



# Air Bubbles



The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

Volume 46, Number 5

May 2004

## President's Message, May 2004

Dear NSF Members and Friends,

I hope you've all got everything squared away with the IRS, so that you can enjoy another fun-filled season diving with your fellow Froggies!! I hope that you all received the Air Bubbles Supplement from Mary in time to remind you to attend the MetroWest Dive Club's 12th Annual Wrecks Symposium, and Jonathan Bird's Oceanic Research Group presentation on the Wrecks of Kwajalein Atoll; I hope that you all had a great time. There is nothing like attending lectures and video presentations such as these to get you motivated to don your SCUBA gear!! If you are due for a tank hydro or a visual inspection soon, now would be the time to take care of these tasks, so it doesn't interfere with your diving activities. The same goes for regulator overhauls; if you had leaking or free-flow issues last Fall, best to address them before your first "shake-down" dive; if you're like me, you'll have enough trouble brushing up on your buoyancy skills, and would rather not have to deal with equipment failures as well.

A few weeks back, Vin Malkoski and Dan McKiernan from the Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries met with the North Shore Frogmen to alert us about the potential for the establishment of recreational diver bag limits for lobster. Although the discussion was spirited at times, the question/answer session remained civil, and I am glad that we were given the opportunity to allow our members to voice their opinions. Thank you again, Vin and Dan, for letting us provide input on this important issue.

Do not forget that we have an Easter Egg Dive and Party scheduled for Sunday, April 25th at Frank and Dodie Carvalho's house; Frank very much wanted to host this year's Easter Party, and we are privileged that Dodie wishes to continue the tradition. I urge all Froggies to attend so that we can celebrate Frank's Life. Frank, you are deeply missed.

On May 2nd, the Sunday Morning Dive times will revert to our Summer Schedule: Meet at the Burger King on Rte. 128N @ 8AM to choose a dive site; we leave PROMPTLY AT 8:30AM to the chosen dive site.

Remember, public parking is tight on the North Shore; the sooner we can leave for the dive, the better. Come enjoy a Sunday Dive with the Froggies, and perhaps a meal afterwards!! (post-dive restaurant critiques and ratings are welcome!).

Don't forget that Bob Michelson will be coming back to train us on Northeast Marine Invertebrate Identification on May 6th during our usual meeting time. This will help prepare us for this year's Biodiversity Day, scheduled for Sunday, June 6th in Newburyport. Diving is much more enjoyable when you know what you are looking at! This seminar is free and open to the public, so be sure to tell all of your friends to attend.

That's all for now. I hope that you can enjoy the coming of Spring!!!

Take Care,

Michael Donovan  
NSF President '04

P.S.: The next Bay State Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 12th at 8:00PM. I am sure that the topic of proposed recreational diver lobster bag limits will be addressed again. I strongly urge those divers that are concerned about these proposed regulations to attend.

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## Air Bubbles – May 2004

### Meeting Summaries

#### 25-March-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:10 PM

Attendance: 3 officers, 17 members

Guests: 1- Greg Sonek; and 2 speakers:

Daniel McKiernan and Vincent Malkoski of the Division of Marine Fisheries.

#### Announcements:

- Frank Carvalho passed away yesterday, March 24.
- Speaker night tonight; short meeting format.

#### Committees:

- *Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports:* skipped in honor of speakers
- *Membership:* Nothing to report
- *Program:* Dave Smith and Daryl Findlay - See activities list.
- *Air Bubbles:* Submissions due April 19 for May issue

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Dive Talk:** Bill Werner just got back from Aruba where he and his girlfriend were diving. She was certified there.

**Speaker:** Daniel McKiernan of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries spoke about the need to do something to restrict commercial lobster divers from using the recreational lobster diver permit. Suggestion of bag limits. Very lively discussion!

**Raffles:** Dollars Box: Peter Chapman  
Mystery Prize: Greg Sonek  
No bug bag tonight

#### 1-April-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:08 PM

Attendance: 3 officers, 11 members

Guests: 1 – Past member Frank Sardone

**Correspondence:** Dave Smith read letter he sent to Bobby Boyle thanking him for donating the regulator to the club.

- Post Card from Indonesia from Susan Copelas who had returned

from her trip and was at the meeting.

- Arnie Pettiglio's dues and a bank statement from PO Box.

#### Committees:

- *Secretary's Report:* Ray Porter absent– Meeting minutes not read.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Rich Kinkade – Account balances accepted as read.
- *Membership:* John Ferrier – Frank Sardone completed application form and was voted in later in the meeting.
- *Program:* Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith – Maybe a speaker on April 22? See activities list for the rest of the program.
- *Air Bubbles:* Mary Howard – Submissions due April 19 for May issue.

#### Old Business:

None

#### New Business:

- The question of membership cards was brought up.

#### Dive Talk:

- Susan Copelas and son Jason dove in Monado, North Sulawesi and had a fabulous time. There were two locations. The first place black sand had a big wall and all the diving was drift diving "and more". The second place was in Lumbay Straights – had to use boats to get from town to town because of the terrain. Very good prices. The diving was all "muck diving" here, but vis was still 40-50 ft. She saw pink hairy frog fish, bat fish, sea snakes, pygmy sea horses, and much more. Water temp 84°F
- Bill & Nancy and Paul & Anita went to Tortola, BVI. They did more snorkeling than diving, but did do several dives. Very green island! Brought back great rum.
- Daryl dove at Winter Island, no vis (also muck) and lots of wind chill.

#### General Discussion:

- Mike's moments: (1) Ownership of contents of SS Republic sold to 2

divers. Expected to retrieve \$120-\$180M worth of coins from the wreck. Wreck sank in 1859 100 mi SE of Savannah GA; all lives lost. (2) English divers in Mexico to map caves. When they ran into trouble, insisted on help from UK military. Mexico filed complaint = military action on Mexican soil w/o permission.

- Question about a lost diver in Winnepesaukee.
- Anybody wants to go skiing at Whistler in BC next winter, contact John Ferrier.

**Raffles:** Dollars Box: Dawn Denneler  
Mystery Prize: Daryl Findlay  
Bug Bag: Ongoing.

#### 8-April-2004

Meeting called to order: 8:10 PM

Attendance: 3 Officers, 12 Members

Guests: 1 – Greg Sonek.

**Correspondence:** Dave Smith read emails from Bob Michelson about diving for Mass Biodiversity Days.

#### Committees:

- *Secretary's Report:* Mary Howard filling in – 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.
- *Air Bubbles:* Mary Howard – Submissions due April 19 for May issue.

#### Old Business:

- John Sears said Shon Dubois might be able to help with website.
- Daryl brought in some sample membership cards for inspection.

#### New Business:

- None

#### Dive Talk:

- Al Morris was in San Diego and went out diving w/ Jeff and Faith. He tried a new pee valve and some

## Air Bubbles – May 2004



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

### **2004 OFFICERS**

President: Michael Donovan  
Tel: (978) 664-3509  
Email: [mjdonovan@juno.com](mailto:mjdonovan@juno.com)

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

Treasurer: Rich Kinkade  
Tel: (978) 374-1650  
Email: [richkinkade@aol.com](mailto:richkinkade@aol.com)

Secretary: Ray Porter  
Tel: (781) 944-1292  
Email: [rporter@ch2m.com](mailto:rporter@ch2m.com)

### **2004 COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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

Activities:  
Daryl Findlay - 978-376-6669  
Dave Smith - [diverdave8@hotmail.com](mailto:diverdave8@hotmail.com)

Newsletter: Mary Howard  
Tel: (781) 944-1292  
Email: [m.m.howard@comcast.net](mailto:m.m.howard@comcast.net)

Deadline for  
submissions for the  
June issue of  
*Air Bubbles*  
is May 21.

technical difficulties and underwear did not stay dry. Coast Guard boarded the boat, and their in-training drug sniffing dog peed in the cabin. John Boyer had full-face mask with underwater speaking capabilities. Al could only listen, not talk. Yukon had more growth on it every time Al goes out there.

### **General Discussion:**

- Mike's moments: Surfer died in Maui after shark bite and losing too much blood. Joe and Terry dove the next day, had 30 ft vis.
- Rich K: Navy has announced they are going to sink 888ft aircraft carrier off of Pensacola.

**Raffles:** Dollars Box: Frank Sardone  
Mystery Prize: John Sears  
Bug Bag: Roslyn Smith – Tank Carrier

**MOVIE NIGHT** – 2 Sea Hunt episodes.

### **15-April-2004**

Meeting called to order: 8:05 PM  
Attendance: 4 Officers, 12 Members

### **Committees:**

- **Secretary's Report:** Ray Porter – Meeting minutes accepted as read.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Rich Kinkade – Account balances accepted as read. No final tally for 2003.
- **Membership:** John Ferrier – No report. "John doing his taxes."
- **Program:** Daryl Findlay & Dave Smith – See activities list. No speaker for next week, so will have a video instead.
- **Air Bubbles:** Mary Howard – April Supplement sent out earlier in the week. - Submissions due by Monday morning for May newsletter.

### **Old Business:**

- Daryl has prepared some Club membership cards for review.
- Michael needs to contact Rob about website password and usage so someone else can help update/upload to the website.

### **New Business:**

Peter Cassidy asked that a check for \$80 be made out to Foote Brothers to reserve 8 canoes for the Froggy canoe trip June 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **General Discussion:**

- Joe Terra mentioned that Frank's funeral in Bellows Falls was very moving and nice with veterans' and taps, etc. Joe and Dave Dodge were both able to go.
- Dodie brought a couple of Frank's dive related papers to share. One was a flyer for dive gear rental in Florida many years ago with prices of the time! Tank, back-pack and regulator (without BCD which was optional) for \$12; half-day 2-tank boat trip for \$15; hotel room was \$14-26/day. The other was an article about a goose fish from the local paper some years ago.

**Raffles:** Dollars Box: Ray Porter  
Mystery Prize: John Sears  
Bug Bag: Ongoing

## **Member of the Month April 2004 Ray Porter**

On behalf of the NSF membership, I would like to award Ray Porter Diver of the Month for April; in thanks for his contribution in helping to promote the club during the Boston Sea Rovers Show last month, as well as his diligent note-taking as our esteemed Secretary, and as procurer and raffler of the ever-popular "Mystery Prize" each week.  
Thanks Ray!!!

Thu, 8 Apr 2004

## North Shore Frogmen to Host INVERTEBRATE TRAINING

The Northshore Frogmen's Dive Club will host a free two hour seminar at 8PM on Thursday evening, May 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Franco American Club, 77 Park Street, Beverly. Presented by the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS), the Northeast Invertebrate Identification Program will teach divers and snorkelers how to identify approximately 80 species of invertebrates found in the Gulf of Maine and southern New England. This is a photography based diver education program developed by the sanctuary for Northeast Divers. All materials for the seminar will be supplied.

Seminar leader Bob Michelson of Braintree, MA, is a published underwater photographer and videographer who has been diving for 25 years. He is a PADI Dive Master, a Specialty Instructor in underwater photography and video and a NOAA Science Diver. His work has appeared in numerous magazines and on various broadcast networks.

The North Shore Frogmen's Dive Club was founded in 1958 and meets each Thursday evening at the Franco American Club in Beverly. The frogmen participate in weekend local dives, beach cleanups and marine management programs. To register for this free seminar, or to receive more information about the Northshore Frogmen or Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, please contact Dave Smith at (781) 939-3842 or email at [diverdave8@hotmail.com](mailto:diverdave8@hotmail.com).



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## Dear Froggies,

I want to thank you all for your support during the last few weeks. I was so appreciative of all the messages and assurances of love for Frank. He was, I am sure, honored to have been remembered by so many of you.

I received the following poem on a card from a neighbor. It gave me such peace that I wanted to share it with all of you. It reflects Frank's passing from our midst, while being greeted on the other side.

Thank you for being there. He loved diving and his friendships in the North Shore Frogmen's Club.

Love,

Dodie Carvalho

### Life is Eternal

Anonymous

I am standing upon the seashore  
A ship at my side spreads  
her white sails to the morning breeze  
and starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength  
and I stand and watch her  
until at length she hangs  
like a speck of white cloud  
just where the sea and sky  
come down to mingle with each other.  
Then someone at my side says,  
"There! She's gone."

Gone where?  
Gone from my sight - that is all.  
She is just as large in mast and hull  
and spar as she was when she left my side,  
and just as able to bear her load  
of living freight to the place of  
destination.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her:  
and just at the moment when someone  
at my side says, "There! She's gone,"  
there are other eyes watching her coming,  
and other voices ready to take up  
the glad shout, "There she comes!"

## Air Bubbles – May 2004



### Bay State Council of Divers 19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TREASURE HUNT

Date: Sunday May 23, 2004 (Rain or Shine)

Time: 9:00AM to 4:00PM

Place: Stage Fort Park Gloucester, MA

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Free Parking (no fee until Memorial Day)
- Bring your own food and beverages (no alcohol)
- Cooking OK - - Bring your own grill
- Take-out food available

#### TREASURE HUNT

- Objective – To find small objects in shallow water
- Independents and dive club members welcome
- Prizes – Diving equipment, dive charters, etc.
- SCUBA Event – Everyone will be on their own in this scramble for prizes
- Snorkel Event – Team Snorkel Competition 1-2 PM
  - 6 person teams; club or shop
- Proof of certification required for SCUBA event
- Treasure Hunt entrance fee (both events)
  - Advanced Registration \$7.50
  - Day of Event \$10.00

#### SCHEDULE of EVENTS

9-10 AM	Registration
11-12 AM	SCUBA Event
1-2 PM	Snorkel Event
2:30-3 PM	Trophies and Prizes

#### 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.

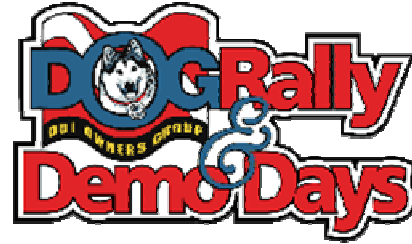
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#### **Bay State Council of Divers Treasure Hunt: Advanced Registration**

(Must be postmarked no later than May 10, 2004)

Yes, I want to participate in the 2004 Bay State Council of Divers Treasure Hunt. Enclosed is my \$7.50 advanced registration fee (non-refundable). Make your check payable to BAY STATE COUNCIL and mail it to: Bay State Council of Divers, PO Box 518, Quincy, MA 02169.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



DUI (Diving Unlimited International) will be hosting “Demo Days” at Stage Fort Park, on May 22 and 23.

Your event ticket entitles you to participate in all aspects of the demos, enjoy a barbecue lunch, and participate in the raffle. Price of admission is \$7.00. Non-diving/non-demo-ing friends and family members can enjoy the barbecue for \$5, and small children are free with a paying adult.

“Demos will be conducted Saturday from 9am-5pm and Sunday from 9am – 4pm. Each demo will consist of a dive briefing, equipment sizing, and an opportunity to ask questions after the dive. As soon as there are 2-3 people ready to go in the water, an experienced drysuit diver or instructor will escort you on your dive. If you are a certified drysuit diver, you are welcome to dive with your own buddy. You can do as many dives as you wish. With numerous suits there usually is little wait, though you may need to wait a short time for the specific type of drysuit you want. You can try other DUI equipment as well in addition to SeaLife ReefMaster underwater digital cameras. We will ask that you do two dives in the drysuit before trying to combine both the drysuit and camera on the same dive.” (Quote from the DUI website)

Other highlights of the Demo Days include a Treasure Hunt, Saturday Evening Dinner & Program (The dinner will be held at the school across the street from the facility. The entire evening is only \$10 per person and begins at approximately 6pm.), Special Opportunities for DOGs, Door Prizes for All Participants, and a DUI Field Repair Seminar (register ahead of time at [CustomerService@DUI-Online.com](mailto:CustomerService@DUI-Online.com) or 800.325.8439. \$15 per person. Held on Sunday from 11am-12noon.)

For more information on DUI Demo Days, and a list of “Things to Bring”, check out the DUI website at [www.dui-online.com](http://www.dui-online.com). It is easy to find the Demo Days information from there.

## Air Bubbles – May 2004

# May 2004

<b>1</b>						
<b>2</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8PM Meeting Invertebrate ID class	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Donate Blood 1-8	<b>12</b> Bay State Council Meeting	<b>13</b> Donate Blood 1-8 8PM Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Donate Blood 8-3 <span style="color: red;">Club Night In???</span>
<b>16</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8PM Meeting Movie Night	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> DUI Demo Days
<b>23</b> BSC Treasure Hunt DUI Demo Days	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  8PM Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

<b>30</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>31</b> Holiday Dive??	<h1 style="font-size: 2em;">June 2004</h1>				
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  Almost full-moon night dive	<b>3</b>  8PM Meeting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  8PM Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  Dark-side night dive	<b>17</b>  8PM Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Boat Dive w/ Cape Ann Charters
<b>20</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  8PM Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Sunday Dive: Meet at Burger King at 8AM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

### Winter Sunday Dive Times

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

### Activities

- **May 2**, Sunday. **Sunday dive times change to summer hours!** Show at 8, go at 8:30AM.
- **May 6**, Thurs. **SBNMS Invertebrate Workshop** at meeting; instructor: Bob Michelson. Sign up!
- **May 12**, Bay State Council of Divers meeting, 8:00PM. If interested, contact Mary Howard.
- **May 11, 13** or **15**, **Donate blood** at North Shore Donor Center in memory of Frank Carvalho.
- **May 15**, **Club Night In**. (Subject to change. Check with Program Committee!)

## Air Bubbles – May 2004

### Activities

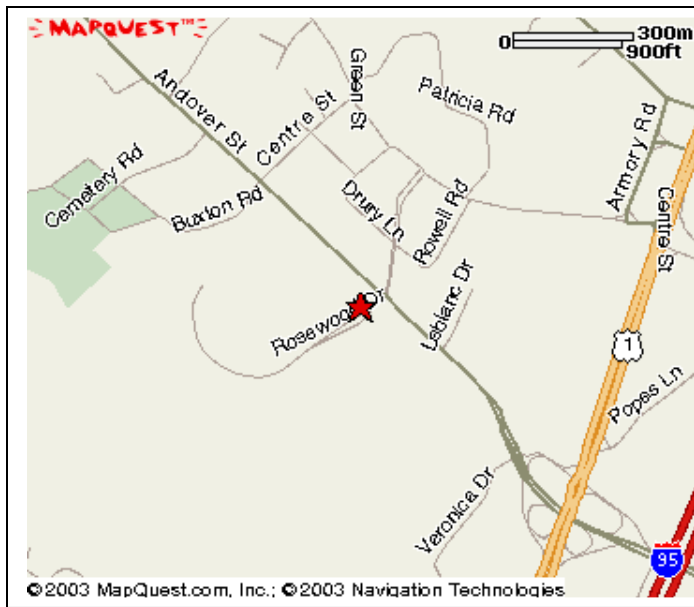
- May 20, Movie Night
- May 22-23, DUI Demo Days at Stage Fort Park
- May 23, Bay State Council Treasure Hunt Dive and Snorkel events. Stage Fort Park.
- May 31, Holiday Dive (?)
- Jun 2, Wed. "Almost Full Moon" Night Dive. Back Beach. Time tbd.
- Jun 6, Mass Biodiversity Days. See article in newsletter.
- 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. Froggies will dive at OGB. See Dave Smith.
- 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.
- 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.

## Donate Blood In Memory of Frank Carvalho

Dodie asked that instead of sending flowers, people wishing to do something in Frank's memory might donate blood. The North Shore Donor Center at 99 Rosewood Drive in Danvers has blood donor hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-8PM, and on Saturdays from 8AM-3PM. It would be great if any of the North Shore Frogmen who are able would plan to donate blood on any of the three donor days during the week of May 9, i.e. May 11, 13 or 15. You can walk in during regular donor hours, or make an appointment by calling 978-646-9434 or toll free 1-800-GIVE-LIFE, or online at [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org).

Apheresis hours are also available, by appointment only, should anyone wish to give platelets. Please consider the possibility of doing this!

**Directions:** From Rte 1 or Rte 95 North, take Rte 114 North to Rosewood Drive (just over ½ mile from Rte 1). Take a left at first set of lights into Northwood Park. 99 Rosewood Drive is the first building on the right. Take a right into the second driveway after the pond. Red Cross entrance is on the left side of the building. – See map below.



## MA Biodiversity Days Call for divers

Hi All,

As many of you may already know, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will not be coordinating MA Biodiversity Days for 2004 due to a lack of funding. There is a plan underway where the MA Association of Conservation Commissions will assume this leading role beginning in 2005. Until that time, many associations involved with MA Biodiversity Days will continue with the tradition and hold their own individual bio-blitz events in 2004. We will be once again be partnering with the folks at Joppa Flats (MA Audubon Society) and The Parker River National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) on June 6, 2004. We will conduct fish and invertebrate surveys in both the salt marshes of Joppa Flats near the mouth of the Merrimack River and in the ocean from the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge (Plum Island). For those brave souls who joined me last year, conditions should be much better (Nor' Easter with gale force winds and zero viz). I am looking for 2 teams of divers this year - one to survey Joppa Flats (great for new members with little experience - shallow snorkel/dive) and a second which I will lead off Plum Island (possible strong currents - suggested for more experienced divers). I need to limit the total number to the first 20 divers who respond due to parking and space restrictions at the facility. Divers will meet at The Audubon Society's Joppa Flats visitors center in Newburyport at 11:00am to enter the water between 12-12:30pm. The tide is favorable with low tide at 8:30am, so conditions and visibility should be optimum (barring another Nor' Easter). This is a family oriented event, so feel free to bring your families!! Please let me know if any members would be interested in joining me for this event.

Bob Michelson,  
SBNMS Fish/Invertebrate ID Coordinator



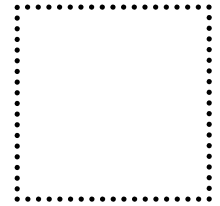
## Marine Fisheries Budget

- The House Ways & Means budget released this week reduces the Governor's recommended Division of Marine Fisheries' (DMF) appropriation by another 10%.  
The Governor's recommendation of about \$3.7 million **without earmarks** (that require transfer of money to other entities) is absolutely essential for this agency to sustain current activities.
- DMF is currently operating with 57 vacancies when compared to 10 years ago. A reduction of \$380,000 in FY 2005 will force a staff reduction of 6 full-time employees and the likely elimination of important programs.
- Additionally, DMF lost its dedicated fund in the last budget cycle, but held on to a retained revenue account that was set up to receive federal reimbursement from Wallop-Breaux money. **However, the ceiling on the account is about \$155,000**, which means that Federal funds available to DMF as reimbursements for completed Sport Fish Restoration projects are **in jeopardy of loss because the retained revenue ceiling is too low to receive them. Raising the ceiling to \$950,000 would allow DMF to recover (and use) federal reimbursement funds for projects such as artificial reefs** and recreational fishing that we might otherwise lose. **Raising the ceiling does not impact the general fund.**
- Massachusetts' marine economy continues to be one of the most historic and valuable in the nation, generating \$2 billion annually. However, the ratio of state appropriation for its fisheries agency to value of its landed products is the smallest of all the coastal state.
- In the face of additional cuts or earmarks, DMF's ability to provide strong technical support to determine the condition of marine fisheries resources, for fisheries monitoring, resource surveys, and environmental protection will be reduced to nominal levels at best.

Vin Malkoski



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



## Upcoming Events!

May 2: Change to Summer Dive Times  
May 6: SBNMS Invertebrate Class  
May 12: Bay State Council Meeting  
May 11, 13, 15 Donate Blood!  
May 20: Movie Night



**2004 Dues are Over Due!!**

**“Summer” Sunday Dives: Meet at Burger King on Rte 128 in Beverly,  
at 8:00 AM, ready to depart for dive site at 8:30AM.**

**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.