



NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM DIVE CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER

September, 2003

NEADC Web Site: www.NEADC.org

IMPORTANT GENERAL MEETING

**Immersion Theater at New England Aquarium
Wednesday, September 17, 2003, 6:30 p.m.
PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND**

The following letter was received August 27th:

To: Maryhelen Shuman-Groh, New England Aquarium Dive Club
President

The New England Aquarium is currently instituting Giant Ocean Tank guidelines that will ensure the safety of guest divers *without* compromising our husbandry standards. In order to achieve our safe diving goals, it will be necessary to adapt some of our existing diving policies. ***One essential policy change is to reduce the New England Aquarium Dive Club raffle dives from two dives per month to one dive per month.*** This policy change will officially go into effect on September 17, 2003.

The Diving Control Board (DCB), The Diving Safety Officer (DSO), and the Director of Husbandry at the New England Aquarium reserve the right to modify any and all diving programs under the jurisdiction of the New England Aquarium.

Sherrie Floyd

Senior Aquarist, New England Aquarium Dive Club Liaison

Members of the Dive Department will attend the September 17th Meeting to discuss this policy change. **PLEASE ATTEND!!**

PLEASE SEE THE ARTICLE ON PAGE 3

INFORMAL MEETING

The September Informal Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1st, at 6:30p.m. at the home of Nancy Papagno in Needham. See page 2 for directions

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Submit your news for the next Newsletter by
Monday, September 22, 2003!

For the **OCTOBER EDITION** of the NEADC Newsletter.

Submissions should be forwarded by e-mail at
newsletter@neadc.org,

Thank you

THIS MONTH'S CONTENTS

Members' Advertising	Page 2
NEAq REDUCES CLUB DIVES	Page 3
From the Officers	Page 3
Coastsweep	Page 4
SeaMark 2003	Page 5
Dutch Springs Trip	Page 6
Wearguard Flyer	Page 6
Dive Log.	Page 7
NEADC Boat Dives.....	Page 8
NEADC Calendar of events/dives.....	Page 9
Membership Application	Page 10

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If your address has changed recently please fill out this form and mail it to:

Karl See, Membership Director, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110

OLD ADDRESS:

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State/Zip: _____

NEW ADDRESS:

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State/Zip: _____

President - Maryhelen Shuman-Groh, P. O. Box 70,
Raynham, MA 02767; (508) 821-4704, president@neadc.org
Vice-President - Peter McCarthy (617) 561-4829
shoredive@neadc.org
Business Manager - Jim Carozza (617) 973-3821,
business@neadc.org
Boat Dive Coordinator - William Low, boatdive@neadc.org
Shore Dive Coordinator - Rick Rosa, shoredive@neadc.org
Newsletter Editor - Scott Bortis, newsletter@neadc.org
Program Director - Al Bozza (508)-384-1377,
programs@neadc.org
Membership Director - Trish Katzman (781) 648-1850
membership@neadc.org
Secretary - Anna Krowczynska, secretary@neadc.org
Environmental Affairs - Alicia Lenci (617) 889-1486,
environmental@neadc.org
Webmaster - Bryce Flynn (508) 543-9761
webmaster@neadc.org

NEADC VOICE MAIL SYSTEM: Please call (617) 973-0240

INFORMAL MEETING INFORMATION

Wednesday October 1st 6:30PM, at the home of Nancy Papagno, 19 Mt. Vernon, Needham, Phone 781-449-3805

128 GOING SOUTH: Take Exit 19B " Highland Ave., Needham"

Pass the first light at Muzi Ford to the second light at Webster. Turn LEFT and stay on Webster (all residential except for Needham High School on right). At the next light, turn LEFT onto Great Plain Ave.

EXACTLY 1/2 mile later, Great Plain bends to the right (like the letter C), but DON'T BEND! Mt. Vernon is straight ahead - up a small hill. The house is the 7th up on the left, cedar-shingled, #19 Mt. Vernon.

128 GOING NORTH: Take Exit 18 "Great Plain Ave West Roxbury" Go RIGHT off the ramp toward Needham. Go just a bit over 1 mile, passing a Mobil station and Birds Hill Pharmacy, then a bakery - all on your right (otherwise all residential). When you see the sign for the sharp bend in the road (Great Plain makes a sharp 90 degree turn left), turn RIGHT onto Mt. Vernon Ave. The house is the 7th up on the left, cedar-shingled #19 Mt. Vernon.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: There is a commuter train at the Hersey stop, which is directly across the street from the Birds Hill Pharmacy. You would have exactly a one half mile walk to my house - OR call and someone nice will come pick you up.

MEMBERS' ADVERTISING

NEWSLETTER AD POLICY: Dive related ads for NEADC Members will be free with the following stipulations: 1. Must be current NEADC member; 2. Ad must be 25 words or less; 3. Ad must be submitted electronically; 4. Ad must be sent to the Newsletter Editor *prior* to Deadline; 5. Ad will be placed for one month only (ads may be renewed by resubmission as stated above). NOTE: This will NOT affect Website policy. Website does NOT contain member advertising.

COMMERCIAL and NON-MEMBER ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page \$90/insertion; Half Page \$50/insertion; Quarter Page \$30/insertion; Eighth Page \$20/insertion
10% discount for 4 or more insertions per calendar year. 20% discount for 8 or more insertions per calendar year.
Send questions and submissions to the Newsletter Editor. **Ad fees must be paid in advance**

Steel tanks for sale

Two (2) OMS 100cf low pressure (2400 psi) steel tanks. As-new condition. Excellent buoyancy characteristics -- perfect for a doubles rig. \$200 for the pair. Contact Scott at (207) 829-4780 or scronenw@maine.rr.com.

Hi To All My New Dive Buddies:

My name is Matt Bell and I'm new to the NEADC. I've been planning a **DIVE TRIP FOR FEBRUARY 14-21, 2004** since I saw the exhibition at the Sea Rovers show. The Nekton Rorqual is sailing from Puerto Rico, so no hassles with customs or immigration. This trip is to Mona Island and the cost is approximately \$1500.00 Plus Airfare to San Juan, P.R. For more info contact MATT BELL at 617/799-2028 or E-Mail SCUBACRUISER@HOTMAIL.COM OR WWW.Nektoncruises.com

Thanks, MATT

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM REDUCES CLUB DIVES IN GOT

The New England Aquarium (NEAq) reduced by 50% the Giant Ocean Tank (GOT) dives it gives to its affiliated scuba club. This marks a major change in a tradition lasting 27 years. Since 1976, two dives per month have been made available to dive club members. The dives are either raffled to attendees at monthly general meetings, or awarded to club officers who complete a term of service.

The decision was announced August 27 in a letter from Sherrie Floyd, NEAq Senior Aquarist and official liaison to the New England Aquarium Dive Club (NEADC). Citing concerns surrounding "the safety of guest divers" and "husbandry standards," the Aquarium's Diving Control Board, Diving Safety Officer, and Director of Husbandry reduced the monthly NEADC member dives from 2 to 1. Bryce Flynn, a 3-term NEADC officer, noted that GOT dives have been suspended in the past, "but just during repairs, or disease outbreaks in the tank. That was temporary. This appears to be permanent."

Commenting on the safety aspect of the announcement, Flynn, a dive club member for over 17 years, said he knew of no GOT safety incident involving a dive club member. Divers must show a scuba certification card and receive extensive briefings before entering the tank, he added.

Details of the husbandry or animal care issues were also unclear. Holly Martel Bourbon, NEAq Senior Aquarist and newly appointed Aquarium Dive Safety Officer, addressed a meeting of the NEADC just 9 days before the announcement. Martel Bourbon was at the club's meeting to allay concerns about the NEAq's recent loss of accreditation from the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA). She assured the dive club that the loss was due to the NEAq's financial situation. She specifically said it was not related to animal care practices, which the AZA had also reviewed. At the club meeting, Martel Bourbon did not mention any pending changes in GOT dives.

An Associated Press account of the NEAq's accreditation loss said that officials claimed the AZA report gave the aquarium "high marks for conservation and animal care." The practice of 2 monthly club member dives in the GOT was in effect when the AZA performed its most recent audit, as well as during previous audits which the Aquarium successfully passed. Neither the NEAq or the AZA has made the report public.

Dan Laughlin, NEAq Assistant Curator and Diving Control Board Administrator, suggested a few weeks earlier that the dives might be reduced as a cost-cutting measure but that the issue was in discussions only. Laughlin, Floyd, and Martel Bourbon are members of NEAq groups that participated in making the decision.

Responding to the announcement, NEADC President Shuman-Groh said, "Each of the Dive Club's 500 members is also an Aquarium member. Nearly half the Dive Club members are Aquarium Gold members, with 56 members holding Quartermaster or higher memberships. Many dive club members serve as Aquarium volunteers and nearly 100 are trained to respond to mass strandings to assist the Aquarium's staff." She added, "The dives in the Giant Ocean Tank are a tool by which the Club and therefore the Aquarium has long recruited and maintained members. We are disturbed by the process by which this decision was reached. We do not see that either the NEAq Membership Department or the members of the Dive Club had adequate input."

Sherrie Floyd said that she and Dan Laughlin will explain the decision at the NEADC general meeting to be held on **September 17 at 6:30 PM** in the Immersion Theatre at the New England Aquarium. **ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND.** Whether or not you can attend the meeting, we also urge you to address any questions and/or concerns to the Aquarium. By mail: Sherrie Floyd, Senior Aquarist, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110; by e-mail to sfloyd@neaq.org. PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND A COPY OF YOUR CORRESPONDENCE to Ed Toomey, President (etoomey@neaq.org); Dan Laughlin, Assistant Curator of Fishes (dlaughlin@neaq.org); Holly Martel-Bourbon, Dive Safety Officer (hbourbon@neaq.org); Karl See, Membership Director (ksee@neaq.org) and to President@neadc.org so that we can keep track of Club responses.

SEE LETTER RECEIVED FROM NEAQ ON PAGE 2

FROM YOUR VICE-PRESIDENT Peter McCarthy

If you've wanted to get more involved in our Club, I encourage you to consider running for a position on the Executive Board. Our annual election will be held in November. Serving as an officer is a great way to get to know other members of the Club and to play an active role in Club activities. In addition, if you're elected, you'll earn a dive in the Giant Ocean Tank at the Aquarium after serving your term. If you have an interest in serving on the Board, please speak with me or any other officer at one of our upcoming meetings.

Our clothing supplier, Wearguard, has a new fall catalog with some great items available. Please see me at any upcoming meeting to view a catalog, or visit their website at www.wearguard.com. You can also order products directly by contacting our sales representative, Allison Hines, at 800-677-6060, x 5624 or via e-mail at allison_hines@wearguard.com. You should tell her you're a member of the dive club (account #16444402), and make arrangements to pay for your merchandise and have it shipped directly to you (please ensure your personal merchandise is not shipped to the Aquarium or billed to the Club).

FROM YOUR SECRETARY Anna Krowczynska

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over, but local diving is getting better and better. The water temperature is in comfortable upper 50's and low 60's (depending on a location) and the air is warm, but not oppressively hot (I hate to bake inside my wet suite). If you are bored of diving on Cape Ann, remember that there are plenty of other great shore dive spots. One of the best is Nubble Light in York Beach Maine. It's a very picturesque place with the lighthouse, easy entry and exit, close parking and amenities like bathrooms and place to grab a quick bite - you don't even have to take your wet suit off. Depth varies from 20 to 60 feet and there is plenty to see under water. Last time I was there during the new members dive in August I've seen several sea ravens of different colors, even a rare bright yellow one. Don't forget also that the New Hampshire has the 17 miles of coastline and some interesting diving. Couple weeks ago I decided to join shore dive organized by Atlantic Aqua Sports in Rye, N.H. We dove Fort Stark - I've never seen so many hermits crabs in one place - every single shell when touched was growing legs and was moving away, not to mention large lobsters walking on the bottom in a broad daylight (remember you can't catch lobsters either in Maine, nor New Hampshire). After the dive we came back to the dive shop for barbeque and to swap the dive stories. After Don Stevens, the shop owner and grill master, started talking about his diving the Andrea Doria I kept my mouth shut. I would like to come back there and dive Fort Foster, the Sunken Forest and other local attractions. There is also a South Shore and Rhode Island with plenty of good beaches. We are very lucky to have so many places to go diving within a driving distance. Think about the poor landlocked divers who have only a quarry to go to for a weekend dive. So, take advantage of our location and go diving often.

FROM YOUR SHORE PROGRAM DIRECTOR Al Bozza

Dominica 2004 - We started this year with 24 of our dive club members and friends joining together for a trip to Dominica. If you have noticed the write-ups in the newsletter or read the website stories and looked at the pictures; or listened to all of the talk at the dive club meetings, you know how great the trip was; AGAIN. As dive destinations go, Dominica is one of the best. It has so much to offer both divers as well as non-divers. In short, the diving is spectacular; as is the island itself. The water temperature consistently hovers between 78-80 degrees and the visibility just can't be beat. There is enough variety in the dive sites to satisfy any diver. The sites range from wall dives and soaring pinnacles, to swim throughs and stunning coral heads. We consistently saw frogfish, seahorses, turtles, eels, batfish, as well as a variety of marine life too extensive to name. Above the water, we hiked through beautiful rainforests to swim in remote waterfalls. When you add to this, the resident population of sperm whales, you will see why Jonathan and I consider Dominica to be the world's greatest island. The best part of the entire story is that we are scheduled for another trip: from January 17, 2004 to January 24, 2004. The unbelievable package price we are able to provide is the same as last year, \$995.00 US per person and will include: hotel, 7 breakfasts, 7 dinners, 5 days of 2 tank boat dives, 2 night dives, unlimited shore diving, kayaks, roundtrip airport transfers, rum punch on arrival, weights and weight belt, taxes and gratuity. Join us next year and see why so many divers and non-divers keep going back to Dominica. The spots are filling up quickly so don't wait.

GREAT WHITE SHARK DIVING - October 26th to 30th, 2004 - Imagine diving 100' visibility and water temperatures of 74 degrees, surrounded by anywhere between 7-10 great white sharks!!! Shark Adventures, in California, has discovered a location that offers the most incredible cage diving with Great Whites on the planet today. They combine this experience with world class tuna fishing (shark bait) on an 86' luxury, long-range dive boat. These five day trips are only available during October and part of November. We have a boat reserved for October 2004, at the cost of \$2,100.00 per diver. The price includes a video of the trip.

If you have any questions or are interested in any of my scheduled events, please contact me at: Abozza@aol.com or call me at (508) 384-1377

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM DIVE CLUB, INC. COASTSWEEP 2003

Canoe Beach/Forty-Steps Underwater & Beach Cleanup/Northeastern University Marine Lab Open House

Date: September 20, 2003; **Time:** 10am-4pm; **Where:** Canoe Beach, Nahant, MA

Contact: Alicia Lenci 617 389-3458, environmental@neadc.org

A great family event. Non divers and divers are welcome to cleanup the beach and the underwater area of Canoe Beach & Forty-Steps. Also Northeastern University's Marine Lab will be having their open house. Check out what is going on at the Marine Lab. Prizes for those that participate! For the diver...this area usually has restricted parking but not for this event. Come check out an awesome dive site so close to Boston and help make a difference!

What is Coast Sweep?

Every year the cleanups are led by a dedicated group of local coordinators who in 2002 organized 4,000 volunteers who collected almost 40,000 pounds of trash and marine debris from 125 locations. That's over 180 miles of Massachusetts' coastline! COASTSWEEP is part of an international campaign organized by the Ocean Conservancy in Washington, DC. Participants all over the world collect marine debris and record the types of trash they collect. This information is then used to help reduce future marine debris problems.

Directions: From the South: Via Tobin Bridge.

Take I-93 N Route 1N . Take Route 16 exit (Revere Beach Lynn) from route 1. Follow Route 16 to Bell Circle (First Rotary with lights). At Bell circle take Route 1a (Lynn, fork right at Nahant/Swampscott sign to Nahant rotary. Take first right off of rotary. go over causeway and stay on Nahant Road to its end. Marine Lab is on the left at East Point at the end of Nahant Road. **Park inside NEU property.**

From the North Shore:

From Routes 128& 95 South: Take exit for Route 1 South. Take exit for Lynn/Route 129 East. Follow 129A to its eastern end at the ocean. Take a right and follow the water to Nahant rotary. Take second left off of rotary, go over causeway and stay on Nahant Road to its end. Marine Lab is on the left at East Point at the end of Nahant Road. **Park inside NEU property.**

International Coastal Cleanup for 2003 is Sept 20th and we're looking for **SECONN** volunteers at FT Wetherill RI at 9:00am. The summary report for individual debris items collected in RI for 2002 International Coastal Cleanup included 82,966 land items and 590 underwater items. Cigarettes and cigarette filters were the largest category of items collected on both land and underwater. This is a popular spot for divers and remains a training site for instructors from RI, CT, and MA. Contact Deb Greenhalgh to help out with the land or underwater cleanup at greenhalghdj@cox.net.

Free REEF Gulf of Maine Fish ID seminar

Tuesday, October 14

6:30-8:30 pm

New England Aquarium Conference Center

Divers and Non-divers welcome; bring the kids!

In addition to learning to identify over 50 species common to New England waters, Bob Michelson will introduce the new invertebrate program. Just what was that thing you saw on your last dive? Come find out!

Although the seminar is free, we need a headcount so Bob can provide materials for everyone. Please pre-register by contacting Brandy Derickson via e-mail at derickba@netzero.net or by phone (603)740-0343

ARE YOUR KIDS DROOLING OVER YOUR SCUBA GEAR?

The PADI Seal Team program is an exciting underwater activity-filled introduction to the world of diving. This program gives children as young as eight a chance to swim around underwater and experience adventure, discovery and thrills. It also provides parents or guardians with a structured program that lets their children develop skills, learn about the aquatic realm and have a lot of good, clean fun. PADI Seals will complete five aquamissions. Each aquamission includes a classroom activity, followed by a pool skill aquamission and very cool underwater games.

The PADI Seal Team Course is offered in Boston, Newton and Sudbury.

Note: This is a pool only course and not a certification course.

Genevieve Stewart • Genevieve@pgdive.com • 617-964-0443 • www.pgdive.com

SEA MARK '03

We are delighted to announce **Seamark '03** to be held in the amazing Blue Wing of Boston's **Museum of Science** on **Saturday, October 25, 2003**, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

In addition to a **gourmet dinner and dessert buffet**, our guests will include:

- Featured speaker and world-famous explorer **Jean-Michel Cousteau**
- Marathon great **Bill Rodgers**
- Boston Globe sports columnist and author **Dan Shaughnessy**
- WBZ-TV 4 Sports Director **Bob Lobel**
- Music by jazz legend **Herb Pomeroy and his trio** and harpist **Jane Wilcox Hively**

Join these exciting guests in the three-story space of the **Blue Wing**, surrounded by full-size **space capsules**, a **Tyrannosaurus rex**, a **virtual undersea world**, and more for only \$55. And that includes **free parking** in the Museum's on-site garages.

Add to these attractions chances to win a trip to **Grand Cayman**, a weekend at the **Boston Park Plaza Hotel**, and fresh local **lobsters**, as well as a silent auction of **exceptional undersea photography**, and you have an evening to remember.

Don't miss this chance to support **Cotting School's Seamark Vision Clinic**, which, for 27 years, has served special needs students at the oldest school of its kind in America.

Space is limited and there are fewer than 300 tickets remaining. **Tickets are available** by contacting the Cotting School Development

Office at (781) 862-7323, ext. 145, or via e-mail to lbyam@cotting.org. Your MasterCard, Visa, or American Express is welcome.

\$25.00 of the ticket price is tax-deductible.

2003 DUTCH SPRINGS TRIP

This years trip to Dutch Springs will be leaving on September 26th (Friday) and diving on Saturday (27th) and Sunday (28th). It is a 5 hour drive from the Boston area and there is camping on site and motels close by. Please visit their web site at www.dutchsprings.com for more info.

Dutch Springs Diving and Recreation Facility features a 47 acre freshwater lake which has been set up specifically for SCUBA diving with underwater platforms, submerged vehicles, aircraft, and other sights to see, and a variety of interesting fish life including rainbow trout, palamino trout, largemouth bass, bluegills, carp, and goldfish. For non divers, Dutch Springs is a place for picnicking, boating, swimming, and snorkeling.

2003 RATES

ADMISSION (per day)

- \$22.00 - Diver \$10.00 - Non-diver \$5.00 - Children (non-divers) 5 to 9 years, May 15 - Sept. 30 Instructor with current certification card - **FREE**
- \$5.00 - Night Dive (Saturday night only, please present advanced c-card or be under instructor supervision)
- \$10.00 - Adult Camping \$5.00 - Child Camping (Friday and Saturday night, must be at Dutch Springs by 8:30 pm each night. Camping for other nights - Call for arrangements)
- Group Rates Available
- Master Card and Visa accepted
- No personal checks for payment of daily admission or airfills

Contact:

Jim Carozza

NEADC

Business Manager if interested 617-966-0111

* I will also have a signup sheet at the next two general meetings also.



CONTACT YOUR ACCOUNT MANAGER ALLISON HINES

1-800-677-6060 X: 5624

FAX: 1-781-763-2939

Email: allison_hines@wearguard.com



Style 608 - Cotton SS T-Shirt No Pocket
Keeps its shape with minimal shrinkage. Our rich 100% cotton crewneck t-shirt feels as good as it looks.
*Price: \$7.49
16 Stylish Colors



Style 1160 - Cotton SS T-Shirt With Pocket
Our rich 100% cotton crewneck t-shirt feels as good as it looks.
*Price: \$8.49
16 Stylish Colors



Style 8038 - Classic Sandwich Cap
Easy-care, garment-washed 100% cotton cap looks great embroidered. Cap sports a comfortable relaxed fit.
Price: \$5.99
Color: Black Only



Style 8062 - Sport Beach Towel
Made of easy-care, one-ply 100% cotton. Machine wash, dry. Durable and ready for your embroidered logo. 30"x60".
Price: \$9.80
Color: White Only



Style 1138 - Men's SS Polo No Pocket
Improved heavyweight fabric has even stronger stitching and is ideal for embroidery. 6.5-oz. 55% cotton/45% polyester WearTuff™ mesh is stain and fade resistant.
*Price: \$15.99
21 Stylish Colors



Style 1120 - Men's WearTuff™ SS Polo With Pocket
Improved heavier-weight fabric has even stronger stitching and is ideal for embroidery. 6.5-oz. 55% cotton/45% polyester WearTuff™ mesh is stain and fade resistant.
*Price: \$16.99
22 Stylish Colors



Style 8050 - Sandwich Sport Visor
Garment-washed 100% cotton baseball-style visor sports an adjustable back for a perfect fit. Low crown design with white trim.
Price: \$4.99
Color: Blue



Style 8033 - Cape May Tote
Easy-care, 20-oz. 100% cotton canvas bag has a convenient open top, genuine leather trim, interior pocket, key clasp and 25" handles.
Price: \$18.99
Color: Natural w/Bk Bottom



*Additional Charge may be applied for Screenprint/Embroidery.

Cozumel - November 8 to 15, 2003

Cozumel diving is known for its drift diving, pristine reefs and excellent visibility and now one can explore these great reefs and more... Join us for an exciting trip with a twist.

Your trip to Cozumel includes five two-tank boat dives, one night dive and a day trip option to dive the Cenotes of the Yucatan. No cave or cavern experience necessary – just the desire to try something few others divers have experienced! Divers of all experience levels are welcome and instructor assistance will be available. Hotel (Plaza Las Glorias), Air (US Airways), Diving (Aqua Safari), Breakfast and Lunch included: \$1499.00 Info: www.pgdiver.com / divewithus@pgdiver.com
Call: Paul or Genevieve Stewart at 617-964-0443

Dive Log for 9 July 2003. 4th Cliff, Humarock, MA Alan Budreau, PADI Instructor 5823

A dive scheduled for the New England Aquarium Dive Club, and a repeat of a 25 July one done at my work group picnic. Bob Cormier, his son Jeffrey, Glenn Smith and I met at Hanscom at 8:40, then Glenn drove us in his spacious pickup truck to the place I had announced for the dive club at the Home Depot by Exit 14 off Rt 3. We were there at the appointed 9:30, and marked the vehicle with a dive flag, but no one showed up (and no one had said that they were coming) by 9:50, so we proceeded directly to the dive. This was a WWII radar, visual observation post, and gun emplacement. The radar was removed afterwards, and it became a recreation area for the military. As both Glenn & I work for the Air Force, we have access. It is the very north end of a long peninsula which juts from the south into the mouth of a tidal basin produced by the confluence of the North River, the South River, and the Herring River. Scituate, with its 3rd Cliff, is just across to the north. As the tide was high about 9 AM, we knew that we would be doing a drift dive on the outgoing tide. We geared up on the west side, and swam SW to a depth of about 8 ft, then turned NE to ride the current out, keeping at least 100 yards south of the well-marked and busy boat channel which also went NE. We submerged at 11:21 AM. I was disappointed to see that visibility in the basin was only about 10 ft, compared with the more than 25 ft I had seen a week earlier under the same tide conditions. Surface water was 60 F, with the bottom 59. (Other years when I have done this dive at the same time of year on the same tide, the water temperature was in the 70s, requiring removal of hood and mitts.)

I occasionally stuck my head up to check our progress from the basin to the seaward side. All the way along, we were following a rocky bottom with much plant life. We could frequently hear the boats go by – some sounded very close, even though we knew that we were well away – we were swimming through boulders that extended just to the surface, so it would not have been a good place for boats! As we passed out of the river mouth into Cape Cod Bay, I was surprised that, as we turned south parallel to the coast, we were still riding a gentle current. But it is a huge volume of water than comes out of the combined rivers. Shortly after leaving the basin, visibility improved to about 25 ft., then dropped again as we swam over a sandy area in surge. Some boulders were covered with white snails; others with black ones. We saw tremendous numbers of crabs, and occasional schools of tiny fish around some of the seaweed-covered boulders. A 1½-foot tautog (blackfish) darted across only a few feet in front of me. We completed the dive, surfacing directly in front of the stairway up the cliff at 12:44. 1:23 bottom time is probably my longest dive ever. Maximum depth was 12 ft. I later apologized for terminating the dive so early because I was nearly out of air! My excuses were that I was towing the float and using a 72 - the others had bigger tanks, and all finished with about 900psi compared with my 200psi. Riding a current and being shallow certainly allows for long dives! I once had a beginning student who got over an hour out of a 50 at 4th cliff. We now faced the 25 ft stairway up to the top of the cliff. We took it slowly, and did it in a single trip wearing all our gear. It was then about a 1½ city block walk, largely down hill, back to our starting point across the peninsula. Really nice to be able to take off our gear there, rinse it with the hose provided, and take a hot shower. As we were changing, Bob noticed that he did not have his car key, but still had his spare in his wallet. We enjoyed a light lunch, and the \$2 cans of beer, at the snack bar. When we arrived at Hanscom, Bob spotted his car keys in the driver's door lock! An empty lot on a military base is pretty safe.

BOSTON HARBOR DIVING COMPANY

Capt. James Sullivan

Winthrop, MA
(617) 846-5151
js@bostondiving.com
www.Bostondiving.com

NEADC members receive \$10.00 off all charters, whether it is one of the group trips listed, or one they book themselves.

The first person to book a trip will choose the dive sites for the day. Note that I run 2 half-day trips per day, a morning and an afternoon. Morning trips run from 8am to 1pm, and the afternoon trips run from 2pm until 7pm. Night dives are also available. 1 or 2 tank dive depending on group.

Sept 13th Saturday 8am-1pm Sept 21st Sunday 2pm-7pm

NEADC BOAT DIVES WITH EASY DIVER

Sept 7 Paradise Cliffs

Sept 13 Mouth of Loblolly Cove

Sept 21 The Wreck of The Chelsea

Sept 27 Thacher Island

Oct 5 Salt Island

Oct 11 Bass Rocks

Oct 19 Bemo Ledge

Oct 25 Kettle Island

EASY DIVER. 25 years operating dive charters around Cape Ann. Normal charge is \$55.00. NEADC members pay only \$45.00 (cash or check payable to Fred Calhoun). Passengers may bring two cylinders. EASY DIVER sails from "J dock" at the Cape Ann Marina leaving at 10 a.m. Boat returns to the marina around 3 p.m. EASY DIVER boasts a clean toilet and a private 'changing' area. The captain will make every effort to safely dive the locations noted on the dates indicated. However, weather and other conditions may dictate that the captain chooses a different dive site. EASY DIVER does not sail during inclement weather...fees are refunded. The crew is composed of certified scuba instructors. We will dive with you if you wish...we will leave you alone if that is what you wish. The boat tends to fill up fast, so advance registration is recommended. Fred Calhoun, Apple Ridge 2-6, Maynard, MA 01754, telephone: (978) 897-0877.



Are you looking for a day under water with the seals? Want to snorkel a secluded cove five miles offshore? Or just go diving? Captain Rob has the boat. Grab a buddy and bring your dive gear.

Enjoy half day charters aboard the M/V Giant Stride with Captain Rob Kenney. Rob is an experienced Captain with 18 years of diving experience, and he's been the Captain of the Giant Stride since 1995.

Trips and Pricing:

Up to three trips leave daily from Rye Harbor, New Hampshire, just one hour north of Boston. Charter fees range from \$25 to \$60 based on number of tanks and destination. A typical 2 tank half day charter is \$60. Special group rates and private charters for diving, snorkeling, fishing or just enjoying a day on the water, are available. The charter fee of \$60.00 is reduced for NEADC members to 50.00.

To find out more information or reserve a charter please contact us at:

On the web: www.captainrobs.com

_ Phone: (603) 926-9350.

Captain Rob's Dive Charters is a family owned and operated business. We thank you for your patronage.

New England Aquarium Dive Club 2003 Shore Diving and Event Calendar

If you plan to participate in a shore dive you should **contact the designated leader prior to the dive date** to let him or her know that you will be attending. Decisions to cancel or modify dive plans (due to weather or other factors) are left to the discretion of the individual leaders who organize the dives, and confirming your attendance beforehand will help ensure that you are notified of any last minute changes. Likewise, if you confirm attendance but then cannot attend a dive for any reason, please notify the dive leader as soon as possible, so that the group does not wait for you at the meeting site on the day of the dive.

Date	Location	Meeting Place	Dive/Event Leader	Activity	Notes
Sept 7 (Sun)	Rhode Island – TBA	TBA	Anna Krowczynska 978-452-4399 secretary@neadc.org		
Sept 11 (Thu)	Night Dive	TBA	Alicia Lenci 617-389-3458 environmental@neadc.org	Night Dive	Full Moon Night Dive
Sept 13 (Sat)	Assabet River cleanup Hudson MA	8:30 - Meet at Intersection of Rt 20 and the Assabet River (look for motorcycle shop if you don't see the river)	Alan Budreau 978 369-8132 dihughes@theworld.com	Free Pizza Lunch Organization for Assabet	Cleanup Dive Beautiful, fresh water
Sept 14 (Sun)	Folly Cove, Gloucester	9:30 AM – Friendly's Route 128N, Gloucester	Jacki Kronenberg 617-469-2618 kronen@world.std.com		
Sept 17 (Wed)	Immersion Theater	New England Aquarium	General Meeting	GOT DIVE ISSUE	Dinner following meeting at local restaurant
Sept 20 (Sat)	Coast Sweep	TBA	Alicia Lenci 617-389-3458 environmental@neadc.org	Environmental Clean up	New Member Dive & Coastal Sweep
Sept 20 (Sat)	International Coastal Cleanup	9 AM at Ft. Wetherill RI	Contact Deb Greenhalg at greenhalghdj@cox.net	Environmental cleanup	
Sept 21 (Sun)	Tropical Fish Hunt	TBA	Jean Stefanik 603-647-1063 jeango4it@aol.com		Tropical Fish Hunt
Sept 22 (Mon)	DEADLINE		Newsletter Submissions		
Oct 4 (Sat)	TBA	TBA	Brandy Derickson 603-740-0343 derickba@netzero.net		
Oct 9 (Thu)	Night Dive	TBA	Alicia Lenci 617-389-3458 environmental@neadc.org	Night Dive	Full Moon Night Dive
Oct 14	FISH ID COURSE	Conference Center 6:30-8:30 pm	Brandy Derickson derickba@netzero.net or (603)740- 0343		See Article this issue
Oct 25 (Sat)	Folly Cove, Gloucester	11 AM – Friendly's Route 128N, Gloucester	Jim and Laura Stewart 508-303-0239 nediver@charter.net fishgirl@fishgirl.com	Family Event	Pumpkin Carving Dive!!!
Oct 31 (Fri)	North Shore – TBA Halloween Dive!!!	TBA	Andrew Eddy 617-287-8971 andreweddy2000@yahoo.com	Go diving on Halloween!!	Halloween Dive!!!
Dec 5 (Fri)	Holiday Party 8 pm	Burlington, MA	Contact Veronica Atlantis atlantis_shark@yahoo.com		
Dec 24 (Wed)	Nubble Light, Maine	TBA	Brandy Derickson 603-740-0343 derickba@netzero.net		Christmas Eve Dive New member dive
Jan 1 (Thu)	Jamestown, RI	TBA	Al Bozza 508-384-1377 programs@neadc.org	Hot cider, pre- and post-dive	New Year's Day Dive

New England Aquarium Dive Club Membership Form

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 Dive Club requires current membership in New England Aquarium)

- Individual \$45.00 + Dive Club Membership \$15.00 = \$60.00
- Couple/Family \$80.00 + Dive Club Membership \$15.00 = \$95.00
- Quartermaster \$100.00 + Dive Club Membership \$15.00 = \$115.00
- Master Mariner \$150.00 + Dive Club Membership \$15.00 = \$165.00
- Friend of Aquarium \$250.00 + Dive Club Membership \$15.00 = \$265.00

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

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

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

MasterCard Visa Discover American Express Signature _____

Account # _____ Expiration _____ Amount \$ _____

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

Requirements for Dive Club Membership include current membership in the New England Aquarium and payment of Dive Club dues. New members receive a New England Aquarium membership card marked "DIVER". **IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER OF THE AQUARIUM**, send your membership card, Dive Club dues payment and this application to the Membership Department. Your membership card will be returned marked "DIVER". If you have any questions, please call the Aquarium Membership Office at 617-973-6555/6564.



Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110

Urgent Meeting 09/17/03