

the staggering starfish

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

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"Gala Holiday Issue"



Its A Holiday Tradition!

The December club meeting is being pre-empted by the Club Holiday Party. So don't show up on the 1st Thursday at Underwater Sports, show up the 2nd Sunday at the home of ESSDB Jim. The 1st meeting of the New Year will be on January 5th.

December Club Dive at EUWP

The pre-party Club Dive will be a partial tour of Bruce Higgins Trails at Edmonds Underwater Park at Brackett's Landing. A partial tour because there are so many trails even a diver with a rebreather could not do them all on one dive. Gathering time for the dive is **noon** on the **11th**. Enter when everyone is ready.

Directions to Edmonds Underwater Park:

Take I-5 to exit 177.

Head west on SR 104.

Follow the signs towards the ferry until you reach Main Street.

Take a left.

Cross the train tracks and take an immediate right into the parking lot, north of the ferry ramp.

Once in the park, find a convenient place to park.

December Bonus Dive

There will be at a bonus club at Redondo on the **28th**. This is the best site to espy an underwater Volkswagen (they are only virtually water tight). We frequently see wolf eels and octopus here and this is the most frequent site for sighting Opahs. Gather at **9:00** to support an entry time of 10:00.

After the dive we will have lunch at Salty's.

From I-5 take exit 147 (S 272nd ST)

Head west on S 272ND ST.

S 272ND ST will become Marine View DR.

Marine View DR becomes 10TH AVE S.

Turn right on S 281ST ST.

Turn left on Redondo Beach DR.

Park in the lot across from the boat launch.

2016-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

12/11/16 (Sunday) Noon

Club Dive at Brackett's Landing

12/11/16 (Sunday) 4:00 PM

Club Holiday Party

12/28/15 (Monday) 9:00 AM

Club Dive at Redondo

1/5/17 (Thursday) 6:00 PM

Club meeting at Edmonds Underwater Sport

1/22/17 (Saturday) TBA

Club Dive at Salt Water State Park

2/2/17 (Thursday) 6:00 PM

Club meeting at Edmonds Underwater Sport

2/18/17 (Saturday) 8:00 AM

Alki Junkyard

3/17-24/17

Club Dive Trip to Raja Ampat

8/27-9/1 2017

Club Dive Trip to God's Pocket

November Club Dive Report

Cove 2 was a very busy place and all the close in street parking was taken. There was available parking in the parking lot but it has a two hour time limit. The gathered club members chose to take this on as a challenge and get geared up, execute the dive and geared down within the limit. And we really were under the clock because Parking Enforcement drove by and made note of our cars as we started to gear up. Since there were so many classes we decided to go along the north edge of the dive site. We saw the usual things including another pacific red octopus out for a stroll. This was like the 4th straight dive that we have seen PROs out and about. There was also a nice frosted nudibranch near the end of the dive.

GSNDAMBAA Holiday Party

The 2016 Edition of the fabled GSNDAMBAA Holiday Party will be held at the home of ESSDB Jim on Sunday, the **11th** of December at **4:00**. Come and enjoy an afternoon with your diving friends. Friends and significant others (diving or non-diving) are always welcome.

Please RSVP by **December 8th** by sending Spanky an email to gsndambaa@hotmail.com. Directions to the party will be emailed back to you.

Succulent sustenance: In keeping with the GSNDAMBAA holiday party tradition, the main course, salad and most beverages will be provided free for *CURRENT* members. For the 27th straight year, the modest charge of five dollars (\$5) U.S. per person for non-members will stand. Membership forms will likely be available on-site, and your five-bucks-cause-I'm-a non-member can be applied directly and immediately toward your it's-free-cause-I'm-a-current-member membership dues. The dinner menu will be old school. We will be having lasagna (meat and unmeat), bread and salad. The club will also provide beer, wine, and soft drinks. If you plan on drinking a lot, plan to bring additional beverage and plan on giving Spanky your car keys when you arrive.

Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share with your fellow revelers. Tomas and Laurie, please bring your pico de gallo. Christy, please bring your chocolate chip cookies.

The Pirate Gift Exchange: Participation in The Pirate Gift Exchange (PGE) necessitates bringing along a clever gift valued at about \$20. It does not need to be diving related. The PGE is the most fun if there are lots of PGE gifts that people want to pirate. So help peg the fun meter by skipping the white elephant gifts. This year's punishment for bringing the lame gift that you got at last year's office Christmas party, or those bringing white elephant gifts or a gift that no one would pirate if it was the last gift on earth, is to take over responsibility for the newsletter.

Raffle: This year we will be having another "recycle your unwanted dive gear" raffle. If you have any dive gear that you are not using and are tired of having it lay around the house, taking up space, not being put to use in the manner for which it was created, bring it to the party and raffle it off to someone that could give new meaning to its existence. You can also donate unwanted Surface tablets or iPads.

God's Pocket Trip

SSDBs Linda and Tom have reserved the God's Pocket Resort for **August 27th - Sept 1 2017**. This will be the club's 5th trip. The diving is great and so is the hospitality. The dive boat even has an

elevator to get you in and out of the water. Could it get any easier? Cost of the trip is \$1590 Canadian and includes all diving, accommodations, food and transfers to/from Port Hardy. If you are interested, send ESSDB Linda an email at aquachick@comcast.net.

Cool-?-of-the-Month Section

Cool-Sightings-of-the-Month:

Jim diving off Grand Turk: "Carol doing her 200th dive!"

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

Places to swim with whale sharks. Some of us have done some of these.

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/tripideas/8-amazing-places-to-swim-with-the-biggest-fish-in-the-world/ss-AAjfcPK?li=BBnb7Kz#image=9>

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

Wolf eel bunk beds at Redondo taken by ESSDB Larry.



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

Visit Spanky at
www.gsndambaa.org

Email Spanky at
gsndambaa@hotmail.com

The deadline for items to be included in the Happy New Year Issue is Friday, December 16.