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Air Bubbles

The Newsletter of the North Shore
Frogmen's Club



July 2016

Volume 58, Number 7



Message from the President

[Jim D'Urso](#)

Hi Froggies, summer diving is here, lots of shore and boat dives taking place. Members doing well with photos and torpedo ray encounters and scalloping and lobstering and several flounder being caught.

Largest scallop at 6 3/8", largest fish, a 17 inch flounder, so remember to save your large scallop shells and photograph your large fish and keep an eye out for unusual finds for our yearly contests.

We have continued to add new members each month and are approaching our 100 member goal for this year.

We lost a founding father of the NSF with the passing of Art Channel, an avid bottle collector and daredevil diver as well as a collector of all things related to Coca Cola. His gracious and loving family is a tribute to the type of person he was.

I want to thank Ellen Garvey for her past one and a half years as Editor of our Air Bubbles. She has done a superb job. Bill Werner will be taking over as editor with my wife Linda as co-editor. Bill is always willing to step up for the club and helping to organize many of our events. This month he set up a nice Canoe trip down the Ipswich River. For these reasons I have selected him as Member of the Month.

A special recognition to one of our seasoned divers, who dusts off his equipment jumps in water for first dive of the year and comes up with 6 lobsters, with four of them over 4 lbs., then goes out the next week and catches the limit of 15 lobsters. So Mr. Lobster Lust, John Ferrier is our Diver of the Month.

Expect all members to consider attending our first ever Scuba Show, starring Richie Kohler presenting the first viewing of footage from his fourth Expedition to the Britannic that he is currently undertaking. The July 31st show will also feature Andy Martinez, Ted Maney, Cosmas Papanikolaou and Mike Wright. So get there and bring your friends and relatives as it should be a fantastic afternoon.

Keep diving my friends,

Jim D'Urso



North Shore Frogmen's Club Presents
July 31, 2016 1:00PM – 6:00PM

The Holy Ghost Society Cultural Center
20 Howley St, Peabody, MA 01960
Tickets \$10 in advance \$12 at the door
Tickets available at NSF meetings or
purplepass.com/NorthShoreFrogmen2016



**MYSTERY OF THE
LAST OLYMPIAN:
THE BRITANNIC**

presented by **Richie Kohler** of
Deep Sea Detectives and featured
in the books: *Shadow Divers* and
Titanic's Last Secrets.



Andrew Martinez-
Marine Life of the North
Atlantic and Ambon,
Indonesia



"White Sharks of
Guadelupe Island"
presented by
Ted Maney of Salem
State University



Mike Wright and Cosmas
Papinokolaou
Antarctic adventure

North Shore Frogmen's Scuba Show: July 31, 2016
Presentations, exhibits, book signings

Scuba Show Schedule:

- 1:00-1:30pm exhibits, book signings, raffle tickets, appetizers
- 1:30 -2:30pm Richie Kohler "Mystery of the Last Olympian, the Britannic"
- 2:30-3:30pm Andrew Martinez "Marine Life of the North Atlantic and Ambon, Indonesia"
- 3:30-4:00pm break- exhibits, book signings, raffle tickets, appetizers
- 4:00-5:00PM Ted Maney "Great Whites of Guadelupe Island"
- 5:00-6:00pm Cosmas Papinokolaou and Mike Wright "Antarctic Adventure"

Exhibit Booths

- Richie Kohler book signing "Mystery of the Last Olympian"
- Mike Lodise "Backscatter" underwater photo equipment
- Ted Maney with Cat Cove Marine Lab and Salem State University Dive Club live marine specimens
- North Shore Frogmen's Club
- Andy Martinez, "Marine Life of the North Atlantic" and Undersea Divers, local dive shop
- Jack Munro and Alvin "the Dive Locker" with hard hat exhibit

Tribute to Art Channel

The Art of bottle diving

In the last decade of the last century I began diving for bottles with Art Channel. Art was an avid bottle collector and founding member of the North Shore Frogmen. Mostly conducted from the docks of Palmer Cove Yacht Club in the winter months, we would scour the murky depths of Salem harbor looking for those glassy treasures. Truth is the depths of the harbor are really quite shallow, six to ten feet depending on the tide so a dive depended more on endurance than air supply. Art had been diving in the harbor for some time before I joined him and had developed a tried and tested system. First came the baby oil and then the wetsuits, that's plural. The baby oil allowed Art to slide into the first suit and probably gave him a seal between skin and suit. The second suit was applied over the first to give what was effectively a 12-14mm wetsuit. I always dove dry. Once suitably insulated we would walk out onto the docks where Art prepared his boat. After checking it was fully inflated t to its magnificent five feet, milk crates and flag in place, it would be lowered into the water and tied up until our dive gear was donned. Art was once stopped by the harbor master who thought a young kid may be floating around in the middle of the harbor in an inflatable child's toy boat, never suspecting in the depths of winter there would be some guy swimming around underwater towing the thing. The actual diving part lasted an hour or so which, given the water temperature, was pretty good. Almost every intact bottle that Art came across made it into his boat. Newer bottles like the omnipresent Budweiser were plunged neck down into the mud for future generations to find. Coke bottles were a particular favorite, Art trying to collect every bottle style from every plant. In the beginning I also used to collect all the bottles I found but after a few trips I just took the ones with writing, old bottles and blue bottles. Bottles that were deemed unworthy of a place in Art's collection or my basement went into the dumpster. Over the years we must

have pulled over a thousand bottles from their silty resting places, eighty percent of which were discarded. Should I be lucky enough to find a stoneware jug or bean pot Art would invariably say "throw that back, you don't want that". Of course I never did.

Art Channel stoked my passion for diving and showed me that even in 6ft of water in the middle of winter there was pleasure to be had diving. For that I will always be grateful.

Graham Smith 07/06/2016

Upcoming Events

Thursday, July 14 we have a beach meeting scheduled for Chandler Hovey. We plan to meet at 5 pm for a dive. We will have a beach party at 7 pm. The club will supply cold cuts for sandwiches, fruits, and salads.

Saturday, July 23rd is the 15th annual GAFC sponsored by REEF and the NEADC. There is a picnic at Stage Fort Park with numerous excellent raffle prizes to be distributed following the actual counts. To participate, you must register, for free, with REEF to obtain a REEF I.D. number. Then log into the NEADC.org webpage to register for the event.

Calendar view and details on website [here](#)

Sunday Dives - Dive with a buddy!

Meet every Sunday at 7:30AM at Burger King on Rte 128 in Beverly; depart for dive site at 8.

Meetings:

Usually Thursdays at
Palmer's Cove Yacht Club
74 Leavitt Street
Salem, MA 01970

Meetings start at 8PM; Social gathering at 7:30. Most of the "business" is accomplished at the first meeting of the month. The last Thursday of the month has no meeting - purely a social gathering (with dive talk, of course).

NOTE: The last Thursday of the month is a meeting of the Photo Society at Undersea Divers. We have a number of NSF photographers and videographers members who attend this event. If you are interested in underwater photography, check the Photo Society out.

See website or upcoming events section of this newsletter for presentation and meeting topics.



Our members have diverse interests and hobbies. Many of us do far more than just dive. Ellen Garvey was displaying (and selling) her beautiful hand-made glass creations at the Marblehead Arts Festival over the 4th of July weekend.



Ralph Arabian and Bill Werner representing the NSF at the Danvers Port Marina and Yacht Club June 4, 2016. Local business "meet-and-greet" with DJ provided live music and grilled lunch provided.

Canoeing and Kayaking on the Ipswich River Saturday Jun 25

The club held its more or less annual paddling and cookout event on the Ipswich River. We had 9 participants and the weather was perfect; with bright sunshine and temperatures in the low 80s. Due to the lack of rain, the water in the river was low and we had a couple of areas where we had to paddle hard to slide over the bottom. As usual we saw frogs, turtles, and a variety of aquatic birds. We saw numerous small clusters of geese, a family of ducks, a Blue Heron, Red-winged Blackbirds, and many birds we could not identify. There were also hundreds of dragonflies - if you like dragonflies. After leisurely paddling for a few hours, we stopped at Cott Island for lunch. We relaxed, grilled hamburgers/cheeseburgers and sausages, ate fruit, drank beer, or other beverages of choice and chatted. After lunch, we continued down the river back to Foote Brothers. The trip takes us through scenic wetlands, a National Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary, and two state forests. The trip is a relaxing way to spend the day communing with nature of a non-marine variety. There is swimming available and a mask, fins, and snorkel may be enjoyed.

A few pictures displayed below show participants and sights

Children and water canons (or other devices to propel water) are or may be welcome depending on individuals and heat of the day. We are scheduling a second trip to allow people who could not participate in the June event - but wanted to - another chance. We hope to attract more people to future canoe and kayak trips.



Member's Corner



Diver of the Month:
[John Ferrier](#)
John at his favorite shore dive site: Lanes Cove. Other divers are also present. John know every inch (practically) of this site and is always willing to lend advice and equipment to other divers

Member of the Month:
[Bill Werner](#)
For volunteering to help the club - such as organizing the canoe and kayak trip on the Ipswich River and taking on Air Bubbles.



Welcome to all our new members!

Please welcome new member: Brian Crowe

From the Editor:

Well, the newsletter is under new management. Please be kind in your suggestions.

Thank you Ellen for the excellent job you did with the newsletter for the last year and a half. You set the bar high as editor and before you, Mary Howard did an excellent job. We who follow you can only try to produce a newsletter of the same quality.

Currently Bill Werner and Linda D'Urso will be producing the newsletter. Please send articles and photos to billwerner55@yahoo.com. We're always looking for news-worthy material.

Bill Werner

Fun stuff we did last month



We had fun on the canoe and kayak trip in June. We also actually had divers diving in various locations such as the ever popular OGB and Lanes Cove. We also had divers in the water at Pebble Beach and on President Jim's boat. Members have been collecting lobsters, scallops, flounder, and underwater photos and video. We will post more photographic evidence of diver activity in future editions of Air Bubbles.



Meeting Summaries

Vinny Egizi, Secretary

We'll catch up on this section in the next edition.

2016 contests

The contests this year will be:

Photo Categories

- New England standard
- New England interactive
- Elsewhere standard
- Elsewhere interactive
- Above water
- Video clip

where "New England" is Long Island Sound to Gulf of Maine

Also

- Biggest Scallop (save the shell - both halves). **Current largest submission is 6.25"**
- Biggest fish (picture; must be taken diving). **Currently 17"!**
- Most interesting find (object or picture)



Dive Travel Opportunities

2016

Jul 23-30 Newfoundland. [DUJ](#)

Aug 17-28 Azores. [DUJ](#)

Oct 29-Nov 5 Grand Cayman. [Undersea Divers](#)

Nov 5-12 Dominica, [Susan Copelas](#)

Dec 3-10 Bonaire. [Undersea Divers](#)

2017

Jan 26-Feb 4 Cuba. [DUJ](#)

Jim's Stuffed Flounder

First you have to buy a boat, get a couple of friends to go diving with you, spear a couple of flounder, grab a lobster and a handful of scallops. Bring it all home and ask your wife to cook it.

Gut & behead the flounder. Slice the flounder down the center of the back over the spine, (white side) then side knife along the ribs left & right side making a pocket. Sprinkle a little Old Bay Seasoning inside. Melt some butter & garlic and set aside. Cook the lobster (a bit un done), take out the meat. Do not cook scallops. Cut lobster meat and/or scallop into bite size pieces, sprinkle with Old Bay Seasoning. Crunch a few Ritz crackers down to breadcrumb size & mix with seasoned breadcrumb.

Line a baking sheet with foil. Lay the flounder (dark side down) on the foil. Mix a little breadcrumb mixture with the lobster and/or scallops. Lift the sides of the pocket of the flounder & stuff with the lobster & scallops. Until well packed.

My secret part of this recipe adds a bit of sweetness - add a little peach wine or peach schnapps. Recipe is still good without this or you own favorite wine.

Lightly sprinkle with more breadcrumbs then pour the butter over the breadcrumb stuffing.

Bake At 350* for about 20 - 25 mins depending how stuffed the flounder is.

Eat through the delicious stuffing. Peel back the skin of the flounder to get to the white meat of the fish. Eat down to the bones then pull out the rib bones in one piece to get to the meat on the bottom.

Enjoy your flounder!

Submitted by Linda D'Urso



NSF is Supported by



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