

the staggering starfish

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

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December Club Meeting

In keeping with our tradition of more than 30 years, we will **NOT** be holding our regular monthly club meeting on the first Thursday of December. We instead will be holding our **2021 Holiday Party** at the home of ESSDB Jim on **Sunday, December 5** at **4:00 PM**. We will resume our regular schedule of club meetings on January 6, 2022.

December Club Dive @ EUP

Also in keeping with tradition, we will be doing our December club dive at the Edmonds Underwater Park the morning of **Sunday, December 5**. For those hardy souls planning on actually doing this dive, plan on meeting at **10:00 AM** for a splash time of **11:00 AM**. Spanky realizes that most club members skip the December dive so they can purchase their presents for the Pirate Gift Exchange. If you plan on doing the December dive, please send Spanky an email (gsndambaa@hotmail.com) no later than **Thursday, December 2nd**, and Spanky will hopefully find you a dive buddy. After the dive we will dry off and finish shopping for the Pirate Gift Exchange.

Directions to Brackett's Landing:

Take I-5 to exit 177.

Head west on SR 104.

Follow the signs toward the ferry. Go past the ferry booths and continue 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

The nearly traditional **December Bonus Dive** will be held again during the week between Christmas and New Year's, when many people are off from work. This year we will be meeting on Monday, **December 27th** at **9:30 AM**. We will probably do a short visit to the bottle field and then head south to see if we can find the second sunken car that we saw in our last dive there. We will also look for wolf eels, gunnels, and octopus. After the dive we will reconvene for lunch. Since Salty's is temporarily closed, we will drive to Dos

2021-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

12/05/2021 10:00 AM

Club Dive at Edmonds Underwater Park

12/05/2021 4:00 PM

2021 Holiday Party at ESSDB Jim's House

12/27/2021 9:30 AM

Club Dive at Redondo

01/06/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably at ESSDB Jim's House

01/15/2022 9:30 AM

Club Dive at Driftwood Park

02/03/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably at ESSDB Jim's House

02/12/2022 9:00 AM

Club Dive at Titlow

03/03/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably at ESSDB Jim's House

Hermanos or another mutually acceptable eatery for lunch.

November Club Dive Report

Spanky picked a beautiful November day for our club dive. Several divers enjoyed a scenic drive to the Fox Island Pier, where we gathered to lug our gear down the bluff to the beach. We entered the water pretty close to the planned time. Visibility was just OK, at about 10-15 feet. We quickly learned that the predicted slack was inaccurate, as we encountered substantial current on our way out to the wall. Eventually, all divers ended up calling the dive and returned safely to the shore. Even though the dive was short, we all experienced the inevitable increase in gravity during the dive which made the chore of lugging our gear back up the bluff so enjoyable. We will return to this site, hopefully with a more accurate prediction of slack tide.

GSNDAMBAA Holiday Party

Spanky is very happy that we can again hold an in-person GSNDAMBAA Holiday Party this year. Spanky wants to comply with state COVID rules that require all attendees to be fully vaccinated. We will meet once again at the home of ESSDB Jim. Plan on

meeting there on **Sunday**, the **5th of December** at **4:00 PM** to enjoy an afternoon with your diving friends. Friends and significant others (diving or non-diving) are always welcome. Please RSVP by **December 2nd** via email to Spanky at gsndambaa@hotmail.com. Directions to the party will be emailed back to you.

Holiday Sustenance: In keeping with the GSNDAMBAA holiday party tradition, our dinner and most beverages will be provided free for *CURRENT* members. For the 32nd straight year, the modest membership charge of five dollars (\$5) U.S. per person will get you dinner and an annual club membership. Membership forms might be available on-site for new members, 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. Our dinner this year will be **Spanky's Surprise**. We will see what he can put together from the money he gets from all those dues. He will have meat and non-meat options. 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. Also plan on bringing something to share with everyone.

The Pirate Gift Exchange: Participation in The Pirate Gift Exchange (PGE) necessitates bringing along a clever gift valued at about \$25. It does not need to be diving (or pirate) related. The PGE is 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. If you disregard these instructions and actually bring that lame gift that you got at last year's office Christmas party or a gift that no one would pirate if it was the last gift on earth, you will be assigned responsibility for writing the 2022-2027 newsletters.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

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

Sharks are useful to fish. This article describes how fish use the sharks. Click on [shark](#).

Cool-New Equipment-of-the-Month:

Someone has invented a new scuba tank that allows you to dive without a BCD. It's also lighter and more streamlined than conventional gear. Click on [scuba](#) to learn more.

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

Since the November dive was called, Spanky asked ESSDB Larry to share some photos from his (and ESSDB Dan's) recent trip to the Sea of Cortez. We have a Blue Banded Goby, a Coral Hawkfish, and a Frog Fish, all warm water critters.



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 **January 2022 Issue** is **Monday, December 20**.