



Soundings

December 2023

Newsletter of the South Shore Neptunes

Upcoming Events

1/1/2024	Annual Sober Up Dive
1/2/2024	General Meeting
1/7/2024	Ladies Luncheon
1/9/2024	Board Meeting
1/16/2024	Dive Planning Meeting
1/23/2024	Cutoff date for Banquet
1/27/2024	Annual Awards Banquet
1/28/2024	Club dive
3/16/2024	Boston Sea Rovers
2/6/2024	General Meeting
2/13/2024	General Meeting Zoom

Are your dues paid!? Make sure to get your dues in by the first meeting.

Register your Membership Profile or login at:
<https://members.SouthShoreNeptunes.org>



Please send your reports, gear for sale, stories from years ago or anything else that you would want to have in the newsletter to: newsletter@SouthShoreNeptunes.org

Summary

I hope all enjoyed the holidays and time with family while winding down 2023. The annual elections and awards for 2023 are over and now to usher in 2024. We've already got a jam packed schedule, including the Annual Sober Up Dive, Ladies Luncheon, Annual Awards Banquet and more.

Sponsors of the newsletter, or those wishing to buy a space, it's that time of year again. Advertising spaces are \$35/year. We thank those of you who sponsored 2023 and hope you will continue your patronage.

How many will participate in the "Neptunes Challenge," the unofficial challenge of the club. The rules are fairly simple. Dive every month of the year in New England waters.

Wishing you all a prosperous 2024!

Rob Vice - South Shore Neptunes - Secretary and Editor

December General Meeting Summary

December 5 and December 19

- **New Members - Unanimous to accept as members**
 - Erika Ryan - Board recommended 11/7/2023 - Sponsor Adrienne Murphy
 - Tricia Wurts - Board recommended 1/10/2023 - Sponsor John Blackadar
- **Old Business**
 - Banquet
 - Just need to sell tickets, a link is on Facebook and in the November newsletter
 - Elections - December 19 with cash-bar, pizza and salad
 - New Years Dive - Meet at 9 at Pleasure Bay
- **New Business**
 - Email Accounts: Todd Alger
 - Use SouthShoreNeptunes@gmail.com or the officer/club email accounts, not using personal emails. We have newsletter@southshoreneptunes.org and store@southshoreneptunes.org as well.
 - There will be a YouTube channel for the club to post videos in the future.
 - Bay State Council
 - New Poster looking for comments, reach out to the council if you'd like to give feedback
 - Next meeting is December 13 - Zoom Only. Tommy will send out a link.
 - Board moves that Next Years Expectations of Officers is as follows:
 - All to be in compliance with the by-laws
 - President and Vice President - Give an agenda before the meetings to be sent by the secretary
 - Secretary - to send minutes within two days after a meeting
 - Treasurer - Access to all Bank accounts, PayPal, and online payments and ensure accounts are in compliance with the by-laws
 - Jay Motion to accept, Motion Passed
 - Nominations and Elections Held
 - President - Adrienne Murphy
 - Vice President - Chuck Zarba
 - Secretary - Rob Vice
 - Treasurer - Alex Wieck
 - Board - John Blackadar, Tommy Lo, Jay Theriault, Rob Robison, Paul Greene, Sokol Prifti, Doug Eaton, Ken Hayes, Theresa Czeripica
 - Adrienne thanked all the officers of 2023, with special thanks to Ken Hayes and Theresa Czeripica for contributions as Vice President and Treasurer respectively.
 - Old Trophies - Bill Burchill - Repurposing.
 - Blackie: Trophy or Air card for Places 1-3. Blackie will give an option to the person
 - Rob Robison - Will do certificates again
 - Bill Burchill: Would like to refurbish trophies by just getting a new name plaque. Bills will just get thrown in the trash, so would rather they go to the club.
 - Pleasure Bay on Jan 1, meet at 9am dive at 10am
 - Ladies Lunch on Jan 7 on the South Shore

Annual Banquet - January 27, 2024

The Annual Awards Banquet will again be hosted at The Common Market Restaurants, 97 Willard Street, Quincy, MA

Cash bar opens at 6:30 pm

Dinner at 7:00 pm

Cost: \$35 per person or on the club store <https://Store.SouthShoreNeptunes.org>



Ladies Lunch

Sunday, January 7th @ 2pm at Not Your Average Joe's in Norwell, MA

Come on out, share stories, ask questions or just hang out and grab a bite

2024 Lobster and Fishing Permits

You **must** have your permit renewed to take lobsters on our New Year's Day Dive!

Resident Non-Commercial Lobster permits, as well as Recreational Saltwater Fishing permits for the 2024 season can now be purchased at MassFishHunt.com

If you need assistance logging in or claiming your MassFishHunt account, please contact customer service at (844) 595-2930 (8:00 am to 6:00 pm EST M-F and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm EST Saturday and Sunday). For the best experience, use newer web browsers like Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari.

2023 Awards Entries

- Largest Lobster: Sokol Prifti, 4.06 lbs
- Video of the Year: [New Years Dive with a Large Lobster](#) and [Foggy Day Seal Dive](#)
- Artifact of the Year: 1939 6 oz Coke Bottle, 10.5" porthole inspection hatch, 1950's Craftsman Leather Ring Knife, 1890's Paskola cork top bottle, 8 oz clear glass bottle, crown top, Top-half of Tulip Vase
- Photo of the Year: Sand Dab or Windowpane Flounder

Winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet on January 27 and in next months newsletter

Club Dive - Sunday, December 10 - Nantasket Beach

10-20 ft viz, 40°F

Story and Photos by Evan Bodell



After meeting up at the old SSN clubhouse, Sokol Prifti, Paul Morgan, Mike O'Brian and I made our way down to Nantasket Beach by the old aquarium. It was high tide, and the water was calm. We headed out straight off the beach and dropped down making our way South, along the rocks, exploring and taking in the scenery. Visibility was 20 to 25 ft with the water temp at just about 40 degrees. I managed to come back with a three-pound lobster. We were greeted by Neptunes: Ken Hayes, Todd Alger, Paul Greene, and Rob Robison.

Saturday, December 9 - Boston Scuba Charter

Story and Photos by Doug Eaton.



I chartered Boston Scuba for a scallop dive with some SSN members. We met up with Chuck Zarba, Matt Meyer, his friend Jeff Smith, Rick Hovey and Alex Wieck. We loaded our gear on the boat and headed out for the scallop bed. After 2 dives and a lot of shucking, we headed back in. Packing the gear in the cars, I noticed a lot of smiling faces. Happy with our catch, we parted ways and headed home. It was a great day diving with these guys.



Friday, December 8 - Plymouth, Long Beach

42 minutes, 2-17 ft viz, 40°F, 15 ft max depth



Story & photos by Rob Robison

The days-old cold snap altered not only the air temperature above water, but we surmised it would be much chillier underwater on this dive. Neptune Mike Whiteside, occasional dive buddy, Phil LoCicero, and I met at Plymouth Long Beach around 9:00AM expecting temps in the 42° - 45° range. We dressed quickly and waded into relatively flat waters with swells of less than about a foot, 2 hours after high tide, dropped down

quickly, and headed out on a slow drift aided by the outgoing tide.

Almost as soon as we hit bottom, small Longwrist Hermit crabs began to appear on the sand, as we glided away from the beach. A bit deeper, reddish brown hooked weed, green Sea Wrack and Sea Lettuce plants, plus clusters of empty clamshells whole and broken appeared scattered across the sand and boulder strewn bottom. We found a few rock crabs, green crabs, Moon snails in feeding mode, some sand shrimps, one Mysid shrimp flitting about the bottom and in the weeds. and more. Some of the prevailing colors made me think the underwater world is getting ready for Christmas, too. (See attached photos).

At about the 27-minute mark, my hands began talking to me, the cold was penetrating the 6mm neoprene 3-finger mitts I was wearing, and we turned the dive. Forty-two minutes after the dive began we emerged from the 40° - 42° water, depending on whose computer you believe, having reached the monster depth of 15,' with vis ranging from 2' - 7.'



It was an exhilarating dive to say the least. Endless steaming hot coffee and hot breakfasts at the Water Street Café warmed us up before heading home, after a fun satisfying morning together.

Special thanks to my two dive buddies, who make it possible for me to continue diving into it this late in the season. Peter will rejoin us after he returns from vacation in January.

Until next time, Safe living and safe diving, everyone! Rob Robison

South Shore Neptunes



Information Page

Want to **Go Diving** and **Need a Buddy**?
 Call or Text the **Club Hotline: 617-804-5637**
 Email: info@SouthShoreNeptunes.org

Don't forget to visit the club store: <https://bit.ly/Neptunes-Store>

Update your profile, access the membership roster via the Membership Portal:
<https://Members.SouthShoreNeptunes.org>

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SplashdownDivers.com

Boat diving off the LoggerHead
Recommended by Paul Greene