



Air Bubbles



The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

Volume 45, Number 2

March 2003

President's Message, March 2003

We are about through one quarter of the year and as I write this message, Spring will have sprung this coming week. We have enjoyed numerous club activities early in this season and more are on offer in the immediate future.

The last meeting in February was highlighted by a remarkably interesting presentation on diving in the Galapagos Islands by Bill Werner. His slide photographs, both above and below water were accompanied by absorbing narrative. Photographs of various species of iguanas to imposing whale sharks were remarkable. From Guayaquil, Ecuador to the remote environs around Darwin Island, Bill's presentation left the audience feeling that this trip is a must for their life list of exotic dive venues. After this presentation, it was easy to understand how Jonathan Bird's planned trip scheduled for the Fall of 2003 was filled with a similar trip in 2004 nearly so.

For those who found this winter's weather too much to brave even for hearty dry suit divers, John Ferrier kept members active and happy coordinating more seasonally-appropriate sports like the ski trips to Stowe, Vermont on March 13 and Sunday River scheduled on March 27.

The big event this month was the Boston Sea Rovers 49th Underwater Clinic that took place at the Copley Crown Plaza Hotel from March 7 through 9. Ray Porter coordinated and organized our dive club's participation in this annual event. I personally want to thank Ray who volunteered to head this initiative and who spent so much time staffing the booth as he did last year. I also want to thank all members who not only attended this

event but who contributed their time, effort and material contributions such as photographs (Roslyn) and display items (Daryl, Paul Blanchette, Rich Kinkade) to this worthwhile effort. Dave Smith, Michael Donovan and Jack Munro all sat at the booth. Please see Ray Porter's accompanying article for details.

I believe this is an appropriate time again to thank Bob Boyle of Under Sea Divers for his generosity and perennial support of our club. Most members are aware of his generosity in contributing big-ticket raffle prizes during the club banquet last December. However, the details may be less recognized.

For the Club Banquet the combination of items purchased at near cost from Bobby and the numerous items that he contributed outright as gifts permitted the club to reap some \$540 in raffle sales. With the many items on offer, Roslyn Smith's brilliant suggestion, OK'd by Bobby to withhold an Apeks T-100 regulator to raffle off at Sea Rovers permitted the club to earn an additional \$291.00 in raffle sales. These combined contributions from Under Sea Divers in Beverly make Bob Boyle this club's primary benefactor. We all owe him a debt of gratitude and our continued patronage and support. Thank you very much Bob!

Mary Howard hosted the Annual St. Patrick's Day party at her home on Saturday evening March 15. She continues to make the finest corned beef and cabbage this side of Dublin. It is heartening to see how many Froggies turn out for this annual event being that it remains one of the best-attended events on the activities calendar. Thank you Mary. Amy Maurer presented the crowd with a birthday cake for all the members celebrating birthdays in February and March. Special thanks must also go to Ray Porter who did so much for assisting Mary in hosting this year's celebration in toasting the dead relatives. He barely had a week to rebound from coordinating our participation at Sea Rovers.

As this newsletter goes to print, we are anticipating a great presentation on March 20 with guest speakers, Vic Mastone and David Trubey of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources. They will be presenting an overview of archeology in Massachusetts, including information on inland projects. They will be

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able to answer questions regarding the Bambino's piano in a Sudbury pond we've all heard discussed in news reports. We anticipate an excellent turnout for what is sure to be an intriguing presentation.

Those who attended the evening show at Sea Rovers, were lucky enough to get a sneak peek at the IMAX show, "Coral Reef Adventure." Howard and Michele Hall, a diving and Emmy Award-winning underwater cinematography couple discussed their adventures that including Howard getting bent while filming this IMAX presentation meant to capture the beauty and majesty of tropical Pacific reef life. The NSFC will be making an evening of it on Tuesday, March 25. We hope to see as many of you as possible for what will be a truly captivating IMAX showing that had its world premier to general audiences last month at the Boston Museum of Science. If you didn't make the Rovers Saturday evening program, see the Winter 2003 issue of Fathoms Magazine for their behinds the scenes article.

April will prove to be as filled with diving-related activities as March. The Metro West Dive Club will be hosting "Wrecks 2003" on Saturday April 5 at the Keefe Technical School in Framingham. Frank and Dodie Carvalho will once again host the Easter Egg Dive and Party at their home in Rockport on April 13. On the Rovers exhibitors' hall floor of the Copley Plaza, Faith Ortins reminded club members that she and her DUI colleagues will be back in the Bay State on the weekend of May 3 for another DUI Demo Days. This year's activities will take place at Stage Fort Park in Gloucester, which should prove to be an easier commute than last year's venue, Mirror Lake near Fort Devens in Ayer, and with real ocean waters.

What seems best in the upcoming calendar is the promise of better weather after this unusually bitter cold and snowy winter. The promise of Spring is in the air, as thoughts of diving return to those of us who let their gear get a little dusty over this long cold winter. Let's go diving!

See you at a meeting,

Paul Sauvageau
President NSFC, 2003

Errata – On page 12 of last month's issue, in the article **Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries – Public Hearings**, paragraph 3, should read *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*, not Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Department.

Follow-up to DMF Hearings

Paul Diodati of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries has not yet (as of March 9) announced a decision regarding the proposals that were discussed at the open hearings last month. But the following press release concerning emergency actions taken to protect lobsters was distributed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

"American Lobster Management Board (February 26, 2003)

Press Release

ASMFC Lobster Board Takes Important Action on Lobster Management

Board Initiates Emergency Action for Area 2 in Light of Stock Declines & Accepts Massachusetts Proposal to Implement Zero Tolerance V-Notching

Arlington, VA – The Commission's American Lobster Board acted today on two key lobster management issues. The Board took emergency action in response to declining stock conditions in Area 2, which includes the inshore and offshore waters of Rhode Island and southern Massachusetts. As a result, states are required to increase the gauge size in Area 2 to 3 11/32" immediately and to 3 3/4" on July 1, 2003."

"In addition to this action, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts indicated that it will implement a zero tolerance v-notching definition for Area 1 by March 15, 2003 as required under Addendum III to FMP. Now all the states in Area 1 (Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire) have a zero tolerance v-notching definition. "I am please that the states in Area 1 will all have a zero tolerance definition for v-notching within a few weeks," stated Board Chair George Lapointe of Maine.

"Consistent management measures across our area are critical to effective lobster management. I applaud Massachusetts to finding a solution to this ongoing issue.""

Northeastern University Marine Science Center Marine Lecture Series

>An Overview of Massachusetts Aquaculture

Scott Soares, Mass Dept of Food and Agriculture

Wed, April 9th, 7:30-9:00PM

>The 17th Annual Riser Lecture

Random Observations on the Biology of Deep Water Corals: Is there a Pattern?

Dr Les Watling, Darling Marine Center, U of Maine

Friday, April 11th, 4:30PM

The lectures will be held at the Marine Science Center, end of Nahant Road, at East Point. Lectures are free for everyone.



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**Member of the Month for March is
Ray Porter**

for his superb job in coordinating our club's participation at the Boston Sea Rovers Underwater Clinic and then operating the booth throughout the weekend with Mary. As in previous years, his contributions in co-hosting the annual St. Patrick's Day Party at Mary's home in Reading cannot be overlooked. Ray has had a busy March over and above his club secretarial duties, taking, editing and redrafting weekly meeting minutes and shopping mystery prizes. Thank you Ray!

Meeting Summaries

20-February-2003

Meeting called to order: 8:15 PM

Attendance: Officers: 4 Members: 13 Total: 17

Guests: 1 - Bill McHugh (not really a guest, but we haven't seen him in a long time!)

Committees:

- **Secretary's Report:** Ray Porter - Minutes accepted as read.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Rich Kinkade - Account balances accepted as read.
- **Membership:** John Ferrier - Nothing to report.
- **Program:** Daryl Findlay and Dave Smith - See calendar for coming events.
- **Air Bubbles:** Mary Howard - Next Air Bubbles Issue about 1/3 done. Hope to have it by next meeting.

Old Business:

- **2003 Banquet** - Bill Gannett reports that he did not connect with Tom of TC and the Torpedoes because of the snow. He expects to see Tom next Tuesday.
- **NSF Club Flyers** - John Ferrier reports that 1500 Flyers will be available for Sea Rovers. Business card type cards to be ready for the summer.

New Business:

- **Sea Rovers** - The material used last year was documented by Roslyn and will be used to pull this year's Sea Rovers booth together. The goal of attending Sea Rovers is part marketing and part networking. Attendance at Sea Rovers shows that the NSF is among the premier dive clubs in New England. Getting new members at Sea Rovers is an unrealistic expectation. The goal is to expand our network of people who could serve as speaker, lead to connections to other groups and future connections to new divers.
- A regulator donated by Bobby Boyle of Undersea Divers will be raffled. Ticket to be sold at 1-\$2, 3-\$5, 8-\$10. Raffle tickets will be sold at the club meetings prior to Sea Rovers to give Club members not attending the show a chance to buy tickets.
- A guest book to be provided to get diver name, contact info, and no. years diving. Invitations to divers could be sent to join club dive.
- Peter Cassidy to print a poster and the NSF banner.

Dive Talk: None.

General Discussion:

- **Boston Scuba Show** - David Doubilet's slides were Awesome! Door prize was a chance to attend an introductory re-breather class. Mary Howard was one of the four people selected (first name chosen).
- **Karaoke at Palmer's Cove YC** - Damien extends invitation to NSF club - Sat. 8:00 PM.
- **Russian Submarine Museum** - A Soviet Juliett Class K-81 (484) 1965 is on exhibit in Providence, RI. This sub was featured in the movie K-19.
- **Medic-First Aid** - Daryl was at Galyan's sporting goods store when a man just ahead of him passed out and hit his head. His Medic First Aid training allowed him to provide assistance. Since it is too cold to dive, he urges members to take a First Aid Class during these months.

Air Bubbles – March 2003

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45 PM

Raffles: Dollars Box: Damian Mangini
Bug Bag: Daryl Findlay – Dive Fins
Mystery Prize: Daryl Findlay

27-February-2003

Meeting called to order: 8:12 PM

Attendance: Officers: 4 Members: 24 Total: 28

Guests: 5 – Mike and Martha Long, Polly Montgomery, Mark Lambert (former club member), and Susan.

Announcements: None

Correspondence:

- E-mail from Bob Michaelson – For the July fish count, tables will be provided for clubs that want to set up booths
- Scuba Diver Magazine – Good article on how to tie off when entering wrecks.

Committees:

- **Secretary's Report:** Ray Porter – Minutes accepted as amended.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Rich Kinkade – Account balances accepted as read. Bill of \$24 for postage.
- **Membership:** John Ferrier – Renewals are due – complete renewal form for updated buddy list.
- **Program:** Daryl Findlay and Dave Smith – See calendar for coming events. Boat dives on boat from Cape Ann Divers. Dates are June 21, Aug 2, and Oct 11.
- **Air Bubbles:** Mary Howard – Air Bubbles here. Articles for next issue due March 17th.

Old Business:

- **Sea Rovers.** Coordination of booth
- Dave Smith to pick up flyers from John Ferrier.
- Dawn Dennler has poster and banner from Peter Cassidy.
- Dale to drop board and stands off at Mary Howard's house.

Dive Talk:

- Shon Dubois and John Sears dove Front Beach – high surf.

General Discussion:

- **Boston Herald.** Two separate articles
 - Area 2 increased minimum size for lobsters. Depleted stock.
 - State of Maine reports record catch 60 million pounds captured.
- **Reuters News.** Octopus unscrews cap of jar to reach shrimp inside.
- **IMAX Museum of Science.** Sign-up sheet for Coral Reef Adventure

Meeting Adjourned: 8:40 PM

Raffles: Dollars Box: Bill Gannett
Bug Bag: Roslyn Smith – Lift Bag
Mystery Prize: Dodie Carvalho

6-March-2003

Meeting called to order: 8:20 PM

Attendance: Officers: 3 Members: 8 Total: 11

Guests: None

Announcements:

- Boston Sea Rovers this weekend.

Correspondence: None.

Committees:

- **Secretary's Report:** Ray Porter – Minutes accepted as amended.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Rich Kinkade – Account balances accepted as read.
- **Membership:** John Ferrier – No report.
- **Program:** Daryl Findlay and Dave Smith – Boston Sea Rovers this weekend. See calendar for coming events. 5/17 Club Night In (tentative) – Needs someone to serve as host for the event.
- **Air Bubbles:** Mary Howard – Comments on last issue of Air Bubbles were: Good review of meetings, gave a good sense of what was discussed. Electronic version downloaded OK, no problems noted.

Old Business:

- **Boston Sea Rovers.** Booth preparations progressing well. Need an extra table. Sign-up sheet for those attending the conference to support the booth. Regulator to be raffled at 2:00 on Sunday.

Dive Talk:

- Shon Dubois and John Sears dove Front Beach in the rain on Sunday, 3 to 5 ft vis. Very high tide (up to sea wall). Some sculpin and lobsters (shorts) seen
- Pebble Beach rock'n and roll'n – road ½ gone, 10 to 15 feet of sand along beach gone.
- Niles Beach locked in with ice.
- Penguin Dip – 100 people went in at Jubilee Yacht Club. Water temp was 36oF. Tequila donated by the Anthonys.

General Discussion:

- **Karaoke Night at Palmer's Cove YC.** Several NSF members attended. A good time was had by all. Damian is a good dancer but a singer?
- Saw many former NSF club members.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 PM

Raffles: Dollars Box: Ray Porter
Bug Bag: Postponed to next week
Mystery Prize: Nancy Gannett

13-March-2003

Meeting not held because of low turnout, due to snow.

Air Bubbles – March 2003

April 2003

		1	2	3 8PM Meeting	4	5 "Wrecks" Metrowest Dive Club
6	7	8	9 7:30PM NEUniv Marine Lecture	10 8PM Meeting	11 4:30PM NEUniv Marine Lecture	12
13 Easter Egg Dive Party- Carvalhos'	14	15 Dive Into Earth Day week begins	16	17 Speaker Meeting Charles Mazel NightSea	1	19
1	21	22	23	24 8PM Meeting	1	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2003

May 2003				1 8PM Meeting	2	3 DUI Demo Days Stage Fort Park
4 DUI Demo Days Stage Fort Park	5	6	7	8 8PM Meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14 BSC Meeting Full Moon Dive	15 8PM Meeting	16	17
18 Bay State Council Treasure Hunt	19	20	21	22 8PM Meeting	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29 8PM Meeting	30	31

Activities

- **April 5**, the Metrowest Dive Club will hold their Annual Diving Symposium *WRECKS 2003* at Keefe Technical High School, 750 Winter St in Framingham, from 8:30 - 3:30. Speakers: Tom Mount (Rebreathers), Kevin McMurray (Empress of Ireland), Christina Young (New York/New Jersey Wrecks) and Cris Kohl (Great Lakes Shipwrecks).
- **April 9 and 11**, the Northeastern University Marine Science Center's **Marine Lecture Series** lectures. See insert bottom of page 2 for more info.
- **April 13**, Club **Easter Egg Dive**. Meet at Back Beach at 9:30AM, ready to enter the water at 10:00. Dive coordinator: John Sears.
- **April 13**, **Party** to follow the **Easter Egg Dive**. Hosts: Frank and Dodie Carvalho.
- **April 17**, **Speaker Night: Charles Mazel** of NightSea will speak to us about Underwater Fluorescent Photography. See his website at www.nightsea.com.

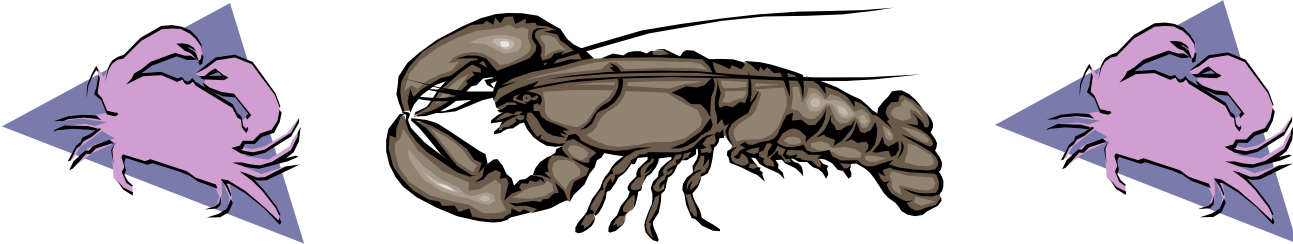
Air Bubbles – March 2003

More Activities

- **May 3-4**, **DUI Demo Days** at Stage Fort Park. More information will be forthcoming soon.
- **May 14**, Season's first **FULL MOON DIVE**. Time still tbd.
- **May 14**, **Bay State Council Meeting**, Neptunes' Clubhouse in Quincy. Contact Mary for info.
- **May 18**, Bay State Council **Treasure Hunt Dive and Snorkel Events**, Rain or Shine. See flyer on page ?? for further information on times and how to sign up.
- **June 1**, the South Shore Neptunes will be doing their first **Transect Dive** of the season for the artificial reef project. They will be accommodating other dive clubs on their boats in order to increase the number of transects that can be done. Contact Angelo Correnti if you would like to go along on some of these dives.
- **June 11**, **FULL MOON DIVE**. Time tbd.
- **June 19**, Speaker Meeting: **Jonathan Bird** will give a presentation. Topic tbd.
- **June ??**, **Canoe Trip on the Ipswich River**, with Foote Brothers Canoe Rentals. Date and time tbd. "Dive" Coordinators: Peter Cassidy and Bill Gannett.
- **June 21**, season's first **Boat Dive** with Cape Ann Divers. Sign-up sheets will be available for these events. Dive Coordinator: Dave Smith. Cost \$50 for 2-tank trip.
- **July 6**, South Shore Neptunes **Transect Dive**. See June 1 for details.
- **July 19**, at Stage Fort Park: **Great American Fish Count**. The North Shore Frogmen will have a table at this event. Make sure to come and register and dive. There will be a lot of great prizes to win, and your ticket to enter is your fish count form! "Dive Coordinator": Amy Maurer.
- **Aug 2**, **Boat Dive** with Cape Ann Divers. See June 21 for details.
- **Aug 13**, **FULL MOON DIVE**. Time tbd.
- **Aug 17**, South Shore Neptunes **Transect Dive**. See June 1 for details.
- **Aug 30**, **Nubble Light Dive**. Time tbd.
- **Aug 29-Sept1**, Wells Beach Camping weekend. Information to follow.
- **Sept 21**, NSF **Annual Club Picnic** at Stage Fort Park.
- **Sept 21**, South Shore Neptunes **Transect Dive**. See June 1 for details.
- **Sept 27**, **Coast Sweep**. Come help clean up the beaches! "Dive Coordinator": Dave Smith
- **Oct 4**, Lexington Bike Trail **Bike Ride**. "Dive Coordinator": Dave Smith
- **Oct 11**, **Boat Dive** with Cape Ann Divers. See June 21 for details.
- **Oct 25**, NSF **Halloween Party**. Host: Dave Smith
- **Nov 27**, Thanksgiving, **NO MEETING**
- **Dec 4**, NSF Elections
- **Dec 6**, NSF **Annual Banquet**
- **Dec 25**, Christmas, **NO MEETING**

Bay State Council of Divers

TREASURE HUNT



Attention all divers! Bring your family, friends and fellow divers to the 18th annual B.S.C. Treasure Hunt. It's a chance to get back in shape, meet other divers and win great prizes. The event is sponsored by the Bay State Council of Divers.

Date: Sunday May 18, 2003 (Rain or Shine)
Time: 8:00 AM to 4:PM
Place: Stage Fort Park, Gloucester, MA
Fee: Advanced Registration \$8.00
Day of Event \$10.00

Registration: 8:00 to 9:30 AM
SCUBA Event: 10:00 to 11:00 AM
Snorkel Event: 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Trophies and Prizes: 1:00 to 2:00 PM

The day will include picnicking, an underwater treasure hunt (scuba and snorkel events) and lots of prizes. Here's how it works: Bring your own food and beverages (no alcohol allowed), cooking OK. Bring your own grill. Take out available. Required Equipment: For SCUBA Event: Wet or Dry Suit with buoyancy compensator, tank, regulator with pressure gauge, weight belt, mask, fins, snorkel, knife and catch bag. For Snorkel Event: All of the above except tank and regulator.

What is the Bay State Council of Divers?

The Bay State Council of Divers, Inc. (commonly known as the BSC) was founded in the early 1970's to represent the organized divers in Massachusetts. The BSC is a member of the Underwater Society of America, which is composed of other dive councils, clubs and independent divers throughout North America. The BSC, which is managed by a Board of Directors, meets approximately four times a year. Membership is made up of over 700 individual divers, clubs, dive shop owners, charter boat captains, scuba instructors and other interested persons throughout the state.

BSC Treasure Hunt: Advanced Registration (Must be postmarked no later than May 10, 2003)

Yes. I want to participate in the 2003 BSC Treasure Hunt. Enclosed is my \$8.00 advanced registration fee (non-refundable).

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Make your check payable to Bay State Council and return it with this coupon to:

Bay State Council of Divers
PO Box 518
Quincy, MA 02169



Photo of NSF booth at Sea Rovers (by Dave Smith)



Photo of NSF banner hung above exhibit floor at Sea Rovers, as seen from the floor (by Dave Smith)

UNDERSEA DIVERS

Bob Boyle

42 Water Street
Beverly, MA 01915

978-927-9551

Board of Underwater Archeological Resources

Vincent Mastone and David Trubey, of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archeological Resources, came to our meeting on March 20 to give us a presentation about some of the work that the Board has been doing recently. If you are interested in more information about the Board, or about Coastal Zone Management, or if you are interested in the list of “exempted” shipwrecks, check out their website at www.state.ma.us/czm/buar.

Raffle Prize

Did you ever want to do a little underwater photography without spending an arm and a leg? The current “big” item that is being raffled off at meetings is an underwater photo system from Undersea Divers. The package consists of an Ikelite Aquashot 3 housing that accepts disposable cameras, along with a Macro kit, and external strobe, and nylon padded carrying case. Come to a meeting and purchase some tickets. You can’t win without participating!!

Goals and Objectives of the Bay State Council:

1. To monitor State and Federal Government for changes in fishing and diving regulations or laws; to educate the public and diving communities in the sport of skin and scuba diving; to create public sentiment for the encouragement of skin and scuba diving; to promote safety, education and conservation in the sport.
2. To sponsor activities of competition in the sport of diving.
3. To give aid and assistance to groups desiring to organize diving organizations.
4. To disseminate information relative to the sport of diving.

Resources

1. State and Federal Register
2. Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Lobster Advisory Panel
3. Underwater Board of Archeological Resources
4. Correspondence with other councils
5. New England Fishery Management Council
6. Mass Division of Marine Fisheries
7. Mass Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Boston Sea Rovers 49th Annual Underwater Clinic

Ray Porter

The annual Boston Sea Rovers event includes workshops and training sessions, seminars on a wide range of topics, and exhibits by equipment providers and local dive clubs. The Saturday evening film festival is the highlight of the weekend. In all, 16 NSF members attended the event. Some, like Dave Metrano, refreshed their training certifications. Others attended seminars on rebreathers, photography, videography, underwater research activities or investigations of shipwrecks. Some just roamed the exhibit area examining the latest in underwater gear.

Among the exhibitors on the balcony over looking the exhibit floor were the dive clubs. The North Shore Frogmen's booth was prominent among them. Fourteen club members supported the booth by contributing to the display or greeting people that visited the booth. Pictures from last years photo contest were on display as were artifacts from the Andrea Doria and RMS Oregon courtesy of Paul Blanchette and a large lobster claw provided by Rich Kinkade. Daryl Findlay's Swedish Fish were also a main attraction as were his videos and slide presentations, which played continuously at one of the tables. The new NSF flyer and copies of the current issue of Air Bubbles were available to visitors.

Fourteen people signed our guest book; six of them are relatively new divers (less than 5 years experience). Other guests included former club members and people who may be future speakers at our dive club meetings. Dave Dodge paid his dues at the booth, as has been his custom for the past several years.

An Apeks T-100 regulator donated by Bobby Boyle of Undersea Divers was raffled off on Sunday. Mary strongly urged visitors to buy raffle tickets; after all, you always need a backup regulator. Over \$290 dollars were raised. Angelo Correnti of the South Shore Neptunes and Chairman of the Bay State Council of Divers was the winner. Sea Rovers also held a raffle that included a dive in the Giant Ocean Tank at the NE Aquarium which was won by Mary Howard.

The highlight of the weekend is the Saturday evening film festival. Prominent underwater cinematographers discussed their most recent projects and showed clips from some of their work. Harold and Michelle Hall presented a background piece that will be put on the DVD version of the Coral Reef Adventure film, which is now playing at the Museum of Science. The Boston Sea Rovers honored the Halls with this year's Diver of the Year award.

Diver's Log: Divedate 052898.3

Dave Smith

I stood at the top of the landing surveying the scene below me. Everything I saw gave me the impression that this would be nothing more than a normal decent to the bottom. Stepping forward; down, down, down I went, until my feet could sink no more.

Surveying the bottom, the visibility was spectacular. Lots of life, both native creatures and creatures not natural to the area. I slowly moved along, being careful to memorize the ascent route.

Moving forward, I started playing with some of the strange creatures in this place. I started feeding them the round colorful discs from my pouch and watched the different colors on their bodies vibrate with joy. Soon, I found myself running out of the little treats, so I had to move on.

Entering a small cave, I noticed that it was quite well lit from above. Spectacular colors abounded. There was an absolute abundance of life here. I was constantly bumping into creatures of every size and shape. Then suddenly, he came out of the dark.....



The monster slowly turned. Graceful, yet displaying a terror I never knew existed, he came my way. "This guy means business" I said to myself as he displayed the tools of his trade in all their glory.....



Steady now.... Don't move an inch. The only noise was the sound of my breathing. Seeing me, he came no closer. Something else was to be his quarry; someone else would meet his end today. It was not to be me.

Frozen with fear, I watched with awe as this denizen of the deep glided gracefully past and beyond.



Seizing my opportunity, I knew I had to make a run for my life. I could have made it to a small wreck resting just behind me. The many bottles and wood would have provided me adequate cover. But for how long? Even though I had an abundance of air, I had seen enough. It was time to leave.

I made it back to where I began, and slowly started up, up, up to the safety of the landing. Hard to believe that such a beautiful place could harbor such an efficient killing machine. Catching my breath, I looked back to where I had just been.

I mean, it really wasn't too hard; it was just down the stairs and to the right! Now where's my wife? I need more chips!!!

Well, guess I'll just head over to the bar.....

AGAIN!!!



Join us again for another thrilling adventure at the OdySea Gift Shop at the Mohegan Sun Casino!!!

2003 DUES ARE DUE. Have you paid yours?

Past Members Seen at Sea Rovers Show

Mary Howard

There were several past members of the North Shore Frogmen's club who stopped by our booth at the Sea Rovers Show. I had the chance to visit a little with John Roberts who stopped by the booth a couple of times on Saturday. I remember that he had made an announcement before leaving the club several years ago that his life was changing a little (not sure at this point, but maybe it was retirement?) and that he would no longer be able to include our club in his activities. He told me that he is happy and very busy. He is playing the tuba in two concert bands, and he is a member of the Merrimack Valley Dive Club. John had been diving regularly until his dive buddy moved to the Midwest, I think he said Indiana, so he only did about five dives last year. It was very nice to see John, looking exactly as he did five or more years ago when I last saw him at Palmer's Cove.

John Blaney also stopped by the booth and we had a nice chat. He did NOT look exactly the same as the last time we saw him as a club member. His daughter Maddie (spelling?) is about the same age now as Peter Cassidy's daughter Maddie, and he has a son about 5 months old. John says he is not a joiner any more and that his family is the center of his world, though he can be seen occasionally in the company of Jim Follis.

Dave Forsberg came by the booth on Sunday. Jim Follis, who works with Dave's wife, is trying to get him to come to a meeting some time soon, as he now lives in Beverly. You may remember that Dave injured his hand(s) badly some years ago falling off a roof, and that put a stop to his diving for a time. The hands are now pretty well mended and he is back into diving with his hand therapist who accompanied him to the show and to our booth.

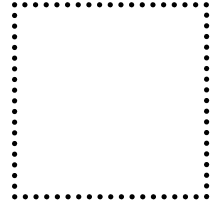
Annette Spaulding came by with Patrick Madden, a friend who is retiring from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and moving "down here". (Turns out "down here" means to Vermont!) So Annette expects to be able to make it to more Froggy events and to update her membership. She also suggested that Patrick might be able to give us an exciting presentation sometime, as he has been doing dive-related police work in Canada.

Next Bay State Council Meeting

The next Bay State Council meeting will be held at 7:30PM on May 14 at the South Shore Neptunes' clubhouse in Quincy. If you have never been, and would like to attend, you can contact Mary Howard for information and directions.



The North Shore Frogmen's Club Inc
PO Box 3604
Peabody, MA 01961-3604



Upcoming Events!

- Apr 13: Easter Egg Dive/Party
- Apr 17: Speaker: Charles Mazel
- May 3-4: DUI Demo Days
- May 14: First Full Moon Dive
- May 18: BSC Treasure Hunt



2003 Dues are Due

The North Shore Frogmen's Club Meetings
are held every Thursday night at 8PM (except Thanksgiving) at:

The Franco-American Club
44 Park Street
Beverly, MA

Directions: From Rte 128, take the Rte 62 exit, #22E, towards Beverly. Turn RIGHT onto BRIDGE ST at the new light after Danversport Yacht Club. At the end of Bridge St, turn LEFT onto RIVER ST. Turn RIGHT onto FEDERAL ST, turn RIGHT onto PARK ST. Free parking in lot across from Franco-American Club.