

the staggering starfish

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

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June Club Meeting

Spanky will be hosting another in-person club meeting for those wanting to get together. The meeting will be held at **6:00 PM** on **Thursday, June 2** at the Edmonds home of ESSDB Jim. For those who have too far to travel or wish to social distance, remote attendance will be available via Zoom. Please send a Zoom request via email at gsndambaa@hotmail.com no later than **12:00 noon** on **June 2**. The June agenda includes finalizing plans for our dive/camp weekend in October. We will also receive a status report from our select committee on the new club tee shirt. If we have time we will plan another club dive. After completing club business a local establishment will be selected for the evening meal.

June Club Dive, Point Whitney

For the second year in a row, the club will travel to the Olympic Peninsula for a June dive at Point Whitney. We will meet at **12:00 PM** on **Saturday, June 11** and will enter the water at **1:00 PM**. This dive site has an easy entry, plenty of parking, and restroom facilities. The dive is along an underwater pipeline that includes 2 or 3 GPO dens. We usually see lots of rockfish, ling cod, plumose anemones, and nudibranchs. Be sure to bring your **Washington Discover Pass**. It is NOT possible to purchase one at the dive site. After the dive we will head north to Quillbilly's in Quilcene for a late lunch.

Directions to Point Whitney:

You need to get across to the Peninsula. If you take the Edmonds-Kingston or Seattle-Bainbridge ferry, take Highway 104 across the Hood Canal Bridge and go South on Center Road (about 10 miles west of the Hood Canal Bridge). You will exit to the right to go south on Center Road. Continue south on Center Road until it joins Highway 101 in Quilcene. Continue south on Highway 101 for about 8.5 miles and watch for Bee Mill Road on your left (it should be shortly after you pass Hjelvick Rd). There is a left turn lane. Turn left on Bee Mill Road and continue for about 1.5 miles where Bee Mill Road turns left and Point Whitney Road continues straight. Go straight on Point Whitney Road and take it about 1 more mile where it ends

2022-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

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

07/17/2022 10:00 AM

Club Dive at Les Davis

08/04/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

08/20/2022 Time TBD

Club Dive at Possession Point Fingers

09/01/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

09/17/2022 9:30 AM

Club Dive at Redondo

09/30 - 10/02/2022

Club Dive/Camp Weekend at Fort Worden

10/06/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting cancelled

11/03/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

at the park. There is a parking lot to your left, past the boat launch. If you are coming from the south on Highway 101, watch for Bee Mill Road on your right about 4.5 miles north of Brinnon. It should be about a half mile past the southern intersection with Hjelvick Rd (this road does a loop from Hwy 101). You can enter Point Whitney Water Access to Google Maps for directions to the boat launch.

May Club Dive Report

Seven divers showed up at Saltwater State Park for an invigorating surface swim and a pleasant dive on the artificial reef. We entered the water during a fairly low tide and had an interesting walk over several sandbars before we could don our fins, and then swam over a couple more sand bars on our way to the buoys marking the underwater park. Spanky used Google Maps and learned that the walk/swim was almost 0.2 miles. We hit the current

just right and had a relaxing dive with several different nudibranchs, a couple very large ling cod, and some good sized rock fish.

2022 Dive/Camp Weekend

Due to the unavailability of housing in August, we have scheduled our 2022 Dive/Camp weekend for September 30 to October 2. We will again be visiting Fort Worden State Park, renting the same Sergeant's Quarters that we did last year. We will be diving in the Port Townsend area, probably at Point Hudson with a possible second dive at Fort Flagler. We have a total of 14 joining us this year. If you want to join us and have not yet let Spanky know, please send him an email no later than June 4.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

Cool-Web-Articles-of-the-Month:

The first cool web article for this month is about the top ten new marine species identified in 2021. The list was compiled by WoRMS, the World Register of Marine Species. Each year they publish this list, selected from new species published in the scientific literature. The list includes some nice photos too. You can read it by clicking on [Top Ten New Species](#).

Spanky picked out another cool web article about restoring queen conch in the Caribbean. This article seemed especially appropriate because Spanky enjoyed some cracked conch and conch chowder during a recent dive trip to Grand Turk. Megan Davis has been instrumental in learning how to hatch and grow queen conch in the lab and in building a system to encourage conch fisherman in Puerto Rico to harvest conch eggs sustainably and grow conch for release. Read it by clicking on [conch](#).

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

Our June photos were taken once again by ESSDB Larry at our May club dive at Saltwater State Park. These pictures were taken with a macro lens. The first photo is one of Spanky's cousins (he was not staggering), a Striped Sun Star. These sea stars mostly subsist on a diet of sea cucumbers. Our second photo shows a Horned Nudibranch being followed by a skeleton shrimp. The last photo shows a colorful tube worm.



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

Visit Spanky at
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The deadline for items to be included in the July 2022 Issue is Friday, June 24