



New England Aquarium Dive Club, Inc.

www.neadc.org

Summer Newsletter June 2012

NEADC

Monthly Meetings

General Meetings
*Third Wednesday
of the month, 6:30pm*

NEAq Harborside Learning Lab

*Come hear one of our fabulous
guest speakers, find out where
members have been diving and
maybe win the monthly
drawing!*

June 20

*NE Fish ID and prep for the
GAFC July 28th
Bob Michelson*

July

*Underwater Archaeology and
Native American Artifacts
Vic Mastone*

August

*Samantha Whitcraft from
Shark Savers
Learn what you can do to help
save sharks!*

September

Jonathan Bird

*More great speakers coming
including Ethan Gordon, Greg
Skomal and more!*

*Before each General Meeting,
join us from
5:30 to 6:30pm for the
"Eat and Greet" at Jose
McIntyre's on Milk St.*

**See www.neadc.org for more
information!**

New England Dive Summer Season is HERE!

While some divers continued to dive this winter, many are eagerly starting to get back into the water. We have lots of fun planned for this season including shore dives with picnics and boat dives, including the return of our popular seal dives. We hope to see you at upcoming meetings, on a club dive or at one of the upcoming events this dive season as a participant or volunteer.

Join us July 28th for the 11th Great Annual Fish Count!

Picnic, prizes and lots of fun! Help us help REEF! Dives are planned at several shore locations around Cape Ann, along with dives at Nubble Light, York, ME.

Pre-registration for a site is REQUIRED for a raffle ticket. Lunch and raffle at Stage Fort Park, Gloucester. \$5 for lunch.



Winning raffle prizes at the GAFC by Joy Marzolf

All divers have to do is dive and record how many and what kinds of fish you see! Each diver submitting survey form will qualify for an entry into the raffles for the diver. We have one of the largest fish counts in the US! Great prizes again this year!

See www.neadc.org/gafc for more details.

Don't miss out! Register NOW!

To volunteer* to help at the GAFC, email: environmental@neadc.org

*Volunteers also qualify for the raffle

Save the Date!

**October 7th: Tropical Fish Rescue and BBQ,
Fort Wetherill, Jamestown, RI**

A great event for family and friends. All are welcome! Touch tank and seining for the kids and much more! What will you find? Stay tuned to your E-News and neadc.org for more



*Seining with kids at the
Tropical Fish Rescue
by Joy Marzolf*

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Shore Dives: Dan Sprague
shoredive@neadc.org

From your Membership Director, Bob Munson

Membership has its privileges...

Don't miss your last chance to win a dive in the New England Aquarium's Giant Ocean Tank for 2012 at the June 20th General Meeting! If you attended the May General meeting, you heard all about the fantastic new updates for the Giant Ocean Tank that are in store. Not to worry, the Aquarium will still be open, and we will have a whole new perspective on some of the larger creatures (such as the sharks and turtles) as they move below to the penguin tray until construction finishes. While the GOT is unavailable for dives, we will have some fabulous options for the drawing at meetings! How about behind the scenes at different sites around the New England Aquarium? Stay tuned...We have a lot in store for 2012, so check out your E-News, check in on our website, follow us on Facebook, or attend a meeting to find out more.

From your Dive Boat Coordinator, Jim Carozza

It is boat dive season!

Stay tuned this season for some scheduled charters with Captain Jim Sullivan, owner of Boston SCUBA and an NEADC Member, out of East Boston. Trips could include lobstering, scalloping or possibly some wreck dives around Boston Harbor. NEADC members also save \$10 on each of his trips!

We are also planning more of our popular Seal Dives to Isle of Shoals leaving from Rye, NH. If you haven't done this trip, you don't know what you are missing! This summer I will also be running charters to the paddle wheeler "Lady of the Lake." My new 32' boat is on Lake Winnepesaukee out of Gilford, NH and there is parking at the slip. It has a huge swim/dive platform, shower & fridge. About 5 minutes out, the "Lady" is 125 feet long, in about 30 feet of water and a nice wreck to explore. I will also have my scuba compressor aboard this year for fills. *Dive safe & dive often!*

Think safety first this season!

Has it been a while since your gear has been serviced?

Don't forget to get your tanks, regulator and BC checked out on a regular basis before you get in the water. Your local dive shop can help make sure your gear is working properly.

Mass Diving

247 W. Central St. Natick, MA 01760
www.massdiving.com (508) 651-0698

MASS Diving is a PADI-5 Star Training Facility and Travel Center offering all levels of SCUBA instruction and the largest selection of SCUBA equipment in New England. Come by and check out our new **expanded** showroom or shop online! Winter is also a great time to get your gear serviced!

Join us this summer for our MASS Diving Programs. We offer guided shore dives, boat dives, and PADI Specialty Dives including Nitrox. See our website for details. Want to travel? See **group travel** on our website!

Roatan, Honduras: July 28-August 4, 2012

Grand Cayman: October 27-November 3, 2012

Bonaire: February 2-9, 2013

Maldives

March 14-28, 2013

October 2-16, 2013

Stop by and visit the only dive center in Metrowest!

From your Secretary, Anna Krowczynska

As an avid, voracious reader, devouring books on a variety of topics, I thought it would be great to start a *Divers Book Club*. If you read anything interesting on the topic of diving, marine life, oceans etc. please let us know and we will post the review on the club web site. I would like to start with a book published last year on the topic dear to my heart – sharks, their importance for the health of the oceans and changing attitudes of people towards these magnificent creatures.



Photo by Joy Marzolf

The book is by Juliet Eilperin and entitled “*Demon Fish, Travels Through the Hidden World of Sharks*”. You may have also seen her at an NEAq Lowell Lecture. Sharks are often reviled and feared however, after reading the book, anyone should understand why vanishing sharks deserve our attention and even affection. Through history sharks were treated as gods (Papua New Guinea, Hawaii), but also feared and loathed (“Jaws”).

Sharks, as top predators, play a very important role helping to keep marine ecosystems in balance through efficient hunting. When they disappear food webs unravel, diseases emerge, and jellyfish populations explode among other things. By slaughtering sharks we degrade sea itself. More than 100 million sharks, including magnificent whale sharks, are killed each year by fishermen who hack off their fins to sell as a tasteless ingredient for shark’s fin soup, a status symbol in China and even in some Asian communities in the US.

However, there is a ray of hope that sharks might be saved. International conservation groups, including Shark Savers, support banning shark finning and establishing marine sanctuaries. Shark Savers has even had some success in Asia by including Asian celebrities in their campaigns. Now, several countries ban shark fishing and the entire US West Coast and Hawaii have banned the trade in shark fins. Sharks have much more to fear from humans that we do of them and sharks are much more often skittish and terrified of the very noisy, bubbles blowing, black monsters! (That would be us) Most species of sharks are not dangerous to humans.

Want to learn more about what we can do to save sharks & mantas?
Join us in welcoming *Samantha Whitcraft* from *Shark Savers* to our
August 15th NEADC meeting!

**From your Webmaster,
Steve Whitford**

The *New England Aquarium Dive Club* website is constantly evolving to keep pace with new technologies. Let us know if you'd like to see anything new on the website.

If you don't already "Like" us on Facebook, you're missing out! See photos from previous events, check out new dive dates, general news and events. See the link on our website to our page. As always, stay tuned to the E-News, website, Facebook, and Linked-in pages for the latest in club news.






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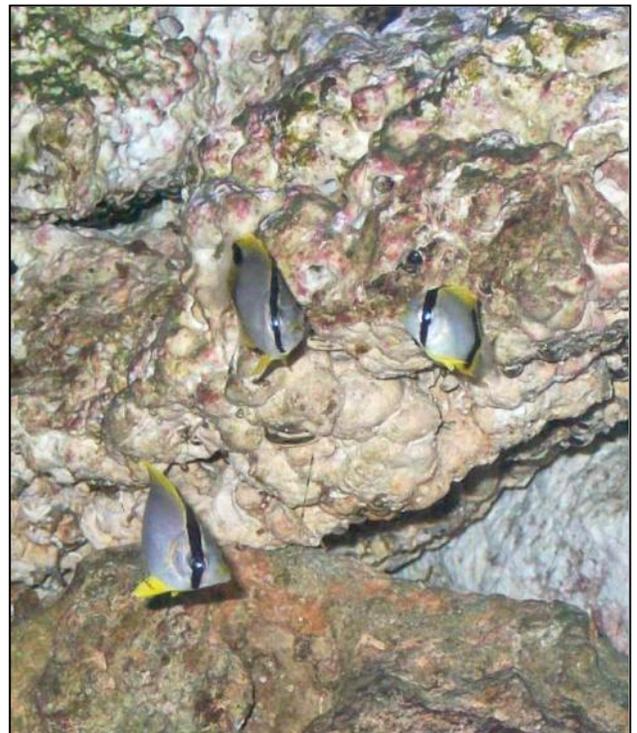
Diving for Tropical Fish on Long Island by Tom Bergendahl

Last fall, I had the pleasure of diving with Todd Gardner and some of his colleagues from Atlantis Marine World. The mission was to learn about local tropical fish collection sites on Long Island in the hopes of eventually getting our club members down to collect and visit their very impressive Riverhead, Long Island facility.

The night before the dive I was treated to a behind the scenes tour of Atlantis Marine World. As a diver, tropical fish collector, and lover of all things “marine life,” it was absolutely outstanding. Their giant ocean tank, with enormous white tip reef sharks and other inhabitants of the reef, was beautiful. Similar to our own New England Aquarium, it has upper and lower levels from which to view the sharks and other tropical fish. They also have had a ray touch tank close to the main entrance of the facility.

Most exciting was the quarantine area with tropicals caught during the summer. Todd and his colleagues, Chris, Helen and Phil had collected some really beautiful fish from the Ponquoque Bridge and Shinnecock Inlet area of the south shore of Long Island. They had the same spotfin butterflies, short big-eyes, bi-color damselfish, four spot butterflies and snowy groupers which we see in Rhode Island. In addition, they had caught a blue angelfish, squirrel fish, lionfish, coronetfish, cowfish, trunkfish and short big-eyes.

The dive sites are at the southern base of the Ponquoque Bridge, around the new bridge support piers, the old bridge support piers and adjacent areas. Other parts of Shinnecock bay are also accessible for seining but the limitations are that some of the dead-end streets only have space for a couple or three cars. The diving is timed according to slack tide due to currents, depths are in the 10 to 20 foot range. Since Tropical Storm Irene had blown through the area in late August, collecting and visibility was significantly impacted. I did see a couple of spotfin butterflies and a four inch snowy grouper. According to Todd, the latter will grow very quickly and eat all of their tank-mates as they grow. That one sounded like the lionfish to me. Parking permits are needed until Labor Day at the lot & boat ramp next to the base of the bridge. Thanks again to Todd and the guys from Atlantis Marine World. I hope that we may be able to repay their generosity of time and efforts!!!



Interested in collecting tropical fish? In addition to our *NEADC Tropical Fish Rescue* in October, I am planning to return to Long Island in the fall and would be happy to lead a group. I also recommend a trip to Atlantis Marine World and a stay at the Hyatt Riverhead (next door) as part of the adventure.

Trip Report: Images of Diving in New England thanks to John and Val Feehan

You never know what you will see! From January through December, diving can be amazing in New England. See some of the images from their recent dives...stay tuned to the NEADC Facebook page for more photos!



From the wonders of a colorful anemone and the patterns of an ocean pout in Eastport to a delicate pair of nudibranchs on the North Shore, our shores are full of amazing creatures! What will you find on your next dive? Share your dive photos & stories on the NEADC Facebook page!

From your NEADC Shore Dive Coordinator, Dan Sprague

The first monthly New Member dives of the season will be June 23rd and will be in the Gloucester/Rockport area. We will be planning two dives as well as a beach cleanup and some discussion about Fish ID. Please contact me by email: shorediver@neadc.org for meeting time and location. We may also plan food for the day, so a headcount is very helpful. The New Member Dives will be the Saturday following the General Meeting if the weather agrees and we will be doing the last one of the season in October. Don't worry, you don't need to be a "new" member to attend!

We had a great Dry Dive in May for the Gloucester/Rockport area, and if there is enough interest, I would consider doing the same for coastal New Hampshire and possibly even the South Coast of Massachusetts. Please contact me if you are interested in joining me for a wonderful day of touring a coastline.

I'm hoping for a very full season this year. I hope you can join us!



South Shore Divers

www.southshoredivers.com

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Burlington, MA
781-272-5164

From your Vice President, Uma Mirani

Dive season is here! We have many great things lined up for the season including the ***Great Annual Fish Count*** in July and ***Tropical Fish Rescue*** in October. We hope you'll join us for these events as a participant or even as a volunteer!

Stay tuned to your E-News, Facebook or the website for dives and a great upcoming speaker lineup including Samantha Whitcraft from ***Shark Savers*** in August!

Upcoming trip: Freeport, Grand Bahamas October 13th - 20th 2012

Join Dan Sprague at The **Ocean Reef Yacht Club** in Freeport, Bahamas, the home of **Grand Bahama Scuba**, rated *Best of the Bahamas!*

There are reef dives with beautiful swim throughs from 20 to 60 feet as well as amazing wreck dives. You can visit an old Tug Boat at 45 feet, an old Military Landing Craft at 85 feet, and of course, the World Renowned Theo's Wreck, the 230 foot freighter that sits at just over 100 feet! A reasonably priced trip!

- The condo is \$300 per person
- A ten dive package is \$350
- Airfare usually runs \$300-\$450

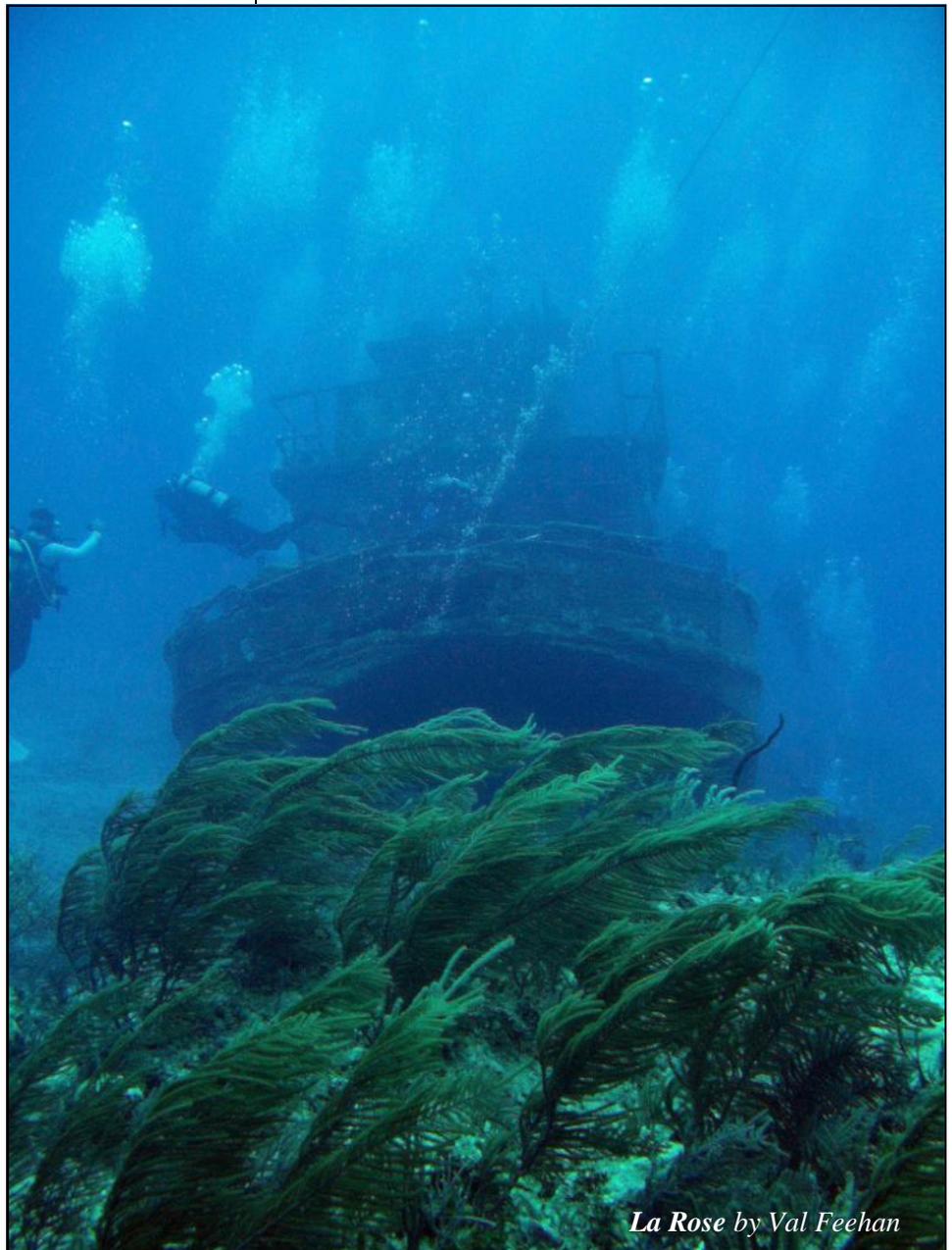
Non-divers are also welcome, as there is a lot more to do than diving.

This trip is filling up fast, so
Sign Up ASAP!

The third and final unit has only a few spaces left!

Questions?

Contact Dan at
shoredive@neadc.org



La Rose by Val Feehan

New England Aquarium Dive Club Membership Form

To join or renew, visit us online at www.neadc.org or fill out & send in the form below

Type of Membership:	New _____	Renewal _____	
Has your address changed since last renewal?	No _____	Yes _____	previous town _____

New England Aquarium Membership Categories: Choose One:

(Membership in the Dive Club requires current membership in the New England Aquarium)				Free Admission	IMAX Passes
___ Associate	\$85.00	+ \$15 (Dive Club Membership)	= \$100.00	(Member + 1 guest)	NA
___ Patron	\$135.00	+ \$15 (Dive Club Membership)	= \$150.00	(Member + 3 guests)	2 passes
___ Ambassador	\$185.00	+ \$15 (Dive Club Membership)	= \$200.00	(Member + 5 guests)	4 passes
___ Ocean Explorer	\$250.00	+ \$15 (Dive Club Membership)	= \$265.00	(Member + 7 guests)	6 passes

For additional membership benefits and levels see www.neaq.org

Name _____	Phone _____
Address _____	*E-mail _____
City _____	State _____ Zip _____

****An email address is required for monthly NEADC e-Newsletters and event updates.***
Contact information will be used for Aquarium and Dive Club purposes only.

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Dive Club dues plus Aquarium membership)

Please make your check payable to "New England Aquarium" or charge to:

MC / V / DISC / AMEX Account # _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____

Mail to: Membership Department, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston MA 02110

Think BLUE this dive season!

What will you find on your next dive?

This is the start of our new "We Clean Up Each Dive" campaign

- * Bring a bag each time you dive and pick up trash in the water and on the beach when you see it.
- * Do your best to reduce your own use. Use reusable water bottles when visiting your favorite dive spot.
- * Use reusable bags when shopping
- * If you must use plastic, recycle it when you are finished with it.
- * ***Spread the word with people you know!*** Small steps by many can lead to big changes for the ocean!

Help us save endangered sea turtles!

Sign the New England Aquarium Dive Club's petition on change.org to ban mass balloon releases in Massachusetts and help spread the word. See our website for a link!



NEADC Summer Calendar 2012

Check www.neadc.org and Facebook for the latest updates



June

- 20** Monthly Meeting-REEF Fish ID
- 23** New Member Dive

July

- 18** Monthly Meeting
-Underwater Archaeology
- 21** New Member Dive
- 28** Great Annual Fish Count

August

- 15** Monthly Meeting
-Samantha Whitcraft (Shark Savers)
- 18** New Member Dive

September

- 19** Monthly Meeting-Jonathan Bird

October

- 7** Tropical Fish Rescue and BBQ
- 17** Monthly Meeting

November

- 21** Monthly Meeting
-Member Photo Share Night**

*****A great chance to share your dive photos and stories with the Club!***

Boat and *Shore Dives: See the E-News and NEADC.org for the latest schedule and updates

**** Be sure to contact the shore dive leader at least one day prior for details and in case of location change***

****New Member Dives: 1st Saturday after the General Meeting (Dives open to all members!)
(see shore dive schedule at www.neadc.org for more details)***