



Neptunes Sounding Newsletter

Calendar 2018

5/19 Dinner Nite Out 5PM
 @Marias Braintree
 5/20 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 9AM
 5/23 Night dive, location TBA
 5/27 Boat & scallop dive: Contact
 Jeannine for more info
 6/2 U-Boat Dive off Block Island
 \$108 pp., max 7 divers
 6/5 Ted Maney: Mussel farming on
 Stellwagen Bank; General
 Meeting
 6/10 Club Dive,@clubhouse 8
 AM
 6/12 Board Meeting
 6/13 BSC meeting 7PM
 6/19 Newsletter assembly & shirt
 order deadline
 6/20 Night dive, Sandy Beach,
 Cohasset , 5 PM
 6/23 President's Clambake Party,
 See Announcements above
 right
 6/24 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 8 AM
 7/1 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 8 AM
 7/3 General Meeting
 7/10 Board Meeting
 7/15 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 8 AM
 7/17 Newsletter assembly
 8/5 Duxbury Beach outing
 8/7 General Meeting
 8/14 Board Meeting
 8/19 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 8 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- May 5 Clubhouse Cleanup: *Special thanks to Chuck Zarba, John Blackadar, Jon Willis, Billy Burchill, Theresa Czerepica, Garrett Kane, Rob Robison*
- May 11 RAGNAR Cape Cod Provincetown Relay" *Special thanks to Jeannine Willis, Ken, Teri, & Erica Hayes, John Blackadar, Rob Robison, Theresa Czerepica, Billy Burchill, and Marlene Walker for volunteering to support this charity relay road race and raise money for club coffers at the same time.*
- May 19 Dinner Nite Out, 5:00PM, at Maria's (Restaurant) Braintree, 240 Quincy Ave. *Contact John Blackadar for reservations*
- May 27 Boat & scallop dive: *Contact Jeannine for more info*
- June 2 U-Boat Dive near Block Island. Cost \$108 pp. See Todd Alger for more info: todd.alger@gmail.com
- June 5 Speaker: Ted Maney on Mussel Farming on Stellwagen Bank
- June 19 Polo shirt orders due. See P.6 for more info and order form.
- June 23 President's Clambake Party 1600 Boston/Providence Highway, Walpole, MA. More details next newsletter. if not sooner

Board Meeting,

APRIL - May ACTIVITIES AND DIVES



Sunday April 15. Back River Dive, by Doug Eaton, photo by Chuck Zarba. After meeting at the clubhouse Sunday morning, **Chuck Z., Mary Rose L, Garrett K,** and I had a really good day diving. Air temp 38°, water temp 40° at 25 feet, visibility 5 to 6 feet. We had some current tide coming in. We were looking for artifacts and just glad to get in the water. Ken and Teri showed up just as we were getting out of the river, so we headed to the 99. Another good day diving the Back River.

Sat Apr 21 2018. Pleasure Bay, South Boston, MA

Stories, photos and video clips by Jon Willis

This was one strange day. As usual, I get to the site early to

Calendar 2018 (cont.)

8/21 Program TBA &
 Newsletter assembly 8/24-26 NC
 Wreck Diving trip .
 8/26 Club Dive,@clubhouse 8AM
 8 AM
 9/2 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 8 AM
 9/4 General Meeting
 9/11Board Meeting
 9/16 Bay State Council
 Treasure Hunt & Coastal
 Cleanup (tentative)
 9/18 Program TBA &
 Newsletter assembly
 9/22 NE Aquarium Tropical
 Fish Rescue
 10/2 General Meeting
 10/7 River Run
 10/9 Board Meeting
 10/16 Program TBA &
 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 Program TBA &
 Newsletter assembly
 12/2 Club Dive
 @clubhouse 9 AM
 12/4 General Meeting
 12/9 Club Dive,@clubhouse
 9 AM

scope it out. I happen to run across a couple of park rangers making their rounds. I ask them, "Is this beach the dive site?" They look at me like I have 3 heads. One of them says in the closest thing he has to a Buford Pusser voice, "Negative. Absolutely not." I ask them where the dive site might be then? "Not in this water," he says.

One of the other Neptunes (Eric) is on his way up, and we had been texting amongst a larger group of interested parties. Rob Robison texted from afar and called it BS. Says, "Is it posted anywhere? Call the State Police to see if the site's really closed."

I'm not a big fan of even talking to law enforcement, so I was ready to bag it and go home. Eric asks me to wait up, so we can make plans. He's on site a couple minutes later and offers to make the call. He works with law enforcement regularly as part of his job. "Go for it", I tell him. Sure enough, he's got a guy in the State Police who refers him to the Environmental Police. Couple of minutes later, he gets a call back. They tell us we can jump in.

I go to throw my gear together. Set my tank on the tailgate, slide my BCD over the top, then F***! I left my regulator hanging up at home. I've never seen anybody quite this unflappable. Eric says, "Go home and get it. I'll wait". I didn't set any world records from Southie to Weymouth and back, but traffic was kind. I put my gear together and we got the show on the road.

This is not a pretty dive. It's tan colored silt on top of black mud. The bottom is carpeted with tiny half-inch long fry, and punctuated with the occasional hermit crab. We also saw a fair amount of mussels and clams. Things were going smoothly until Eric had an equipment issue. Seems like his brand new tank band, upon getting wet decided to also

come loose. We tried to solve the issue on the bottom, but trying to work on that strap in 3 finger mitts proved to be a challenge. We took it in to shore to resolve. Funny thing about it, Eric even handles that without a fuss.

I had about 1700 lbs. of air left (I think Eric had well over 2k), so after getting the strap tightened, we headed back out. I was trying to film something that looked like an old mooring, when I noticed that my camera was no longer blinking. At that point, I was happy to just look at stuff underwater. We practiced our underwater nav skills for a bit, then called it a dive. Oh, and on the way back, I think I saw Eric hitting on a mermaid, but that's another story.

For the log book geeks: 2 dives 15 minutes each,



max depth 14', water temp 41°F. To watch the action, go to: <<http://ocean-stuff.daisyhillsoftware.com/posts/2018-04-21/>>

Sun Apr 21 2018. Minot Beach, Scituate, MA. The day did start a little odd, evoking feelings of deja vu from the day before (Pleasure Bay). Our initial plan was to visit Peggotty Beach in Scituate. Unfortunately we were greeted with this: (See photo on preceding page)

Scituate took a fair beating in the offseason. I'm not exactly shocked that they chose to close Peggotty for repairs.

Our dive community quickly supplied an alternate site in Minot Beach, at the other end of Scituate, and Minot certainly did not disappoint. Catching this beach early in the season is an absolute treat. The winter and early spring storms did a great job of cleaning the bottom of kelp beds and other vegetation. There was some krill and particulates in the water column, but visibility was still a respectable 15-20' in spots. Give it another month or two and visibility will probably be less than optimal.

For the log book geeks: 46 minutes, max depth 24', water temp 40°F. Watch the video here: <<http://ocean-stuff.daisyhillsoftware.com/posts/2018-04-22/>>

Circleville Dive Center, Circleville, OH 4-24 & 4-26. I was in Ohio the week of the April 23 to visit my daughter who lives in Columbus, make a couple of dives with my Columbus dive buddies, and attend a weekend workshop and dinner on underwater archaeology, sponsored by the National Museum of the Great Lakes (Toledo, OH) and the Marine Archaeological Survey Team (MAST) (Forthcoming June newsletter). Here are some shots from the quarry dives (50°, 50 minutes, 21', 0-5' vis).



L-R: Juvenile bass



John Skobel with billiards



Dirty (toilet) rat



Club Dive at Back River 4/29/2018. Story by Chuck Zarba, photos by Doug Meyer. Dive stats: Depth 23', high tide, 14 min bottom time, 47° H₂O, vis. Well, you know it was nothing to write home about. Surface weather: Sunny skies, 65°.

Matt and Doug Meyer and I went to the Back River in search of artifacts. I collected bottles and ceramics/china, while Matt focused on the munitions. I came up with a coffee cup and the bottom shard of another. Matt found 40 mm artillery shells, 308 rounds, and a brass cylinder clamp. These were nice finds. We had a great time! Special thanks to Doug Meyer for repairing my 1st stage o-ring that failed. He also was very helpful serving as our riverbank safety support personnel and photographer.

Left: Matt & Chuck suiting up



L-R: Chuck with coffee cup Matt with shell casing Matt's artillery rounds & clamp Matt & Chuck with treasure

Night Dive at Gun Rock May 4, 2018. Neptunes Eric Cantor, Jon Willis, and I joined Peter Ninh and Rob Christian for a delightful night dive at Gun Rock on Friday evening. We met at 7, donned our gear, and splashed in to 20+ feet of clear vis. The gently sloping sandy bottom was coated with moon snails, baby hermit crabs, a couple of very brief flashes of schooling bait fish, skates, a flounder or two including a window pane, some sea/sand lances, juvenile red hake fish, boat mooring chain and blocks of concrete, as well as a couple of *Homarus americanus*, one of which was undoubtedly a keeper. Eric and Jon videoed, while I took stills and a brief 5-second clip of one of the innumerable schools of Mysid shrimp (AKA brine shrimp) See a 5 second clip of the shrimp in action here: <http://ocean-stuff.daisyhillsoftware.com/posts/2018-05-04/>. It's the clip without a cover photo. Peter and Rob C scoured



Rock gunnel/eel



Lady Crab



Moon snail



Skate head shot

the area as if on the hunt for serious game. Our various temperature readings of the water were 42, 43, and 45 degrees. We reached a depth of 22' when we exited the cove to the right and followed the rock/sand line. Our bottom time was 41-42 minutes. The moon was full and shiny on a crystal clear night. Everyone enjoyed a great dive. For a video clip of the dive, go to: <http://ocean-stuff.daisyhillsoftware.com/posts/2018-05-06/>. For additional photos, go to the club Facebook page.



Afterwards, **Jon Willis and I** headed over to Nantasket Beach to down some fish tacos and Cokes and decided we would make a followup pilgrimage **Shore Diving at Plymouth Long Beach, Sunday morning, May 6**. We found flat water, visibility ranging from 25-30' or more, and 45° H₂O awaiting us on an ebbing tide. Even though our depth never exceeded 9-10', we found plenty to write home about: nudibranchs of at least two or three varieties, big hermit crabs, a big rock crab, interesting foliage such as coral weed, some sponges, moon snails, mussels, whelks, and more.

Blood star; club tunicate(below)



Eel grass beauty (below)



As you can tell from the amount of diving that is being done, the pace is quickening with the improving weather, and we are having a blast. Come on out and dive into it with us when you can. The water is fine, if still a bit chilly.

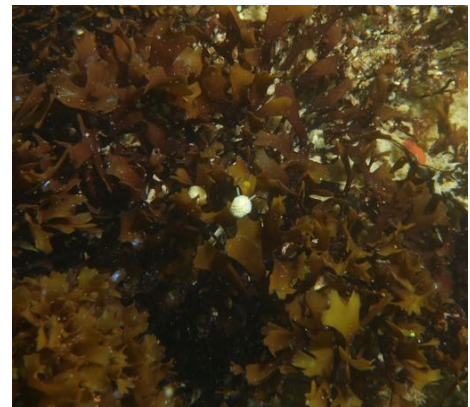
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Flabellina verrucosa nudibranch



Hermit Crab



Nudibranch Onchiodoris muricata

Special thanks to Joe Hozhman for his talk and video on the Andrea Doria. Photos on the club Facebook page.



New Club Shirts, 2018

We are ordering new club shirts for 2018. The **D100** polo shirts are 6.8oz. 100% Peruvian pima cotton, with collar, Dura-Pearl buttons, and rib knit cuffs. *Shirts can be worn by **men or women**.* The **D100W**, pictured in pink below, is **for women only**. It has all the same features as the Men's D100, plus a feminine fit, a delicate Y-collar and a 2-button placket. You may choose Light (AKA Transparent) Yellow with the club logo in black, or French Blue with the club logo in yellow. Pink is NOT available. **The cost is \$30.00 each. The order deadline is Tuesday June 19. Cash OR checks PAYABLE to KEN HAYES.**

Polo Shirt Order Form

Name _____ Date _____
Please print legibly

Please order me _____ D100 polo shirt(s) for men or women.



Color Choices: Transparent Yellow (Y)

French Blue (B)

SIZE	COLOR	QUANTITY	PRICE	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
XS	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
S	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
M	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
L	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	\$ _____
2X	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
3XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
4XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
5XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
6XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	

Please order me _____ D100W shirt(s) FOR WOMEN ONLY!



Color Choices: Transparent Yellow (Y)

French Blue (B)

SIZE	COLOR	QUANTITY	PRICE	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
XS	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
S	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
M	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
L	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	\$ _____
2X	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
3XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
4XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
5XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	
6XL	_____	_____	\$30 ea.	_____	

DEADLINE: TUESDAY JUNE 19, 2018. Cash OR Checks PAYABLE to KEN HAYES