



Air Bubbles



The Newsletter of the North Shore Frogmen's Club

January 2020 (Oct – Dec 2019 Review)

President's Message

By: Susan Copelas

In the past year, we have had 39 meetings, 14 speakers sharing their knowledge and worldwide travels, a myriad of hikes, river kayaking, 47 shore dives, dinners out, parties, and beach clean ups. None of this would have been possible without everyone's commitment and passion for our oceans and club. While winter may seem like a slower time for us, that couldn't be further from the truth. It is a time to plan our coming year and decide what we want to do and stand for. Our bylaws state we are a club to promote education of diving and the marine environment, promote safety in diving and environmental responsibility. So let's ask ourselves what role do we want to play locally and in the world? What difference can we make in our oceans? I look forward to serving as North Shore Frogmen's Club President to answer these questions and have a BLAST doing it!!

Good Luck 2020 Officers!

Susan Copelas–President * John Sears–Vice President * Mary Howard–Treasurer * Daryl Findlay-Secretary

Outgoing President's Message

By: Ray Porter

It was a great privilege to serve as President of the North Shore Frogmen during 2019. Vinny Egizi looked very pleased that his term (2018) was ending. It was not until my term was over that I appreciated the effort it takes to keep the Club moving throughout the year. I wish the very best for Susan Copelas as she takes over the reins as President for 2020. The North Shore Frogmen is more than the dozen or so members that attend the regular weekly meetings. This core is no doubt critical to the Club's success. They are the bones on which all other aspects of the Club depend. Beyond this core is a group of 20 to 30 active members, some are regular members and some are life members. The group of active members contribute to various events depending in their interests and availability. The active members make it possible to host the many events that make up the Club's social and diving calendar. However, what I began to appreciate is that the Club's influence extends beyond it members and extends to the greater dive community. Within the dive community the North Shore Frogmen has a long history of contributing to and advancing diving and diver safety. We support diver training through our participation at Sea Rovers and Women's Hall of Fame Dive Day. We are also a bridge for new divers to develop their diving skills and learn about different diving destinations and experiences. I am happy that the NSF Club was an active contributor to the diving community in 2019 and look forward to its increasing role in 2020.



Thank you Ray!

Thank you 2019 Officers!

Ray Porter–President * Vinny Egizi–Vice President * Mary Howard–Treasurer * Meg Tennissen-Secretary

Ocean Pollution: Out of Sight, Out of Mind

By: Susan Copelas

The Explorers Club Fall “Air Bubbles” talks about a trans-Pacific sampling that shows a contamination density of approximately 600 pieces of plastic in a family size swimming pool. It doesn’t take long to do the math to figure out how the fishing industry in our own backyard will be affected. Our speaker on February 13th, is Captain Breezy Grenier who will talk on Ocean Pollution. Captain Breezy Grenier, FRGS is a multidisciplinary ocean scientist by education, and mariner, educator, and business entrepreneur by trade. A US Coast Guard Veteran and licensed 100-ton boat captain, her broad-based skill set has brought her to work from both land and sea, everywhere from the North Pole down to Antarctica. Breezy utilizes her diverse, yet cohesive background to help bridge vital gaps between ocean disciplines and blue industries, by providing science, exploration, and academic support. Spending a great deal of her time at sea, either conducting science, sailing, or diving, finding plastic debris is always the one constant in her explorations. Join us as Breezy shares how her travels from around the world, opened her eyes to the plastic debris epidemic and motivated her to create change. Learn how she uses her experience from working in multiple industries, across multiple ocean science disciplines, to inspire the next generation, both young and old, to engage and empower citizens to climate actions, and to promote healthy and environmentally sustainable lifestyles. Breezy is a member of the Sedna Epic Expedition and eXXpedition Round the World. She is also a member of the Explorer’s Club, and Fellow at the Royal Geographical Society. Breezy exemplifies how sports, life skills, and exploration can contribute to valuable scientific research, and be the forerunner for consumer driven environmental change.

Finding Nemo’s Garden

By: Susan Copelas

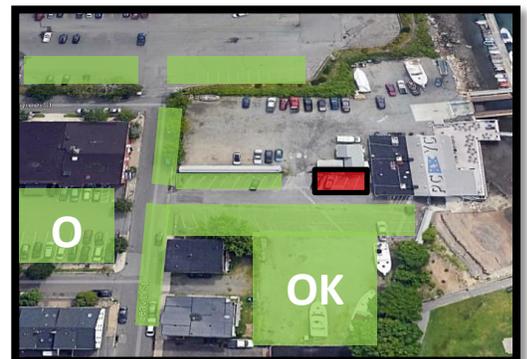


In the March 5th talk, “Finding Nemo’s Garden – Sea & Science in the Land of the Renaissance,” award-winning underwater filmmaker Paul Cater Deaton travels to the Italian Riviera to visit a revolutionary undersea vegetable and herb farming experiment. Equal parts science and adventure, there’s more to Nemo’s Garden than meets the eye. A dedicated team of SCUBA divers, scientists, engineers, artists and farmers pool their estimable resources to grow crops in a system of underwater “biospheres” that would make Leonardo Da Vinci proud. Jules Verne meets Indiana Jones as PCD explores the Savona Province, and dives the Ligurian Sea.

PCYC Guidelines

By: Vinny Egizi

The North Shore Frogmen’s Club and Palmer’s Cove Yacht Club have a long and friendly relationship. This is of course due to the mutual respect between both organizations. To ensure that we continue to enjoy a suitable location to hold our weekly meetings, we feel it would be useful to highlight a few guidelines we should abide by to ensure we are viewed as good guests of the PCYC. Parking is allowed in the PCYC parking lot, except the four PCYC officer spots nearest the door. Parking is allowed across the street in the Harbor Sweets parking lot, in the Shetland Park parking lot, and on the street. (See map). Entry is allowed only via the main entrance, upon ringing the bell, and upon being “buzzed” in. Entry is not allowed via other doors. Inside the Building, we are allowed in the meeting room, and can use the restrooms. Bar Usage: PCYC is a private club with a liquor license which covers only its members. NSF members and guests are allowed to order drinks in the meeting room via the window. NSF members may only enter and sit at the bar if accompanied and signed in by a PCYC member. PCYC has offered to allow NSF member to use the bar after our meetings ends as long as we sign their guest book.



We plan to improve the social aspect of our NSF club meetings by taking advantage of PCYC's offer, and moving into the bar after our meetings.

NSF Photo Contest

By: Mary Howard

Thank you to everyone who submitted such great pictures and videos! We had a close race in all the categories but even so, someone had to win in each grouping. The winners are:

Above Water

- 1st - Daryl Findlay for "Lateral Thinking"
- 2nd - Vinny Egizi for "Jack on the Move"
- 3rd - Vinny Egizi for "Tri Turtles"

New England

- 1st - Andrea Dec for "Local Color"
- 2nd - Andrea Dec for "Giddy Up"
- 3rd - Daryl Findlay for "Sea Dragon"

New England Species Interaction

- 1st - Andrea Dec for "Gotcha"
- 2nd - Daryl Findlay for "Skeleton Shrimp Eating, and Friend"
- 3rd - Andrea Dec for "Hold On"

Destination Diving

- 1st - Andrea Dec for "Colorful Crab"
- 2nd - Ellen Garvey for "Seen Better Days"
- 3rd - Andrea Dec for "Blue Ribbon"

Destination Species Interaction

- 1st - Adam Hartnett for "Remora Face"
- 2nd - Andrea Dec for "Carry-All Crab"
- 3rd - Bill Werner for "Clown Anemone Fish" and "Crinoid Shrimp"

Digitally Enhanced

- 1st - Daryl Findlay for "Taunting the Hunter"
- 2nd - Vinny Egizi for "Bug Eyes"
- 3rd - Daryl Findlay for "Watch the First Step"

OPEN (for members of the Undersea Photo Society)

- 1st - Jim Smith for "Graceful Eagle Ray"
- 2nd - Jim Smith for "Furry Banded Shrimp in Tube Sponge"
- 3rd - Fran Hebert for "Feeding Frenzy" and "The Eyes Have It"

Video

- 1st - Bill Werner for "Clam Species"
- 2nd - Bill Werner for "Crinoid Walking"
- 3rd - Vinny Egizi "Descending onto the Wreck" and Bill Werner's "Mushroom Coral Pipefish"



Member Recognition for Q4 2019

By: Ray Porter & Susan Copelas

Thank you for your contributions and enthusiasm!

<u>October:</u>	Diver of the Month – Bill Werner	Member of the Month – Vange Egizi
<u>November:</u>	Diver of the Month – Daryl Findlay	Member of the Month – Ellen Garvey
<u>December:</u>	Diver of the Month - Daryl Findlay	Member of the Month – Ray Porter
<u>January:</u>	Diver of the Month – Jack Munroe	Member of the Month - Dodie Carvalho

Dive Travel in 2020

By: Adam Hartnett

Happy 2020 Froggies!

I have not done an article in over 4 years and with a new decade beginning, I thought it would be a great time to give updates throughout the year on areas related to Dive Travel: Increased options for those travelling out of Logan Airport, The state of the frequent flier programs, Liveboards, Airbnb tips, and recommended dive travel companies.



In this article I will discuss how Logan Airport is still in a “boom” period Since 2012- Logan has added over 20 international destinations and many dive destinations that use to involve at least three flights to get to can now be done in just two due to flight additions to global airlines hubs in Dubai, Istanbul, Doha-Qatar, Tokyo, and Hong Kong.

In 2019, Korean Air finally connected its Seoul Incheon Airport hub to Logan Airport with 5 weekly flights to the Korean capital and economic hub. This flight will go daily in Spring 2020 as well. Like the Cathay Pacific service to Hong Kong, this flight connects travelers seamlessly to dive destinations in Philippines, Thailand, and Indonesia. Hawaiian also began a 5 weekly service to Honolulu but you may be better off going through San Francisco or Los Angeles if you do not like long flights in economy or you want to go to Big Island, Maui or Kauai.



Though it probably doesn't connect to a plethora of diving destinations, a non-stop flight to Casablanca, Morocco also began June 2019 on Royal Air Maroc. European flights have increased dramatically with destinations started such as Lisbon, Barcelona, Edinburgh, Manchester-UK (*Life Member Graham Smith is a fan of this one!*), and as of Spring 2020: Vienna, Austria on Austrian Airlines. Some of these European flights can be valuable for award redemption for getting to Africa or Southeast Asia.

Finally, on flights that don't fly over entire oceans, Delta and American have increased Caribbean, Latin America, and Florida service in Boston in the past couple of years to catch up to JetBlue. Copa Airlines has also increased flights to their Panama City hub to 11 weekly flights in peak season. These flights help those who want to go to Costa Rica and South America.

Unfortunately, the bulk of these additions have been to currently served destinations such as Aruba, Punta Cana, Montego Bay, Nassau, and Cancun. However, American did recently announce a weekly Key West flight in February 2020 along with a weekly Grand Cayman flight. JetBlue responded with adding a second weekly Grand Cayman so if that destination is on your bucket list - this may be the year to go due to the number of seats available! I still think there are some gaps that need to be filled for dive destinations: Bonaire, Curacao, Grenada, San Jose de Costa Rica, Los Cabos, Belize City, and Roatan.

Airfare prices still vary widely between time of year and destination. Christmas and New Year's travel is typically most expensive. Economy fares to Southeast Asia can be under \$1000 and many Caribbean/Latin America fares approach or exceed that number especially in peak week such as February and April vacations. If you can withstand a 18-24 hour journey in economy, Philippines and Indonesia are usually better value for dive travel since Southeast Asia dive packages are the same price or cheaper than those in the Caribbean as seen below.



Matrix Airfare Search

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Itinerary

Boston (BOS) to Cebu (CEB) — Wed, Mar 4						
	Boston (BOS) to Hong Kong (HKG) — Wed, Mar 4	Dep: 1:25 am	Arr: 6:00 am	15h 35m	Boeing 777	Economy (Q)
	Cathay Pacific 811	Layover in HKG	Thu, Mar 5	2h 20m		
	Hong Kong (HKG) to Cebu (CEB) — Thu, Mar 5	Dep: 8:20 am	Arr: 11:10 am	2h 50m	Airbus A350	Economy (Q)
	Cathay Pacific 921					
Cebu (CEB) to Boston (BOS) — Sun, Mar 15						
	Cebu (CEB) to Hong Kong (HKG) — Sun, Mar 15	Dep: 12:20 pm	Arr: 3:15 pm	2h 55m	Airbus A350	Economy (Q)
	Cathay Pacific 922	Layover in HKG		2h 50m		
	Hong Kong (HKG) to Boston (BOS) — Sun, Mar 15	Dep: 6:05 pm	Arr: 9:50 pm	15h 45m	Boeing 777	Economy (Q)
	Cathay Pacific 812					

Mileage

- 18,032 total miles

Airport Information

- [Boston Edward L. Logan International \(BOS\)](#)
- [Cebu Mactan International \(CEB\)](#)
- [Hong Kong International \(HKG\)](#)

Cost per passenger (including taxes & fees) **\$887.45**
Total cost for 1 passenger \$887.45



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Itinerary details

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Itinerary

Boston (BOS) to Bonaire (BON) — Sat, Mar 7						
	Boston (BOS) to Miami (MIA) — Sat, Mar 7	Dep: 5:30 am	Arr: 9:06 am	3h 36m	Boeing 737	Economy (N)
	American 42	Layover in MIA		1h 39m		
	Miami (MIA) to Bonaire (BON) — Sat, Mar 7	Dep: 10:45 am	Arr: 2:53 pm	3h 8m	Airbus A319	Economy (N)
	American 1379					
Bonaire (BON) to Boston (BOS) — Sat, Mar 14						
	Bonaire (BON) to Miami (MIA) — Sat, Mar 14	Dep: 2:43 pm	Arr: 5:57 pm	3h 14m	Airbus A319	Economy (V)
	American 1379	Layover in MIA		2h 35m		
	Miami (MIA) to Boston (BOS) — Sat, Mar 14	Dep: 8:32 pm	Arr: 11:49 pm	3h 17m	Boeing 757	Economy (V)
	American 310					

Mileage

- 4,968 total miles

Airport Information

- [Boston Edward L. Logan International \(BOS\)](#)
- [Bonaire Flamingo International \(BON\)](#)
- [Miami International \(MIA\)](#)

Cost per passenger (including taxes & fees) **\$1,217.92**
Total cost for 1 passenger \$1,217.92

So what is the better deal???? A 900 dollar flight to Philippines or \$1200 flight to Caribbean.

Logan Airport still believes growth is coming and they are preparing for this by expanding the international Terminal E which will be complete by 2023. One reason for this is the new fuel-efficient narrow-body aircraft coming soon. Two examples of these planes are the Airbus A321LR and A321XLR that will make routes that do not have the traffic of London, Paris, Cancun, and Aruba viable. From Logan airport, this will result in more secondary destinations to Europe such as Brussels, Venice or Geneva but it could result in routes to Ecuador (for quick connection to Galapagos!) and Northern Brazil.

Meeting Summaries

By: Mary Howard & Daryl Findlay

Thank you Mary for stepping in to do as NSF Secretary during 2019!

October 3, 2019

Club Night Out at A&B Burger in Beverly.

October 10, 2019

Attendance: 13 members + 2 guests. Dive Talk: Susan was at Annette's diving the CT River, to find safe from earlier dive. The clay at the site was interesting how it was in sheets. Dam was opened while they were diving despite promise it would not be. Annette has been diving 83 of last 91 days! Ricardo dove at House Island on Jim D's boat. They saw a 5 lb lobster and a 3ft mola mola. New Business: Our Club communicates via the website, Facebook, MailChimp emails, and Air Bubbles. Should we consider anything else? Nominations for 2020 officers will be held in November. Photo Contest will have a couple of changes: Artistic License or Digitally Enhanced category and an Open category for non-Froggies, i.e. Photo Society members. Submit photos to Mary Howard and videos to Ellen Garvey. The "President's Banquet" will be on Sat, 12/7 at Acapulco in Beverly. Tonight, Bill Werner will show photos from trip with Andy Martinez to Dumagetti. Raffles: Mystery - Jack Munro, \$\$ Box - Mary Howard, Bug Bag - John Sears.

October 17, 2019

No meeting because no power due to storm.

October 24, 2019

Attendance: 8 members – no quorum. New Business: Pizza Party will be early this year, on 12/19, because last Thursday of the month is day after Christmas. Banquet updates: tickets will be \$40 before 11/27; \$45 after. John Sears knows a possible DJ, \$125.00 – we will discuss.

October 31, 2019

No meeting – Halloween.

November 7, 2019

No Meeting – Photo Society.

November 14, 2019

Attendance: 15 members. Dive Talk: Vinny, Jack and Ray did the Pumpkin Carving dive on October 27th. It was a beautiful day, calm and shallow. Three people carved pumpkins above water. Ellen was in Grenada with Susan. Water was 84°F, 2dives/day for 5 days, average 80 ft depth. Last day one diver got the bends, secondary to dehydration. Will Wimsatt was in Puerto Galera and Dumagetti for 2 weeks. He saw little things and whale sharks at Apo Island, at Atlantis Dive Resort. Old Business: Pizza night will be 12/19, and will include a Yankee Swap (\$15 max), Christmas attire contest, AND Officer change night. New Business: John Sears nominated for VP. Tonight we will watch Hunt for Eagle 56 – Part I. Raffles: Mystery – Mary Howard, \$\$ Box - Peter Chapman, Bug Bag - Linda Durso.

November 21, 2019

Attendance: 15 members. Dive Talk: Alvin said Jack was diving in Florida and South Carolina. Susan was at DEMA last week: Brian Skerry was honored and sad mention was made of the 2 live-aboard fires. Dodie went to VT and saw Annette's talk about her historical finds. A request was forwarded from Hans as he is looking for a diver since he cannot dive right now, to look for a car at about 20 feet in Lake Quinsigamond with a second target at 50 feet. Old Business: Half the tickets have been sold for the Banquet. Video submissions should be between 20-60 seconds. Most Unusual Find submissions can be given to Mary or Ray.

The website calendar needs updating. New Business: 12/26 - no meeting; 1/1/20 - New Year's Day Dive at Back Beach and party at Dodie's at 11AM. Nominations: President - Susan Copelas; VP - John Sears; Secretary - Daryl Findlay; Treasurer - Mary Howard. Tonight - Hunt for Eagle 56 – Part II. Raffles: Mystery - Mary Howard, \$\$ Box: Dodie Carvalho, Bug Bag: Mary Howard.

November 28, 2019

No Meeting: Thanksgiving

December 5, 2019

Dive Talk: Andrea Dec dove at Folly Cove with Daryl. Lots of hermit crabs, cold, good viz. New Business: Officer Elections and other voting. Raffles: Mystery - Ray Porter, \$\$ Box - Mary Howard, Bug Bag - Adam Hartnett

December 12, 2019

Attendance: 16 Members, 1 Guest. Dive Talk: Susan C. did a Discover Scuba and Adventure Scuba with 41 girls. New Business - Hunt for Eagle 56 Part III. Raffles: Mystery - Jack Munro, \$\$ Box - Ellen Garvey, Bug Bag - Vinny Egizi.

December 19, 2019

Attendance: 16 Members, 1 Guest. Dive Talk: Colleen and Joe went to Little Cayman for their honeymoon. Great Diving! Daryl and Andrea dove at Folly, it was a bit rough. Daryl saw lemon nudis. Andrea found a keeper lobster with large crusher claw. Old Business: President stated Banquet was only \$125 over budget.

Close of 61st session of the North Shore Frogmen's Club. Any minutes going forward will be from Daryl "Fin" Findlay.

January 2, 2020

Attendance: 10 members; 2 guests. Dive Talk: Four divers in the water at Back Beach: Jack, Daryl, and two new people, Emily Fox and Tim Burns; 2 wetsuit divers and 2 drysuit divers. Didn't see a lot, though Emily said she saw sea grass and enjoyed that, and Jack saw a lobster the size of a crawfish. Water temp 42°F. The harbormaster stopped by and noted that he didn't see any flags, but then Daryl's flag appeared from "around the corner." Alexine dove 1 ½ weeks ago at Plum Cove. Nice dive. Vin's Vignettes: Vinny found an article "Sex on the Reef; Science and Tourism Join Forces" in Scuba Diver Life (Nov 2019) about coral spawning on the Great Barrier Reef. The article noted that the reef is doing well. New Business: Jan 12th - Planning Meeting at 12:30PM at the Garveys'; Jan 16th - Presentation on Grenada by Susan Copelas and Ellen Garvey; Feb 13th -Presentation by Breezy Grenier; Mar 5th - Cinematographer Paul Cater Deaton presentation on "Nemo's Garden." Susan asked that we nominate/choose two additional past officers to be on the NSF Board of Directors. She has asked Ellen Garvey and Bill Werner and they agreed and motion passed. Jim Smith, a member of the Undersea Divers Photo Society, is NSF's newest member. Dylan was a guest at tonight's meeting. His mother was a member of the NSF Club before he was born, and she recommended that he check us out. He is considering joining the Club. The Dive Locker has been in their current location rent free, but now they are looking for a new location. Can we get the movie/documentary that was done about the Dive Locker a few years ago and show it at a meeting? It was noted that the membership application online still mentions that there is an application fee to join. That and some other things about the application need to be amended.

Raffles: Mystery - Alexine Raineri; \$\$ Box: Ray Porter; and Bug Bag: Mary Howard.

January 9, 2020

New Business: Susan is interested in a club tour of the USS Massachusetts, with Jack being our special guide. We are doing Sea Rovers again this year. April 18th will be Beach Clean-Up at three beaches. Possibly clear the ramp at Old Garden Beach, but Niles is still an option as another beach to clean-up. Susan is interested in discussing cleaning-up Whites Beach with the Manchester harbormaster. MetroWest is interested in combining efforts with us, but we are trying to see if another dive group is also interested.

January 12, 2020

New Business: Membership committee will be comprised of John Ferrier, Ray Porter, and Susan Copulas. Would like to increase membership with more speakers; better communication of speakers; pairing new members with existing member of similar age and interests; raffles; social media; Instagram; Twitter; Club Dive Time; buddy list; storing forms in cloud; going to other venues, like marine/boat show; establishing relationships with groups outside of diving circles; action items, owner(s), and deadlines.



Pizza Party! Ellen Garvey won the prize for most spirited attire!



President's Banquet 2019 with the Divers of the Month and Members of the Month.



Thank you Dodie for once again hosting a wonderful post New Year's Day Dive party!!!
Great to see so many Froggies.



Upcoming Events – Save the Date!

Thursday, February 13th - Presentation on Plastics and Pollution

Sunday, February 16th – Glass Blowing with Ellen (& Dim Sum!) - **Space is limited so sign up now – there is a fee**

Thursday, February 20th – Dinner Out

Thursday, March 5th - Wednesday Presentation by award-winning underwater filmmaker Paul Cater Deaton

Saturday & Sunday, March 6th – 9th – Sea Rovers – **Volunteers Needed**

Thursday, March 12th – Pub Night at PCYC

Saturday, March 14th – St. Patrick's Day Party at Mary & Ray's

Thursday, March 19th – Presentation by Daryl

March 27-29 – Beneath the Sea Dive Show

Froggies Stock Up!

Ellen Garvey has informed us that for a limited time, the USPS is selling frog stamps!

Get them while they last!



Got Hoodie?

The Froggie sweatshirts are a big hit. If you have one and are wearing it, you are making a fashion statement. If you are not, there are still a few left. Please contact Ray or email officers@northshorefrogmen.com.



The North Shore Frogmen's Club

has business meetings and presentations every Thursday, except the last Thursday of the month, at Palmer's Cove Yacht Club, 74 Leavitt St., Salem, MA. Meetings begin at 7:30PM. There are also social events and weekly Sunday dives!



Next Air Bubbles – April 2020

Please submit newsworthy items by March 31st to Vange Egizi at vangiemassagain@yahoo.com.