

the staggering starfish

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

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February Club Meeting

Our February meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 6** at the usual time of **6:00 PM**. This will be our second in-person meeting of the year, at the **Edmonds Public Library**. Spanky hopes to see a lot of the regulars in-person again. For those that cannot attend in person, Spanky will send an email invitation for Google Meet prior to the meeting. If you do not normally receive these invitations, you may request one by sending an email to Spanky prior to noon on February 6. Our agenda items include planning our May club dive and discussing a potential May trip to Anilao in the Philippines. As usual for our live meetings, our last agenda item will be selecting an eatery for our post-meeting dinner.

February Club Dive - Fort Ward

We will be returning to the south end of Bainbridge Island for our February club dive at Fort Ward State Park. We will meet at the boat ramp area on **Saturday, February 22nd at 9:30 AM**. The last time we were at this site was in 2019. Current can be an issue at this site, so please be on time. This is a good site to find nudibranchs. This is a state park, so be sure to bring your **Discover Pass** or plan to purchase a day pass. After the dive we will head into Winslow for lunch at the Harbour Public House.

Directions to Fort Ward Park:

For those taking the Edmonds Ferry:

Exit the ferry at Kingston and follow WA-104 west for about 2.6 miles.

Turn left at Miller Bay Road NE. After about 5.3 miles the road changes name to August Ave NE. Continue on August Ave NE for about 0.8 miles and the road curves to the right and changes name to NE South St.

After about 200 feet veer left at a "Y" onto Suquamish Way NE. Continue on Suquamish Way for about 1.5 miles and you will approach a casino where you turn left onto WA 305 to cross the Agate Pass Bridge.

Continue on WA 305 for about 4.9 miles and turn right onto Sportsman Club Rd NE, then go for about 1.6 miles

2025 GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

02/06/2025	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, Edmonds Public Library
02/22/2025	9:30 AM	Club Dive, Fort Ward State Park
03/06/2025	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, Edmonds Public Library
03/23/2025	10:40 AM	Club Dive at Keystone
04/03/2025	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, Edmonds Public Library
04/06/2025	8:30 AM	Club Dive at Point Hudson
05/01/2025	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, Edmonds Public Library
06/05/2025	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, Edmonds Public Library
07/19/2025	Time TBD	Club Dive at Possession Point Fingers
8/02/2025	9:30 AM	Club Dive at Deception Pass

and turn left on Finch Rd NE. Follow Finch Rd for about 0.2 mile and turn right onto Wyatt Way NW. After 0.1 mile the road curves to the

left and changes name to Eagle Harbor Dr. NE. After about a quarter mile the road veers to the right as Bucklin Hill Rd NE. After another quarter mile Bucklin Goes to the right and you should continue straight onto Blakely Ave NE. Follow Blakely until it ends at Pleasant Beach Dr. NE. Take a left on Pleasant Beach Dr. NE. After about a half mile you will see a boat ramp on your right and parking to your left. Entry is near the boat ramp.

If you are traveling via the Seattle/Bainbridge ferry, you will exit the ferry and turn left onto Winslow Way E. after you get out of the ferry area. Take Winslow Way to the second right and turn onto Ericksen Ave NE. After about a quarter mile you will turn left onto Wyatt Way NW and follow the directions above.

January Dive Report

It was an off and on drizzly day for the dive on the sunken I-90 bridge. That didn't deter many people as we had double digit participation and numerous beach wenchies! Much of the pre-dive discussion concerned how much weight to remove to account for the lower density of fresh water (most people dropped 5 pounds). The site has an easy entry and a fairly short swim to the 4th bridge support. Once we were all together we dropped down and found the rope that leads to the remains of the formerly floating bridge. Just a few kicks later, at about 60 feet, there was a large chunk of the bridge deck, complete with a little girls bicycle. SSDB Joe took the bike for a spin along the sidewalk. It was interesting getting a close look at the structure. There was twisted metal from the support arches, various pieces of metal and construction debris, including a wheel barrow. The bridge deck was made with wavy steel bars. The only life seen on the dive by this observer was some lake weed like milfoil. Someone did report that they saw a fish, possibly a trout. It was pretty noisy at the bottom from the active roadway above. It was possible to feel when trucks rolled over an expansion joint, like a thump on the entire body. Despite the noise, it was a nice, relaxed dive, without any current to deal with and had the added bonus of a 50 minute fresh water gear rinse!

Cool-?-of the Month Section

Cool-Web-Articles-of-the-Month

We have 2 cool web articles for this month. The first one is a short article about a sun fish at an aquarium in Japan that was treated by a novel approach to improve its behavior and appetite after the aquarium closed for renovations. Read it by clicking on [Sun Fish](#). The second article includes several great pictures of tiny and weird sea animals. Click on [Little Weirdos](#) to read it.

Cool-Photos-of-the-Month:

ESSDB Larry dug into his archives this month for some photos taken at Fort Ward State Park. The first is a Festive Tritonia in the process of laying eggs. The second is an Aleutian Moonshell, and the third is a Hairy Helmet Crab. Spanky hopes we will get to see more cool critters like these on our February club dive.



Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky.

Visit Spanky at www.gsndambaa.org

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Please send items for the March issue by Friday, February 21.