temperature dropped to a very noticeable 50° by the time we reached the anchor. Vis was 2' – 15', depending on the area we happened to be in. Swimming into the very slight current, we headed north and saw a variety of stars, blood stars, crabs, and,



lobsters. All were short or hairline keepers, which we left behind for a future dive when hopefully they will have grown much larger.

On the return, we found the anchor line find our boat where we had left it, back to the harbor, where the deputies were busy trying to help launch participate in the (unknown to us) the fleet. While the fleet was being down for tasty burgers at the local harbor, called The Point, providing a great morning. Dive stats: 50°, 42', 30



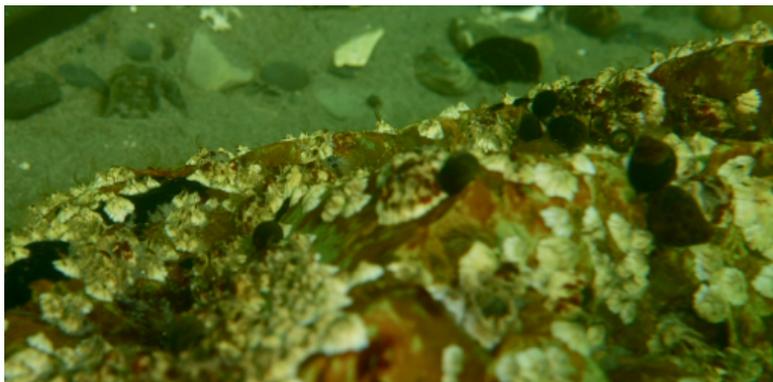
and followed it up to waiting to carry us harbormaster and his boaters wanting to scheduled blessing of blessed, Jon and I sat restaurant in the blessed end to a min.

**Tuesday July 31. Nantasket Beach.**



Neptune **Eric Cantor**, Bonnie Zeller, and I suited up in the south end of the parking lot at Nantasket beach in the early afternoon. The day was sunny and very hot, the water was flat and calm. By the time we got wet, the water felt refreshing and helped us cool off quickly. Our 56-minute swim was punctuated by swarms of snails leaving tracks in the sand or hitchhiking rides on crabs. Numerous decorator crabs could be seen moving around, their missing appendages suggesting

survival from submarine skirmishes with their natural predators or recent storm upheavals. We observed a few baby flounders flitting



about in the sand and a short lobster or two, one of which was a borderline keeper we decided to release for another day. And the rocks were heavily encrusted with barnacles engaged in a feeding frenzy, as evidenced by their fully extended tiny, slender, thread-like tentacles waving in



the water column in hopes of snagging microscopic food particles flushing past them.



*Sea  
Wrack  
bouquet  
(L)*



*Decorator  
/ spider  
crab (R)*



Afterwards, we repaired to a local bar across the street for some seafood and brewskies to finish off a wonderful afternoon of diving. Dive stats: 59°, 56 min., at 17 feet.

As you can see, we are having a whale of a good time diving into it! How about you?

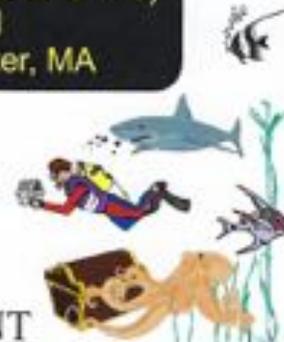
### South Shore Neptunes Duxbury Beach Outing Photos *By Theresa C and Rob R*



More outing photos and video clips on club FB page

# Bay State Council of Divers 33rd Annual Treasure Hunt

Date: Sunday Sept. 16th, 2018 (Rain or Shine)  
Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Place: Stage Fort Park Gloucester, MA



A MULTI-CLUB EVENT

## 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 2018 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 690518 Quincy, MA 02269

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BayStateCouncil.org

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