

the staggering starfish

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

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December Club Meeting

For those of you familiar with more than 3 decades of holiday tradition for this dive club, you know what this announcement will say. For everyone else, we will NOT be holding a meeting in December. Instead, we will be enjoying our annual Holiday Party at the home of ESSDB Jim on **Saturday, December 3 at 4:00 PM**. Our regular club meetings will resume at **6:00 PM** on the first **Thursday** of each month with our next meeting on **January 5, 2023**.

December Club Dive- EUP

In keeping with another of our Holiday Traditions, our December club dive will be at the Edmonds Underwater Park on **Saturday, December 3**. Spanky realizes that most club members will be busy shopping for their Pirate Gift Exchange gift while simultaneously preparing a delicious dish to share with other club members and will not actually participate in the December club dive. However, a few hardy souls have committed to actually doing this dive, so if you complete your preparations early you should head on over to EUP for our meet time of **1:00 PM**. We will splash no later than **2:00 PM** so that divers can dry off before the Holiday Party.

Directions to Edmonds Underwater Park:

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

Spanky will again host our traditional **December Bonus Dive** at Redondo during the week between Christmas and New Year's, when many people (especially those who still haven't retired and work for Boeing) are off from work. This year we will be meeting on Wednesday, **December 28th at 9:00 AM**. We will probably do a short visit to the bottle field and then head south to see if we can find the remains of the

2022-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

12/03/2022 1:00 PM

Club Dive at Edmonds Underwater Park

12/03/2022 4:00 PM

Club Holiday Party at ESSDB Jim's House

12/28/21022 9:00 AM

Club Bonus Dive at Redondo

01/05/2023 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

01/21/2023 1:30 PM

Club Dive at Keystone

02/02/2023 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

02/04/2023 11:00 AM

Club Dive at Les Davis

03/02/2023 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

04/29/2023 10:00 AM

Club Dive at Deception Pass

05/13/2023 Time TBD

Club Dive at Possession Point Fingers

Volkswagen and the other sunken car. We will also look for wolf eels, nudibranchs, gunnels, and octopus. After the dive we will reconvene for lunch. Since Salty's is "temporarily" closed (it's been almost 3 years now), we will drive to the Time Out Ale House for some lunch and maybe a beer.

November Club Dive Report

Spanky hosted our November club dive in West Seattle! It really was nice to be able to drive there again via the bridge. We had a dry but somewhat windy day for our dive at the Alki Junkyard. The waves made the entry a bit tricky, but all was good once we dropped. Visibility was decent, around 25 feet or so. We saw an incredible number of nudibranchs on the dive, including the festive tritonid, pink tritonid, striped nudibranch, and the white line dirona. We had a pleasant dive that was cut a wee bit short by one diver's acute need to surface for the restroom.

G SNDAMBAA Holiday Party

Our second annual post-COVID Holiday Party will be held at the home of ESSDB Jim on **Saturday, December 3 at 4:00 PM**. Please join us to enjoy an afternoon with your diving buddies. Friends and significant others (diving or non-diving) are always welcome. Please RSVP by **December 1st** via email to Spanky at gsndambaa@hotmail.com. Directions to the party will be emailed back to you.

Holiday Sustenance: For the 33rd year straight, our dinner and most beverages will be provided free for *CURRENT* members. For the modest membership charge of five dollars (\$5) U.S. per person, you will get 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 fee can be applied directly and immediately toward your it's-free-cause-I'm-a-current-member membership dues. Our dinner this year will again 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 an appetizer or dessert 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 2023-2028 newsletters.

PST Scuba Cylinders

If you own some PST tanks you may not be able to get them filled or tested until a DOT permit has been renewed. The permit which was originally filed by the now defunct manufacturer has expired and dive shops are no longer allowed to fill or service them. This prohibition applies specifically to the steel tanks with the numbers "E9791" or "SP9791" stamped right after the stamped letters "DOT". The dive industry is working to get the permit renewed so that these tanks

can continue to be used. We will let you know if and when we hear that the permit has been renewed.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

ESSDB Larry took this month's photos at the November club dive at the Alki Junkyard. The first is a Festive Tritonid (aka Diamondback) and the second is a pair of White Line Dironas mating.



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

Visit Spanky at

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Email Spanky at

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The deadline for items to be included in the **January 2023 Issue** is **Friday, December 16**.