Air Bubbles

The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

Volume 46, Number 4

April 2004

President's Message, April 2004

Greetings fellow Froggies (and Friends of Froggies),

This past month has been a busy one; from the Boston Scuba Show at the end of February to the Boston Sea Rovers at the beginning of March, interest in our sport has surged with the expectations of Spring. Soon (relatively soon at least), warmer water temperatures will beckon us into our dive gear once again for another fun-filled season of scuba diving.

For those who were unable to attend the Boston Scuba Show held at the Holiday Inn in Marlboro, MA on February 21st, you missed some very informative and entertaining presentations. For example, here are some details on a couple of the presentations. Dave Clancy, Webmaster of the popular wreckhunter.net website, has embarked on a new project, cataloging the shipwrecks off the coast of Nova Scotia (found at nswrecks.net). Although he calls it a "work in progress", the layout of the website is very clean, with a multitude of photos, maps, wreck specifications, and explanatory notes. In addition, Dave provides an extensive library of links to other marine and shipwreck-related websites for additional information. If you haven't checked out Dave Clancy's websites, I strongly encourage you to do so.

Capt. Spencer Slate's presentation on the sinking of the Spiegel Grove, was a fascinating look behind what it takes to create an artificial reef - as well as a premiere dive destination. The video of the swim-through of the ship while it was floating upside down (it turned turtle mere hours before it's scheduled sinking) was impressive as well as a bit spooky (swimming inside a boat that could release it's trapped air and crash into the seafloor with you in it is NOT for the faint of heart!!). It was impressive to see how quickly the marine life began to colonize the ship once it made it to the bottom. Fish began to congregate around the Spiegel Grove within hours of its sinking. Very Impressive!! Capt. Slate goes to show that it would be possible to use the mothball fleet to create artificial reefs for recreational as well as ecological/fisheries enhancement; but the road is a long and arduous process full of bureaucratic snafus and environmental regulation.

To undergo such a task in Massachusetts' waters would require several years of dedicated effort by hundreds of volunteers and a hefty amount of cash. This topic is a perfect segue into mentioning the Boston Sea Rover's 50th Anniversary Show, held on March 5-7 in the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel.

One of the lecturers at Sea Rovers was Vin Malkoski, Senior Fisheries Biologist with the Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries (and regular attendee of Bay State Council of Divers meetings). In his talk, he outlined the history of artificial reefs off the coast of Massachusetts, the regulations that must be adhered to when building an artificial reef in Commonwealth waters, and the potential for artificial reef projects in the future.

Among the other lectures that I was able to attend while at Sea Rovers, was Philippe Cousteau's (Jacques Cousteau's grandson) talk about his efforts to restore the ecology of the Florida Everglades through his environmental organization Earth's Echo. His work entails a series of videos and public outreach programs to help educate people about the importance of keeping the Everglades healthy and intact; not only for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, but also as a means of water filtration and flood control.

Eric Cheng, Webmaster and contributor to the wetpixels.com website, gave an excellent presentation about digital underwater photography. I must say that I was blown away by the quality of the images from his 12-Megapixel camera; you would think that they were the product of a professional film camera. After seeing his lecture, I've decided to try my hand at digital underwater photography myself, using an entry-level digital camera

In This Issue

Meeting Summaries – pg. 2-3 Oceanic Research Group Film Premier – pg. 4-5 Guest Speakers March 25 – pg 5 Frank Carvalho – pg 5 Easter Egg Dive and Party Plans – pg 5 Activities Calendar – pg. 6-7 12th Annual Wrecks Symposium – pg. 8

Air Bubbles – April 2004

from Fuji (FinePix F700-6MP interpolated), and a polycarbonate U/W housing from Fuji specifically designed to hold the camera.

In case you didn't hear, one of the reasons that I wanted to get myself a new camera was to be able to bring back to the club a decent digital slideshow of the dive trip to Belize that I won in a raffle at Sea Rovers. I couldn't believe my ears when I heard my name being called! In addition to a week aboard the Nekton Pilot, I also won Dacor's H.U.B. System; an integrated regulator/octopus/BCD that is perfect for a diver traveling to the tropics. I've spent the past two weeks looking through a guide to the Dive Sites of Belize to see if I want to go on the Central Belize dive cruise or the Southern Belize dive cruise. I plan to take the dive trip in February, 2005, so I will be able to finish my graduate degree in marine science from the University of Alaska Fairbanks this Fall. That way, I can look at the dive trip as my reward for having suffered through my Master's Program!!! Let this be a lesson for you all--you never

Meeting Summaries 26-February-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:15 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 15 Members Guests: 2 – Jason Copelas (Susan's son) & Keith Hunner (Shon's friend)

Correspondence:

- Adventure Magazine: Increased risk of bends when exercising too heavily after diving.
- Email from Dodi Frank in hospital but back home now
- Flyer for Wrecks 2004 Keefe Technical School Apr 17th.

Committees:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter Meeting minutes accepted as amended.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Rich Kinkade Account balances accepted as read.
- *Membership:* John Ferrier Nothing to report.
- *Program:* Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith – Got some additional videos for future meetings. Activities planning meeting next week 7:30.
- *Air Bubbles:* Mary Howard Air Bubbles was sent out.

Old Business: Sea Rovers booth sign-up sheet available .

New Business:

- None

General Discussion:

- Mike's moments: Sunday Herald cruel to boil lobsters alive. Better to freeze first, then put a spike through the head before boiling.
- Raffles:Dollars Box: Anita Windeler Mystery Prize: Daryl Findlay Bug Bag: Aqua Lung Legend LX Regulator – Ongoing Tank light – ongoing

MOVIE NIGHT – Bahamas Diving by Dave Smith

4-March-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:10 PM Attendance: 3 Officers, 10+ Members Guests: 2 – Pam Grunstrum & Faith Ortins

Committees:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter absent- Meeting minutes not read.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Rich Kinkade Account balances accepted as read.
- *Membership:* John Ferrier Nothing to report.
- *Program:* Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith See activities list.

know what could happen when you attend the Boston Sea Rovers Annual Show!!

In closing, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Bobby Boyle of Undersea Divers, who donated an Aqualung Legend Regulator for us to raffle off at our table at Sea Rovers. Due to his generosity, we raised in excess of \$500 in ticket sales, which will go a long way towards making this year's North Shore Frogmen activities the best ever. Thank You!!

Take Care,

Michael Donovan

NSF President '04

P.S.: Don't forget that the Metrowest Dive club is hosting their annual Wrecks Symposium on April 17th at the Keefe Technical School in Framingham. And the Oceanic Research Group Benefit is that evening. See you there!

> - *Air Bubbles:* Mary Howard – Submissions due March 19 for April issue.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- None

Dive Talk:

- Faith Ortins has been diving on the Yukon. Vis 20-100 ft. Had some good dives. Harbor seal played with them, first coming down and landing on her tank, then hiding in the kelp and playing peek-a-boo. -The sea lion that had been shot was released from the hospital.

General Discussion:

- Mike's moments: Several articles presented. One stated that in Regalo, Italy, it is not legal to put a live lobster into boiling water. (Nor is it legal to dye your dog to match your outfit.)
- Raffles: Dollars Box: Mary Howard Mystery Prize: Dave Smith Bug Bag: Aqua Lung Legend LX Regulator – Ongoing.

11-March-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:10 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 11 Members



<u>The North Shore Frogmen's Club</u> PO Box 3604 Peabody, MA 01961

2003 OFFICERS

President: Michael Donovan Tel: (978) 664-3509 Email: <u>mjdonovan@juno.com</u>

VP: Dave Smith Tel: (978) 774-1043 Email: diverdave8@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Rich Kinkade Tel: (978) 374-1650 Email: <u>richkinkade@aol.com</u>

Secretary: Ray Porter Tel: (781) 944-1292 Email: <u>rporter@ch2m.com</u>

2003 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: John Ferrier Tel: (781) 858-9182 Email: <u>lobstalust@juno.com</u>

Activities: Daryl Findlay - 978-376-6669 Dave Smith - <u>diverdave8@hotmail.com</u>

Newsletter: Mary Howard Tel: (781) 944-1292 Email: <u>m.m.howard@comcast.net</u>

Committees:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter Meeting minutes accepted as read.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Rich Kinkade Account balances accepted as read.
- *Membership:* John Ferrier Nothing to report.
- *Program:* Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith – See activities list. July 18 Captain Rob (NH) boat dive scheduled. 12 spots available.
- Air Bubbles: Mary Howard Submissions due March 19 for April issue.

Air Bubbles – April 2004

Old Business:

Sea Rovers Summary:

- Regulator raffle brought in about \$565 (estimated gross income).
 Won by Ed Bates of SSNeptunes.
- Booth was well supported with members supporting the booth, many visitors stopping by and contact with potential speakers made.
- Big prize winners were: Michael Donovan – Dive gear and dive trip to Belize (?); Susan Copelas – dive in Giant Ocean Tank at Aquarium; Ray Porter – BSC raffle winner of Al 80 tank.

New Business:

- None

Dive Talk:

- Chris Martinez attended Andy Martinez Photo Workshop on Sunday at Sea Rovers. Great course!

General Discussion:

- Mike's moments: Salem news Boat in Boston Harbor found with 1100 lobsters on board, many were females with evidence of removed eggs. Coast Guard made arrest.
- Raffles:Dollars Box: John Ferrier Mystery Prize: Mike Denneler Bug Bag: Jack Munro – Dive light

MOVIE NIGHT – Deep Sea Detectives movie about S5 Submarine

18-March-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:05 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 11 Members **Committees**:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter Meeting minutes accepted as read.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Rich Kinkade Account balances accepted as read. Bill for \$73.81 paid for Air Bubbles expenses. 2003 year end summary not complete.
- *Membership:* John Ferrier Nothing to report. List of prospects from Sea Rovers not prepared yet. Discussion of offering free raffle ticket to new guests.
- Program: Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith – See activities list. John

Sears to check on Roller Skating. Party in Beverly for April school vacation (April 19).

- *Air Bubbles:* Mary Howard – Submissions due tomorrow.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Dive Talk:

- Daryl Findlay dove with Cathy Guiheen and a new diver at Winter Island. Very low tide. Water Temp about 32oF. New diver panicked. Lost fins and dropped weight belt. Daryl, still
- getting ready to enter water, pulled the new diver out and then spent rest of his dive looking for the weight belt. Found it in the silt near the end of dive. Vis dropped to zero while trying to recover the belt as bottom silt disturbed. Both the fins and belt were recoverd.

General Discussion:

- John Ferrier and Daryl went to Sunday River on March 17th on the White Mt. Express (Exit 49 off I-495). Heavy drinkers on board. Started from when they left the parking lot in the morning and continued until they returned to the lot in the evening.
- Mikes Moments: Various Articles from local papers.
 - Tru-Fresh freezes lobsters in a brine chilled to –40oF. Lobsters come back life when chilled overnight.
 - Florida panhandle. 38 dolphins found dead on beach & in water. Cause unknown.
- Raffles: Dollars Box: Peter Cassidy Mystery Prize: Peter Chapman Bug Bag: Daryl Findlay – Underwater poster

Press Release, March 16, 2004:

DOCUMENTARY WORLD PREMIER AND SHARK-A-THON BENEFIT FOR OCEANIC RESEARCH GROUP

WHEN: Saturday, April 17, 2004 WHERE: Nevins Hall, 150 Concord Street, Framingham, MA

TIMES: Shark-A-Thon: 3:00 P.M. Silent Wrecks: 7:00 P.M.

ADMISSION: Free. Donations will be gladly accepted.

(North Reading) – **Oceanic Research Group** will present the world premier of its new film *The Silent Wrecks of Kwajalein Atoll* at 7:00 P.M., April 17, 2004 at Nevins Hall, 150 Concord St, Framingham, Massachusetts. Filmmakers Jonathan Bird and Art Cohen will be present to answer questions about the production. At 3:00 P.M. children of all ages are welcome to the Shark-A-Thon, also at Nevins Hall. The events are to benefit Oceanic Research Group and its Streaming Video Project. Admission to both events is free but donations will be gladly accepted.

"Silent Wrecks" World Premiere

The Silent Wrecks of Kwajalein Atoll is a powerful new documentary that reveals to the public for the first time Japanese World War II shipwrecks and an American World War II era airplane graveyard that have been closed away on a restricted U.S. military base since the end of World War II.

In a perfectly executed World War II mission that took place at the end of January, 1944, U.S. forces defeated the Japanese at a little known outpost in the Marshall Islands called Kwajalein Atoll. As part of the effort to win control of this crucial gateway to the Japanese empire, U.S. planes bombarded Japanese supply ships in Kwajalein harbor for several weeks prior to the attack, sinking most of them, some still at anchor, and others as they were trying to flee. Little is left of the battle of Kwajalein except the silent wrecks still lying at the bottom of the harbor where they were defeated, out of site and forgotten until now. Following the war, the lagoon at Kwajalein was also the dumping ground for World War II era American war planes including Corsairs, B-25s, C46s, and the Dauntless.

Few people have ever seen these wrecks because Kwajalein has been a restricted military base since the end of World War II. Now, for the first time, the U.S. military has granted permission to an outside film crew to document them for posterity, before they are lost forever to the dusts of time.



There will be a silent auction for a dive in the New England Aquarium's Giant Ocean Tank, a shark dive off Rhode Island with Snappa Charters, original Jonathan Bird photographs, and more. The event will also include a raffle, beverages, T-shirts, videos, books, posters, and the opportunity to mingle with lots of other ocean-lovers. The program will be hosted by ORG producer and board member Art Cohen.

Shark-A-Thon

At 3:00 PM, Oceanic Research Group will present the "**Shark-A-Thon**", an event for kids and anyone else interested in sharks! This program will feature a short video, including an exciting Blue Shark rescue. The Shark-A-Thon will also feature a slide show by underwater photographer Jonathan Bird, president of O.R.G and author of the book "Adventures with Sharks." There will be shark related door prizes and Jonathan will sign copies of his books and posters.

The benefit is being held to raise money for the Streaming Video Project, which will make O.R.G.'s library of educational videos available free to schools and other educational institutions over the Internet.

Oceanic Research Group is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, environmental organization dedicated to the conservation of the world's oceans and marine life through education. Its primary activity is producing documentaries and educational videos for both the broadcast and the school markets.

ORG has produced twelve educational films for classroom use that will be digitized and streamed on the Web. ORG has also produced three broadcast documentaries that are in domestic and international distribution: ORG has received three CINDY Awards, a CINE Golden Eagle Award, and a KIDS FIRST! endorsement for its educational films, and two New England Emmy Awards for its broadcast features on WCVB-TV's *Chronicle*.

For more information (including directions to Nevins Hall) please view our Web site: http://www.oceanicresearch.org

Guest Speakers at March 25 Meeting

Daniel McKiernan, Deputy Director, and Vincent Malkoski, Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist, of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries were guest speakers at our meeting on March 25. There was an informative and sometimes heated discussion of the current and proposed rules and regulations governing commercial and recreational lobster fishing.

The Division of Marine Fisheries is proposing the addition of a bag limit for lobster divers to distinguish recreational divers from commercial divers. It was stated that some commercial lobster divers, who are denied or for some other reason do not have commercial licenses, dive with recreational licenses. Since there is no legal distinction by lobster catch in place at this time, it is very difficult to prosecute commercial divers who do not have the required permits. Club members suggested a limit of somewhere between 15 and 25 lobsters per day as opposed to the DMF suggested limit of 10 lobsters.

<u>Arnie Pettiglio</u> writes to say that he became a certified diver 35 years ago, in February of 1969. He states that it has been "a long time of diving for me".

Frank Carvalho March 24, 2004

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our dear friend and fellow "Froggy" Frank Carvalho. Frank has been a member of The North Shore Frogmen's Club for a great many years and he will be sorely missed by all of us.

Easter Egg Dive and Party, April 25

John Sears will be organizing the Easter Egg Dive again this year, with help from his son John Patrick who will be "laying" the eggs. The dive will be held at Stage Fort Park in Gloucester, at Cressi Beach (the one nearer the ice cream stand). Please be at the beach by 9:30AM to gear up. The dive will start at 10 sharp, so if you are not ready to get in the water at that time, someone else will get all your eggs!

Susan Copelas has generously and graciously offered her house in Lynnfield for the Party after the dive. As she is away on a dive trip somewhere in the Pacific at press time, we have not yet received confirmation that she really wants to do this, but at this time we are planning that she does. The party will begin after the dive, any time after 11AM. As usual, this will be a "pot luck" event. Please BYOB and bring something yummy to share.

Directions to Susan's house at 345 Chestnut St, Lynnfield: From Rte 128 S. Take exit 41. Bear right at the exit and go .8 miles. Turn left onto Chestnut St. Go .8 miles to #345, a green antique on the right.

(Just to cover for the program committee and the AB editor, if you will not be attending a meeting between now and then, and plan to attend the party, please verify with someone – anyone on the officers/committee chairs list in this newsletter will do – where the party will be held.)

Air Bubbles – April 2004

	April	2004	ł	1 8PM Meeting	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 8PM Meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 8PM Meeting	16	17 <u>Wrecks Symp.</u> ORG Benefit
18	19	20	21	22 8PM Meeting	23	24
25 Easter Egg Dive & Party	26	27	28	29 8PM Meeting	30	
		May	2004	1		1
2	3	4	5 Almost full-moon night dive	6 8PM Meeting Invertebrate ID class	7	8
9	10	11	12 Bay State Council Meeting	13 8PM Meeting	14	15 Club Night In???
16	17	18	19 Dark-side night dive	20 8PM Meeting	21	22 DUI Demo Days
23 BSC Treasure <u>Hunt</u> DUI Demo Days	24	25	26	27 8PM Meeting	28	29
30	31 Holiday Dive				1	

Winter Sunday Dive Times

Arrive at Burger King at 9:00, ready to leave for the dive site at 9:30AM.

April Activities

- Apr 17, Twelfth Annual MetroWest Dive Club's Wrecks Symposium.
- Apr 17, Oceanic Research Group Film Premier and Benefit 7-9PM, Framingham, MA
- <u>Apr 25</u>, Easter Egg Dive, at Cressi Beach, Stage Fort Park. Dive coordinator: John Sears.
- <u>Apr 25</u>, Easter Egg Dive Party at Susan Copelas's house.

Air Bubbles – April 2004 Activities May-December

- May 2, Sunday. Sunday dive times change to summer hours! Show at 8, go at 8:30AM.
- May 5, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- May 12, Bay State Council of Divers meeting, 7:30PM.
- May 15, Club Night In. (Subject to change. Check schedule closer to date.)
- May 19, Wed. "Dive on the Dark Side" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- May 22-23, DUI Demo Days at Stage Fort Park
- May 23, Bay State Council Treasure Hunt Dive and Snorkel events. Stage Fort Park.
- <u>May 31</u>, Holiday Dive (?)
- Jun 2, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Jun 12, Canoe Trip on Ipswich River. "Dive coordinators": Bill Gannett and Peter Cassidy.
- Jun 19, Saturday, 8AM, Boat Dive w/ Cape Ann Charters. See Dave Smith to sign up.
- Jun 16, Wed. "Dive on the Dark Side" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Jun 24, Beach Meeting.
- Jun 30, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Jul 5, Holiday Dive (?)
- Jul 14, Wed. "Dive on the Dark Side" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Jul 17, Great American Fish Count. Stage Fort Park.
- Jul 18, Boat Dive with Captain Rob in NH. Up to 12 spots available. See Dave Smith to sign up.
- Jul 22, Beach Meeting.
- Jul 28, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Aug 11, Wed. "Dive on the Dark Side" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Aug 14, Saturday, 8AM, Boat Dive w/ Cape Ann Charters. See Dave Smith to sign up.
- Aug 25, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- **Sep 3-6**, Wells Beach Camping and Nubble Light diving weekend.
- <u>Sep 6</u>, Holiday Dive (?)
- Sep 11, Coast Sweep. Contact Dave Smith.
- Sep 19, Annual Club Picnic, Stage Fort Park.
- Oct 9, Saturday, 8AM, Boat Dive w/ Cape Ann Charters. See Dave Smith to sign up.
- Nov 4, Nominations for Club Officers start.
- Dec 4, Club Banquet at Franco American Club.

MWDC's 12th Annual Wrecks Symposium

"It's not just for wreck divers!"

The MetroWest Dive Club will be hosting their 12th Annual Wrecks Symposium at the Keefe Technical School in Framingham on April 17. Registration for this event begins at 8:15AM; the symposium lectures in the auditorium are from 9AM to 3:30PM.

Speakers will be Ben Haskell speaking on the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary wrecks, Dave Caldwell and Heather Knowles on Technical Wreck Diving, Tom Rutledge and Dan MacKay speaking on diving in the Kingston Ontario area, and Michael Barnette will speak on Florida's submerged history.

In addition to the talks in the auditorium, there will be exhibitors, equipment displays, photo equipment displays and artifact displays. There will also be door prizes and a raffle for dive charter trips, dive gear and dive classes.

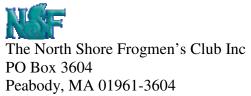
Tickets for the event are \$12 if purchased by April 13 (they can be ordered by mail), or \$15 if purchased at the door.

Visit the Wrecks website at <u>http://www.mwdc.org/wrecks2004/index.html</u>, for more information, including directions to Keefe Technical School, and ordering reduced price tickets.

42 Water St. Beverly MA 1-978-927-9551 Dive@underseadivers.com OUR WEBSITE IS ALL NEW FOR 2003 INTERSEADIVERS.COM Sales & Service & Rentals AQUA LUNG & SEAQUEST & SUUNTO GENISIS * DUI * VIKING * HENDERSON VISA MASTERCARD A AE DISCOVER



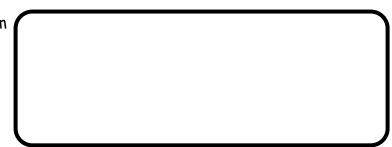
2004 Dues are OVER-Due. Have you paid yours yet?



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Upcoming Events!

- Apr 17: 12th Annual Wrecks Symposium
- Apr 17: O.R.G. Film Premier & Benefit
- Apr 25: Easter Egg Dive & Party



2004 Dues are Over Due!!

"Winter" Sunday Dives: Meet at Burger King on Rte 128 in Beverly, at 9:00 AM, ready to depart for dive site at 9:30AM. Change to "Summer Hours" on May 2!!

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.