

# the staggering starfish

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

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## May Club Meeting

We will do our May club meeting via Zoom. Please plan on logging in no later than **6:00 PM** on **Thursday, May 4**. A Zoom invitation will be sent to the regular meeting attendees via email. If you are not a regular attendee and would like to participate in the meeting, please send an email request to Spanky at [gsndambaa@hotmail.com](mailto:gsndambaa@hotmail.com) no later than 12:00 noon the day of the meeting. The May meeting agenda includes planning for our August club dive and further planning for our 2023 Dive/Camp weekend. If time allows, we will again delay a report on the progress of designing and obtaining new club tee shirts.

## May Club Dive, Possession Pt.

Due to the enthusiasm from club members from last year's dive, we are returning to Possession Point for a dive at the Possession Point Fingers. This dive is located at the southern tip of Whidbey Island and is known to be current-sensitive, so please plan to be on time and ready to dive. We plan to meet at **10:00 AM** on **Saturday, May 13**. This dive is in a State Park, so remember to bring your **Discover Pass**. Spanky believes that you cannot purchase a pass at the dive site. Parking at the lower parking area is also limited. Depending on how many divers will be going, we may need to shuttle gear between the upper and lower parking areas. If you plan on doing this dive, **please RSVP** to Spanky via email **no later than Friday, May 5**. Potential critters at this site include GPO's, rockfish, greenlings, and ling cod. After the dive we will drive over to the Village Pizzeria in Langley for lunch.

### Directions to Possession Point Fingers:

You can enter Possession Point Dive Site into Google Maps and have it plot your route.  
 From the Clinton Ferry Terminal:  
 Head west on Hwy 525. At about 1.5 miles turn left onto Deer Lake Road.  
 At about 3.2 miles, turn left onto Cultus Bay Rd.  
 After about 2.1 miles, Cultus Bay Rd. turns to the right but you need to continue straight onto Possession Rd. Follow Possession Rd. for about 2 miles and take a right turn onto Franklin Rd. Take Franklin to its end and park in the narrow parking area. A few cars will be able to

## 2023-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

05/04/2023	6:00 PM	Club meeting, via Zoom
05/13/2023	Time 10:00 AM	Club Dive at Possession Point Fingers
06/01/2023	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, probably via Zoom
06/11/2023	11:45 AM	Club Dive at Titlow
07/06/2023	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, probably via Zoom
07/23/2023	8:00 AM	Club Dive at Salt Water State Park
08/03/2023	6:00 PM	Club meeting, probably via Zoom
09/07/2023	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, probably via Zoom
09/22-24/2023		Dive/Camp Weekend
10/05/2023	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, probably via Zoom

drive to the lower parking area for the dive.

From the north end of Whidbey Island, take 525 south and turn right onto Cultus Bay Rd. Follow the above directions after passing Deer Lake Road.

## April Club Dive Report

A beautiful day in the Great Northwest! Super day to do the best dive in Puget Sound! Visibility was great and the current was moving. We rode through the pass, seeing tons of life. The wall was covered with barnacles, tube worms, dead man's fingers sponges and other creatures that are able to hold on and avoid flowing with the tide. Visibility was so good that the sun was casting shadows at 50 feet. After the dive, ESSDB Steve used his powered wheel barrow to transport gear up hill to the parking lot.

## Cool-?-of the Month Section

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

Spanky found an interesting article about research being conducted in the Salish Sea to try to learn why the number of Dungeness Crabs being harvested each

year has been declining. The Salish Sea includes the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the waters extending south to Olympia, and the waters extending north into British Columbia (the Strait of Georgia). A few years ago, the Pacific Northwest Crab Research Group (consisting of government, tribal, and research and educational institutions) established a network of "light traps" to count juvenile crabs to add data on their numbers and distribution. The study was recently extended into the waters of Canada. You can read about it by clicking on [Puget Sound](#) and [Canadian Crabs](#).

Our second cool web article is about deep diving research being conducted by the US Navy. They have developed a new lightweight suit capable of allowing a diver to go deep without requiring decompression and without the cumbersome weight and limited mobility associated with deep diving armor systems. The new system is currently rated for a maximum depth of 300 feet, but they are working on increasing the usable depth. Read it [here](#).

### **Cool-Video-of-The-Month:**

The cool web video of the month is about deep diving to identify new species of life living on deep coral reefs. The deep reefs are between depths of 200 and 500 feet. You can watch it by clicking [here](#).

### **Cool-Photos-of-The-Month:**

For May, ESSDB Larry offered Spanky his choice from photos taken during the recent trip to the Maldives. Besides diving in really warm water (and excellent visibility), all divers saw a bunch of new and really neat fish. The first is a Three Spot Angelfish and the second is a Freckled Hawkfish. The third one is not in the book but may be a surgeonfish. The last photo is a Barred Thick Lip Wrasse.



Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky .

Visit Spanky at  
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The deadline for items to be included in the June 2023 Issue is Friday, May 19.

