

# Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for July 29, 2015

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy, MA 7:45-8:48 PM

## Attendees:

Paul	Adler	Independent
John	Blackadar	SSN
Jim	Brady	OCA
Angelo	Correnti	SSN / BSC President
Teresa	Czerepica	SSN
Mary	Howard	NSF / BSC Secretary
Matthew	Lawrence	SBNMS
Vin	Malkoski	DMF / Sea Rovers
Ted	Maney	Salem State University
Victor	Mastone	BUAR
Jim	Nannery	MWDC
Ray	Porter	NSF
Jim	Stallions	SSN
Carl	Yngve	SSN
Mike	Vaughan	SSN

## Organizations represented include:

Board of Underwater Archeological Resources (BUAR)  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF)  
MetroWest Dive Club (MWDC)  
North Shore Frogmen's Club (NSF)  
Salem State University  
Sea Rovers  
South Shore Neptunes (SSN)  
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS)

## **Beach Access**

Would like to kick off the public access campaign At Sea Rovers.

Someone made a report to Paul Adler: at Magnolia Rocks, someone (neighbor?) has put in rocks and thorn bushes at the entrance to the dive site. Previously Paul & others went to the police and were told the access was open for divers. Do we know a Gloucester resident who might be able to approach the police chief or someone to find out who put in the rocks? We (Mary and Ray) can ask at a NSF meeting.

South Boston: Town is testing the waters, starting with sticker parking for residents only.

John Blackadar went to the Cape to see about beach access and all the parking is resident sticker, or private beaches.

Marshfield status: Matthew Lawrence spoke with the Marshfield scuba shop (North Atlantic Scuba). They felt the parking situation was better than it had been, more spaces available, with stickers available to anyone, for restricted hours. Therefore it is "paid parking". \$10/day. There's a booth at Brandt Rock for stickers. Can residents also use the paid parking spots without paying for a sticker?

White's beach, what is the outcome? Can individuals get a permit for the day, or are permits only for groups? Will check specifically with NSF Club members for their experiences.

We all (BSC meeting attendees) can speak to the members of our clubs, find out where they (including instructors and dive masters) are having problems with beach access. - Mary will send an email to the dive clubs asking for information from the clubs on any sites where there are issues.

Someone can check the coastal towns' websites for parking restrictions in each town.

## **World Oceans Day at the New England Aquarium - June 7, 2015**

At this event, the BSC was not quite geared for the children. Paul's helmet had more use than in the past decade. Need to try to get the kids more interested in SCUBA. We can have a sign that says "Yes, you can SCUBA", include a list of dive shops, be open and accessible about SCUBA. The event was geared for families.

We were supposed to have a letter written, but there was not really an audience for that there. But the Council we should include something about "Free the beaches".

The organizer of the event definitely wants us back there next year.

Gear the first page of a flyer towards kids, maybe with a coloring page, and on the second page include "If your children are interested in diving, the beaches might not be open any longer by then"

>> When making up the flyer, offer shops the option to have their names listed if they give a donation to the treasure hunt.

## **Bay State Council Treasure Hunt**

DAN sent a box that was ridiculous; John spoke with them and they will send another box.

Got several prizes at Sea Rovers and some promises.

Go to the dive shops for prizes and bring the posters that John had made. (Jim Nannery, to United Divers and Northeast Scuba) East Coast and Mass Diving both already have the posters. Jim Brady took posters, and will talk to shops down his way for prizes.

Paul will deal with the manufacturers that he can deal with. Will do his best to find out who plans to demo.

**Coast Guard Plaque:** – John had a site visit, met with the lead maintenance person for Weymouth Coast Guard.

They are thinking of a larger sinker (12,000 lb cement), maybe a new sinker, maybe countersink the whole plaque. Jim Nannery will donate bolts/fastener system (needs to know the diameter of the whole in the plaque. Epoxy would be good too.

### **SeaPlan Survey**

Jim Nannery and one other person were the only ones who went to the follow up meeting in Nahant. He was able to add some information that was missing, and donated some books to them for info about diving.

Now the info is being compiled for New England Ocean Council. Info will be gridded out into 5 mi blocks. End result will look like tiled map.

The results of the survey will be for anyone who uses the ocean, to be used for planning purposes; Ted Maney used it for siting his aquaculture permit.

SeaPlan will probably have a booth at Sea Rovers, and a talk. They are funded by Federal Gov't.

### **Club notes:**

SSN: if anyone wants Flea Market October 10 – contact John B if you want to have a table.

Alex of Eastcoast Divers got a bends hit in the ear; he has a small PFO.

Latest edition of “Stellwagen Soundings” is available. Matthew Lawrence and Deborah Marx have published a book Shipwrecks of Stellwagen Bank; Disaster in New England, on sale tonight at \$21.99, available from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, [http://store.nmsfocean.org/product\\_p/stellwagenbook.htm](http://store.nmsfocean.org/product_p/stellwagenbook.htm).

### **Next meetings**

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 16, 2015 at 7:30PM.**

- **Agenda items for September meeting:**
  - **For this meeting, please bring all Treasure Hunt donation with all the info on the names and addresses of the donors, for thank you letter.**
  - **Prep for Treasure Hunt**

**Meeting after that scheduled for Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.**

- **Agenda items for October meeting:**
  - **Follow up on Treasure Hunt**
  - **Bring any info on dive site access issues**