

# the staggering starfish

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

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## Octoboo Club Meeting

The club will start Halloween month by holding our Octoboo club meeting at **6:00 PM** on **Thursday, Octoboo 5<sup>th</sup>**. We plan on a virtual meeting using Zoom. Spanky will email an invitation to the regular meeting attendees some time in advance of the meeting time. 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 Octoboo 5. Our meeting agenda includes planning our February 2024 club dive.

## Octoboo Club Dive, Fox Is. Bridge

Our Octoboo club dive will be at a site new to most club members, the Fox Island Bridge. This is a current-sensitive dive site that is rich in marine life. Hale Passage is fairly shallow - the maximum depth is probably around 65 feet. Since it is current sensitive, please plan on arriving on time so we can be ready to splash before slack. Our meet time for this dive is **9:15 AM** on **Saturday, Octoboo 21**. We will enter the water no later than 10:15 AM and will check the current before we splash. After the dive we will find a local eatery, probably in Gig harbor, for some lunch and libation.

### Directions to Fox Island Bridge:

Take I-5 to Exit 132 (Gig harbor, Bremerton, Hwy 16 West) and follow Hwy 16 across the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Follow Hwy 16 for 2 miles after crossing the bridge and take the Olympic Drive NW/Fox Island exit. Follow Olympic Dr. over Hwy 16 and onto 56<sup>th</sup> St. NW, then onto Filmore Dr. NW. When you get to a tee turn left onto Wollochet Dr. NW. In 1.1 mi the road turns to the right and becomes 40<sup>th</sup> St. NW. Continue for 0.7 mi and turn left onto 70<sup>th</sup> Ave NW and take it to a second tee where you turn right onto 32<sup>nd</sup> St. NW. Follow 32<sup>nd</sup>, which becomes Warren Dr. NW and then Fox Island Bridge Rd., which takes you to the bridge. After you cross the water on the bridge turn right into the parking area for the boat ramp on the Fox Island side. Park and get your gear ready. You can also tell Google Maps to get you to the Fox Island Boat Ramp.

## 2023-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

10/05/2023 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably via Zoom

10/21/2023 9:15 AM

Club Dive at the Fox Island Bridge

11/02/2023 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably via Zoom

11/04/2023 12:00 PM

Club Dive at Fort Flagler

12/07/2023 6:00 PM

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

## Dive/Camp Weekend Report

The dive club convened at the Hoodspout Retreat of ESSDBs Richard & Michele for a very enjoyable long weekend of eating, diving, communing with friends, and eating. We started the weekend with a couple Hood Canal boat dives. We had a fantastic dinner Friday evening that included home-made beef brisket, pulled pork, macaroni & cheese, and corn on-the-cob. After a hearty breakfast we headed out on a rainy day for a couple great dives at Sund Rock. The rain didn't dampen anyone's spirits - we got a good rinse between dives. After rinsing our gear and getting warm again we made tacos from the remaining barbeuce and had a great time visiting with everyone. We slept in on Sunday, waiting for the Swedish pancakes prepared by ESSDB Steve. All-in-all, we had another very fun weekend and some really nice dives with decent visibility. Special thanks to Richard and Michele for hosting us again, to ESSDB Kim for coordinating all the food, and to Dan and Larry for preparing some great barbecue.

## Edmonds UW Park Fundraiser

The stewards for the EUP are hosting a **Halloween Fundraiser** on **Saturday, October 21** from **10:00 AM until Noon**. There will be scavenger hunts for divers (scuba and free) and for swimmers. Additionally, divers can bring their own pumpkins and carve them near the Jetty. Judging for pumpkin carving and the scavenger hunts will be done promptly at noon, with all judging by kids in attendance. Prizes for the winners are being donated by **Underwater Sports**. Donations will be accepted to help fund the work of building and maintaining the underwater trails. Participants should show up early to sign up and confirm the rules. Unfortunately, the fundraiser is being held at the same time as our Octoboo Club Dive. If you are not planning on being at the Club dive you should head up to EUP!

## Cool-?-of the Month Section

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

Our cool web article of the month is about the annual Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. These are some pretty amazing photos. You can read the article and view some of the pictures by clicking on [2023 Wildlife Photos](#).

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

ESSDB Shay found a cool web video that explains the basics of ocean tides. Even Spanky learned something from this video. Watch it by clicking on [TIDES](#). Spanky found a cool video of a ghostly Dumbo octopus that made a special appearance near Hawaii for our Octoboo newsletter. The Nautilus caught the ghostly octo and placed it on YouTube for your viewing pleasure. Watch it by clicking [here](#).

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

Spanky selected our cool photos for this month's newsletter from the photos taken by ESSDB Larry at our Dive/Camp Weekend this year. The first photo is a Lung Mouthed Aeolid (*Coryphella trophina*) gliding down a kelp leaf. The second photo is a cousin of Spanky's, the Slime Star. This sea star is known to release copious quantities of slime when disturbed, so it's best to leave it alone. The final photo is a Clown Dorid in the process of laying eggs. The first photo was taken at Fulton Creek, the second at Sund Rock, and the third at Elephant Wall.



Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky .

Visit Spanky at

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The deadline for items to be included in the November 2023 Issue is Monday, October 23.