The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

Volume 46, Number 3 ____ March 2004

President's Message, March 2004

Greetings NSF Members and Friends,

As we all await the coming of Spring to herald our return to the waters of New England (hard-core drysuit divers excepted--they've been diving all Winter!!), we've entertained ourselves by experiencing the dive trips of others vicariously-either by listening to a few fortunate Froggies' tropical vacation trip reports during Dive Talk, or by imagining ourselves inserted in the various Movie Night videos that we have seen so far. Well, take heart in the fact that in a month or two, you yourself will be under the waves, checking to see how your favorite dive spot has fared over the long winter months.

To those who need to brush the dust off their dive gear in preparation for the season, I strongly suggest that you have your gear checked out by your local dive shop beforehand, so that you do not have to abort your inaugural dive due to equipment failure (I speak from experience on this--so take heed!!). This is also a good time to check out any pre-season equipment sales, if you're not so sure that your wellworn gear is going to stand up to the rigors of another season of diving. Take out your dive gear and check for the little things; I've had to cut a dive short due to a small nick in the O-ring of my regulator's 1st stage, which allowed a steady stream of bubbles to escape. Be sure to change the batteries out of your dive computers, if necessary—many models require a trip to the dive shop to replace the lithium cell. For you U/W photographers and Night Divers out there, make sure that your batteries and O-rings are up-to-snuff as well. As for me, I'll be searching for thicker line for the dive reel that I used last season to tend flag. I got tied up so many times in my own line last year (especially during night dives), I was willing to bribe my dive buddy to tend flag! It's not too early to take the steps necessary to ensure that this year's dive

season will be a safe and happy one; and it is far less stressful to make such preparations now, rather than as you are tossing your gear from the basement into the trunk of your car on your way to the dive site.

Do not forget that preparations are underway for our table at the Boston Sea Rover's Show on March 6th and 7th; any help that you would be willing to give will be greatly appreciated. We are especially in need of warm bodies to help man the table and act as representatives of our club. You do not need to stay there all day; Ray is coordinating a schedule to allow volunteers the flexibility to see the lectures and attend the workshops they want, and still sit in to support our club. Remember, the Aqua-Lung Legend Regulator--which was generously donated to the club by Bobby Boyle of Undersea Divers--is going to be raffled off at the end of the show. Tickets are still being sold at club meetings and will also be sold at our table at Sea Rovers that weekend. Come support your club!!

Michael Donovan President NSF '04

P.S.: Don't forget that Mary and Ray will once again be hosting our annual St. Patrick's Day party at their home on March 20th. As Mary puts it, bring photos of your "dead relatives" to toast during the party!!!

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

2003 OFFICERS

President: Michael Donovan

Tel: (978) 664-3509

Email: mjdonovan@juno.com

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: rporter@ch2m.com

2003 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

Activities:

Daryl Findlay - 978-376-6669

Dave Smith - diverdave8@hotmail.com

Newsletter: Mary Howard Tel: (781) 944-1292

Email: marymhoward@hotmail.com

Note newsletter editor's new email address:

marymhoward@hotmail.com

Air Bubbles – March 2004

Meeting Summaries 29-January-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:06 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 13 Members Guests: 1 – Amy Sklivas

Correspondence:

- Newspaper clippings Misc.
- Email from Dodi Frank home from Hospital
- Email from Bob Michelson (via Amy) RE: Fish ID class @ Sea Rovers
- Exhibit information from Sea Rovers

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 – Activities meeting 2/5/2004 at 7:30 (before meeting).
- *Air Bubbles:* Mary Howard Air Bubbles was sent out.

Old Business:

President's Banquet'04. Date of Dec 4th has been confirmed. The time will be from 7 to 12.

New Business:

- Easter Egg Dive. April 25th, John Sears to act as dive coordinator. Party location to be determined.

Dive Talk:

- Al Morris: Divers Den, Manchester, NH planning trips to St. Lawrence River June 18 –21 and Aug 13 – 16. \$300/person.
- Dave Smith & Family. Bahamas 4 days. Snorkling at Steward's Cove. At one dive site, saw many boats, movie crew was filming "Into the Deep". Dove on a Cessna airplane used in the filming of a James Bond Movie. Dove on new wreck Ray of Hope. 30 reef sharks attracted to bait basket and drawn close to the boat. Bahamas Diver dive shop had a resort course that Dave's son took. Dove on an old WWII wreck. Stayed at the Hotel Atlantis. Fried conch and Kalac beer really good.

- Al Morris. Also at the Bahamas, about the same time. Stayed in the Orange Hill Hotel (not as nice as the Hotel Atlantis). Went on the Nassau Scuba shark dive.
- Daryl Findlay and Cathie. Met at BK in Beverly and went to Winter Island. Rubber on dry suit was stiff and hard to put on. Hands were cold. Water temp 27oF. Water was crystal clear blue. Put video camera along and filmed - ice froze over lens.

General Discussion:

- DAN O2 Providers Class. Maria Maggio and Rob Falk taught a series of first aid refresher courses.
 Daryl and Roslyn took the class.
 Reduced fees for dive club members
- Al Morris: Walk for Cystic Fibrosis. Dive shop owner, Lake Champlain, leading a charity walk in September. Wrecks on Lake Champlain are buoyed.

Raffles: Dollars Box: Joe Terra Mystery Prize: Al Morris Bug Bag: Aqua Lung Legend LX Regulator – Ongoing

5 - February-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:05 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 13 Members Guests: 1 – Chris Martinez

Committees:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter Meeting minutes accepted as read.
- Treasurer's Report: Rich Kinkade Account balances accepted as read. Dues received.
- *Membership*: John Ferrier -Nothing to report.
- Program: Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith – Activities planning meeting on 2/19 for Sea Rovers.
- Air Bubbles: Mary Howard –
 Articles due by Feb 20.

Old Business:

- Easter Egg Dive. John Sears to coordinate dive. Paul Sauvageau to host party 4/25. Local dive sites for placing Easter Eggs discussed.

New Business: None.

Dive Talk:

- Shon Dubious Pebble Beach Sea Clams (5) to make chowder for the Super bowl. Water 37oF beach mostly gone. Road rocky. Used battery heated socks used to keep feet warm (\$25 to \$35 on the web)
- Daryl Findlay Winter Island 30 min dive. 50 cal bullets from old sea plane base. Water temp 37 380F. Flash freezing of body quite interesting. Water very clear. Live surf clam. Used warmer pads to keep warm had to flush suite with oxygen to keep the warmers active.

General Discussion:

- Clipping German U-Boat found in 5,000 ft of water. Deep-sea
 Detectives to do a show in it in April
- Bobby scheduled to have outpatient surgery this weekend.
 Secretary to get card for next week.
- Any Wednesday for skiing is OK for with J. Ferrier. Call before Saturday to reserve spot.

Raffles: Dollars Box: Ray Porter
Mystery Prize: Dave Smith
Bug Bag: Aqua Lung Legend
LX Regulator - Ongoing

12 - February -2004

Meeting called to order: 8:06 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 11+ Members Guests: 2 – Chris Martinez (new member tonight!) & Sis Despres Announcements: Video *Raising the Hunley* to be shown after the regular meeting in honor of Lincoln's birthday.

Correspondence:

- E-mail from Andy Martinez –
 Bobby Boyle operated on today on an out patient basis. All went well.
- Jerry Sutherland reported to have visited with Frank and reported he lost more weight but has gained stamina.
- E-mail from Allen Boudreau via Jeannine Fabian (SSN and BSC) – Rockport proposing restriction on dive classes (fees) and parking

Air Bubbles - March 2004

restrictions. Hearing on Feb. 17th. Jack Munro to go.

Committees:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter Meeting Minutes accepted as read.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Rich Kinkade— Account balances accepted as read.
- Membership: John Ferrier Application received from Chris
 Martinez and determined to be
 complete. Found club from
 website. Motion to accept Chris as
 a member made and seconded.
 Motion passes.
- *Program:* Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith Boat Dives 6/19, 8/4, 10/19 planned.
- Air Bubbles: Mary Howard Articles for next Air Bubbles due by Feb 20.

Old Business: None **New Business:** None

Dive Talk:

- Daryl Findlay. Winter Island on Sunday. Water temp 28 – 29oF. No lump fish in the "usual" locations. Looked for bottles and ammunition. Dive gear froze on the way out of the water. Cathy Guiheen going to the Caribbean.
- Dave Smith saw Tony Anthony at Kappy's. Diane hurt arm last year. Plans to do more diving this year.

General Discussion:

- Mike Denneler. CNN new stories
 - Sea lion in California found on roadway. Bullet found in sea lion head.
 - Sydney, Australia Shark attached to leg of diver. Diver dove to hospital w/ shark on leg.
- John Ferrier. Ski Market Trip Several divers went skiing at Sunday River on Wednesday. Windy. Good Skiing.
 - Wally & Mike also run bus trips to ski areas. Leave from DeMoulas in Haverhill
- Jay Peak next Wednesday. **Raffles:** Dollars Box: Mary Howard

Mystery Prize: Peter Chapman Bug Bag: Dive Log Book – Jack Munro Aqua Lung Legend LX Regulator – On going

Raising the Hunley shown after meeting.

19 - February -2004

Meeting called to order: 8:06 PM Attendance: 4 Officers, 14 Members

Committees:

- Secretary's Report: Ray Porter Meeting Minutes accepted as amended
- Treasurer's Report: Rich Kinkade
 Account balances accepted as read. Final balances for 2003 pending.
- **Membership:** John Ferrier Nothing to report.
- **Program:** Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith Easter egg dive the subject of the next Program Committee Meeting on 3/4 at 7:30.
- Air Bubbles: Mary Howard Submissions for Air Bubbles due tomorrow. Need article from Boston Scuba Show; can be for next issue.

Old Business:

- Sea Rovers Event. Presented the status of the booth planning activities. Attendance at Sea Rovers encouraged. Last year 19 club members were present at the event. Participation lead to meeting potential speakers who then visited our club later that year.
- Rockport Hearing. The meeting was a closed hearing. About 20 dive shop owners were present and given 5 minutes to speak. After 35 minutes, the hearing was postponed to a later date when it can be given more time. Fee for classes were discussed. Initially, a fee of \$75/yr was proposed and the raised to \$75/class.
 - The most used dive sites are designated as parks.

- A usage fee can be applied if it applies to all users (one group can not be singled out). Such a fee might be applied to "groups of 10 or more".
- The most used beaches for classes are Back Beach, Old Garden Beach and Pebble Beach.

New Business:

- Froggie Wear. Bill Gannet proposed getting a new line of Froggie wear. Mike Denneler still has some hats. Sweatshirts and T-shirt should be considered. Note made that the Club's 50th Anniversary is coming up (2007).

Dive Talk:

Paul Blanchette. Bonaire Dive Trip.
 23 people were in the group. 3
 took the Trimix rebeather class.
 One Megladon and 5 Inspiration
 rebreathers were used. Boat dives

- and unlimited shore dives were possible. Paul dove 12 to 13 dives. Some dove as much as 20 times. Because of their late work mixing gases and filling tanks, the group was given open access to the compressor area.
 - Wreck Dive: The Windjammer wreck is one of many wrecks in Bonaire. It is at 130 feet.
 - Deep Dive: The deepest dive was a reef in which they went to 310 to 315 feet (322 ft max on dive profile). Water temp as surface was 80oF and 75oF below the thermacline. Vis was over 100 feet. First deco stop was at 192 feet. At 20 feet, they used pure O2 for 20 minutes. Total dive time was 75 minutes. Although backup gas was carried incase of rebreather malfunction, Paul

- calculated he used on 10 cu. ft of oxygen.
- Sea Life: Lots of small sea life. Fish are not afraid of rebreathers since they make no bubbles. Not as much larger sea life. Good color on reef on night dive.

General Discussion:

- Mike Denneler. Lloyd Scott "ran"
 26 miles near Loch Ness in a hardhat dive outfit in 12 days. He ran the London Marathon in 5 days.
- Mike and Dawn saw Meg Doyan who plans to visit the club in March when Faith comes out for Sea Rovers. Faith to visit club then also.

Raffles: Dollars Box: Peter Chapman Mystery Prize: John Sears Bug Bag: Aqua Lung Legend LX Regulator – On going

"Bahama Diving"

I hope this issue gets out in time to advertise Dave Smith's presentation of "Bahama Diving". Dave will be showing us slides and video from his recent dive and family trip, after the meeting on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>February 26</u>. Don't miss it!

Boston Sea Rovers 50th Anniversary Clinic

March 5-7 at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston will see the 50th Anniversary of the Boston Sea Rovers Clinics. I am including a schedule of events in this newsletter to let you know what the possibilities are. Friday evening there are various specialized clinics in equipment maintenance and instructor updates. From 9AM-4:45PM both Saturday and Sunday, there are three ballrooms running continuous lectures in subjects ranging from "Adventures in Filming for Television" to "Diving the German Fleet in Scapa Flow", from "Exotic Atlantic Canada" to "Journey through the Everglades", and from technical wreck diving to freediving. One of the subjects will be "Artificial Reef Development along the Northeast" by Vincent Malkoski of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, which will cover some of the processes required before physical

developments in the artificial reef project can go forward. Another speaker will be Andrew Martinez, talking about "Marine Life of the North Atlantic". He'll probably have great photos of wolf fish!

The Saturday evening Film Festival will be MCd by Dr. Robert Ballard, and will include films by Robert Ballard, Emory Kristof (Deep Sea Vents), Brian Skerry (Trial by Ice), Ernest Brooks, Stan Waterman, Smokey Roberts, Bret Gilliam, Nick Caloyianis and Joe MacInnis. This promises to be an exceptionally fascinating event, especially if the past couple of years are any precedent.

ALSO, to quote from the website (check it out at www.bostonsearovers.com): "As a special anniversary feature, we will display a mind-boggling selection of artifacts from famous, and not-so-famous wrecks." And "Attendees will receive the anniversary program, be eligible for generous door prizes, and raffle tickets will be on sale for a large number of prizes."

Aside from the lectures, a huge ballroom is devoted to exhibits by equipment manufacturers, dive shops, dive operators and travel agents. This part of the show is free!!

Ticket price for the whole shebang (not including Friday evening) is only \$40. Tickets are also available singly for Saturday, Sunday or Saturday evening (which can sell out).

The Boston Sea Rovers 50th Anniversary Clinic is an event not to be missed!!

Saturday, March 6							
Time	Seminars						
9:00 to 9:45	Antilles Extreme Paul Cater Deaton	"Global Ocean Sustainability": The Past, Present, Future <i>George Buckley</i>	St Paul Island - The Graveyard of the Gulf <i>Terry Dwyer</i>				
10:00 to 10:45	A Return to Milo Bay Stan Waterman	The Kill Zone Rick Allen	The USS Murphy Capt Dan Crowell				
11:00 to 11:45	Underwater Photo-journalism: Telling Stories w/ Pictures Brian Skerry	Crittercam and the Grey Reef Sharks of Johnston Atoll Gregory Skomal	The Bianca C Evelyn Bartram Dudas				
11:45 to 1:00		LUNCH					
1:00 to 1:45	From Rainforests to Wrecks - Exploring Grenada Ethan Gordon	Between the Reefs Richard P Gagne	Shipwreck Tales of the Great Lakes Chris Kohl & Joan Forsberg				
2:00 to 2:45	Mysteries of the Sharks of Malpelo Island <i>Bret Gilliam</i>	Marine Life of the North Atlantic Andrew Martinez	A Salvager's Nightmare: Story of the Cayuga Jim and Pat Stayer				
3:00 to 3:45	The Best 45 Years Underwater Steve Drogin	Disaster Proof your International Travel - Post 9/11 Kenneth Knezick	A Day to Remember <i>Kevin Gurr</i>				
4:00 to 4:45	Exotic Atlantic Canada <i>Lawrence Taylor</i>	Enriched Air and the Great Space Connection Glenn Butler & Bill Hamilton	The Atomic Shipwrecks of Bikini Atoll <i>Michael Dudas</i>				

Please note that we are still looking for people to help at our NSF booth at Sea Rovers, both days. Please come to a meeting or contact Ray Porter to sign up to help your club.

Sunday, March 7						
Time	Seminars					
9:00 to 9:45	Wet Pixels - Underwater Digital Photography <i>Eric Cheng</i>	The Macro World of Malaysian Borneo <i>Michael Goodman</i>	Wreck Diving in the Northeast: Prep and Exploration David Caldwell & Heather Knowles			
10:00 to 10:45	Freediving: Research, Training, & Safety <i>Glennon</i> <i>Gingo</i>	The Search for the Six-Masted Schooner "Wyoming" H. Arnold Carr	Diving the German Fleet in Scapa Flow John Thornton			
11:00 to 11:45	Blue Water Hunting <i>Terry Maas</i>	Fifty Years of Ocean Explora- tion: Boston Sea Rovers Martin Klein	Andrea Doria: Where Dreamers Dare! Steve Gatto & Tom Packer			
11:45 to 1:00		LUNCH				
1:00 to 1:45	Journey through the Everglades w/ Philippe Cousteau Philippe Cousteau	Lifestyles of the Wet and Wiggly in 3-D Ed Jameson	Behind the Scenes of "Coral Reef Adventure" <i>Mark Conlin</i>			
2:00 to 2:45	NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration Jeremy Weirich	NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program John Broadwater	Treasure Ships of the North Robert MacKinnon			
3:00 to 3:45	Critter Love Lynn Funkhouser	Artificial Reef Development along the Northeast Vincent Malkoski	Pushing the Limits: Greek Sponge Divers Aegean M Kalafatas & N Caloyianis			
4:00 to 4:45	Adventures in Filming for TV Adam Geiger	Diving Vermont's Marble Quarries John Fiske	Searching for Seals Peter Venoutsos			

Please note that we are still looking for people to help at our NSF booth at Sea Rovers, both days. Please come to a meeting or contact Ray Porter to sign up to help your club.

	1	2	3	4 8PM Meeting	5	6 Sea Rovers
7 Sea Rovers	8	9	10	11 8PM Meeting Movie Night	12	13
14	15	16	17 Ski Trip/ Okemo	18 8PM Meeting	19	20 St Patrick's Day Party
21	22	23	24	25 8PM Meeting	26	27
28	29	30	31	March 2004		
	April	2004		1 8PM Meeting	2	3
4	April 5	2004	7		9	10
11				8PM Meeting		
	5	6	7	8 8 8 PM Meeting 8 8 PM Meeting 15	9	10 17 Wrecks Symp.

Winter Sunday Dive Times

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

Scheduled Activities March-April

- <u>Mar 6-7</u>, **Sea Rovers Clinic** at Copley Plaza, Boston.
- Mar 11, Movie Night. Movie TBD.
- <u>Mar 17</u>, **Ski Trip** to Okemo. Contact John Ferrier.
- Mar 20, St. Patrick's Day Party at Mary Howard's house.
- Apr 17, Twelfth Annual MetroWest Dive Club's Wrecks Symposium.
- Apr 17, Oceanic Research Group Film Premier and Benefit 7-9PM, Framingham, MA
- Apr 25, Easter Egg Dive, and Party at Paul Sauvageau's house.

Scheduled Activities May-December

- 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.
- May 31, Holiday Dive (?)
- Jun 2, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Jun 12, Canoe Trip on Ipswich River
- 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 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.
- <u>Aug 14</u>, Saturday, 8AM, **Boat Dive** w/ Cape Ann Charters. See Dave Smith to sign up.
- <u>Aug 25</u>, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Sep 3-6, Wells Beach Camping and Nubble Light diving weekend.
- Sep 6, 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.

Bay State Council Meeting

The most recent Bay State Council of Divers meeting was held at the South Shore Neptunes' club house in Quincy on February 11 at 7:30PM. Angelo made a delicious HUGE meatloaf, herbed roasted potatoes, and corn. And there was a Smores Pie and "Box of Joe" for dessert.

The folks present included Vincent Malkoski of the MA Division of Marine Fisheries, Victor Mastone of the Dept of Underwater Archeological Resources and various members of the Neptunes, MetroWest and Froggies (president Michael Donovan and newsletter editor Mary Howard) dive clubs.

Topics of conversation included, but were not limited to, the Artificial Reef project and possible monies from the pipeline, and continued efforts to retrieve Babe Ruth's piano. Vin Malkoski is to check out the various sites that have had "bottom surveys" done by divers, as well as other sites. This check is to be complete before the next Bay State Council meeting at which this summer's dive dates and locations will be set up.

PLEASE NOTE that one of the lecture topics on Sunday afternoon at Sea Rovers will be *Artificial Reef Development along the Northeast*, by Vincent Malkoski. If anyone is interested in this topic and wants to know why it takes so long to sink a ship, make a point of attending this session.

The Bay State Council Treasure Hunt Dive and Snorkel event is scheduled for May 23 at Stage Fort Park. More information on that will be included in future editions of this newsletter.

The next Bay State Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 12, same time, same location. If anyone is interested in attending and needs more information or directions, please contact Mary Howard.

Deadline for submissions for the April issue of *Air Bubbles* is March 19.

2004 Dues are Due. Have you paid yours yet?

Member of the Month February 2004

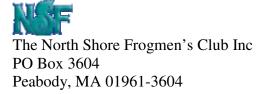
Daryl Findlay

For all his hard work in making our movie nights a success, and for providing extensive A/V materials to help advertise and promote our club at events such as Sea Rovers.

Contest Winners

There were two winners for the contest printed in Air Bubbles last month: **Mike Turner** and **Jack Munro**. The correct answer was **Paul Blanchette**. Check out his new license plate in person.





Upcoming Events!

Feb 26: Presentation: Bahama Diving

Mar 6-7: Boston Sea Rovers Clinic

Mar 20: St Patrick's Day Party

Mar 17: Okemo Ski Trip

2004 Dues are Due

Sunday Dives: Meet at Burger King on Rte 128 in Beverly, at 9:00 AM, ready to depart for dive site at 9:30AM.

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.