



December 2018

# TRIDENT



Wow!

Can you believe it's already December? A few short weeks and we will begin 2019 but what a year 2018 has been! We've had high and lows and everything in between. Two of our members have lost their houses to fire... Steve Alexander and Paul Major. Fortunately both are safe Steve lost his earlier in the year and Paul recently lost his home and landscaping equipment. I don't know details but apparently all are safe. Send your thoughts and wishes his way.

Mori is back! Last year, Ethan gave his kidney so that Mori could live. It was an incredible act of selflessness and it has been wonderful to see Mori back to his old self.

As far as fish go, it's been a year that may not ever be matched. The number of big tuna taken this year has been incredible. Can we match it next year?

To end the year, it will be great to see all of you at the Christmas dinner where we can share our memories and the company of our brothers and sisters.

## In this issue:

- President's message
- Club Announcements/Calendar
- DFW Announcements/News
- Full Members Vote on Budget Item
- Last Chance for the Christmas Dinner
- Mike Marsh and his Chicken!
- Classified: Side tie available for 20-22ish boat. King Harbor.

Trident Newsletter is a publication of the Long Beach Neptunes – a non-profit organization dedicated to the art and lifestyle of spearfishing.

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## **Fish Standings 2018:**

2018 Calico Derby – Scott de Firmian 10.95 lbs  
Lobster – Scott de Firmian 10.3 lbs  
Halibut – Scott de Firmian, 14.55 lbs  
Calico Bass – Scott de Firmian 10.9lbs  
White Sea Bass – Paul Zylstra 76 lbs  
Yellowtail– Seamus Callaghan 45.6 lbs  
Kent McIntyre– Paul Zyulstra, 116.5 lbs  
Tuna (Ca) – Dan Keeler BFT 217 lbs  
Tuna (other) – Mike Marsh: Blue Fin 77 lbs  
Reef Fish (out of country) – Jeff Benedict: Grouper 71.2 lbs  
Pelagic (out of country) – Mike Marsh: Sailfish 99lbs  
Bonito – Todd Farquar 10.1 lbs  
Dorado – Byron Quinonez 11.9 lbs



## President's Message:

The end of a long and amazing year has now come. 2018 will likely go down as the best ever in the 67 years of Long Beach Neptunes history thus far. The amazing array of White Seabass ~ several over 70 lbs., the breathtaking Bluefin Tuna ~ Oh those cows!, and the astonishing 40+ lb Yellowtail landed by Neptunes in 2018 established several personal bests and created incredible memories for those divers, and all who were fortunate enough to be there with them. The 71 lb White Seabass landed by Seamus Callaghan at the 2018 Bluewater meet was the largest winning fish in the history of the event. I was 25 ft away from him when he pulled that trigger. At the weigh-in that day some nice fish were put on the hook. A Fathomier had posted a 50+ WSB and was sporting a cocky smirk. Then, at last call, Seamus sauntered forward, reached into his kill bag ~ and as the head of the beast was revealed, a roar of stupendous joy echoed through the Isthmus. An unforgettable day. At the 2018 Fall Classic, Bill Peratt hoisted a 52.2 lb Bluefin Tuna to take first place. This was the first Bluefin Tuna ever to take the *Champion of the Year* prize at the LBN Fall Classic. I believe Bill's trip that day included one drop and one trigger pull. Paul Zylstra's amazing 76# WSB/40+ YT set the highest weight mark of any KMA combo in our history. In March we were honored to present our Life Member ~ Jay Riffe with a Lifetime Achievement award. His contributions to our sport are legendary, and Jay himself is a pure Legend. We all aspire to Jays's greatness in this sport we love. Our new Life members for 2018, Ethan Smith and Steve Parkford ~ Both heroic, dedicated, honorable and trustworthy. This year's Auction helped us immensely with great generosity, attendance and ample proceeds to help elevate our club experience, right on through our Christmas Party on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. I hope you all can make it. It will be a great time with some nice surprises for all who can attend. We'll talk more about 2018, enjoy some great food & drink, and have a chance to enjoy that yearly night with the wives & significant others that care so much about us, and support us, while we're out at sea, traveling afar, doing what we need and love to do. As for me, this will be a wrap on my 2 ½ years serving the club as your leader. Being the President of the Long Beach Neptunes has been an honor, I love and appreciate you all. I cannot even express how proud I've been to have had this this opportunity to be of service to such an amazing and admirable group of people. It has been a lot of work but worth it for me. I've tried to keep things enjoyable and always protect the proud legacy of this . . . the most prestigious dive club in the world. Thank you to the guys who served on





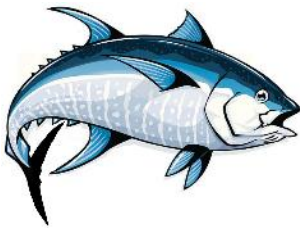
## President's Message:

the board with me over these years; Bruce Dardis, Mike Marsh, Bill Peratt, Scott De Firmian, Dave Freeman, Lou Rosales, Masahiro Mori, Danny Jones, Jesse Goode, Brandon Ward, & Terry Maas.

*To laugh is to risk appearing a fool. To weep is to risk appearing sentimental. To reach out for another is to risk involvement. To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self. To place your ideas, your dreams before the crowd is to risk their loss. To love is to risk not being loved in return. To live is to risk dying. To hope is to risk despair. But risks must be taken because the greatest risk in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, is nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he cannot learn, feel, change, grow, love . . . live. Chained by his certitudes he is a slave, he has forfeited freedom. Only the person who risks is free.*

~Long Life Ahead~

Todd Norell 2018



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## Trident Hyperlinks

Each year we depend upon donations from various sponsors who we feature in the newsletter. Please visit them first. Clicking on their logos will take you directly to their website.

In addition to the sponsors, hyperlinks have been added to the dfw pages for regulations, licenses and other announcements. Clicking on the headline above the “Club Announcements and Calendar” page or on the link in the body will take you to the Neptune 2018 calendar which has been shared to all members. All you need is a gmail account.



# Club Announcements & Calendar:

Each year we depend Heavily upon donations from various sponsors who we feature in the newsletter. Please visit them first. Clicking on their logos will take you directly to their website.

**December 5, Meeting:** Me'n Ed's 7:30. Full members in attendance will be voting to determine whether to buy fishing licenses for club members in good standing.

**December 9, Christmas Dinner:** The annual Neptune Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Sunday December 9. Location will be the [King Harbor Yacht Club](#) located at 280 Yacht Club Way, Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277.

For a complete listing of Neptune dates click on [2018 Neptune Calendar](#):

**ATOMIC**  
AQUATICS



## **2018 Abalone Season Closed!**

As many of you already know, the 2018 Abalone season has been closed. The California Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously to close the season due to concerns about declining abalone populations. They cited evidence of mass starvation and mortality among red abalone over the past several years. A decline in Kelp growth, combined with a rise in purple sea urchins has been blamed for the decline. [For more information click here](#)

## **2018 DFW Dates to remember**

The DFW has published the new Sport Fishing Regulations for the seasons. Download the regs by [clicking here](#)

### **2019 Fishing License:**

2019 fishing licenses can be purchased at many sporting goods and hunting stores as well as online at the Ca DFW website. [Click here for DFW website.](#)

### **White Seabass:**

The limit for white seabass is currently three per person, per day until March 15, 2019, at which time it becomes one per day. Beginning June 16 2019, it will be 3 per person until it changes back again March 15

### **Spiny Lobster:**

Lobster season is now Open. Remember to turn in your report card by April 30, 2019. Report cards can also be submitted online. [Submit report cards here](#)

First Day of 2018-19 season Saturday, September 29, 2018 at 0600.

Last Day of 2018-19 season Wednesday, March 20, 2019.



# Voting at December Meeting:

There will be a vote brought before members at the December meeting. All members in attendance will be voting on whether or not to spend club monies to buy 2019 fishing licenses for all active members in good standing. (2019 paid membership)

A discussion will be held and voting will occur shortly after the discussion.

# Last Chance for the Christmas Dinner!

December 5<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to rsvp and pay for the Christmas Dinner which will be held Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup> at the King Harbor Yacht Club. See the following page for details.

***morifish***





**2018**

**LONG BEACH NEPTUNES**

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

**SUNDAY - DECEMBER 9, 2018**



**KING HARBOR YACHT CLUB  
280 YACHT CLUB WAY - REDONDO BEACH, CA**

**COCKTAILS & REFRESHMENTS ~ 6:30 PM  
DINNER ~ 7:00 PM**

**COST IS \$25 PER PERSON (\$50 PER COUPLE)**

**NO HOST BAR**

**PAY BILL PERATT AT THE DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> CLUB MEETING OR VIA PAYPAL  
AT [LBNEPTUNESPAYMENT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LBNEPTUNESPAYMENT@GMAIL.COM)**



*Includes: accommodations on a triple occupancy casita, all meals, tournament entry, fishing license, 3 days diving included.*

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# “NOT THE CHICKEN!”

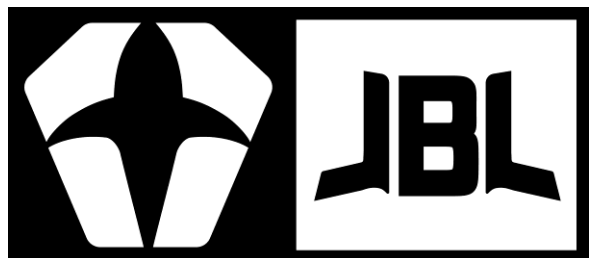
By Mike Marsh

Every trip worthy of retelling among friends has a memorable experience that can bring back instant memories...“Not the Chicken” will forever bring back fond memories of our La Paz trip with Bruce Dardis, Todd Norell, Mike Feldman, Danny Jones. and I.

We barely exited the airport, on our way to Palapas Ventana, when T- man demanded to stop at the local market to load up on beer and tequila. “ My God Man its 10 am”. We pulled the van over and loaded up the beverages. As we drove to our La Paz destination, our eyes were drawn to the Sea of Cortez. “ Hum looks green, really green and windy”. Well, at least the accommodations are good.

As we approach La Ventana, instead of turning west towards the seaward side, we drove past it a quarter mile and hung a left down some dusty alley. It was complete with chainlink, barbed wire, and barking dogs. The greeter explained that Tim was out of town and that this was all that was available. After extensive bitching and complaining from our group, two palapas miraculously became available. Settling in, we readied ourselves for day one of our dive adventures.

Morning broke and the wind was already whipping up the white horses. This would limit us to the South end of Isla Ceralvo and day one produced only 2 decent size parrot fish. Thanks to Bruce and Danny, they were great eating and went well with the peanut butter and lettuce pizza I had. Sounds terrible but was actually rather good. Tired beyond belief, we headed to our palapas where were my two roommates, Bruce and Too Tall would enjoy a bedtime story related to some misadventure of my past and lessons learned. This became a nightly ritual which I’m sure they greatly miss.



Day two was less windy so our two pangas headed towards Loraina and Meyer's Reef. Visibility cleaned up some and it looked promising. I had made flashers for everyone and they seemed to work well for everybody but me. Too Tall shot a nice 45 pound whooo, Danny shot one right next to me in the 30 lb. range and Bruce landed his first ever at 30 lbs. I didn't see a single fish other than the ones being tossed into the panga. Todd was bitching incessantly about his gun missing and by the end of the trip, it was going on eBay. This day ended early with a great Wahoo dinner, a few drinks, Not so few for Todd, and of course another bedtime story.

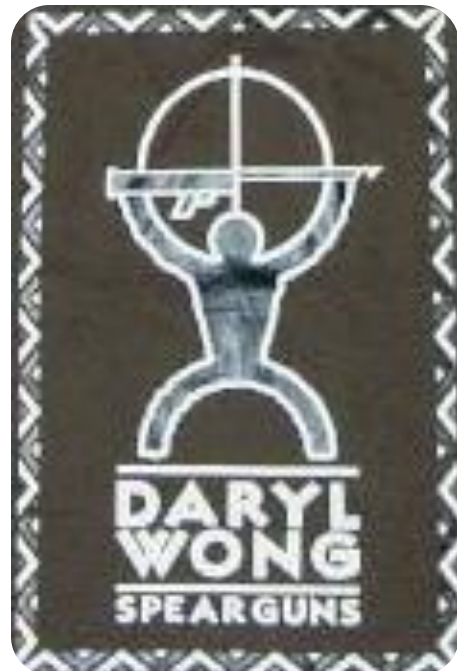
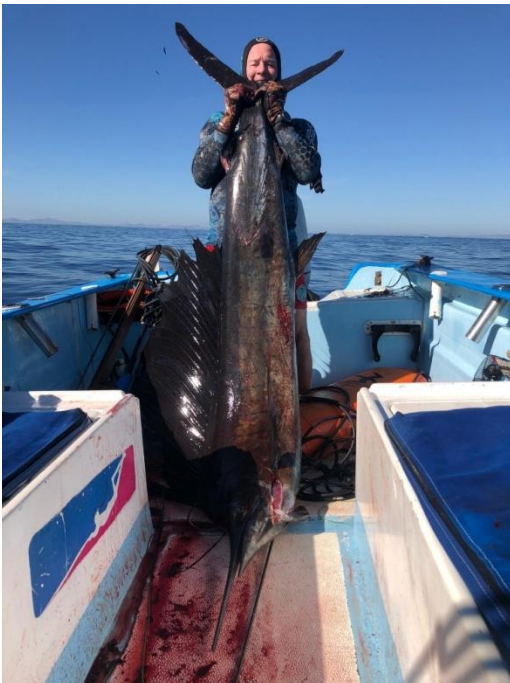
On day three, we had requested chum. Tuna had been taken by some of the fishing boats the day before. Nick, a young diver that Pete Correale was babysitting, shot and tore off a nice one. Now on a drift, I used my chicken float for buoyancy to hang 30 feet watching the chum ladder drift downward. From surface the surface you would see the tidbits disappear by those sneaky bluefins. They acted like yellowtail, in that, once they came through, don't expect another sighting for 10 to 15 minutes. I finally figured out that you had to hang at 30 feet or so and point your gun directly at a piece of chum, the fish would come in so fast, that would be your best chance to hit one. I did not figure this out until day four.



Bruce liked the throw flashers I made but what he really fell in love with was my chicken. The Chicken is a small orange float shaped kind of like an outstretched chicken with its head cut off. The drop line spools around it with a series of flashers. You get the picture. Bruce noticed that it worked extremely well attracting all kinds of fish, so well that wherever the chicken was, Bruce was found coddling it.

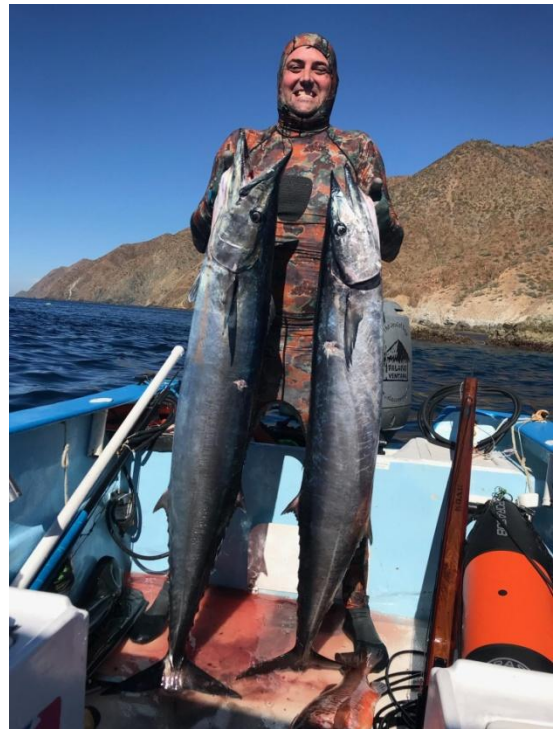
Too Tall shot another 32 pound Whoo that day. Adding to his increasing fish count, was his increasingly annoying bragging rights. Also that day, Danny shot a refrigerator magnet which was shaped like a Whoo. I told the boys I was holding out for something bigger. The truth is that I hadn't seen Jack. Todd was sulking about missed shots and the lack of sightings.

On who knows what drift, with chicken on my left and Bruce uncomfortably close to his newly found friend, I saw a large brown image moving below me. Kicking down with my new Red Fox C-4 fins. I saw that the shape was a good size sailfish. I took the long shot and tagged the ass end of the thing. I hit the surface and so did the fish with sail fully extended. The surrounding pongas were cheering at the sight. One voice out cried them all. It was Bruce Yelling "NOT THE CHICKEN". Somehow, the chicken got entangled in my float line and now was being flung through the air and drag by the fish. On top of that visual, the sailfish and chicken, now inseparable, were on a collision course for our panga. The captain urgently started the outboard and got the hell out of there. The fish finally slowed enough for me to release the chicken and I had the captain high tail it back to Bruce. He was grateful to have his little buddy back. Meanwhile, I landed the 99-pound fish and we made it back to drift again. A few drifts later, I shot a 30 pound Whoo. Back on shore, fish were weighed, gear rinsed, a fantastic dinner was eaten and it was time for yet another bedtime story.



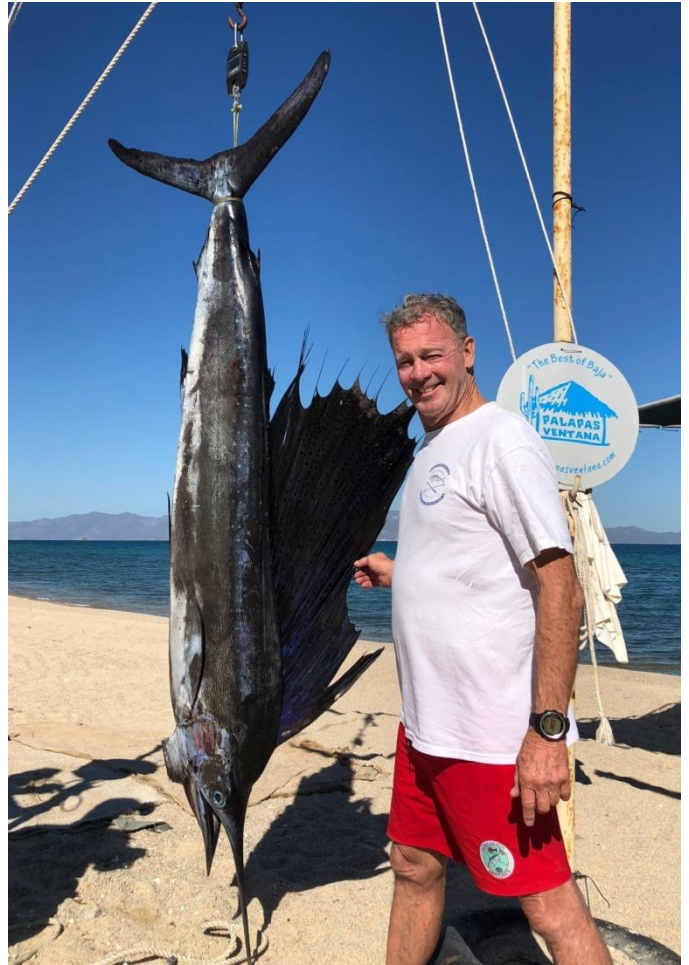
By day four everyone was feeling a little worse for wear. My toes and calves were aching, Too Tail still couldn't shake his cold, Bruce had a sore throat for snoring so loud, Danny. ..well, it just hurt to look at Danny. Lastly, Todd was nursing hangover number 3. One high light for Todd was to bust out the theme song for Sanford and Sons each time I donned my Red Fox fins. Aches and pains be dammed, we loaded our gear and chum and off we went. This day was primarily dedicated to hunting tuna.

The morning hours had the most sightings of tuna. On a drift, I released my chum ladder and waited at the surface. It wasn't long when the thieving tuna gobbled the morning snack. I replenished my chum ladder, waited 5 minutes or so then dove pointing my Alexander directly at a piece of bait. Halfway into my breath-hold, a 60 pounder pulled up and stopped nose to nose just looking at a piece of chum. I shot, the bungee tightened and the float tombstoned. By the time I yelled Tuna, the fish was off. The fish count that day was Danny with 1 Dorado tipping the scales at 8 pounds, and Too Tail shot one 32 LB. whoo. Todd, Bruce and I failed to connect.

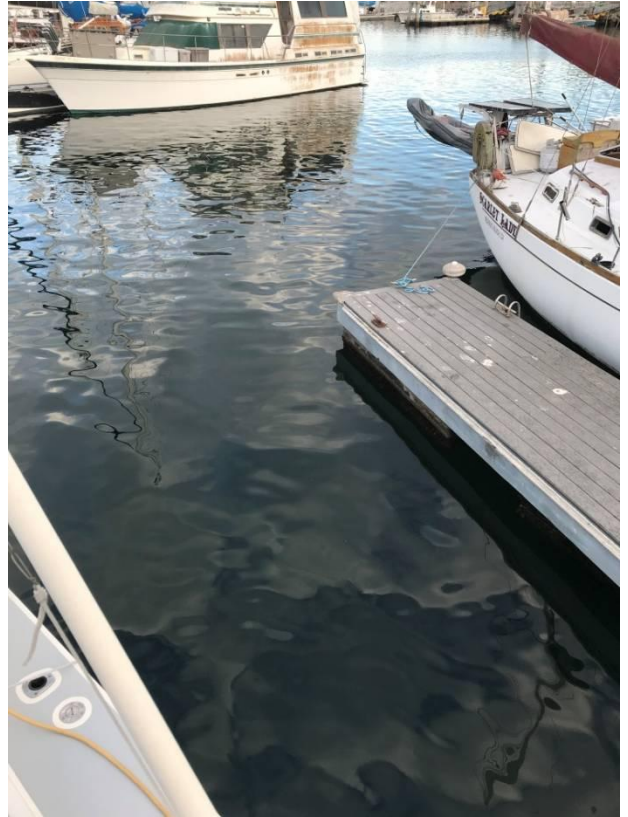


The last day turned out to be the calmest day of the trip. Per our captain's recommendation, we headed for his secret Wahoo spot. Too tail added to his annoyance factor by shooting a 31 and 45 pound whoo along with a 10-pound snapper. My sightings included two 60 lb tunas wanting nothing to do with me and a wahoo so close to me that I couldn't miss. I missed.

I could not have picked a better group of guys to spend a week of hardcore diving with. Palapas Ventana definitely has it dialed in with their wonderful accommodations, food, boats, captains, and some of the best diving around. Lastly, if I am on an overnight dive trip with any of my fellow Neptunes, don't expect a bedtime story. I'm all done!  
Mike Marsh



## Classified Ads:



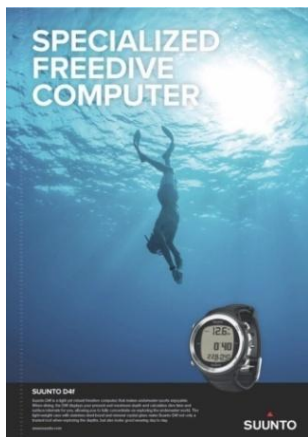
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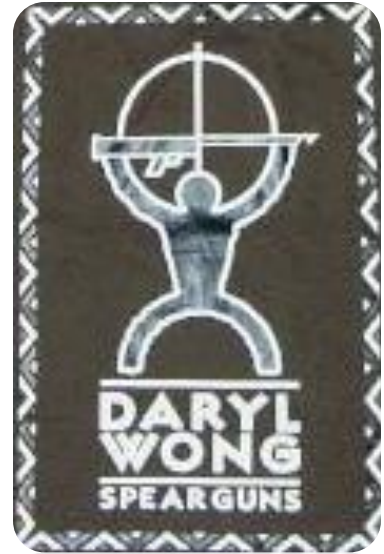
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# ATOMIC AQUATICS



# HERRANEN

s p e a r g u n s





I want to thank all of the members that sent in photos and articles throughout the year. This is the last issue that you will see my name as editor! Chase will be the new editor and I hope that you all do everything that you can to make his job easier. I know he will do a very good job. Please send in photos and articles and when you see him let him know what a good job he is doing. It's always nice to get support from the club.

*Louis Rosales*

Long Beach Neptunes Newsletter Editor...past tense