

the staggering starfish

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

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September Club Meeting

Due to travel plans for several of our regulars, Spanky elected to hold the September meeting in August, at the Dive/Camp Weekend. Therefore, you do not need to attend the club meeting on September 2. Spanky hopes that you use your extra time for something productive, such as doing a dive.

September Club Dive

We will return to the Les Davis Pier in Tacoma for our September club dive. Hopefully this will be the first fall dive of the year with improved visibility. There is a bit of a walk from the parking area, but this site has an easy entry and is not current sensitive. We plan to meet at the site on **Sunday, September 12** at **8:30 AM** and enter the water at **9:30 AM**. We plan on taking a leisurely dive to thoroughly explore the nooks and crannies of the artificial reef looking for ling cod, rock fish, and the occasional Red Brotula or Sail Fin Sculpin. After the dive we will head down to the Ram for lunch.

Directions to Les Davis:

Take I-5 to Exit 133 and take I-705 North, toward the City Center.

Stay on I-705 for 1.9 miles and take the Pacific Ave. ramp to your left, toward Schuster Parkway.

Follow Schuster Parkway for 1.5 miles until you see a ramp to the left for N. Ruston Way.

Go left onto N. Ruston Way. Follow N. Ruston Way for about 1.4 miles to the entrance to the park. The entrance is a short distance past the large red fire boat on your right. Park as close to the west end of the parking area (as far from the entrance as you can).

Dive/Camp Weekend Report

We managed to pick a weekend with nearly perfect weather in Port Townsend for our Dive/Camp Weekend this year. The skies were clear, nights were cool, and the days were perfect for walks and dives. We had a great turnout last weekend, with a total of 14 divers and campers. The Sergeant's Quarters at Fort Worden worked out well, with overflow staying at the home of ESSDBs Margaret & Larry (ESSDBs Dan & Taffy commuted from their home

2021-GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

09/12/2021 8:30 AM

Club Dive at Les Davis in Tacoma

10/7/2021 6:00 PM

Club Meeting, probably at ESSDB Jim's House

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

near Port Angeles). We had some great meals, including pulled pork cooked on a Big Green Egg and the world famous Swedish Pancakes prepared by ESSDB Steve. We got 2 dives in, one at Point Hudson and one at The Ranger. Unfortunately, visibility was pretty poor for both dives, ranging from about 4 to 8 feet. It was a very pleasant weekend, and Spanky can safely say that a good time was had by all. Spanky would like to send special thanks to ESSDBs Kim, Shay, DeeAnn, Steve, and Larry for organizing and providing food for this event. ESSDB Margaret would like everyone to know that Biscuit returned home safely.

Club Tee Shirts

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 about 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 will be grey. We hope to present an update in the next newsletter.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

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

Spanky has coordinated a cool web article and web video this month. In keeping with our rigid rules for organizing the newsletter, the cool web article about Barrel Jellies is presented here and the video is in the next section. Barrel jellies are common in the Atlantic and Black Sea, and are apparently becoming more common as global warming raises water temperatures. Read more about them by clicking on [Barrel Jelly Article](#).

A curious-looking crab has been collected off the coast of England that has a remarkable resemblance to the Cornish Paty. These crabs are called Sponge Crabs. They decorate themselves with a piece of sponge and have evolved the capability of keeping their sponge in place. If you are curious, you can read the article and see the pictures [here](#). Spanky was curious, and looked around to learn more about this crab. Apparently they are not quite as rare as the above article makes them out to be. A very short article and several additional pictures are available by clicking on [Sponge Crab](#).

Our third cool web article is about comb jellies. Researchers have recently published work on a new technique to identify ctenophores, which include comb jellies. We often see comb jellies during our local dives. The new technique, which is based upon DNA sequencing, is expected to significantly expand the number of ctenophore species. Read it [here](#).

Cool-Web-Video-of-the-Month:

Our first cool web video shows how big some Barrel Jelly Fish can get. You can watch the video referenced above by clicking on [Barrel Jelly](#). Spanky also found a cool web video for deep water jelly fish. It was done by one of the key researchers who wrote the ctenophore article above. It is a beautiful video showing comb jellies, true jelly fish, and siphonophores that you can watch by clicking on [Deep Water Jelly](#).

Cool-Photos-Of-The-Month:

This month's cool photos were taken by ESSDB Larry at Point Hudson. The first is a well decorated Sharp Nose Crab. The second is an Opalescent Nudibranch, and the third is a Giant Barnacle just reaching out for lunch.



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 October 2021 Issue is Friday, September 24.