

# the staggering starfish

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

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Wansboro.

## November Club Meeting

The club's November meeting will be held at **6:00 PM** on the first **Thursday** of the month, **November 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Once again the meeting will be held via Zoom. Spanky will email an invitation to the regular meeting attendees some time in advance of the meeting time (probably the previous evening). If you would like to join us, please request an invitation by sending an email request to Spanky at [gsndambaa@hotmail.com](mailto:gsndambaa@hotmail.com) no later than 12:00 noon on November 1. Our agenda items for this meeting include planning our March 2024 club dive and a potential club dive trip next year.

## November Club Dive, Fort Flagler

The club selected a site on the west side of the Sound for our November Club Dive, which will be at Fort Flagler. Spanky believes that most members of the club have not done this dive site. The site consists of an artificial reef built from debris from demolition of a pier at the site. There are restroom facilities within walking distance from the site. Please remember to bring your Discover Pass or be prepared to buy a day pass. This is a current-sensitive site, so please arrive on time so we do our entry before slack. We plan to meet at the site at **12:00 PM** on **Saturday, November 4**. We will splash promptly at **1:00 PM**. After the dive we will head over to the Finn River Cidery for some cider and a late lunch/early dinner.

### Directions to Fort Flagler Dive Site:

From Kingston, follow Hwy 104 from the ferry toward Port Gamble. Continue on 104 across the Hood Canal Bridge and take the first right after the bridge onto Paradise Bay Road. Follow Paradise Bay Rd for about 6 miles until you get to Oak Bay Rd in Port Ludlow. Turn right onto Oak Bay Road and continue for 8.5 miles and turn right only Hwy 116 (Flagler Rd). Follow Hwy 116 to Fort Flagler State Park. When you get to the park take the first road to the right (Wansboro Rd) and follow it until you come to the waterfront. Take a sharp right and follow the road past the gun battery to a parking area. From the Port Townsend ferry, take Hwy 19 south toward Port Hadlock. Turn left on Hwy 116 and follow the directions above. Google Maps will guide you if you tell it to take you to Battery

## 2023-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

11/02/2023	6:00 PM	Club Meeting via Zoom
11/04/2023	12:00 PM	Club Dive at Fort Flagler
No December Club Meeting.		
12/09/2023	2:00 PM	2023 Club Holiday Party, Mount Vernon
12/28/2023	10:00 AM	Bonus Club Dive at Redondo
01/04/2024	6:00 PM	Club meeting, probably via Zoom
01/20/2024	10:00 AM	Club Dive at the Mukilteo T Dock
02/01/2024	6:00 PM	Club Meeting, probably via Zoom
02/03/2024	8:00 AM	Club Dive at Day Island Wall

## October Club Dive Report

Our October club dive did not go as planned. Even though our highly experienced dive planners worked diligently to select the proper entry time for our dive at the Fox Island Bridge, the divers actually in the water decided that the current appeared too strong for an enjoyable dive under the bridge. Two of the divers decided to explore the sandy reaches of the bay northwest of the bridge. Reported sightings included a couple red shrimp, a moon snail, and some tires. It was a beautiful fall day for the dive. It appeared that our planned entry time was about 30 minutes too early. We will need to try this site again.

## Holiday Party

As everyone has probably noticed, the visibility for our Puget Sound dives has started to improve, so it is time to get ready for our **Annual Club Holiday Party!** In just over a month we will meet at the Mount Vernon home of ESSDBs DeeAnn and Steve for our holiday extravaganza. Spanky hopes that everyone can join us this year. We will meet on **Saturday, December 9** at **2:00 PM**. Please let Spanky know that

you are attending by sending an RSVP email to Spanky at [gsndambaa@hotmail.com](mailto:gsndambaa@hotmail.com) no later than **December 6**. In your RSVP, please identify the number in your party and note any special food requirements (such as vegetarian fare). As usual, please bring along something edible to share at the party. Directions will be emailed to attendees prior to December 9. Spanky will once again be hosting our infamous Pirate Gift Exchange, so it is definitely time to start thinking about your gift. Your Pirate Gift should be around \$30. It's important to bring a Pirate gift that you would actually want to keep, as that will make the gift pirating action more interesting. Spanky looks forward to seeing you at the Party!

## Cool-?-of the Month Section

### Cool-Sightings-of-the-Month:

ESSDB Bart at the October Club Dive: Look!!! A red shrimp!!

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

This month's first cool web article is about one of Spanky's favorite fish, the Plainfin Midshipman. This fish is our local cousin of the Splendid Toadfish that many of you may have seen while diving in the Caribbean. This fish is the major contributor to the nighttime cacophony experienced by those living in West Seattle during mating season. You can read about them by clicking on [toadfish](#).

Our second article is a short one about a fish that was selected as Scuba News' creature of the month. Not surprisingly for the month of October, the fish is the Ghost Goby, This small translucent fish has probably been seen by most of us, but it also was probably overlooked. You can read about what you may have missed by clicking on [Ghost Goby](#).

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

Our cool video for November is about a newly discovered deep sea coral reef near the Galapagos. This pristine reef was found in deep, cold water and is unlike shallow reefs in the area. Watch it by clicking [here](#).

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

Since we did not have a photographer on this month's club dive (or, maybe there was nothing to photograph), Spanky asked ESSDB Larry to select some photos from the trip to the Maldives earlier this year. The first shot is a Longnose Hawkfish, the second An Orange-lined Triggerfish, and the last a giant clam.



Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky .

Visit Spanky at  
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The deadline for items to be included in the December 2023 Issue is Friday, November 24.