



# Sounding

## *Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes*

### Calendar 2021

11/28 Club Dive 9AM at former clubhouse  
 12/5 Club Dive 9AM at former clubhouse  
 12/7 General Meeting 7PM  
 Zoom; Nominations for new club officers  
 12/12 Club Dive 9AM at former clubhouse  
 12/14 Board Meeting 7PM  
 Zoom; Nominations for new club officers  
 12/21 ELECTIONS, The Common Market

### 2022

1/1 Sober Up Dive Pleasure Bay  
 1/4 General Meeting 7PM Zoom  
 1/11 Board Meeting 7PM Zoom  
 1/16 Club Dive 9AM from former clubhouse  
 1/18 Program: The Nantucket Lightship, by Robert Mannino, Jr.  
 1/29 Annual Banquet@Common Market; cost: \$35.00/pp; alt date Feb 5  
 See P.6 for details

### ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, & REMINDERS

- The Club welcomes **new members Patrick Larivee** and **Sokol Prifiti. Congratulations!**
- **Underwater Rugby hours:** *Wednesday* nites 8:00-9:30 PM at Westwood HS pool. Club member **Tori Steffi** is moving to Florida—The SSNeptunes wish her the very best—and has a Women's #10 Henderson wetsuit 7/5 mm suit and Aqualung BC available. Contact **Joe Gomes** if interested. Also, Joe Gomes is working on a history of underwater rugby and needs photo credits and any sorts of media that could help him illustrate the sport across time. He can be reached at: <[jsgomes@gmail.com](mailto:jsgomes@gmail.com)>
- **Club General and Board Meetings are now in-person at The Common Market in Quincy at 7PM**, but will **also be available via Zoom**. Club members are encouraged to attend the meetings in-person and order food or drinks before or after the meeting to support The Common Market for providing us free meeting space. **Program Night**, usually, but not always, the 3rd Tuesday of the month, is **ZOOM only!**
- **Please note: All Club activities and programs listed on the Calendar are live now**
- **Bay State Council:** *Dues have increased from \$5.00 to \$10.00.* Neptunes members pay \$8.00 to join BSC and the Club covers the remaining @2.00 per person balance. For an update on the **Back Beach Lawsuit**, please check out this link: <[https://www.gloucestertimes.com/news/broken-phone-leads-back-beach-neighbor-committee-to-drop-deadlines/article\\_e300d7a2-2dea-11ec-bbdd-b399db5595cd.html?fbclid=IwAR00zQI8Of33-TKmL1\\_Vo5MmPcpN8d0oup5GrOKIRIIQIK-FZHP8Jz5ndPc](https://www.gloucestertimes.com/news/broken-phone-leads-back-beach-neighbor-committee-to-drop-deadlines/article_e300d7a2-2dea-11ec-bbdd-b399db5595cd.html?fbclid=IwAR00zQI8Of33-TKmL1_Vo5MmPcpN8d0oup5GrOKIRIIQIK-FZHP8Jz5ndPc)>
- **Newsletter:** To help add interesting content to the newsletter, please send me ([robisonr25@yahoo.com](mailto:robisonr25@yahoo.com); or [newsletter@southshoreneptunes.org](mailto:newsletter@southshoreneptunes.org)) any first-hand accounts, stories, photos, or both about your exploits as a Neptune for potential publication. Photos or clippings enhance stories, so please include them if you can. Don't forget

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to provide contact info in case I have questions.

- **Don't forget** to visit the **club store** at <https://bit.ly/SSN-Store> for the latest in club swag.

### ANNUAL AWARD ENTRIES DUE NOVEMBER 30!

**NOMINATIONS Tuesday, December 7 & 14**

**ELECTIONS Tuesday, December 21**

**DUES-\$35-ARE DUE BY ELECTION NIGHT!**

### Evening Program

**Rob Robison**, Club secretary and newsletter editor, shared a well received slide presentation on the year in diving with the Neptunes, which included 54 dives and club events/activities. In case you missed the slide show or want to watch it again, it is available by clicking on this site or pasting it in your browser:

<http://www.divecommando.net/posts/2021-11-18/>

## RECENT DIVING & ACTIVITIES



### **2021 Underwater Rugby National Championship,**

Denver, CO. Nov 13-14th. *Submitted by Jay Theriault.* The Boston Narwhals took 3rd place in the **2021**

**Underwater Rugby National Championship.** Fourteen teams participated in the event.

**Back Beach (Rockport) Club Dive.** Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021. *Story by Ken Hayes. Sorry. No pics.*

Saturday morning, We headed north to Rockport for a beautiful day. We arrived and decided to try Old Garden Beach, but the beach was gone. It was covered with large round cobble and pounded by still fairly large ocean rollers coming in, so we opted to go to Back Beach, which was much better, waves small. I opted out of the dive and Adrian's regulator was free

flowing, ending her dive. **Todd** dove for a quick 40 minutes, and **Rob Vice**, **Paul Greene**, and **Rob Foley**, the youngest guy of the bunch, dove for over fifty minutes with not great visibility. Rob Vice found three nice bugs and a good 15" inch flounder.

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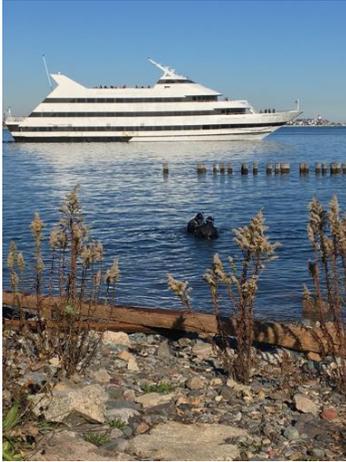
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Happy Diving

From

**JOHN & KATHY BLACKADAR**



All in all, it was a good day to get wet; however, the water was still kicked up by the weather we've had off shore.

**Castle Island Dive.** Saturday Nov 6, 2021. *Story by Doug Eaton; photos by Chuck Zarba*

So today's mud dive took place at S.Boston's Castle Island. Chuck Zarba, Rob Foley, his friend Anthony Thibeault, and Doug Eaton met at the old club house parking lot, then headed for Southie. Rob and his friend went snorkeling and cleaned all the drift wood out of the way, while Chuck and I geared up. After we got in, Rob geared up and joined us to check out the island's underwater world. Even though we didn't find anything, we had fun checking out a new mud site. After the dive, Chuck and I headed to Darcy's for a burger and beer, while Rob and Anthony headed off in other directions to take care their remaining Saturday to do lists.

**Night Dive in Little Pond at Morton Park (Plymouth).** Friday November 5, 2021. *Story & photos by Rob Robison*

In anticipation of a Friday dive with Divers' Market dive masters, Brian Smith and Scott Martin, I drove over to Ocean Bluffs in Marshfield to check out the vis—terrible—and was relieved to learn the two of them wanted to make a night dive in Little Pond at Morton Park instead of the ocean. The wind conditions predicted and in actual effect on Friday did not augur well for a decent salt water dive experience. The three of us met around 5:15 - 5:30 PM in the park and suited up, sloshing into the 55° water just as the sun sank below the horizon.



On submerging we felt the darkness fall fast, as the light nearly completely evaporated from around us, while we headed down toward the Alien, Chilly Willy, the flag, and more. Brian led the way. It was a lot of fun.

By the way, we found some crawdads, minnows, and apparently Scott and Brian saw some large bass or maybe even some trout. Unfortunately, I did not. Next time!

**A Hathaway's Pond Dive Morning.** Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021. *Story & photos by Rob*

In the aftermath of last week's powerful Nor'easter, which witnessed wave heights in excess of nearly 28', and still cresting at 10' on the South Shore and over 8' north of Cape Ann yesterday morning, new Neptune member, Rob Foley, and I felt it prudent to make a pond dive in lieu of a trip to the ocean. We met at



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Hathaway's Pond at 9 AM, suited up, and beat most of the classes, but not all of the divers, into the water. Instead of using the Emergency Road launch entry point, we waded in from the beach side to avoid the scuba class divers assembling there.

For the most part our foresight paid off. Though not crystal clear, the 7-10' murky vis held as we finned slowly past an underwater assembly platform, the rusted out Saab, the American flag, the drive shaft, another platform with a direction indicator on top pointing the way out to the road entry, and more.



We turned the dive a little more than a third of the way through our tanks and headed along the line leading to the sunken cabin cruiser. Commensurately, our trek began taking us deeper into the pond, as we lumbered along toward the wreck on the far side.

About the time we reached the 32' depth mark, our deepest on the 37 min, 59° dive, the vis suddenly dropped to near zero. A couple of divers, who had begun their dive earlier than we, had followed the same path a bit before us and stirred up the silt to such a degree, neither Rob nor I felt like continuing to the boat in zero vis. So, we turned left

(South), and took a course back to the line that would return us to our own entry point, the beach.

No sooner had we made the turn and kicked a few strokes in the new direction than we ran into the tool garden, a repository of yard tools standing on end, including a wheel barrow. We lallygagged across the garden, found the return line, then headed southwest along it back toward the American flag, assembly platform, and the way out.

I forgot to mention we saw plenty of fish fry, fingerings as well as juvenile bass, one larger bass in the 1-2lb. range, and small schools of perch, plus lots of algae covering different parts of the silt- and grass-coated pond bottom.

RobF, a great dive buddy, and I enjoyed a delightful relaxing dive together, on a beautiful Sunday morning, that ended at the 3A Café in North Plymouth, where, joined by my wife, Carol, we wolfed down a great breakfast before calling it a dive day. Isn't diving into it a blast? Do it safely!

*Rob*



## CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFERS

The holidays are approaching and will be fast upon us before you know it. Here is an idea for the scuba diver(s) in your life: ***The Guns and Armour of Scapa Flow***, by Thomas Easop. Self-Published: 2021. Cost: \$48.50 Available only from the author at <[diver@easophotography.com](mailto:diver@easophotography.com)>. See Next Page!

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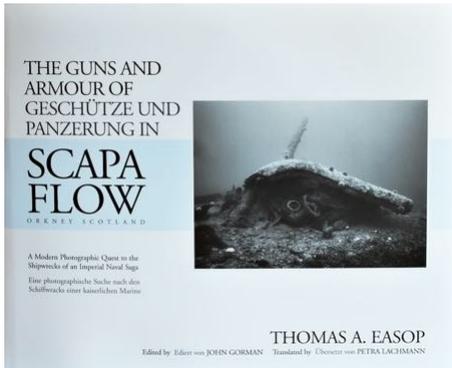
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### South Shore Divers

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*The Guns and Armour of Scapa Flow* is a book born of the passion of an underwater photographer diver who fell in love with the story and the wrecks he found scuttled in the Orkney Islands off the coast of Scotland. The history of these sunken German WWI military vessels is told in English and German. It is beautifully and at times hauntingly illustrated via the incredible black and white images, created by the author with a large format homemade film camera, which capture the drama and essence of these ships in their current state. If you are a naval history or WWI buff or just interested in shipwrecks, you won't want to miss adding this book to your library.



### PARTING THOUGHT & SHOTS

Below are scanned photos of John Baldi, former owner of the South Shore Skin Diver dive shop, a founding member of the South Shore Neptunes, and a club member from 1974 - 1977; from his wife, Cheri Baldi. John passed away in 2013.



Special thanks to **Theresa Czerepica**, club treasurer, who kindly shared these photos for this November/Thanksgiving edition of *Sounding*.

L - R:

Young Baldi

First Dive Shop

Baldi with his homemade suit and doubles on the beach

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*South Shore Neptunes*

# ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

**WHEN:** *Saturday, January 29, 2021*

**WHERE:** *The Common Market*

*97 Willard Street, Quincy, MA*

Cocktails (*cash bar*): *6:30 PM*

Dinner: *7:00 PM*

*Chicken Fish Beef*

**COST: \$35.00 per person**

*Please RSVP to a Club Officer or Board Member by  
Tuesday, January 11, 2020*



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## SOUTH SHORE NEPTUNES *Information Page*

**WANT TO GO DIVING AND NEED A BUDDY?  
Club Hotline: Call or text 617-804-5637**

Don't forget to visit the **club store** at

**<https://bit.ly/SSN-Store>**

for the latest in club swag.



### Club Officers and Board of Directors

Officers, 2021		
<u>President</u>	Rob Vice <a href="mailto:robert.vice@gmail.com">robert.vice@gmail.com</a>	413-265-1977
<u>Vice President</u>	Todd Alger <a href="mailto:todd.alger@gmail.com">todd.alger@gmail.com</a>	339-236-0736
<u>Secretary/Newsletter</u>	Rob Robison <a href="mailto:robisonr25@yahoo.com">robisonr25@yahoo.com</a>	614-546-9018
<u>Treasurer</u>	Theresa Czerepica <a href="mailto:klukom@yahoo.com">klukom@yahoo.com</a>	617-884-0697



Board of Directors, 2021	
John Blackader	781-826-4696
Bill Burchill	781-733-4742
Doug Eaton	617-653-0225
Paul Greene	781-337-5304
Tom Guild	617-484-4204
Ken Hayes	617-462-3920
Tommy Lo	617-515-6109
Jay Theriault	617-620-9221
Chuck Zarba	508-660-2480
Doug Meyer, Alt. 1	508-942-7630
Adrienne Murphy, Alt. 2	<a href="mailto:amarym31@yahoo.com">amarym31@yahoo.com</a>
Matt Meyer, Alt. 3	508-947-7834



