

the staggering starfish

the official newsletter of the **GSNDAMBAA SCUBA Diving Club**

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April Club Meeting

This is NOT an April Fool's Day joke - Spanky is hosting a live meeting this month followed by an actual sit-down meal at an Edmond's restaurant. ESSDB Jim has volunteered his home for our meeting this month. We will convene at our usual meeting time of **6:00 PM** on **Thursday, April 7**. For those who do not want to attend in-person, a Zoom invitation will be emailed. Please request an email Zoom invitation by emailing Spanky at gsndambaa@hotmail.com no later than 12:00 noon on April 7. Our meeting agenda includes planning our July club dive and preliminary planning for our dive/camp weekend. After the meeting we will reconvene at a local eatery.

April Club Dive, Deception Pass

Given the juxtaposition of the moon and the planets for the weekend of April 10, the tides are favorable for a trip up north to Deception Pass for our Club Dive. This is an advanced dive with significant potential for current, so please be on time. Spanky's crack dive planning specialists have correctly predicted our splash time for this site several times. The dive will be on **Sunday, April 10**. We need to arrive at the parking lot no later than **9:40 AM** so that we can all get fully geared up and down the stairs to the beach no later than 10:40 AM. Be sure to bring your **Discover Pass** with you or be prepared to buy a day pass. We will be watching the current and will enter the water when conditions look right. If we are late for entry or if conditions do not look right we may need to scratch the dive. There is a significant walk on a downhill trail to get from the parking lot to the beach at this site. Parking may be tight, so carpool if you can. After the dive we will have lunch at the Rockfish Grill in Anacortes (320 Commercial Ave).

Directions to the Deception Pass North Beach Parking Lot:

Take I5 north to the exit for Highway 20 (Exit 230) and head west, toward Anacortes. Continue west on Highway 20 and follow the signs to Deception Pass. Continue on Hwy 20, across the Deception Pass Bridge. About 1 mile from the center of the bridge you will come to a stoplight with the park entrance to your

2022-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

04/07/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

04/10/2022 9:40 AM

Club Dive at Deception Pass

05/05/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

05/07/2022 8:00 AM

Club Dive at Saltwater State Park

06/02/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

06/11/2022 2:30 PM

Club Dive at Point Whitney

07/07/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

08/04/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

09/01/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

right. The road to Cornet Bay is to the left. Turn right into the park and continue for 1 mile, past the ranger booth to the North Beach parking lot. The road winds through the forest and ends in a circular parking area; stay on the main road. Do not take the roads to the left, toward the camping sites.

March Club Dive Report

It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood of Fox Island East Wall. As a hedge against experiencing a significant current we targeted an early splash time, figuring that if the current was still moving we could delay entry. When we finished hauling gear and ourselves down the hill it looked like there was no current. And there wasn't! Visibility was really good so we were able to surface swim to the start of the wall and drop down to the perfect starting point. We headed South (away from the fishing pier) inspecting the wall and crevices. A GPO was found as were some nice nudibranchs, ling cod and crabs. The return route was higher up the wall. It was a great dive. The only disappointment expressed was that Trudy was not at the dive.

Limerick Challenge

Several members came prepared to last month's meeting and proudly ready their limericks. The winning limerick was composed by ESSDB Kim. This is the second year in a row that she has won the competition, although she shared the title with ESSDB Steve in 2021. Honorable mention goes to the entries of ESSDBs Bart and Steve. Since we are having a live meeting this month, Spanky will be buying dinner for Kim. Spanky also remembered that he owes Kim and Steve each a dinner from last year's competition. Spanky. Hopefully Kim will be hungry enough to deal with 2 dinners.

ESSDB Kim's winning entry:

There once was a ratfish named Nate
Whose friends all thought he was great
He lived on the bottom
From spring until autumn
But then he wound up on a plate

ESSDB Steve's runner-up entry (it almost required some editing to make it publishable):

A diver once dived near Nantucket.
His reg just got worse as he sucked it.
His lips, they turned blue,
As he wished he'd bought new.
And Death's sickle came close, but he ducked it.

Finally, ESSDB Bart's runner-up entry:

There once was a diver named Fred,
Who did do a dive he did dread.
We went far too deep,
And his suit it did leak.
It really made him turn red.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

Cool-Web-Article-of-the-Month:

Our first web article is about a very colorful fish recently discovered near the Maldives that, unfortunately, lives slightly too deep for recreational divers. You can find most of the spectrum visible to us humans in the fish and read the article [here](#). Our second article was submitted by ESSDB Dee Ann. This article explains what those popping sounds are that you often hear when diving in warm water. The sounds are created by pistol shrimp, which use pressurized bubbles to shoot at prey. Even though they have a deadly super power, they peacefully coexist with gobies in underwater burrows. Read about them [here](#).

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

Spanky decided to give ESSDB Larry a rest this month. Our cool photos were taken by ESSDB Dan at our recent dive at Titlow Beach. He shot a couple photos of some gorgeous White Line Dironas (aka Frosted Nudibranchs, Alabaster Nudibranchs). These photos show some of the color variation in these nudibranchs. These exceptionally beautiful nudibranchs will never be seen by divers that limit themselves to warm water.



Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky at gsndambaa@hotmail.com.

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The deadline for items to be included in the May 2022 Issue is Friday, April 22