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Air Bubbles

The Newsletter of the North Shore
Frogmen's Club

August 2017

Volume 60, Numbers 8



NSF 60th Anniversary Event

We're running a survey and would love your input. Please let us know what you think below. Thanks for participating!

Which of the following events you prefer?

[ON THE WATER - Afternoon or dinner cruise on a boat out of Cape Ann.](#)

[OUTDOORS NEAR WATER - Afternoon or evening cookout in a park in the Salem / Beverly area.](#)

[INDOORS NEAR WATER - Evening event at a function hall near water.](#)

[RESTAURANT / FUNCTION HALL - Evening event at a restaurant function room somewhere in Cape Ann.](#)

Please do not forward this email as its survey link



Message from the President

[Jim D'Urso](#)

President's message!

"How inappropriate to call this planet Earth, when it is quite clear Ocean...!"

Arthur C. Clarke

Hi Froggies and friends.

Last Sunday I had an opportunity to join a friend on his boat for a tuna fishing expedition. Had yard work to do, errands to run, projects to complete but it is hard to give up a day on the ocean. Within the first few miles of the trip we pulled along side the smallest mola-mola, ocean sunfish, I had ever seen, about 100lb fish, graceful, slow, deliberate, peaceful. During the next half hour several seals popped their heads up not far from the Isle of Shoals only to be followed by a pod of harbor porpoises briefly exiting the water in synchrony. On arrival at our destination, Minke whales and a Humpback greeted us. We managed to bring up a few mackerel for bait and within a few minutes had hooked what we thought was a large tuna. After a 4 hour fight, with three of us exhausted from the struggle, a large blue shark appeared near the surface only to snap the line and win the battle. Life in the Ocean is fascinating and impressive. The leaves covering the lawn could wait another day. My choice for diver of the month is Daryl Findlay, who joins or supports members on most of our Sunday dives and supports many club functions and photographs events. My choice for Member of the month is my wife Linda D'Urso for her excellent cooking and support at the annual Pool Party. She attends most

meetings and brings some of her cooking creations to NSF events.

Keep diving my friends,
Jim D'Urso, President North Shore Frogmen

Upcoming Events

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

Sunday Dives - Dive with a buddy!

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

Meetings:

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

- Saturday, Sept. 30th at 1 pm: Planning meeting at Mary and Ray's
- Sunday, October 8th, 10 am: Battle for the Airfield, Collings Foundation (details below)
- Thursday, October 5th, 7 pm: Supino's Restaurant meet to avoid downtown Salem
- Thursday, October 12th, 8 pm: Presentation on dive trip to Dominica
- Thursday, November 9th, 8 pm: Cape Anne Shipwrecks by Capt. Ray Bates

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 as members.

The Collings Foundation is hosting one of their 3 annual events on October 7 and 8 from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. This event is the "Battle for the Airfield" where over 300 reenactors simulate a battle between American and German forces during WW2. The shows are held at 11 am and 3 pm both days. The exhibit halls are open to view the rest of the antique collection of cars, planes, stage coaches, tanks, etc.

This is a very interesting museum/foundation located in Stow, MA. There is a new entrance located at 568 Main Street, Hudson, MA. The entrance is about 5 miles or 10 minutes from my home.

Bring a chair to sit on, I have some extras. You may also sit on a blanket.

Cost is \$20/pp. We can meet at my home to leave at 10 am and carpool.

For additional information please go to www.collingsfoundation.org

I will be hosting an after-cookout at:

66 Wheeler Road, Stow, MA

We are just off route 117.

Bay State Council of Divers Information

EDUCATION SECTION

Northeastern Marine Science Center Lectures

Murphy Bunker, 430 Nahant Road, Nahant, MA 01908

Salem Sound Coastwatch

Salem Sound Coastwatch has many other activities listed on its website:

www.salemsound.org

New England Aquarium – IMAX Films

- Galapagos 3D: Natures Wonderland
- Great White Shark 3D
- Amazon Adventure 3D
- Saving Sea Turtles

These movies appear to be fairly stable. We will be planning a trip to the aquarium to see one or two with a stop in China Town for Dim Sum before.

Member's Corner



DIVER OF THE MONTH Daryl Findlay

Daryl is one of our most active Sunday divers and supports virtually all club activities. He also photographs most activities as the club's official/unofficial photographer. Thanks for your support .

MEMBER OF THE MONTH Linda D'Urso

Linda was instrumental in the success of the D'Urso annual pool party. She tirelessly (seemingly) prepared and brought various dishes to the party goers. She was the perfect attentive hostess.



Fun stuff we did last month

Club members were involved in a variety of activities in August...and part of September...

POOL PARTY!

Jim and Linda hosted a pool party on August 13th and it was great! Linda and Jim did a wonderful job of making everyone feel welcome and happy. Linda was so busy preparing food, going up and down stairs, and attending to the guests that she barely had time to socialize herself. They had a great turnout with many Froggies and members of the North Shore Divers in attendance.

The food was abundant, varied, and delicious. The pool was inviting and was very refreshing. It is the opinion of this editor and attendee that everyone had a great time.

Amy brought over some of Roslyn's dive gear and other belongings to help Roslyn's mother and sister find good homes for her possessions.

THANK YOU JIM and LINDA FOR HOSTING THIS ANNUAL FUN EVENT!
Thank you Linda especially for all your running (figuratively) back and forth and up and down stairs repeatedly to bring food and attend to everyone's needs - especially since it was just before your knee replacement!

WHALE WATCH CRUISE and CAPTAIN CARLOS RESTAURANT

Mike Lodise, from the Finatics, organized a whale watch out of Gloucester. It was an attempt at having a joint activity with the Finatics and the Froggies. We had a small turnout with about 10 whale watchers - including 4 Frogs. The trip out was foggy and slightly rough but we were rewarded with some great Humpback whale encounters. We had 2 distinct pods of several whales. They were surfacing right next to the boat. It was a fun day and hopefully we can have more joint activities in the future.

We went to Captain Carlos restaurant for lunch after the whale watch. The food was great and, perhaps, it tasted even better after working up an appetite watching whales.



On August 21st, a total lunar eclipse passed across the entire United States from the

upper west coast to lower east coast. Many people we know traveled to position themselves in the path of totality. Those people had an excellent show. For those of us who stayed in New England we were only able to see a partial eclipse - about 63% - but it was still fascinating to see. The heaviest cloud cover occurred during the eclipse but fortunately was not total and allowed glimpses of the moon passing in front of the sun.

Susan, and her students, were able to watch the eclipse from the comfort of a pool. I had to photograph from my yard. Boo Hoo.



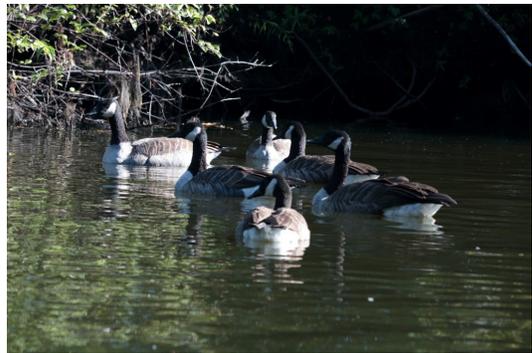
Vermont 2018

We're looking forward to the 2018 Vermont trip to Annettes. If you enjoy fresh water diving, canoeing, kayaking, campfires, great food, and great people; you should consider coming up for a day or two or a full week.

Canoeing, Kayaking, and Picnicking on the Ipswich River

We finally had our semiannual canoe and kayak excursion on the Ipswich River - only a couple of months late. The weather was great and the river was fun and we saw lots of wildlife - including painted turtles, Great Blue Herons, Egrets, hawks, woodpeckers, etc. Our group included: Susan, Dottie and Ron, Mike and Mary, Daryl, Vinny, and Bill. We had a great picnic with plenty of food. As seen in one photo, an amusing plaything was found at the picnic site. It provided entertainment and kept some people out of trouble.

The beavers have been busy building homes and, more importantly, dams. The dams may increase the water level behind them but they definitely impede downstream progress. I believe we had to negotiate 4 dams. As you will see in the photos, Vinny was instrumental in helping people over or around most of the dams. Thank you Vinny! At the last dam we encountered Vinny had taken an alternate route and we had to fend for ourselves. It was fun but the mud was deep and sucked (literally not figuratively). Some individuals did not even have to exit their kayaks - but we won't mention any names. And one person sat in the mud but again no names and no photographic evidence.





On September 7th, we scheduled a restaurant visit instead of a meeting. A group of about 15-20 Froggies showed up at the British Beer Company for dinner and drinks. A good time was had by all! Laura also joined us and appeared to enjoy a pretzel.



Actual Local Diving





Meeting Summaries

Mary Howard, Secretary

NSF Minutes – 9/14/2017 – 8:04 PM to 9:06PM

Attendance: 19 members, including 4 officers

Minutes: for 8/17 accepted as read

Treasurer: no info at this time

Program Events:

- 9/17 – Annual Club Picnic, BSC Treasure Hunt, Sea Rovers beach clean-up, donations for Gloucester food bank. Raffle prizes? There will be a variety.
- 10/5 – First Thursday of October is the Haunted Happenings Parade in Salem, so we should have a dinner. Where?
- 10/12 – Bill Werner will do a presentation on Dominica. Underwater video and slides of above water.
- 10/7 – 300 re-enactors at Collings Foundation, 2 races at 11AM and 3PM – open 8:30-4:30 – there is a new entrance, so be aware. Will put out

more info later.

- Early November, IMAX movie at Aquarium and then dim sum in Chinatown. Bill will look to see what is playing when.
- 11/9 – Capt Raymond Bates will give a talk of Cape Ann wrecks. Will have his new book here for sale.
- Maybe we can get another canoe and kayak trip. Maybe a different location? If people have their own boats we have more flexibility.

Old Business:

- All ready for the picnic!
- Susan suggested for the 60th anniversary – there is a new cruise line, Beauport cruise ship runs from the Beauport hotel in Gloucester. Parking? Susan will check it out.
- Need to have another planning meeting for the committee. Sept 30 1PM in Reading. Send your info if you can't make it.

New Business:

- Contest every year, largest scallop, largest fish, and most unusual find.
- ***Photo contest, above water diving related, 4 underwater categories, plus a video category. Remember to take photos!!
- 9/24 Salem Sound Coastwatch, 10AM, screening of film "Bag It" about dependence on plastic bags, Cinema Salem.

General Discussion:

Kayak trip last weekend was a lot of fun. Saw woodpeckers, blue herons, turtles, egrets, hawks. Lots of food! Beautiful day except for the couple of drops of rain.

Dive Talk:

- 9/10 - Vinny dove, brought his parents to Pebble where the Club was diving, watched his dive gear come out. Vinny got enough crabs for dinner. Lots of big lobsters hard to get out. Outside the reef the visibility was better, really bad inside the reef. John Sears came. 55°F. Fun dive, plenty of bugs to look at.
- Laura showcased her new drysuit on 9/3. She should send picture to Bill for Air Bubbles.
- 9/3 - Susan went diving, rescue course at Back Beach, for once it went

- flawlessly. Visibility was pretty good, calm, saw lots of small flounder.
- Jack and John went to Saba and St. Kitts. Did a lot dives, 5/day. 3 days in Saba, 3 days in St. Kitts. Only five people on the boat, each had their own cabin. No divers booked for the week after they were there, so boat was going into drydock for repairs and parts replacement. Were there just in time, since the hurricanes did a number on those islands. Saw the partial eclipse. There was a sulfur heat vent where the white sand was brown and warm.
 - Ricardo – Pacific side of Costa Rica, did a few dives. – bull sharks, 10 ft, curious he likes those a lot. Nicest thing was to hear the humpback whales, could feel it in your chest. Stayed at a friend's house. Diving a bit expensive. Small boats. Next stop Hawaii.
 - Nubble Light dive in October? Saturday in October, consult tide chart. Together with other dive clubs, MetroWest and Finatics.
 - Sunday dive this weekend? Encourage people to dive at picnic, Treasure Hunt. John S said he was going to Stage Fort before the picnic.
-

NSF Minutes – 9/21/2017 – 8:05 PM to 9:06PM

Attendance: 19 members, including 4 officers

Minutes: for 9/14 accepted as read

Program Events (updates only):

- 10/5 – First Thursday of October is the Haunted Happenings Parade in Salem, so we should have a dinner. Will be at Supino's 250 Newbury St, Danvers, 7PM.
- 10/8 – 300 reenactors at Collings Foundation, 2 races at 11AM and 3PM – open 8:30-4:30 – there is a new entrance, so be aware. Bill would like to do it on Sunday if you want to go back to his house afterwards. \$20 admission for adult.
- 10/12 – presentation here: Bill Werner and Susan Copelas will present on Dominica.
- **Planning meeting for 60th on 9/30 at 1PM at Mary and Ray's**

Old Business:

- Picnic was pretty nice. Several divers at Cressi before the picnic. \$170

income on raffle prizes, \$40 in shirts sold. Took in \$314 for food. Still need to determine split between the two clubs for food and pay for the grill. Hope to get that info in the next week or two.

New Business:

- Reminder that OFFICER ELECTIONS are coming up! Think about helping out your CLUB and giving others a rest!!
- Banquet is first Saturday in December, needs planning.

General Discussion:

Michael Medlock talked to us about his boat. He met Paul Erickson at one of our meetings and they have been working together on the "Sea Shuttle" out of Salem Wharf, 45 ft motor catamaran. Theirs is an educational mission, with a 250 gallon salt water aquarium on board with native marine life. They go out to refresh the water offshore, recirculated overnight with chiller to keep it fresh. Moon snail, anemones, horseshoe crabs, lobsters, etc. are in there now.

Always looking for "odd things" to put in the tank. Always looking for people to work with, divers to collaborate with, because divers are down there with the stuff. Because of their certifications they would have to meet you at the beach, or we can take you diving out of Salem. Plenty of space on the boat, so could take up to 10 divers. Collaborating with the Froggies would be great for both of us. They run the aquarium end of May through October, then they release the critters. Website is Sea-shuttle.com

Susan has a trip going to Dominica in November (11/4 to 11/11) with Christian Scuba Divers, and they are looking for more helpers for surveying reef status, so if anyone would like to go to help, let her know. They are also looking for supplies, so if you want to bring down or give donations, let her know that too.

Correspondence: Michael Sullivan borrowed a friend's buck knife to untangle his jib, dropped it by his boat, and is looking for a diver to find it.

Dive Talk:

- 9/17 - Saturday – John F dove at Lanes Cove with MetroWest. High tide, 6ft viz. He went out over the point, dark in the water because of the clouds. Lobsters mostly oversized. Bill W. did only one dive, took a couple of short videos.
- 9/17 - Adam went to Back Beach on the outgoing tide on Saturday 1PM, 100 min dive (low tide), 15 ft viz, 1 lobster. Everything was in the sand. Skittish sea ravens. Only one at the beach on Saturday afternoon.

- 9/18 - Whitney posted that there was a whale at Old Garden Sunday, Adam saw the whale at the red can, but when he was swimming out it breached about 30 ft in front of him. They were chasing menhaden. Couldn't determine from the fin what kind of whale it was. Pilot or Minke? Consolation prize, he got a flounder, saw a sea robin.
- 9/18 – Graham went to Cressi Beach on Sunday (day of picnic), vis 3-4 ft, nothing there but schooling stripers, but he hadn't been in water in a while so it was nice. 60 degrees.
- 9/18 – Jack did the BSC Treasure Hunt dive, 62 degrees F, was pretty clean, found only one piece of trash, AND A RED GOLF BALL.
- Susan has a night dive on Tuesday night next week, Back Beach, meet at 6:30.
- Nubble Light dive in October? Saturday in October, consult tide chart. Could do three dives, or a day dive and night dive.
- Sunday dive this weekend? Probably not because of the weather.

Raffles tonight:

\$ box – Ray Porter

Raffle prize – Ray Porter

Dive Travel Opportunities

2017

November 4-11, 2017	Dominica with Undersea Divers
December 2-9, 2017	Bonaire with Undersea Divers
February 24-March 3, 2018	Bonaire with Undersea Divers
March 24-April 3, 2018	Fiji with Undersea Divers
January 17-26, 2019	Maldives Live-aboard
June 8-20, 2019	Tubbataha to Atlantis Dumaguete

NSF is Supported by



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