



Soundings

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, & REMINDERS

Calendar 2022

December

4. Club dive
6 General Meeting - 7PM
Nominations
11 Club dive
13 Board Meeting-
Nominations 7PM
20 Elections -Free pizza,
cash bar

2023

January

1 Sober Up Dive -
Pleasure Bay 9AM
3 General Meeting 7PM
10 Board Meeting 7PM
17 Program : Master
Scuba Diver Susan
Copelas on Women
Divers' Hall of Fame &
How It All began
February

7 General Meeting - 7PM

14 Board Meeting 7PM

21 Program TBA

March

TBA - Boston Sea Rovers
69th Annual Clinic - Film
Fest

- Please welcome the following new members: **Cheryl Marcinko, Mike Whiteside, and Alisa Daniels**
- For **Annual Award Entry Forms** for **Artifact of the Year, Photo of the Year, and Video of the year**, go to: < <http://southshoreneptunes.org/membership.html>>-- Membership;& scroll to the bottom of the page for the Contest Forms link to each individual form.
- **Women Club Members Only Night Out.** Details TBA. Watch for a special email in the near future!
- **Underwater Rugby hours: Monday eves ONLY: 8:30-10:00 PM;** at Westwood HS pool. • 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, Board, and Program night meetings are now in person (attend only if you are feeling well) or by Zoom until further notice. The Annual Banquet has been postponed indefinitely. On the other hand, All Club Outdoor Activities listed on the Calendar remain live with social distancing rules in effect, as per 2022.
- **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.

ANNUAL AWARD ENTRIES DUE NOVEMBER 30! (See above)

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NOMINATIONS Tuesday, December 7 & 14

ELECTIONS Tuesday, December 21 - Free Pizza!

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

EVENTS

Evening Program

The South Shore Neptunes were honored to host **Joy Marzolf** as our November presenter, who shared her photography and knowledge of the **Turneffe Atoll**, above and below the water, off the coast of **Belize**, where

“Away from the cruise ships of the mainland soar magnificent frigate birds and red footed boobies. Winter migrants, including warblers and hummingbirds, can also be seen on these remote islands. Some of the locals, such as the golden fronted woodpecker and spiny iguana, can even be seen competing for space on the same tree! From above the water, dolphins can be seen frolicking in the waves while manatees slowly cruise along feeding on sea grasses. Under the crystal clear waters are beautiful scenes of colorful reef fish and corals with even the occasional turtle or spotted eagle ray”

And a whole lot more. If you weren't able to join us for this wonderful presentation, you missed great photography and deep insight into the natural world from a gifted naturalist.

In Memoriam

It is with our deepest sorrow that we inform you of the passing of **Eva Crowell**, may her soul rest in peace. Eva is the little sister of Neptune Life member **Theresa Czerepica**. Theresa asked us to pass the following on to you:

To Neptunes and friends,

Some of you have heard by now that I have lost my youngest sister, Eva Crowell this past Thursday 10/27/22 after a short illness. She passed Thursday morning at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester. Here's a link: [Obituary of Eva Bozena Crowell | Bartel Funeral Home](#)

Eva is survived by her 2 sons, 2 sisters and a brother along with a number of nieces, nephews and grand nieces and grand nephews.

Thank you for all your well wishes I have already received.

I will see you at the next meeting.

Theresa Czerepica

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Happy Diving

From

JOHN & KATHY BLACKADAR

ALERT!

SCUBA CYLINDER ALERT: STATUS OF SPECIAL PERMIT 9791

CALIFORNIA DIVER — OCTOBER 23, 2022

Industry Bulletin: Status of the Special Permit 9791



By PSI-PCI October 23, 2022

[PSI-PCI](#) (Professional Cylinder Inspectors) would like to provide the following information related to the expiration of Special Permit 9791 (marked on cylinders as either E9791 or SP9791). The Special Permit (SP) is expired as of 9/30/22. This means that any cylinder stamped with that SP9791 or E9791 is no longer valid for use, fill or transport in the US by law. It means that regardless if the cylinder still contains gas, or is still within its current hydro or inspection period, it is still not valid for fill, use or transport.

There is potentially good news on the horizon. Please read this carefully and do not interpret anything other than the information provided. PSI-PCI has been in communication with the USDOT. They are considering taking administrative action with this SP. Since the permit owner has not renewed this SP, and due to the widespread use of this cylinder throughout the gas industry, the USDOT is currently considering how to renew the permit without requiring owners and users to apply for a special status.

HOWEVER, until that occurs, these cylinders should be marked as "Rejected," reduced in gas capacity (if filled) to approximately 50 psi, and set aside in a safe manner in storage. If / when the USDOT has made their determination we will provide an update to this announcement.

PSI, Inc. (Professional Scuba Inspectors, also now known as PCI, Inc. Professional Cylinder Inspectors, Inc.) or together as PSI-PCI, was formed in 1982. PSI-PCI continues to set the standard for Visual Cylinder

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& DIVES

Loblolly Cove - Club Dive. Sunday, 11/6/22. *Story by Alisa Daniels, photo submitted by Rob Foley*

Neptunes John Wong, Ken Hayes, Adrienne Murphy, Jill O'Neill, Paul Greene, Rob Foley, Carol Hamilton, Alisa Daniels, and Sokol Prifiti met at the old club house and opted for a dive at Loblolly Cove in Rockport. They enjoyed water temps in the mid 50s and vis up to 50' on their one-hour long dive. Lobster abounded, though the big ones were eggers and the others short. New members John Wong and Jill O'Neill were first timers. Both enjoyed great dives. Afterwards, everyone went out for food and drink. It was an all around great day!



Salted, Not Stirred: A return to the ocean after a long hiatus. Sunday, November 6, 2022. *Story & photos*

by Rob Robison

After a spate of freshwater pond dives, it felt good to team up with dive buddy Peter Ninh for a return to the salt water of Old Garden Beach in Rockport, MA, today, in spite of the small craft advisory. Peter calculated the site would be fine given the position of the cove point that protects its waters from southwest winds, and he was right on the money.

When we arrived at the beachfront park, a class of neophyte divers was heading out and there were a few dive teams either readying themselves to get wet or already hunting in the calm flat water conditions.



Matt Bilski, a RI diver we know, was just finishing his one-tank dive and mentioned the vis was spectacular and the water temp hovering in the mid 50s.



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Peter and I dressed for the conditions, waded into the water to slip on our fins, and headed east using his scooter. Early on along the way to the drop site, we witnessed a large school of Sand Lances swimming in formation parallel to the beach beneath us close to shore.

We reached the drop point in no time, AKA the land of the giants -- enormous boulders -- deflated our BCDs, and landed 17' below amidst a mixture of rocks,



boulders, and glacial till. Matt was right. Our vis ranged between 40'—50'! The surroundings were painted with emerald green Sea Lettuce, red Hooked Weed, golden Sugar Kelp and Sea Colander fronds, clumps of

Dulse, periwinkle blue-tipped, burgundy-colored Irish Moss, and an enormous proliferation of invasive Compound Sea Squirts and Orange Sheath Tunicates coating the solid substrate, and more.



Our gear squared away, we began slowly traversing the area in hunting mode, Peter for lobsters, and yours truly for critters and flora to photograph. Neither of us was totally disappointed. We found an

abundance of both, except not unexpectedly, the lobsters were either short or eggers and the fish life was either hiding or off in much deeper waters and holes than we had hoped. Seventy minutes after we began our dive, Peter and I emerged



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from the 46' depths and the 53° F waters of Old Garden Beach, satisfied with having experienced an outstanding dive together.

After cleaning up and stowing our gear, we reconvened at Darcy's Village Pub in Quincy for burgers, cokes, and beers to celebrate Peter's 60th birthday and a great dive together.

Double Dipping at Little Pond in Morton Park. Thursday & Friday, October 27 -28, 2022. *Story and photos by Rob Robison*

Brian Smith, a divemaster at Diver's Market, and I had been trying to synch our calendars for over a month to go diving when we finally found time for both of us to get wet together on Thursday the 27th. We met at Plymouth Long Beach for an afternoon dive only to find that the wind had changed direction and was gusting at 18 mph, generating white caps and roiled water at our dive destination. We made a joint executive decision to revert to Plan B, a dip in Little Pond at Morton Park a few miles away.



Willy, Frosty, etc., and slowly moved around the site. I decided to try to shoot a few pictures of the sun to show my new classmates by lying on the bottom and looking up at it through a filter of 17' feet of pond water overhead, and then continued diving beyond by following the 15'-20' contour lines in a westward direction. A lost fishing lure with a rusted hook and a small stack of rocks were spotted and dutifully photographed, along with a lone leaf and a few other odds



miles away.

Once on site, we quickly changed into our dive gear, slogged over large tree roots and sand to the water, and slipped on our fins. I've begun taking a low intensity photography course, so I planned to take a few shots of Brian in half and half mode before submerging and heading for the marquee icons on the bottom.

Unfortunately, I made a colossal blunder with the settings, so those photos won't see the light of day in this or any future article.

Subsequently and in spite of the goof, we headed down to the 17'-18' mark to the flag, icons of Chilly





and ends. Later, while editing the photos from the dive, I found a baby bluegill staring at me from between two of the rocks, which I had not noticed when taking the shot.

We turned the dive and eventually returned to our starting point. Before surfacing, I rolled onto my back and took another few photos of the sun, this time using a 4' layer of water as a filter, again to share with my new photography mates. It was a wonderful relaxing dive with Brian, always a great guy with whom to share the bliss of the underwater realm.



Next day, gear still sopping wet from Thursday's dive, I met Neptune Mike Whiteside at the main parking lot in Morton Park at 5 o'clock for a **night dive**. By the time we finished gearing up, there were only a few minutes of daylight remaining, as we sloshed into the water and underwent the ritual donning of our fins.

We turned on our lights, submerged, slowly made our way to the edge of the sandy swim area, and headed down toward the figurines, which Mike had never seen. In fact, he had never dived in the pond before, either, so this was not only his first night dive but also a first experience in Little Pond.

We found our targets at the 17' mark as expected, and toured the lineup before moving off into the blackness that enveloped us as the

last rays off the sun completely disappeared. Along the way we found a few fish - a large bluegill that appeared nearly white when bathed in the beams of my twin 4500 Lumens video-cam lights and a number of juveniles of the same ilk.

Mike was getting chilled in his 5mm wetsuit, so we turned the dive and headed back to our starting point, where we surfaced into darkness partially illuminated by a waning crescent moon and twinkling stars. A post dive check of the water temp indicated the temperature had dropped to 59°. Our vis was 15 - 20'. The dive time was immaterial because our goal was to experience a night dive safely and enjoyably, which we did. We punctuated the evening with some excellent fried food from Plymouth Harbor's award winning seafood restaurant, the Lobster Hut, washed down with a



couple of cold beers that were on tap. Hit the spot!

Two great dives with two great dive buddies. It doesn't get any better folks. Keep diving into it as long as the temps and the water permit.

Club Dive @Canoe Beach (Nahant). October 23, 2022. *Story by Sokol Prifti*

We five members of the Neptunes (Adrienne Murphy, Ken Hayes, John Wong, Mike O'Brien, and I) met Sunday at 9 AM at the old location of the clubhouse. We judged the weather situation wind and waves, and we decided to go up north to Nahant. Adrian said she wanted to go dive south probably with some new members of the club (female). Kenny said that he was busy that day! So three of us headed up north.

The weather was OK, water was OK; still warm but a little stirred up! Both new members got geared up. They were well equipped and motivated to have a good dive day! We decided to go as a group and I was leading the group and holding the flag! We began the dive, and within the first 15 minutes of the dive John lost us! We surfaced, regrouped, and continued to dive and try to find some spots with the good visibility! Luckily, I found three lobsters that day.

Our dive lasted all of about 40 minutes and the temperature was in the lower 50s. It was a very good day diving! On the way back we checked out with the Nahant police, and we thanked them for giving us permission to park our car!

Until next time, safe living and safe diving diving into it for as long as possible while the good weather lasts.

Lost & Found

Crusader Sword Discovered in Red Sea. A 900 year old sword, which dates to the Crusades was found near Haifa Israel in the Red Sea. Click on this link/web video or copy and paste it into your browser to find out more: <



PARTING THOUGHT & SHOTS

Exploring the hydrosphere can be accomplished in many ways. Here's a special one for those of you who haven't been underwater in a while. *Words and iPhone photos by Rob Robison*



Copy & paste this link into your browser and play the video to fully appreciate these photos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>



South Shore Neptunes

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

WHEN: *Saturday, January 28, 2023*

WHERE: *The Common Market*
97 Willard Street, Quincy, MA

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

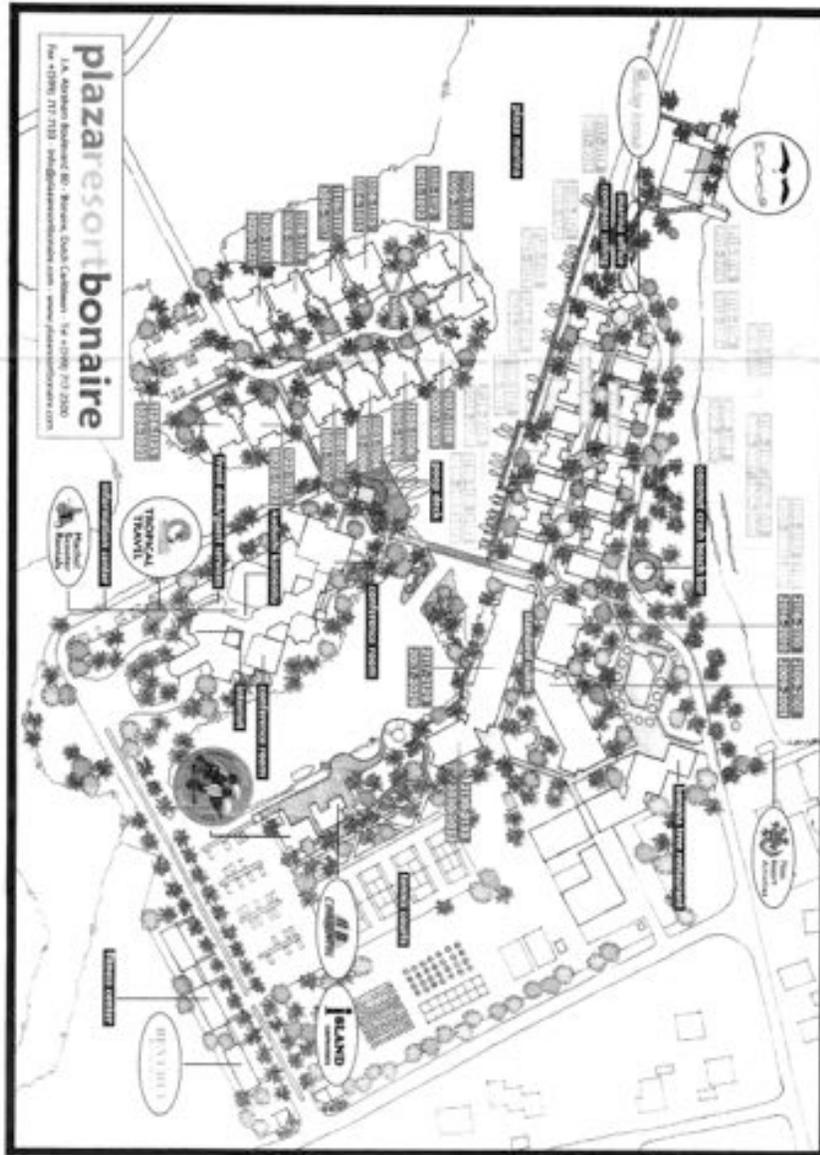
Dinner: *7:00 PM*

Chicken Fish Beef

COST: \$35.00 per person

*Please RSVP to a Club Officer or Board Member by
Tuesday, January 10, 2023*

PLAZA RESORT BONAIRE



We are going back to Bonaire!

Divers and non-divers rave about Bonaire. The hotel, the food, the beach and pool, and of course, the people!

We are going May 6, 2023 to May 13, 2023. The resort and dive pricing are outstanding. See enclosed room categories and pricing.

Airfare is NOT included. All of your food and drinks, including adult beverages, are included.

A \$300. Check or money order deposit is required by November 11, 2022 to hold your spot. This deposit needs to be sent to Debie at Wayland Travel. The address and contact information are at the top of the resort pricing package.

You must also call me or leave a voice mail at my office # 781-826-2505.

When you send your \$300. Per person deposit to Debie, you need to include, for each person, the 2-part picture page of your passport book, what type of room you would like, how many people will be in your room and who in your party are divers or non-divers. Ask Debie if you have any questions.

Flight information should be available as soon as we have deposits and a better count of how many in the group.

March 1, 2023 is when payment for the balance of the trip is due. A refund for the deposit is available until March 1, 2023 if you need to cancel.

Please call me at 781-826-2505 or Debie at Wayland Travel if you have any questions.

Just a note/suggestion on the dive packages from the previous trips and divers. Most divers opt for the two tank morning dives. Since unlimited shore diving is included free in the dive package, afternoon and evening shore diving anywhere from the island does not cost extra. You can ask me for details if you have any questions.

John Blackadar

10-12-22

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THESE PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE AIRFARE. WE EXPECT AIRFARE TO RUN ABOUT \$900.

NOTE all the prices **DO NOT INCLUDE** the tourist tax which right now is \$45.50 and round trip airport transfers which are \$22.00 per person. That could change so that is why it is not included.

Everything else includes: Buffet style breakfast, lunch and dinner, small snacks during the day, unlimited local drinks, frequent daytime and evening activities, free Wi-Fi, room safe, beach towels, hotel taxes and service charges. Prices are based on per person basis under the occupancy and room types.

Junior suite laguna view-double occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore:
 1656.00pp

Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore:
 1756.00

Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive and unlimited shore: 2056.00

Non diver price: 1224.75

Junior suite laguna view-single occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 2461
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 2561
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 2861
Non diver price: 2029.75

Junior suite laguna view-triple occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1449.00pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1549.00
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 1849.00
Non diver price: 1017.75

Junior suite laguna view-quad occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1346pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1446.00
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 1746.00
Non diver price: 914.75

Junior suite pool view-double occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1726.25pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1826.25
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 2126.25
Non diver price: 1294.75

Junior suite pool view-single occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 2601pp

Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 2701

Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive and unlimited shore: 3001

Non diver price: 2169.75

Junior suite pool view-triple occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1495pp

Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1595

Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive and unlimited shore: 1895

Non diver price: 1063.75

Junior suite pool view-quad occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1380.63pp

Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1480.63

Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive and unlimited shore: 1780.63

Non diver price: 949.38

Grand suite Laguna view-double occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1796.25pp

Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1896.25

Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive

and unlimited shore: 2196.25
Non diver price: 1365.00

Grand suite Laguna view-single occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 2741.25pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 2841.25
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 3141.25
Non diver price: 2310.00

Grand suite Laguna view-triple occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1542.50pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1642.50
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 1942.50
Non diver price: 1111.25

Grand suite Laguna view-quad occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1415.63pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1515.63
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 1815.63
Non diver price: 984.38

Grand suite ocean view-double occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1883.75pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1983.75
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 2283.75
Non diver price: 1452.50

Grand suite ocean view-single occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 2916.25ppp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 3016.25
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 3316.25
Non diver price: 2485.00

Grand suite ocean view-triple occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 2251.25pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 2351.25
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 2651.25
Non diver price: 1820

Grand suite ocean view-quad occupancy

Six days afternoon single dive and unlimited shore: 1459.38pp
Six days 2 tank morning dives and unlimited shore: 1559.38
Six days of two tank morning dives and single afternoon dive
and unlimited shore: 1859.38
Non diver price: 1028.13

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.

<u>CLUB OFFICERS, 2022</u>			<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u> <u>2022</u>	
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