

The Sea Breeze

September, 1977

The New York City Sea Gypsies Inc.

A. Kmiecik Editor

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1977
PLACE: "THE VALENTINE ROOM"
ONCE UPON A STOVE RESTAURANT
TIME: 7:30 P.M. SHARP!

Highlights of the Minutes of the August Meeting

- 1) A motion was made and carried to join the New Jersey Council of Diving Clubs. An extra amount will be paid in order to have voting power.
- 2) Coordinators spoke about the past month's dives.
- 3) John Falk made a motion to have dive cards for the club.
- 4) A survey was taken to see how many members were interested in joining the Police Underwater Recovery Team for a day to see their operations.
- 5) Coordinators for forthcoming dives were announced.

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A New Policy and A Reminder

On many of the past Sea Gypsy dives, too few safety committee members were present or sometimes even none. This has spoiled weekends for a number of people because new members couldn't check out or because a safety committee member was overburdened with too many checkouts. As Safety Committee chairman, I don't have the authority to demand that a safety committee member go to a dive in order to check out someone. Instead, it would be a much better idea to designate 3 or 4 dives per year as official checkout dives. These dives would be major dive weekends, such as New Hampshire or Rhode Island, which would more readily attract many safety committee members. This does not mean that checkout dives cannot be done on any of the other land dives, provided of course, that a safety committee member is present. Meanwhile, the next major dive is on Labor Day and I suggest that all new members come to a beautiful New Hampshire weekend for their checkout dives.

It has been brought to my attention that a number of people have dived without a buddy on occasion. I would like to remind everyone that this is against the club safety rules. Anyone who repeatedly violates any of the club safety rules subjects himself to immediate expulsion from the club. So...be a good kid, eh?

* * * * * Michael Meieruth * * * * *

Contributions to The Sea Breeze should be mailed to: Adrienne Kmiecik
Apt. 11N 235 East 22nd Street N.Y., N.Y. 10010
Deadline for articles to be published in the Oct. issue: September 19.

DIVE CALENDAR

- September 2,3 Labor Day Weekend: New Hampshire
 4,5 Diving, camping, motels. Sea Gypsies' Club Picnic:
 Coordinator: Bruce Dearborn
 278-2047 (H)
- 10 Wreck dive: Sea Lion (7 divers)
 Coordinator: George Lyons
 (201) 451-2905 (H)
- 17 Wreck dive: Deep Adventures (8-10 divers)
 Coordinators: Steve Michel
 249-4148 (H)
 Cliff Dufton
 242-0404 (H)
- 24 Hitherhills State Park Weekend, Montauk, L.I.
 25 Call Pam Peper: 472-0531 (H)

CORRECTION

In last month's Sea Breeze, credit was given to Tom McGinnis for arranging for the Police Underwater Recovery Team to speak to us. Credit and thanks should have gone to Ed Stolzenberg. Our apologies to Ed for the error.

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Answers to last month's quiz (abbreviations)

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|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) CD, H | 16) B, CM, CD | 31) ME, PN |
| 2) AE | 17) B | B |
| ES | 18) CM | B |
| 3) MS | 19) B | TS |
| 4) B, PN, CD | 20) SE | 32) B |
| 5) AE, ME | 21) B, CM, CD | 33) PN |
| 6) B | 22) B | 34) B |
| 7) B | 23) SE | 35) SS |
| 8) AE | 24) GS | 36) B |
| 9) AE, B, OP | 25) B | 37) ME |
| 10) AE, B | 26) CM | 38) B |
| 11) AE, PN | 27) B | 39) B |
| 12) AE, B, NN, CD | 28) AE, B, CD, OP | 40) B |
| OP, ES, TB | 29) SE | 41) AE |
| 13) B, OP | SE | 42) CD |
| 14) SS, ES | PN | 43) AE, B, CM, CD, OP |
| 15) NN | 30) AE, OP | 44) B, CD, OP |
| | | 45) OP |

WANTED: One mini-rocket fin for semi-finless diver. Please call
 Adrienne at 597-8250 (office) if you have one.

WELCOME to the following prospective new members:

Samuel S. Street Robert Gochfeld Richard M. Smith Perry L. Chin

An 18 year old student from Michigan was trapped in his submerged car in a frozen pond for 38 minutes. Although rescuers pronounced him dead at the scene, he was revived and two weeks later was able to return to college, where he is now an "A" student.

A physician also "drowned" in a lake near Ann Arbor. But, after 15 minutes of submersion, he was resuscitated and has resumed his medical practice showing no mental impairment.

These are two of the 15 cases of "cold water drownings" that have led Dr. M.J. Nemiroff, a Univ. of Michigan researcher, to conclude that all persons pulled out of the water blue, breathless and apparently dead are not necessarily dead, even if they have been under water for more than 30 minutes.

This finding seems to alter the long-standing assumption that a drowning victim is unlikely to survive after 4 or 5 minutes under water. This limit is based on the fact that the human brain suffers irreversible damage if it is deprived of oxygen for more than four minutes.

But Dr. Nemiroff reported that in the 15 cases he studied, all "drownings" in water below 70 degrees F., ll were revived successfully without brain damage or other ill effects. What saved the victims, the doctor suggested, was the activation of an automatic response in mammals, called the "mammalian diving reflex," combined with the coldness of the water.

The diving reflex was first identified in seagoing mammals such as the whale and porpoise. The porpoise can in an emergency remain submerged without breathing for 20 minutes, the whale for up to 2 hours.

The reflex slows the heartbeat and constricts the flow of blood to the skin muscles and other tissues that are more resistant to oxygen-loss damage. At the same time, the remaining blood oxygen is directed to the heart and brain. The cold water reduces the oxygen need of tissues and further lengthens survival time without external oxygen.

Because of the research, Dr. Nemiroff advised rescue workers and doctors not to give up too easily on cold-water drowning victims. He recommended that resuscitation be started immediately, even if the victim appeared dead. The person may not, in fact, be dead at all.

The largest mako shark ever caught in U.S. waters and the second largest caught on rod and reel in the world was landed July 17 at Montauk.

James George of New Jersey and four of his friends went out looking for shark early Sunday morning. They found what they were after.

Fishing aboard George's 27 foot Silvertan, the Craps 2-6, they rolled a seven when a 1039 pound mako slid into their chum slick of dried calves blood and inhaled a herring bait. "She jumped 35 feet out of the water when we first hooked her," said George.

George was joined to the fish by 100-pound test line and a 10/0 Senator reel for five hours. Twice the fish tried to ram the boat. The 11-foot, nine inch female was much too strong for the relatively light tackle George was using so the crew had to either back down or turn the boat completely around and chase the fish so she wouldn't strip out all the line and snap off.

After the great whites, makos are probably the most sought after shark for both the swordfish-like tasting flesh and great leaps they make.

After five hours With George strapped to the fighting chair, the fish was brought near the boat. A 20 gauge shotgun loaded with deer slugs was used to complete the coup de grace. "It only got the fish angry," said George. "The slugs were bouncing right off her head."

Eventually the fish was subdued but not dead. You take very few chances with an 11-foot shark. So the fish was tied to the stern and towed in. En route she finally died.

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The above articles (submitted by two club members) were edited from the New York Times and the New York Post respectively.