



Sounding

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

Calendar 2021

- 11/2 General Meeting 7PM Zoom
- 11/6 (Sat) Club Dive 9AM at former clubhouse
- 11/9 Board Meeting 7PM Zoom
- 11/16 Evening 7PM Zoom Program: Diving with the Neptunes, 2021, by Rob Robison
- 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
- 1/29 Annual Banquet@Common Market; details TBA; alt date Feb 5

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, & REMINDERS

- The Club welcomes **new members Rob Foley**, an electrical engineer, and **Ramon Casado**, dean of middle school students for Boston Public Schools. 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>
- **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.
- **Newsletter:** To help add interesting content to the newsletter, please send me (robisonr25@yahoo.com; or 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 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.

DIVER'S MARKET SCUBA CENTER

319 Court Street
(Route 3A)
Plymouth, MA. 02360
508.746.3483.P
508.747.4551.F
www.DiversMarket.Com

Wayne Gomer
Air Station
Sales
Rental
Charters
Hydro

Looking to buy, sell or invest in real estate? I specialize in first time home buyers & probate/estate sales.

Jeannine Willis, Keller Williams

617-365-5588

ANNUAL AWARD ENTRIES DUE NOVEMBER 30!

NOMINATIONS Tuesday, December 7 & 14

ELECTIONS Tuesday, December 21

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

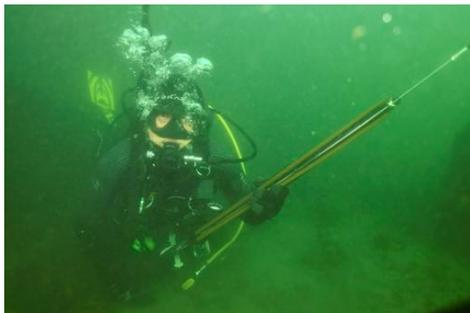
Evening Program

Special thanks to Boston Sea Rovers photographer and former intern **Jake Stout** on his photographic essay on diving the Galapagos Island. His photographs were nothing short of spectacular. He kindly has allowed me to publish the one at right of a whale shark he swam with while diving and exploring the storied islands of Darwin. Thanks from all of us, Jake!



RECENT DIVING & ACTIVITIES

Below: Peter ready to hunt. Above Rt: Whale Shark, courtesy Jake Stout. Lower Rt: Boring sponge



Hunting for "Taug" at Ft. Wetherill, Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021. *Story and photos by Rob Robison*

Yesterday morning's dive took advantage of beautiful cool (high 40s, low 50s) weather at Ft. Wetherill, Jamestown, RI, in lieu of choppy conditions on the eastern shores of Mass. The vis was about par for the Ft. Weatherill course, 7' - 8' of vis at best. Peter and I reached 32' and 28' in depth, respectively, with the water having cooled down from the previous week's 61° or 62° to a still balmy 58°F.

I followed Peter underwater because he was hunting for Tautog, a permissible fish to spear shoot, and I didn't want to be shot accidentally. The photographic opportunities were limited due to the occluded water and the nature of the dive, but it was still a lot of fun. I photographed some Boring sponges, Northern Star corals and fingerling Black Sea Bass, schooling and soloing in abundance, while Peter hunted.



**PROFESSIONAL
AQUARIUM & POND SERVICE**

P.O. Box 205, Hanover, Ma.
781-826-2505

Happy Diving

From

JOHN & KATHY BLACKADAR



Taugs on ice(Above). Pink Flamingos transcend yard ornamentation.



Forty-six minutes later, I turned the dive around and returned to shore with @650 - 700 psi remaining on a 61 minute dive. Peter was wearing a much larger tank and stayed an additional 30 minutes to continue the hunt. He bagged 3 nice ones, whose combined weight exceeded 8lbs. Peter was ecstatic.

RAGNAR Fund Raising Race - New England (Groton, CT to Quincy @Squantum Pt, MA), Friday, October 15, 2021. *Story by Tommy Lo; photos by Theresa Czerepica*

The Neptunes manned four transition points for another RAGNAR Relay Race to raise more money for the club. The October 15 Race New England, from Groton to Squantum Point in Quincy, included the following Neptunes as support personnel for the race: Theresa C, Lenny Picot, Tommy Lo, Paul Greene, Sokol Prifti, Joe McAndrews, Chuck Zarba, Rob Vice, Jeannine Willis, Marcus Gay, John Blackadar, Bill Burchill, Todd Alger, Ken Erica, and Adrian Hayes, Rich Bowers, Donna Bowers, and Teri Hayes. Tommy Lo wrote the following about his experience working near the finish line in Quincy:

At Exchange 35 outside the Quincy YMCA, I met Paul Greene, Lennie Picot, Sokol, Theresa, and Fingers at 7 in the morning. Rob Vice and Chuck Z came for the afternoon shift. Lennie, Sokol, and Theresa had to leave early and did not



stay for the entire day.

We were visited by Quincy's finest (police) on bikes who stayed and chatted with us for a bit. They left and came by later to make sure we did not start any trouble.

We had runners from all across the country. The first runner arrived about 10:30 and they finished the race at 11:28. We were told the finish line was at Nut Island so we were telling people that there is a hill just before the finish line. We found out later the intel we got from race command was wrong and the finish line was at Squantum Park in Marina Bay. All flat lands

We had one team that came in early and had lost their runner. We found out later that the team had skipped an exchange and they were the ones missing. They had to call their chase car back and send a runner to exchange 34. Man were they pissed

The last runner came through at 5 pm.

All the runners were very nice and appreciated us for helping with the race.

River Run 2, Sunday, October 17, 2021. *Story by Rob Robison; photos by Theresa Czerepica and Rob.*



Up above: Quincy bike police with Neptunes; Above: Chuck Z trying to determine where to affix a SSN club sticker.

REMEMBERING Local Scuba Pioneer JOHN BALDI

MA REG SHOP #644 TOM DENNEHY
UNIVERSAL AUTO BODY
COLLISION SPECIALISTS
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR – ALIGNMENTS
288 North Avenue, Rt. 139 781.878.2244.P
Abington, MA. 02351 781.792.1744.F



Above: Rob & Chuck hopping in; (L) RR & CZ are off!

At the recent October board meeting, Todd Alger, vice president of the club, reminded us that last year we had run the North River twice and thought we should do it again and have it count as a special club dive event. Chuck Zarba, a few others, and I were all for it; however, on Sunday Chuck and I were the only ones actually getting wet. It seems that Ken Hayes, Todd Alger,

Paul Green, Marcus Gay, and perhaps a few others had already gone diving the previous day at Lane's Cove and captured 8 lobsters among them.

Just as Chuck and I had suited up, dumped our extra gear in Ken's truck, and were about to leave, Theresa showed up to take photos. Everyone including Billy Burchill drove over to the Canoe Launch on the North River at Bridge Street in Norwell to send us off.

Theresa had this to say: *There were 5 Neptunes to see the floater's off. It was Bill B. Todd A., Paul, Ken H., and I. Ken drove Rob and Chuck to the beginning of the river run. I drove down to take pictures. Afterwards, we (non floaters) met at Bill Burchill's house and went for breakfast in Marshfield at Voyager Restaurant. Netta Burchill joined us for breakfast, too. After breakfast, I managed to get to the 3A bridge over the North River just in time to see Rob and Chuck float by.*

Back to the story: Chuck and I waded in, strapped on our fins and said Sayonara to the rest and began our float down the flood tide-laden North River. We finned out into the middle to catch the current, which sent us on our merry way at a very nice clip. Unlike three weeks ago, most of the moored boats

had abandoned their moorings for the scrub brush, engine winterizing, and shrink wrap routine in preparation for winter storage; however, the trees had not changed much color-wise. Evidently, the weather and water had remained too warm to create the conditions for the hoped for color blaze that characterizes fall foliage at this time of year.

A few motorboats cruised up and down the river, as we drifted along, ferrying wives, girlfriends, or fishing buddies on a fall scenic experience while the weather holds. Chuck and I saw two or three flocks of Mallard ducks along the shore and a plover or two hiding in the marsh grasses, but nothing else. The water itself



Imagine Chuck happy while underway!



Inside Out Fitness LLC

Amy McAndrews
ACE Certified Trainer
617-438-0919
Amy@traininsideout.com
www.traininsideout.com

South Shore Divers

99 Bridge Street (Route 3A)
North Weymouth, MA. 02191
781.331.1144

* Air * Sales * Repairs * Rentals * Classes *
www.SouthShoreDivers.com



as we drifted ever closer to the end of the trip at the Roht Marine boat ramp, just past the 3A bridge 10 minutes later. Post float beers and wonderfully fried fish at the Roht Marine bar and restaurant helped us



seemed unusually loaded with particulate matter and sediment, but otherwise was pleasant on a very sunny, cool, and breezy day.

Two hours after beginning the journey, we rounded the final bend to find Theresa waiting to take our pictures,



Clockwise fromL: Theresa taking pics at float trip end; Chuck ecstatic .We made it! Back River scene from river bank

celebrate with Theresa and Ken Hayes, who also dropped by to check on our experience, at the end of another successful float down the scenic North River.

The Hooky Dive, Friday Oct. 8, 2021. *Story and photo (At left) by Doug Eaton and Chuck, Zarba.* Today, we played hooky from work and went diving instead. So Chuck and I headed for the Back River; it turned out to be a great day. The weather and tide, about 2' higher than normal, couldn't have been any better. After getting geared up and into the water, we enjoyed 6'—8' of vis, a water temp of 61° at 25,' and the air temp was 68°. We found some ammo and some old bottles, ended the dive, and took our treasures home. This was one of those days where everything came together for a perfect day

underwater.

Night Dive at Plymouth Beach. Wednesday, October 6, 2021. *Story and photos by Rob Robison*

Late Wednesday afternoon, I put my gear together for an evening dive with Brian Smith from the dive shop. I had stopped by earlier in the afternoon to order some O-rings for my camera systems and found him conducting inventory for the store. We agreed to make a plunge at Plymouth Beach.

Brian was already on site and half geared up when I arrived at 5:45. I put my suit on, while we watched a few seals swimming a ways out in the water. As we slogged across the sandy beach in full

Dive Safely

Dave Clancy

|Check out my website...

Hunting New England Shipwrecks

www.wreckhunter.net



The Common Market Restaurants

"meeting all your dining needs"

97 Willard Street, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169
Restaurant (617) 773-9532 Fax (617) 472-3628
www.commonmarketrestaurants.com

Find us on Facebook at
facebook.com/commonmarketrestaurant



Clockwise: Lady crab; Hermit crab; Winter flounder closeup; Lobster crushing Rock crab



dive regalia and sloshed into the water, Brian wondered aloud if he needed to bring his underwater torch. Darkness fell upon us, answering his question, as did I with a resounding, Heck yeah! Strapping on our fins, we could both tell the water was going to be pretty murky, making sticking together that much more paramount. Storms all last week, which finally had passed through the night before last, had left the ocean shaken and stirred.

Brian turned on his flashlight and I my twin 4500 Lumens video cam lights; then, we submerged immediately, just as the sunlight dimmed completely, and headed out slowly across the apron of sand leading to the submarine rocks and boulders farther away from shore. As expected, vis was a murky 1-3 feet, with our combined array of lights illuminating Lady crabs, ranging in size from babies to juveniles, scurrying all over the sandy bottom. A few larger Rock crabs and invasive Green crabs could be found as well. Brian pointed out a lobster working on a small Rock crab in its claws, trying to make a meal out of the tasty



critter. I found some small sea potatoes and a larger lobster than the first out scavenging for food. It was too murky to find macro subject matter easily, such as nudibranchs.

Twenty minutes into the dive, we made the turn for the beach. Along the way, we passed through some clumps of eel grass, and Brian spotted the largest and fattest flounder I've seen this year. In fact, it is the only keeper flounder I've seen at Plymouth Beach in 2021!

As we neared the sand, I saw a few flashes in my video cam beams and realized they were squid. I tried to take photographs of them, but the light rays, even on their lowest power settings, were too powerful and too reflective against the particulate matter in the water column to take photos of the tentacled critters. Next



time!

We surfaced and emerged from the water in total darkness, bathed only by twinkling starlight, the red and green blinking lights of navigation buoys, and the occasional flickering lights of a few far off dwellings, punctuating a beautiful ending to a delightful dive in 61° water with a very good friend and dive buddy.

Safe living and safe diving into it, everyone,

Rob

Boston Sea Rovers 67th Annual Clinic, Fri. Oct. 1 - Sun. Oct. 3, 2021.

If unable to attend the 67th Annual Boston Sea Rovers Clinic, you missed a great one. Daytime seminars held something for everyone with standout presenters such as Jonathan Bird on Cave Diving for IMAX, noted wreck diver and author, Erik Petkovic on the U—1105, lying at the bottom of the Potomac River (See Christmas Stocking Stuffers below for more info on this one), plus John Stella on 58 Ancient Shipwrecks Found in One Location in Greece, and numerous other wreck diving sessions of interest. Likewise, there were multiple sessions on coral reef degradation and restoration efforts. Local standout

photographers Andy Martinez and Asli Ertekin shared remarkable photographs of local flora and fauna. In addition, a variety of more technical sessions of interest to photographers and tech savvy divers, and those interested in dive medicine and travel were offered as well.

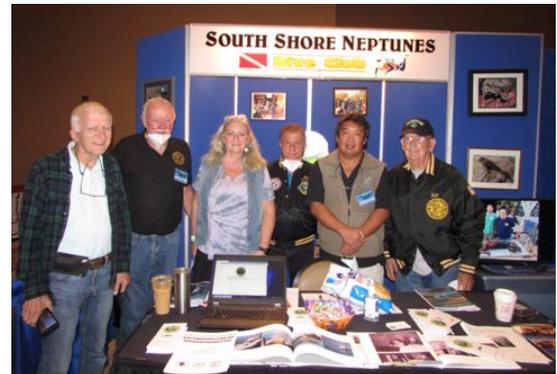
Exhibitors from all facets of the dive industry were on hand to help us plan travel itineraries, share the latest wares in gear and accessories, and educate us on the programs and services available to the diving public. There was also delightful exhibit of artifacts from the



Andra Doria and the

Silent Auction table was front and center in the Exhibit Hall to whet your fancy. Finally, a number of Neptunes manned the Club and Bay State Council booths, too.

Workshops included a bevy of hands-on presentations on underwater photo rendering using Adobe products by Erin Quigley and Joel and Jennifer Penner, as well as a hands-on drone workshop by Bert Perry, and much much more. The evening film festival provided insight into diving the Azores. Canadian explorers and cinematographers



Michael Labrecque and Julie Ouimet took us on a fascinating adventure to unwrap the Canadian far north's underwater world; Joel and Jennifer Penner provided a cinematographic spectacular on diving the Maldives, which wowed us; a behind the scenes look at what happened to the Lusitania, by Rick Simon and Jennifer Sellitti, offered insight into what is required to mount an expedition of any sort, etc. It was truly an event to remember.

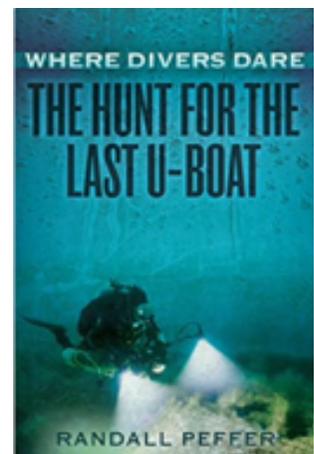
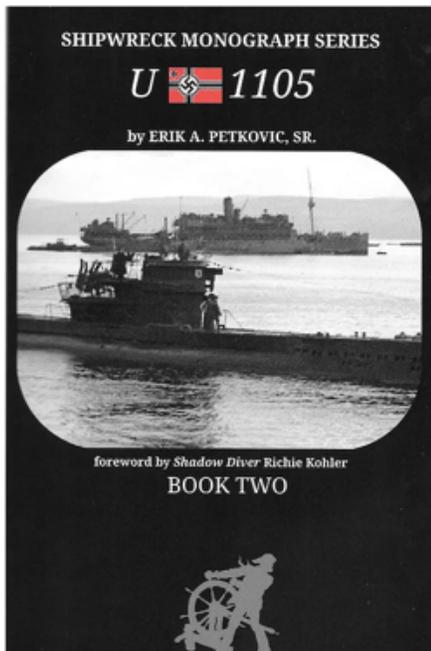
CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFERS

The holidays are approaching and will be fast upon us before you know it. Here are a couple of ideas for the scuba diver in your life.

U-1105 BLACK PANTHER, by Erik A. Petkovic, Sr, with foreword by *Shadow Diver* Richie Kohler. Those of you who have attended the past two Boston Sea Rovers' Clinics may have attended sessions by wreck diver and author extraordinary, Erik Petkovic. The story of the U 1185 is the second in his Shipwreck Monograph Series. I attended Erik's excellent daytime seminar on the search for this particular German submarine and his diving on it, which was found sunken in the Potomac River by the US Navy after WWII. His session and book chronicle a brief history of German submarine construction, the need for an answer to the Allies' success hunting and destroying German subs, what that answer was as indicated by the construction and outfitting of this particular submarine and a few others of similar ilk, how it was sunk, lost, and found in the Potomac River, and what it is like to dive on the submarine. This book is designed and illustrated with Erik's own photographs, as well as original documents and photographs from WWII archives on both sides of the Atlantic, heretofore unpublished. It is a quick, easy, highly informative, and entertaining

read for those of you interested in WWII wrecks and German submarines in particular. It is a great value and stocking stuffer at \$15.00. You can purchase an autographed copy directly from Eric at <ErikPetkovic.com>; or you can find the slim volume on Amazon at <<https://www.erikpetkovic.com/product-page/u-1105-black-panther>>.

Where Divers Dare, and other books by Randall Peffer. Many of you who may remember the presentation given by Erik Takakjian and Randall Peffer on their recently published book, *Dangerous Shallows: In Search of the ghost Ships of Cape Cod*, will enjoy Randall's *Where Divers Dare: The Hunt for the Last U-Boat*. It comes highly recommended by John Blackadar in the print version or read aloud form. You can find it on Amazon at <https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/where-divers-dare-the-hunt-for-the-last-u-boat_randall-peffer/9823736/item/>



[18340011/?gclid=CjwKCAjw_L6LBhBbEiwA4c46uhXKmfQ_cT-j6r8vssY7qt9L38L7tJn415sfg7A-hkpPyEww6drC6RoCUHoQAvD_BwE#idig=18340011&edition=9261128](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000AP0011/?gclid=CjwKCAjw_L6LBhBbEiwA4c46uhXKmfQ_cT-j6r8vssY7qt9L38L7tJn415sfg7A-hkpPyEww6drC6RoCUHoQAvD_BwE#idig=18340011&edition=9261128)>. Author Randall Peffer recommends these books of his as well: *Provincetown Follies*, optioned for film. *Listen to the Dead* received “killer” reviews, as did *Watermen*, which is about the crab and oystermen of Maryland’s Eastern Shore. All are available from Amazon or directly from Randall at <randallpeffer.com>.

PARTING THOUGHT

Lifetime member, former newsletter editor and club president, Dave Clancy, was in town to visit relatives, attend the Boston Sea Rovers 67th Annual Clinic, and rub shoulders once again at the October 5th South Shore Neptunes special club dinner (in his honor) and General Meeting. Welcome back, Dave!

and PARTING SHOT

Type to enter text



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



Board of Directors, 2021	
John Blackadar	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	amarym31@yahoo.com
Matt Meyer, Alt. 3	508-947-7834