

the staggering starfish

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

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May Club Meeting

The May club meeting will be held at our normal time of **6:00 PM** on **Thursday, May 5** (also known as Cinco de Mayo). ESSDB Jim will be hosting the meeting at his house. You can also attend the meeting via Zoom by requesting an invitation via email at gsndambaa@hotmail.com no later than 12:00 noon on May 5. Our agenda this month includes planning our for our dive/camp weekend, which will be in August. After the meeting those present will have an evening meal at one of the excellent Mexican restaurants in Edmonds. Spanky will enjoy some pico de gallo with his meal.

May Club Dive, Saltwater SP

We will be returning to Saltwater State Park for our May club dive. Spanky hopes everyone has been training for a long surface swim so we can explore the artificial reef. Make sure you have an early breakfast - the meet time for this coming **Saturday, May 7, is 8:00 AM** for a **9:00 AM** splash. This dive site includes an artificial reef that was finished by the Washington Scuba Alliance in 2009. The structure includes concrete slabs and beams which provide habitat for a variety of marine life, including large ling cod, lots of rock fish, and the occasional dog fish, if we are lucky. Be sure to bring your **Washington Discover Pass** or be prepared to buy a day pass at the park. The park has facilities near the beach, including a shower to rinse gear. After the dive we will head to Salty's at Redondo for lunch.

Directions to Salt Water State Park:

From the North:

Go S on I-5 to Exit 149 and go West on SR516
In about 2 miles, go South on Marine View Drive
The park will be about a mile down the road on your right.

Once in the park, drive down to the water and park close to the shore.

From the South:

Go N on I-5 to Exit 147 and go West on S 272nd St.
After about a mile, turn right on 16th Ave S.
Go N for about 1.25 mi and turn left on S 250th St.
In about 0.5 mi turn left on Marine View Drive and

2022-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

05/05/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

05/07/2022 8:00 AM

Club Dive at Saltwater State Park

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

09/01/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

10/06/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, ESSDB Jim's House

enter the park on your right.

Once in the park, drive down to the water and park close to the shore.

April Club Dive Report

A good contingent of club divers was joined by a lone, non-club diver for the April dive at Deception Pass. Of the 7 divers, only one had been to the dive site before. Conditions were perfect for the dive, and all 7 returned safely to the entry point. All the first time divers said they would like to return to this site, which may be the best dive site in Puget Sound, again. Kudos to ESSDB Steve for another perfect current prediction for Deception Pass.

Save the Date

While planning is not complete, we have selected two tentative dates for our 2022 Dive/Camp Weekend. We will get together on either August 5-7 or August 19-21. Please hold these weekends open if you would like to join us this year. You can also let Spanky know if you would prefer either weekend. We are still working on a selecting a venue, so please stay tuned.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

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

For this month, Spanky selected a cool article about bull kelp. We often see bull kelp on our dives, and Spanky can remember one club dive where we literally had to grab the kelp to keep from being washed out to sea by the current. Bull kelp grows vigorously (up to about 1 foot per day) during the spring but dies away during the winter. Spanky also learned you can get some help from bull kelp if you need to kill a chicken. You can read the article (and get a free link to a second bonus article) by clicking on [bull kelp](#).

Our second cool article is about a novel method developed by Dr. Edith Widder to observe deep sea critters under natural conditions. She developed an underwater camera system that uses lighting invisible to most marine animals to film deep-sea creatures such as the giant squid. You can read it by clicking [here](#).

The third, and final, cool web article is really a series of cool marine photos. Live Science selected 50 very nice photos to show different aspects of the marine world. The pictures can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

For our photos this month, Spanky visited ESSDB Larry's picture archives and selected four photos taken at God's Pocket. This dive resort is located on a small island northwest of Port Hardy, near the north end of Vancouver Island. It is known as one of the best places in the world for cold water diving. The first photo is a mid-size GPO. The second is a basket star that is fully open. The third is a juvenile Puget Sound King Crab, and the last photo is a very colorful Red Irish Lord.



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

Visit Spanky at
www.gsndambaa.org
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The deadline for items to be included in the June 2022 Issue is
Friday, May 20