

Air Bubbles

The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

Volume 44, Issue 2



February 2002

President's Message

I would like to thank all the club members who have helped recently to make our club meeting more enjoyable for all. It is the small things that make a difference, for they can add up to large positive changes. The simple act of bringing a popcorn popper to a club video night made the entire event more fun for all our attending members. Giving of ones self in the smallest way is what makes us a great club.

I would like to encourage more members to take a minute to think of one simple thing they can do to enhance our club. Once again let me list some thing you can do to better your club:

- * Submit a paragraph, article, picture or suggestion for the club newsletter or web page, this could simply be something small written on paper (napkin) or a picture and brought to a meeting.
- * Participate in club dives this year, most require no more that you and your dive gear.
- * Come to some of our Non-Dive events, many would be a lot of fun for family members.
- * Volunteer some of your time to a club committee, such as the Activities, Membership, Calendar, Picnic,

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Beach Access

The Bay State Council of Divers is very much concerned that the Beach Access law is properly enforced. Anyone who has a problem with beach access please contact Angelo Correnti, president of the Bay State Council at 781-391-1034

Member of the Month

February 2002

Roslyn Smith

Member of the Month

January 2002

Amy Maurer


St. Patrick's Day Party – The day before!

There will be a St. Patrick's Day party at Mary's house Saturday, March 16, 6PM to ...? The third annual!!

Come one, come all; come early, stay late.

Following the Mike O'Sullivan tradition, come drink a toast to the dead ancestors, yours (bring pictures) or mine (if you don't).

I will provide a "New England Boiled Dinner", Irish soda bread, and green food coloring for your beer, wine or Sprite. Please bring other edibles to share (salads, hors d'oeuvres, surface interval brownies, etc.), and your choice of beverage. Please come plan-

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The North Shore Frogmen's Club Inc. 2002



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 Shore Dive: Roslyn Smith

Air Bubbles

The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

Editor: Rob Falk, Guest Editor: Meg Doyon
 Contributors: Mary Howard, Roslyn Smith, Daryl Findlay

Air Bubbles is a publication of the North Shore Frogmen's Club, Inc. It is published monthly, in print and electronic form, and posted to the World Wide Web. Print copies are distributed to members on request by first class mail, and are also available free of charge at local dive shops. Authors and photographers are encouraged to submit their original work for publication.

Articles in **Air Bubbles** are the opinions of the authors whose names appear within, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the North Shore Frogmen's Club, Inc.

Articles, Photographs, and letters to the editor may be mailed to:

Air Bubbles

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 Peabody, MA 01960

Submission by email is the preferred method:
air_bubbles@northshorefrogmen.com

Boston Sea Rovers

The North Shore Frogmen will once have a booth at the Boston Sea Rovers Underwater Clinic. The clinic will be held at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston March 2nd & 3rd. For those of you who have never attended a clinic, it is an opportunity to attend dive related seminars and workshops covering all aspects of diving from wrecks to photography. There are also booths set up for many of the top dive equipment manufacturers and services as well as local dive clubs. The Saturday Evening Film Festival is always a spectacular event featuring presentations from recognized names in the business such as Peter Benchley, Chuck Nicklin, Wes Skiles, Mike deGruy and Phil Nuytten.

The Frogmen's booth at the clinic give us opportunity to attract new members and let others know we are out there and active in the dive community. We will be displaying photographs from last years photo contest, a running video of froggies in action, underwater artifacts, and photo albums from past years.

We are still looking for items such as artifacts, really big lobster claws, really strange lobster claws, or anything else unusual or eye-catching would be great. If you have anything you think may be of interest, please bring it to a February meeting or call Roslyn Smith at (781) 648-3488.

Northeastern University Marine Lecture Series Spring 2002 Schedule

The following information was received from Ted Maney, Lab Coordinator/Diving Safety Officer of the Northeastern University Marine Science Center.

- February 20th – Life History of Striped Bass from Massachusetts Waters - Dr. Gary Nelson, Mass Division of Marine Fisheries
- March 6th – Coastal Habitat Management: Limiting the Impact to Marine Fishery Resources - Vin Malkoski, Mass Division of Marine Fisheries
- March 20th – Hand Carving Wooden Shorebirds and Decoys- Rick Kennedy, Wood Carver
- April 3rd – Bluefin Tuna Diet on the New England Continental Shelf - Brad Chase, Mass Division of Marine Fisheries
- April 17th – Suffocating Marine Animals: the Effects of

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Banquet, or Photo Contest Committee.

* Share your experiences and knowledge with our less traveled members.

* Bring in a new piece of dive gear you have, and tell us what you think of it.

* When a new member or guest comes to the club, try to make them feel at home.

* Join or participate with one or more of the environmental organizations that we are affiliated with, such as The New England Artificial Reef Program, Bay State Council of Divers and the Coast Sweep Beach Clean-Up Program.

* Take an active interest in Your Club, for it is a great club.

In the past month I have had the opportunity to participate in many club activities, from Sunday dives in Cape Ann to Ski trips to the Sunday River resort in Main. They all have been enjoyable and worth every second. I can only hope for more members to join us as we move forward with a very full active calendar this year.

Daryl "Finn" Findlay
President

 Marine Lecture Series **continued from page 2** 

Oxygen Depletion in a New England Estuary and the Potential Role of Humans - Andrew Altieri, Brown University

April 20th – THE 16th ANNUAL RISER LECTURE
(Note: Friday at 4:30PM) The Origin and Evolution of Antarctic and Deep-Sea Macrofauna - Dr. James Blake, ENSR Marine and Coastal Center

ALL LECTURES MEET WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
7:30-9:00pm (Except as noted) at the Marine Science Center, end of Nahant Rd at East Point, Nahant.
LECTURES ARE FREE FOR EVERYONE.

** Light refreshments served at 7:00 PM **

For more info, call Sal Genovese at 781-581-7370 x311, or contact the Marine Lecture Series Info line at x202

Minutes of the Meetings

17-Jan-02

Meeting called to order: 8:06 PM

*** ABBREVIATED MEETING FORMAT;
DARYL FINDLAY NE UNDERWATER VIDEO *

Attendance: Officers: 4 Members: 25 Total: 31

Guests/Visitors: 2

Announcements Daryl Findlay complemented club members for the way the meetings have been going.

Correspondence None

Committees:

Membership: John Ferrier reports no candidates this week.

Finance: Rich Kinkade reviewed the numbers.

Program: Amy Maurer presiding.

Upcoming Events & Presentations:

See Calendar

Calendar: Too late for a calendar this year. Looking into an NSF poster.

Photo Contest: Mary Howard is forming a committee.

Air Bubbles:

Old Business: None

New Business None

Dive Talk: **Paul Sauvageau, Roslyn Smith, Daryl**

Findlay, and Amy Maurer dove into a nice breakfast at Pirate's Cove (rain & snow on Jan 13th J

General Discussion: Bill Gannett: Kathy Guiheen is planning a Sea of Cortez trip for next August, 2003.

Pete Cassidy: Sign up to purchase delicious Girls

Scout Cookies! Nancy Gannett: Some event

updates: Club night in on May 18th (Pot Luck

Dinner) in the small room. The Froggie holiday

party has been booked for the big room on Dec. 7th.

Raffles: Dollars Box: Doug Howard:



Mystery Prize: Paul Dumas (tropical fish mirror/sea life notebook.

Adjourn: 8:25 PM

24-Jan-02

Meeting called to order: 8:08 PM

Attendance: Officers: 4 Members: 20 Total: 24

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Guests/Visitors: 0

Announcements None

Correspondence There is an article in the Reading Transcript about Bob Crocker and his involvement with BSA's Pinewood Derby.

Upcoming Events & Presentations:

See Calendar

Committees:

Membership: John Ferrier reports no candidates this week.

Finance: Rich Kinkade reviewed the numbers.

Program: Amy Maurer presiding.

Calendar: No decision yet on the 2002 Froggie Poster.

Photo Contest: The committee is soliciting volunteers to help organize and set up. See Mary Howard if you are interested.

Air Bubbles: Rob Falk has added a membership form to AirBubbs. Please fill it out to update your contact information when renewing your membership.

Old Business: Bill Gannett: The Blackbeard's trip has been finalized.

New Business Rob Falk: Bug licenses on-line have about a 2 DAY turnaround vs. 10-14 days through the mail. They do, however, charge an extra \$2 for the on-line service.

Dive Talk: **Roslyn Smith**: Was at the-place-formally-known-as Burger King but nobody else was there. (last Sunday's weather was sunny and very mild).

Daryl Findlay: **Roslyn Smith** has graciously accepted the position of Froggie Shore Dive Coordinator for 2002.

General Discussion: Roslyn Smith: Everybody check

out "The Blue Planet" on the Discovery Channel Sunday night at 9PM.

Raffles: Dollars Box: Mike Dennler

Mystery Prize: Nancy Gannett (Tropical Fish-to-Diver Picture) Tusa Fins: Jack Monroe

Adjourn: 8:45 PM

7-Feb-02

Meeting called to order: 8:04 PM

Attendance: Officers: 3 Members: 11 Total: 14

Guests/Visitors: 0

Announcements Don't forget the Tribute to Bob Boyle at the Boston Scuba Show on Feb 16th!

Correspondence Several membership applications

Upcoming Events & Presentations:

See Calendar

Committees:

Membership: No candidates this week but several apps came in the mail.

Finance: Rich Kinkade reviewed the numbers.

Program: Amy Maurer presiding.

Air Bubbles:

Old Business: Bill Gannett: has passes for BlackBeards for all who are going.

New Business None tonight.

Dive Talk: None tonight.

General Discussion: Rich Kinkade: DUI announces a recall on their BCD overpressure relief valves. See Consumer Reports for more information. Dave Smith: Recap of Patriot's Rally at Government Center in Boston. CONGRATS PATS! Dawn Dennler: Review of plans for the Easter Egg dive.

Raffles: Dollars Box: Mike Donovan

Mystery Prize: Bill Gannett (Lighthouse Frame & Sea Shell Chocolates) Mask: Paul Dumas

Adjourn: 8:23 PM



Hey You! Is That A Frog I See, Or A Bump On A Log?

Don't be a bump on a log! Send your pictures, stories, accounts, yarns, anecdotes, fables, myths, musings, fairy-tales, exaggerations and spare change to Air Bubbles. The more you participate, the better it gets for all members! Did you enjoy this issue? Help someone else enjoy next month's. Send in a picture or article TODAY!



Fish en Papillote a la Roslyn

Time to Prepare 1 hour

Number of Servings 3

Ingredients

12 oz Fish Filets
 15 stalks Asparagus
 1 cup Red Wine
 12 oz Fresh Mushrooms
 1 cup Water
 12 oz Fresh Spinach
 2 Tbsp. Flour
 1 Yellow or Orange Bell Pepper
 1 cup Skim Milk
 1 Onion Butter Spray
 1 Lemon Salt and pepper to taste
 9 oz Grape or Cherry Tomatoes
 3 cups Cooked White Rice
 1 Tbsp. Herbes de Provence

Instructions

Preheat oven to 425.

Prepare 3-15x12 inch pieces of parchment paper by spraying 1/2 of each with butter spray. (aluminum foil may be substituted.)

Prepare Vegetables:

1. Microwave asparagus on high for 5 minutes or until asparagus is partially cooked.
2. Slice mushrooms and microwave on high for 5 minutes.
3. Slice bell pepper into strips and set aside 9 slices. Cut remaining slices into small pieces.
4. Dice onion and microwave on high for 2 minutes.
5. Slice lemons and set aside 6 slices.
6. Cut tomatoes in half and set aside.

Make sauce:

1. Spray medium saucepan with butter spray.
2. Sauté mushrooms and bell pepper pieces with remaining lemon slices and herbes de provence for 1 minute.
3. Add wine and water and bring to a boil.
4. Add milk and return to boil.
5. Mix flour with small amount of water and add

to boiling sauce.

6. Stir and boil until thickened (about 30 seconds).
7. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Assembly:

Using 1/3 of each ingredient:

1. Place fish on sprayed portion of parchment.
2. Place reserved lemon slices on or under fish.
3. Place asparagus and reserved bell pepper slices on top of lemon.
4. Spoon 2/3 of sauce on vegetables.
5. Place onion, spinach and tomatoes on top of sauce.
6. Add remaining sauce.
7. Fold parchment over and seal by folding edges 2 or 3 times.
8. Place on baking sheet and bake in 425 oven for 12 minutes.

Serve with white rice.

Nutritional Information: 200 calories per serving without rice (with rice 426 calories per serving)

VIDEOLIGHTS

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The Art of UW Video-Basics First

From time to time, I've heard UW still photographers question the "difficulty" of shooting and editing UW video and attempt to debate how much art is really involved in the video process. Not being a still photographer, I couldn't begin to boast of much knowledge in that art. But being an UW videographer I can attest to a long learning curve to shooting and creating good, pleasing productions that will keep one's attention without showing naked bodies.

Our first attempts at capturing marine life in action underwater always seem to turn out wonderfully, at least in our own eyes. We see the actual movements and behaviors in real time, mirroring our experiences. Reliving dives becomes much easier and going back to the footage years later can still remind us of things we'd forgotten about those dives.

But just how easy is it to shoot underwater video well? As time goes on and we review our earli-

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Have You Stopped To Wonder...?

by Rob Falk

If you read dive magazines, and I believe you do, then you have probably seen this advertisement at one time or another. I'd have to say it shows up about as often as the "Commercial Diving Babe" and the "Tec Rec Stud." And yet, how many of you have stopped to

The Ultimate Hanger

6 DIFFERENT SETTINGS

The Ultimate Hanger is 34" long and extendable to 36".

PARTLY EXTENDED

A small unit fits gloves, hood and mask that attaches to the bottom of the hanger is available.

BOOT CLIP POSITION

The Drysuit Hanger Co.
CHARLES R. KOONIS
1324 E. MAIN ST., PALMYRA, PA 17318
Tel/Fax: 717-838-2478
http://www.uhanger.com uhanger@bellsouth.com

RETAIL PRICE
\$29.95
PLUS SHIPPING

Dealer discounts available to dive shops and fine companies
visa and MasterCard accepted.

THIS IS AN EQUIPMENT HANGER ONLY. ANY OTHER
USE IS SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER.
PATENT PENDING

look, and of those of you who have, how many have stopped to wonder? I have.

In fact, I own an Ultimate Hanger. I bought it from the man who invented it, while I was at DEMA 2001 in New Orleans, about a year ago. Nice man. I didn't even really need a dry suit hanger; I've always hung mine over a PVC pipe. But, I had been chatting with the guy and his wife for maybe 25 minutes or so, and it just seemed like buying one was the right thing to do.

But in all the time I was chatting with them, I never worked up the nerve to ask them the question that has been on my mind since I first saw their ad, years ago.

Maybe I'm warped. Maybe its the lawyer in me. Maybe its both. This advertisement has caused me to lose sleep. I wake up thinking about it sometimes. I go to sleep pondering the imponderable. Again, maybe its just me. But, humor me, if you would. Take a look at the ad again, and read what it says just below "Visa and MasterCard Accepted."

We all know why it says "Caution. Our delicious cof-

fee is served piping hot" on a cup of coffee. Some idiot actually claimed surprise that a cup of hot coffee was hot, and he got burnt and sued McDonalds. McDonalds wants to make sure that never happens again. We have come to understand that in America it really is necessary to post a sign that says "Extinguish All Smoking Materials" at a gasoline pump. You know, one time at the Mobil Mart some shmo stubbed out his Camel in a puddle next to his car, and parts of him are still falling out of orbit. And his wife sued Mobil and they want to make sure THAT never happens again. Objects in the Mirror are Closer than They Appear, blah, blah blah...

But why? Why in the name of all that is holy, would anyone ever find the need to print "This is an equipment hanger only and any other use is the responsibility of the user" in an advertisement for a dry suit hanger.

I'd like to think I'm a creative guy. I've written some songs, I've made some movies, I've told some tall tales that really had some people going... But I still don't have a reasonable suggestion for why this disclaimer is necessary. I mean, I'm working off of a few assumptions here, previously stated above, but recapitulated here in dumbstruck awe: Logically, one has to presume that someone, somewhere, once (or, imagine this: more than once) did something other than hang a dry suit on their Ultimate Hanger. Whatever it was that they did, would appear to have caused someone some harm. I would even have to believe that the Ultimate Hanger people not only learned of this, but may actually have paid this person (or his heirs) some amount of money, and like McDonald's and Mobil and so on, wants to make sure that THAT NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN!

But, see, the thing is, I never really thought about doing anything with my hanger, besides hanging a dry suit. Did you? I mean, what could it be? Sandra Bullock, Suit Lube and the Ultimate Hanger...and me...

Scientific Fact: Neoprene shrinks during winter months. Studies have shown that diet and exercise by the suits' owners may reduce or reverse this effect. Start getting in shape for dive season!!!

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er footage, we begin to pick out huge discrepancies in what we used to think was a great shot. This is a normal growth curve, even with still photography. What makes the difference?

Underwater video can be quite easy in the beginning, just as shooting a still close-up shot with a framer and the camera set for a specific depth of field. Just point and shoot using auto focus. Capture the ocean in movement. No problem.

For any photographer, knowing what you are shooting is important. If it's a specific species of animal, knowing its behavioral tendencies will help the photographer be able to follow a predictable action and know where to be next. Take for instance, the shy seahorses who always seem to turn their heads away from cameras. If this is known, then an appropriate reaction can be planned like having two photographers try to shoot at once from different angles, thus possibly giving at least one of them a good shot.

If shooting a sponge or coral spawning, or fish courting and mating, recognizing this can allow one to take advantage of a rare occurrence to the fullest. This is also an excellent time to realize that one should concentrate on the shot they have, and not leave to see if there might be something different elsewhere on the reef. Many fish mate numerous times, only minutes apart, so remaining in place may lead to a second and third opportunity!

If your subject is a reef shot that might be compared to the same reef years later, choosing larger and more evident "landmarks" to include in the shot would be important. For videographers, this is an important tool in the study of the evolution of a healthy reef. Seeing divers inspecting different parts of this reef, or seeing them photographing different subjects will add to the composition of wide-angle video.

Don't forget to shoot the trouble some still photographers have in getting ready for their shots. Positioning their lights and arms, waiting for the critter to face them, or even their attempts at being perfectly buoyant at 135' while shooting a pygmy sea-

horse that's only the size of a couple grains of rice! Having video of a photographer getting his great shot is fun to watch, especially for the photographer you filmed!

Little by little, we will become aware of the need to turn the camera on earlier in an action and leave it running longer through the end of that action. Turning on the camera too late will result in an eel and fish frantically swimming about, but will not portray the original stalking process of the eel. Turning off the camera too early can cause one to miss some exciting behaviors like a mating after a courting dance. If nothing does happen after a certain behavior, we can still edit out the useless footage.

More artistic talent comes in later when reviewing the quality of what we've filmed and when we decide to take this art to the next level. At this point, our goals somewhat merge with still photography when we begin to consider composition of our shots. What critters and movements are key to our shots and which ones will detract from them? In other words, what depths of field will we be using to tell what story?

We then begin considering many more of the same things a still photographer takes into account in their shots. Do we want to show perspective of a large barrel sponge with a diver? Do we want to shoot up towards the sky for a total silhouette shot, or illuminate the front of the sponge for more color? Would the diver holding a light give a more realistic picture? Do we want to capture the diver studying something around the barrel sponge with their light so we can next zoom in to a close-up in order to see a seahorse at the base of the sponge that the diver was looking at?

In considering our storyline and the subsequent editing process, what angles and motion will we need to capture to keep a production flowing smoothly? A smart videographer will attempt to get numerous shots from different angles with critters entering and leaving our viewfinders in various directions. This will give us choices in our editing processes

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BOSTON BOYS BLAST BIMINI

[Editor's Note: The following article is a reprint from the May, 1987 edition of Air Bubbles. It may be of interest to those intrepid souls who will be participating in the Blackbeard's Cruise this year. Thanks to Roslyn Smith for dusting off the archives!]

The second annual Frogman's Blackbeard Cruise commenced March 28, as three ships set sail to the Bahamas for drinking, diving and dastardly deeds. Was the weather great?... yes. Was the diving great?... yes, and Tuesday all the ships ran for Bimini Harbor in the midst of pelting rain and 8 ft seas. No diving today; let's see whats on this island. But first, a round at the Angler Bar, then on to sight seeing... Who forgot to pay for the drinks? Dan C. had to cough up the momey or we were to spend the nite in the hoosecow. Not bad... 20 minutes on the island and "call the cops" Tuesday nite, our ship, the Pirate's Lady is running low on beer. Let's invite the people aboard the sister "Morning Star" over for some of our rum punch, whilst Frank, Paul, Mal and Kevin liberate a keg from the Star's locker... well done, lads, they won't know it's gone until we're five miles out to sea. Next morning; where's the captain? oops. he forgot to tie the dingy, and it's floating away in four foot seas. Take the Zodiac and retrieve it. Engine stalls on the Zodiac... captain, dingy and Zodiac floating out to sea in four foot surf. Aha, pull the anchor and rescue; wrong... can't get the anchor loose and the trio is bound for South America. Finally we freed the hook and picked up all adrift.... time for some more rum punch.

Through 14 dives, we saw virtually everything the sea has to offer, including dolphin, baracuda, morey eels, and an eight foot shark under the boat... and don't forget that elusive school of great Bostonian Moon Eels lurking by the side of an old submerged wreck. On the way back to Miami, we were boarded by the Coast Guard (Wooley, eat your heart out) at 2:30 A.M.... hope they don't find our pilfered beer. Upon departing, Jay, the captain asked us to request his ship next year... he wants to know where we are at all times. We all hope that Frank's underwater videos will be ready for movie nite so that the club can share our adventures at sea,

(note: all spelling and punctuation were faithfully copied from the original article)

Also printed in the May, 1987 edition of Air Bubbles were articles:

- reporting on the results of the Second Annual Bay State Council of Divers' treasure hunt;
- outlining the newly enacted Massachusetts diver access law (a.k.a. Free the Beaches);
- announcing the upcoming Frogmen trip to St. Lucia;
- reporting on the flood in the then editor's basement which destroyed, among other things, the April 1987 issue;
- thanking the Carvalho's for hosting the Easter Egg party
- listing suggested do's and don'ts for Boat Diving

Also, to interest the nostalgic among us, there was the calendar of events for May and June which included the annual Memorial Day Cape Cod camping week-end and the weekly before-the-club meeting dives.

The Buddy List is Coming! Will YOU Be On It?

- Not if you don't turn in a membership application
- Not if you don't pay your dues by 3/1
- Not if you don't want to be...

The 2002 Spring Edition of the Buddy List will be included with all directly distributed copies (i.e. not to dive shops or on the web) of the next edition of **Air Bubbles**

Please be sure that you have filled in a membership form and turned it in, and that you have paid your 2002 dues if you wish to be included in the list. Also, you have the option of what information appears, if any.

Don't be left out of the dive plan! Make sure other Froggies can reach you! Renew your membership and fill out the application information today!

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later.

Numerous shots will also serve to give various backgrounds and colors to choose from when editing. Keeping similar colors and backgrounds in a video production is very important to the discerning videographer's eye. It helps tremendously in keeping consistency and a flowing nature in a production.

Panning shots must be done slowly and smoothly. If shooting with auto-focus, a fast pan will cause the camera to "search" for the correct focal point, thus making the shot go in and out of focus until the camera grabs it right. Even if shooting in manual focus, a fast, bouncy pan is useless, and too much of this in a production can cause a very real seasickness to the viewer!

The art of shooting good UW video goes beyond the basics and is definitely multi-faceted, from the water, to the boat, to the editroom. Future articles will cover more of the artistic needs for videographers in more detail. Next month, I'll discuss the art of effective lighting for UW video. Sea Ya!

Critter corner: When photographing turtles, many times if you ignore them, they will approach closer to see why you are ignoring them. The more you ignore them, the closer they will come. And once you do start shooting, they tend to stay longer, as you were not a threat from the beginning.

There Were Three Scuba Instructors on a Boat...

... a NAUI instructor, a PADI instructor, and an SSI instructor. Everything is going fine, until the boat springs a leak, and starts to sink. The SSI instructor says to his students, "Okay... we're in the middle of the ocean, so we might as well do our deep dive." The NAUI instructor says to his students, "Okay... we might as well do our navigation dive, so let's get our compasses out and swim towards shore." The PADI instructor says to his students, "Okay... for \$25 extra you guys get to do a wreck dive!"

Frogs on Skis and Snowboards:

By Daryl Findlay

The North Shore Frogperson's Dive Club: Ski Trip to the Sunday River Ski Resort in Maine was a blast in all respects. While most frogs decide to hibernate under the snow this time a year, a few daring amphibious souls set out to conquer a mountain, or really four mountains it seems. For that is what the Sunday River Ski Resort had in store for us.

Waking up really early the morning of February 7th was the hardest part of the day. I believe I started getting out of bed around 3:30am, but didn't succeed with the task until almost 4:45am. A quick dash around my place for that one item I'm never sure I remembered to pack, the usual morning tasks, and I was off to meet the bus. As I pulled into the parking lot in front of the Ski Market in Danvers, I noticed the bus was also. Mary Howard was already there waiting, and Dale Findlay, Paul Sauvageau soon arrived.

About ten minutes before the bus left, John Ferrier

drove up; he had been enjoying a large breakfast at the Denny's restaurant down the street, since



Dunkin Donuts was not open. The three-hour bus trip was rather uneventful, except for a quick stop at a Dunkin Donuts on the way.

John Ferrier was quite relieved when the bus stopped at the Dunkin Donuts, something to do with all the coffee he had at that Denny's restaurant before he met the bus. On the way up I just took as many cat naps as I could, but could not help overhearing a man behind me talk about the good old days skiing in Switzerland. Well his stories kept me entertained for

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most of the trip, the rest of the time I attempted to recover as much sleep as I could.

It had been years since I was at the Sunday River Ski Resort, and I have to say it looks as impressive as it is. There are basically four mountains to choose from, and the base lodge that the bus dropped us off at is between the two inner mountains. Waiting for us in



front of the lodge was Jeannie Rahilly and John McColley; they had been staying at their house nearby all week. We set off to change and get gear ready as Paul Sauvageau went to get his skis sharpened. When we finally meet back up with Paul, he told us that the

sharpening machine was broken so they gave him a free rental. He continued to explain that they would not let him use his own boots, because the plastic had become too soft and brittle since he last used them, so he got a free full rental of new boots and great parabolic skis. This clearly is not normal for any resort I have been to lately, but it is nice to know that this one went an extra step to make a customer's day happy.

As for myself, I was testing new bindings and boots on my snowboard that day, so I started out doing a few runs on a nice green trail. After we were all set, John Ferrier went off with Jeannie Rahilly and John McColley on a full ski tour of all the double and triple

black diamond trails. Being a wimp with new bindings I stayed with the rest until after lunch, when I decided the boots I was using were just too painful to continue. Don't get me wrong, even with the painful boots, I did several more fast runs down the hill until my legs were rubberized.



By then it was about three and the bus was to leave at four, so Dale and I called it quits and retired to the bar. We picked a booth in the bar with an awesome view of the slopes, ordered some drinks (soda for me) and listened to the live music. We also found the free bar appetizers (setup as a self service buffet) very agreeable, since it was still hours until the bus would stop for dinner.

The bus ride back was nice, they had movies to watch, but the people in the back of the bus spent more of the time partying. I was lucky enough to have grabbed a seat at the front of the bus, so I got a good view of the movies and the scenery. For dinner we stopped at the Red Hook Brewery and were led upstairs into a large room with lots of round tables and chairs. The dinner was served cafeteria style, so we all lined up for the victuals (food). The meal consisted of a nice salad with a choice of dressing, dinner rolls, a brownie, and chicken lasagna or a vegetarian alternative.

Another line was for the drinks, free beer (Red Hook only of course) or soda served in a nice glass pint that we were able to keep. The rest of the bus trip back to the Danvers Ski Market was nice and quiet; I think I slept the most of the way back as did John Ferrier (I think he was still doing double and triple black diamond trails in his sleep).

We pulled in to the Ski Market parking lot around 8:45. So, I could have made it to the Froggies meeting, but I was more concerned about being able to get up in the morning for work on Friday. Before I forget, the price for all of this was only \$55, now that seems a lot but remember a Sunday River lift ticket is \$50, so for \$5 we got a round trip ride to the hill with movies and a good dinner. All and all, I would do the whole trip over in a second, and I feel this trip should be a regular event for the frogs in the future.

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 St. Patricks Day Party continued from page 
ning to have a good time!!

I will have directions to my place at the meetings, or contact me for directions if you can't make it to the meetings.

PS- If you don't know what a boiled dinner is, check it out in your Fanny Farmer's cookbook, a good dictionary, or come to the party and try it out!

Mary Howard

Bay State Council Meeting Feb 13, 2002 Meeting Notes

Reported by Mary Howard

The Bay State Council of Divers met at 7:30PM at the SS Neptunes Club House in Quincy on February 13th. Dinner was served.

Updates from Angelo Correnti, President, Bay State Council:

At public hearing – NE Fisheries: RE: Taking of lobsters

No size limit change for 2002 at this time.

All egg-bearing lobsters taken are to be V-notched on the fin just to the right of the main tail fin. No tolerance for taking any V-notched female lobsters. This means, if there is any sign that the lobster was ever notched, do not take her!!

- UNESCO voted overwhelmingly against the taking of artifacts from any wreck over some number of years old (?100). PADI backed off from backing this position.
- The Bay State Council Treasure Hunt dive will be held on May 19, 2002.
- The Bay State Council used equipment sale will be held June 1 at the Neptunes' club- house.
- RE: Beach access for diving: There is a beach in Barnstable that has banned scuba diving. Another south shore beach is allowing scuba diving, but only



without the use of scuba masks. Swim goggles are okay. (???) If you have any issues with accessing any public beaches for scuba diving, contact Angelo Correnti. There is a law protecting this right.

Updates from Vincent Malkoski of the Mass Dept of Marine Fisheries:

- Review of the gas pipeline to be run across Boston Harbor. Videotaping of the areas to be disturbed has been done, and a little bit of side-scan sonar. No biological information has been put forward so far. The planned laterals for the pipeline are already increased in size from 24" to 30". This project is not yet permitted.
- The windmill project for Nantucket Sound is in the early stages of permitting. This project is still several years off, IF it ever gets permitted.
- The Plymouth nuclear power plant instated emergency security boundaries of 1000 yds after September 11. They are planning to make these boundaries permanent. Lobstermen are concerned, and scuba diving will be affected, as this is a rocky section of coast. There are questions of enforcement, and who will have control of ocean bottom. The power plant ownership of these rights was not a question before Sept 11.

Update on the Artificial Reef project by the BSC and NEARS:

Two groups of transect dives were done last summer to provide initial information on the bottom substrate of two of the prospective sites for possible future artificial reefs. The first dives were done at the site NW of Egg Rock, E of Nahant. The second off of Shag Rocks, Nahant. Both these sites were about 80-90 ft deep, with silty bottoms. There is also a third section off Manchester that is being considered for surveying. Many more of these surveys need to be done before the project can go forward. The BSC and NEARS hope to coordinate one weekend date per month to encourage as many divers from as many dive clubs as possible to participate in the survey dives. At this time, very tentative dates start on May 5.

 continued on page 13 

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Air Bubbles



NSF Activities Calendar 2002

Regular club meetings are at 8:00 every Thursday at the FAC unless otherwise noted,
Sunday dives meet EVERY SUNDAY at Burger King on Route 128N in Beverly.
May 1 Through September 30 Meet at 8 AM, Depart at 8:30 AM
October 1 – April 30 Meet at 9:30 AM Depart at 10 AM
Night dives meet at Back Beach in Rockport Times Vary: See Below

Date	Event	Contact
Mar 2-3 (Sat-Sun)	Sea Rovers Boston	Roslyn Smith
Mar 16 (Sat)	St. Patrick's Day party; 6:00 at Mary Howard's	Mary Howard
May 11-12 (Sat-Sun)	DUI Demo Days @ Mirror Lake, Devens, MA	
Apr 14 (Sun) (rain date: 4/21)	Easter Egg Dive – enter the water at 11:00 AM	
Apr 14 (Sun) (rain date: 4/21)	Party – 10:00 at the Carvalho's	
May 18 (Sat)	Club Night In; FAC 6:00	Roslyn Smith
May 22 (Wed)	Night dive; meet at Back Beach; enter water at 8:30 *	Roslyn Smith
May 30-Jun 3 (Thu-Mon)	Dive trip to Eastport, Maine	Amy Maurer
Jun 1 (Sat)	Yard sale	Dave Smith
Jun 2 (Sun)	Summer Kick-off dive & cookout; depart BK 9:30am	
Jun 6-10 (Thu-Mon)	Dive trip to Eastport, Maine	Amy Maurer
Jun 9 (Sun)	Dive time change; meet 8:00; leave 8:30	
Jun 19 (Wed)	Night dive; meet at Back Beach; enter water at 9:00 *	Roslyn Smith
Jun 22 (Sat)	Canoe trip on Ipswich River; Foote Brothers Canoe	Bill Gannett
Jul 18 (Thu)	Beach meeting; White's Beach; 6:00	Paul Sauvageau
Jul 24 (Wed)	Night dive; meet at Back Beach; enter water at 8:45 *	Roslyn Smith
Aug 7 (Wed)	Night dive (new moon); Back Beach; enter water at 8:30 *	Roslyn Smith
Aug 15 (Thu)	Beach meeting; White's Beach; 6:00	Paul Sauvageau
Aug 21 (Wed)	Night dive; meet at Back Beach; enter water at 8:00 *	Roslyn Smith
Aug 30-Sep 2 (Fri-Mon)	Labor Day camping weekend in Wells, Maine	Dawn Denneker
Aug 31 (Sat)	Dive at Nubble Light, Maine	
Sep 18 (Wed)	Night dive; meet at Back Beach; enter water at 7:15 *	Roslyn Smith
Sep 21 (Sat) (rain date: 9/28)	Coast Sweep; 10:00am at Niles Beach;	Dave Smith
Sep 22 (Sun)	Picnic; Stage Fort Park, Gloucester	Bill Gannett
Oct 6 (Sun)	Dive time change; meet 9:00; leave 9:30	
Oct 16 (Wed)	Night dive; meet at Back Beach; enter water at 6:30	Roslyn Smith
Oct 26 (Sat)	Halloween party	
Oct 27 (Sun)	Pumpkin carving dive; Stage Fort Park, Gloucester	
Nov 28 (Thu)	No meeting; Thanksgiving	
Dec 5 (Thu)	Elections	
Dec 7 (Sat)	Banquet; FAC	Nancy Gannett
Dec 26 (Thu)	Pizza party (no business)	

Hydrotesting Special For Froggies

Email Paul Blanchette: ussdpv@juno.com and let him know how many tanks you have to test. They will be picked up at the club on Feb. 28, They will be returned on March 7th. Special discount for club members. You must email Paul with the number of tanks you need done!

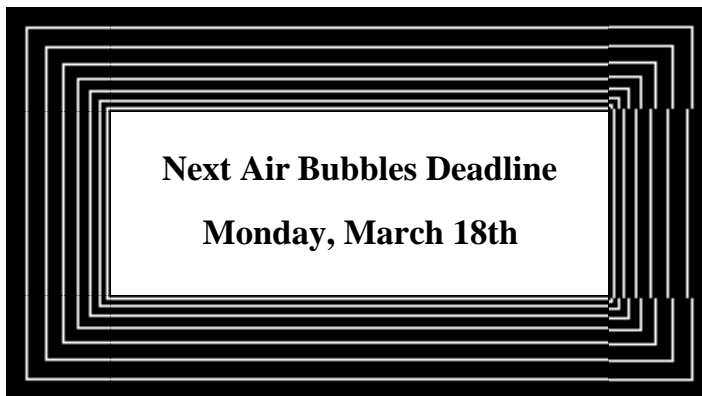
 Bay State Council continued from page 1 

The BSC and NEARS are hoping that the area scuba diving clubs will acquire their own transect lines for this purpose. Through the BSC and the SS Neptunes, the clubs will be able to purchase most of the supplies needed to make these lines at a reduced price. At this time, it is planned that interested members of the clubs will get together at "Wrecks and Techs" (Metro West Dive Club's technical diving show) on April 6th to make their transect lines.

The NEARS website (www.NEARS.org) has an online form for entering information acquired during these dives, so that all the information will be in a central location.

The next NEARS (New England Artificial Reef Society) meeting will be April 17. Contact Dale Findlay for more information.

The next Bay State Council of Divers meeting will be on May 15. Contact Mary Howard for more information.



Next Air Bubbles Deadline
Monday, March 18th

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North Shore Frogmen's Club
P.O. Box 3604
Peabody, MA 01960

LOOK!

Hydrotesting Special!

Drop off 2/28, Reservation Required
See bottom of Page 12

Sea Rovers

Sat/Sun 3/2&3 - Sign up with Roslyn.

St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 16, 6 PM @ Mary H.'s House

The printing cost was
54¢ The stamp was 54¢
Save the club money:
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see bottom of page 13

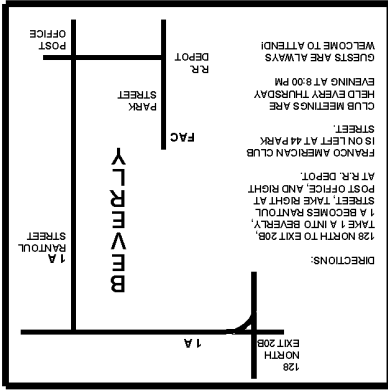
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Sunday dives meet EVERY SUNDAY at Burger King on Route 128N in Beverly.
May 1 Through September 30 Meet at 8 AM, Depart at 8:30 AM
October 1 – April 30 Meet at 9:00 AM Depart at 9:30 AM
Night Dives Meet at Back Beach
Pre-night dives meet at Old Garden Beach, Rockport planning to enter water 2
hours prior to night dive)

Upcoming Night Dives:

- 2/27 - Almost Full Moon Night Dive - Back Beach 6:30PM
- 3/27 - Almost Full Moon Night Dive - Back Beach 6:30PM
- 4/24 - Almost Full Moon Night Dive - Back Beach 6:30PM



Club meetings are held every Thursday evening at 8:00 PM at the Franco American Club in Beverly. Guests are invited to attend the meetings! Directions: 128 North to Exit 20B – take 1A into Beverly, 1A becomes Rantoul Street. Take a right at the Post Office and a Right at the Depot. F.A.C. is on the left at 44 Park Street.