

Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2011

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy, MA

Attendees:

Al	Bozza	NEADC / BSC VP
Angelo	Correnti	SSN / BSC President
Theresa	Czerepica	SSN
Mary	Howard	NSF / BSC Secretary
Matthew	Lawrence	Stellwagen Bank NMS
Vin	Malkoski	MA DMF / Boston Sea Rovers
Ted	Maney	Salem State University
Victor	Mastone	MA BUAR
Michael	Prange	NEADC / BSC Webmaster
Paul	Sauvageau	NSF
Steve	Marshall	SSN
Joe	McAndrew	SSN
Mike	Vaughan	MBD
Jim	Walker	SSN

Clubs and organizations represented include:

Boston Sea Rovers

Mass Bay Divers

Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archeological Resources (BUAR)

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fishers (MA DMF)

New England Aquarium Dive Club (NEADC)

North Shore Frogmen (NSF)

Salem State University

South Shore Neptunes (SSN)

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

The **BSC Annual Report** has been filed. Thank you Theresa.

Sea Rovers Show

The 2012 Sea Rovers Clinic will be held at the same venue as this year, the Crowne Plaza in Danvers. The hotel clearly was not ready this year, but they should be prepared for the event next year. There were more people attending the after-party than previous years; the band was The Wetsuits, all underwater photographers including Jonathan Bird. Overall it was a successful event.

The Bay State Council Treasure Hunt Dive is scheduled for September 25, 2011

Several Dive Clubs – the North Shore Frogmen, MetroWest and others – are having their picnics the same day. All set with reserving the location for the event.

We had great participation last year.

The way the raffle was run last year worked out well, and the plan is to do the same this year. John Blackadar will be in charge of the safety divers as in past years.

Snorkel event: There was a discussion about whether to allow an organization (club, shop) with more than 5 available team members should be allowed to field more than one team. Thinking that if allowed, it might drive others out of the event, but if not, it limits participation. Teams are limited to 5 people. We will continue to charge \$1 per for the snorkel event person in addition to the regular registration fee of \$10, even though it does not cover the cost of the trophy.

The Bay State Council will NOT be involved in having food. There are several clubs that will be having their picnics at the same time; there will be food available. Clubs can charge a small fee for non-members.

We will have another meeting or two before the Treasure Hunt.

Promoting Diving

Vin Malkoski went to a meeting with Faith Ortins and other Sea Rovers to propose ways to “kick up” diving in the area. Rick Stratton of Northeast dive News is ready to start promoting the BSC Treasure Hunt.

There was a proposal to have an event at the Aquarium with discounts for divers. Sea Rovers may back this.

DUI Demo Days Weekend this weekend – May 14-15

DMF will have a table there. It is suggested that clubs set up a table to advertise themselves there too.

Family Fun Event on George’s Island, July 10

The BSC is planning this event, to be held weather permitting.

- You can take your own boat, and there is ferry service from Boston. There are some moorings, and there is a dock. You can hop on the water taxi to visit other islands.
- There are picnic areas on either side of the dock with small charcoal grills. It is recommended that each Club bring a bag of charcoal.
- Fort Warren is being restored. Tours of the Fort are free, at scheduled times. Bring battery powered flashlights for touring the fort.
- If you want to come without any food, Jasper White’s is building a restaurant on the island.

- There is NO DIVING OFF THE ISLAND, but you can dive off boats. The currents are too strong and lots of boat traffic right off the island.
- The Neptunes will bring a volleyball net.
- The day will be great for picnicking, sun bathing, hanging out.
- Go to DCR (Dept of Conservation and Recreation) or Boston Harbor Islands.com for info on the ferry service from Long Wharf, by Columbus Park.

We are asking the Clubs to advertise this event in their newsletters and at their meetings.

- **Action Item: Mary to send email to announce at BSC** (done 5/30/11)

SBNMS – Matthew Lawrence

For information on the mooring on the “unidentified trawler” on FaceBook search for “Stellwagen Bank Sanctuary Dive Mooring Project”. Or you can view info on the website at <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/maritime/uidtrawler.html>.

Minot Light plaque:

Somebody from North Atlantic Scuba says he knows exactly where the plaque is. Rich (member SSN) will take him to be shown where it is. Gas and boat situation may affect looking for the plaque this summer. With the price of gas up, some people are not planning to put their boats in the water.

Reef Project:

There are questions doing bottom surveys by the Pinthas this summer with the price of gas up. Will be discussed later.

DMF – Vin Malkoski

- Fishing/lobstering. 5 digit license numbers. Below age 16 does not need a license.
- No change in scallop regs. No change in lobster regs except for license numbers. Fish regulations change; so go to the website for that.

Holly Bourbon is in the Bahamas now on a “kill the lionfish” trip.

BUAR – Victor Mastone

The Chelsea Creek project is winding down. The *Diana* is under filled land; there are a couple of little wrecks in the mud. He is hoping to get out again this summer on the dugout canoe project (in “western” MA)

GAFC – Al Bozza

The Great Annual Fish Count will be on July 31 at Stage Fort Park. They would like to get more participation from some of the Dive Clubs that have not participated much in the past. REEF has a presentation on fish counts that clubs can download.

SSN upcoming events:

Cleanup at Lake Massapoag in Sharon May 22. Scuba if you want. Park at the high school.

Philippines dive trip May 17

Underwater metal detection June 21

Dive trip to Lady of the Lake (Winnetoesaukee) on July 9. There are a couple of spots left.

SSN meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7PM

NSF upcoming presentations (check the website for updates; dates subject to meeting venue availability):

Dugie Russell on 30 years of diving on the New Hampshire

Ellen and Mike Garvey on diving in Sipadan

The Human-Powered Submarine Races: The Foundation for Underwater Research and Education (FURE) and the ISR Organization announce the dates of the **11th International Submarine Races: June 27–July 1, 2011** at the Naval Surface Warfare Center-Carderock Division, Bethesda, Maryland.

Future BSC meetings

The next two BSC meetings are scheduled to be held in Quincy at 7:30PM on:

July 13, 2011 and **September 14, 2011**