

the staggering starfish

the official newsletter of the GSNDAMBAA SCUBA Diving Club

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Octoboo Club Meeting

Spanky has decided to hold a virtual meeting this month. Our meeting will be held at **6:00 PM** on the first **Thursday** of the month (**10/07/21**). Spanky will send an email invitation to the regulars the afternoon before the meeting. If you are not a regular attendee, please send Spanky an email request at gsndambaa@hotmail.com by noon on the day of the meeting (10/07/21) and you will be added. Our agenda includes planning the forgotten November club dive, selecting a day for our bonus December dive, and continuing our discussion for club tee shirts and sweat shirts. If anyone has a tide chart for 2022 we will also plan our January 2022 club dive.

Octoboo Club Dive

The club dive for the Month of Halloween will be at Redondo, our second south end dive in a row. We will meet on **Saturday, 10/9/21 at 10:00 AM**. This is one of the best shore dive sites in the Seattle area. The site is not current-sensitive, but please try to arrive on time. We will splash at **11:00 AM**. There are restrooms close by and facilities to rinse your gear after the dive. We may visit the bottle field and hope to navigate to the fabled Volkswagen. The site is known for octopus (a total of 13 were once counted on a dive here), wolf eels, gunnels, and nudibranchs. We will also be on the lookout for any new structure that may have been added by the Washington Scuba Alliance to create a new artificial reef. Those willing to go to a restaurant will head over to Salty's for an after-dive lunch. We also may visit the MAST Center Aquarium after the dive. The aquarium is open until 2:00 PM on Saturdays.

Directions to Redondo:

From wherever you are, take I-5 towards Des Moines. You will exit at Exit 147 and head west on South 272nd St. Follow 272nd St. When you get to the top of the bluff the road curves to the left and becomes Marine View Drive. Continue down the hill. At the waterfront the road curves to the left and becomes Redondo Beach Drive S. Continue just past Salty's. At the stop sign you turn left. Park for free at an open spot along the street or enter the pay parking lot to your right

2021-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

10/07/2021 6:00 PM

Virtual Club Meeting

10/09/2021 10:00 AM

Club Dive at Redondo

11/04/2021 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably at ESSDB Jim's House

12/05/2021 10:00 AM

Club Dive at Edmonds Underwater Park

12/05/2021 4:00 PM

2021 Holiday Party at ESSDB Jim's House

01/06/2022 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably at ESSDB Jim's House

and park close to the waterfront. Don't forget to pay for parking.

Club Apparel

We have a special announcement for all those who have been waiting decades for a new Club Tee Shirt. Spanky has tasked a select committee to prepare a new run of GSNDAMBAA apparel. He even made a sub-assignment to ensure the club logo is copyrighted so that no one makes any knock-offs of what we are sure will be highly sought-after clothing. So, start thinking about your shirt size and whether you want a tee shirt, sweatshirt, hoodie, or all three. Seeing that the committee is all guys, it is likely that all the apparel options will be grey with black lettering. We hope to present an update in the next newsletter.

September Club Dive Report

Last month's club dive was at the artificial reef near the Les Davis Pier in Tacoma. We had an unusually cool fall day with some showers. Visibility was decent for this dive, about 15-20 feet. We had no trouble locating the artificial reef, and we saw the normal contingent of fish, giant plumose anemones, and lots of nudibranchs. Spanky also saw a good sized Lion's Mane jellyfish on the way back to shore. All-in-all, a very pleasant dive with but chilly fall weather.

Ling Cod

All of us have encountered Ling Cod on our dives, especially those at the Edmonds Underwater Park,

which is home to some very large ones. Ling cod (they actually are not cod but are greenlings) are only present in the Eastern Pacific ranging from Alaska to Baja California, and can grow to about 5 feet in length and weigh over 100 lb. They also can live for more than 30 years. During the club dive at Les Davis and at some other recent dives, Spanky has noticed an unusual abundance of blue ling cod. ESSDB Larry submitted a photo of one for this newsletter. It turns out that these fish can come in a variety of colors, including nearly black, golden, red spotted, and blue. Apparently the blue ones (reportedly called smurf cod in Alaska) may also have blue flesh. However, according to Sitka Salmon Shares, the blue flesh turns white when cooked.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

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

The first cool web article selected by Spanky for this month includes some outstanding ocean photographs from the second annual Oceanographic Magazine photography contest. These are some of the best photos Spanky has seen. You can enjoy them by clicking on [2021 Ocean Photos](#).

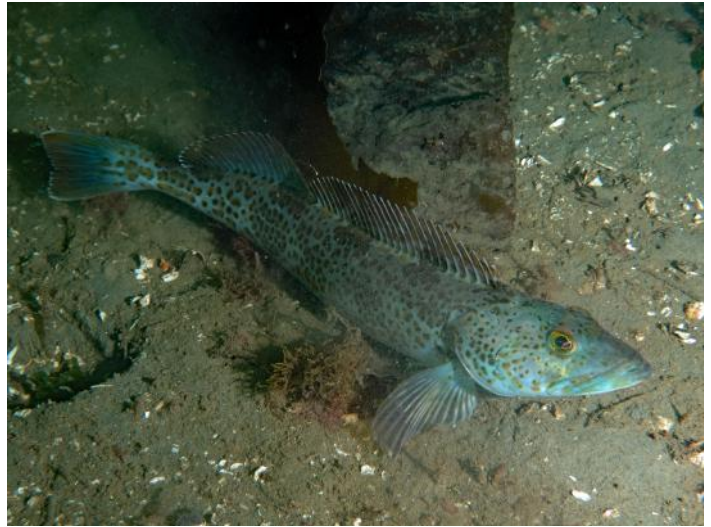
Our second cool web article is about a new species of fish that was discovered in a laboratory fish tank. The new fish species had been used for neuroscience research for years. The researchers had identified it as a translucent fish species found in Myanmar and northeastern India. Recently someone carefully observed the fish and found that the neuroscientists had incorrectly identified the fish. The new species is named *Danionella cerebrum* because they have an exposed brain. Read it [here](#).

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

This month's first cool web video shows a very friendly grey seal interacting with a scuba diver. Grey seals look very much like our harbor seals, but they live in the North Sea. You can watch it by clicking [here](#). The second web video shows a determined dolphin hunting an equally determined mackerel. You can see who's more determined by watching this [video](#).

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

ESSDB Larry took our photos for the Octoboo newsletter at the September club dive at Les Davis. The first is a blue ling cod. The second photo shows a red rock crab trying on a white wig for Halloween. The third shows a sharpnose crab hitching a ride on a leather star.



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

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The deadline for items to be included in the November 2021 Issue is Friday, October 22.