



Connecting and Informing our Neptune Community with:
Safety, Camaraderie, and Club Legacy
February 2016

El Nino, Exotics, and a Neptune Engagement!

The first few storms are living up to the hype! With limited windows between swells get out there when you can for a seabass or lobster. Or.....head out of town and crush some exotics like the boys in the following pages! Great news comes our way with the announcement that two of our own are on the way to the alter!

Read on! Waaahooooo!

It is great to be a Neptune!



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Neptune To Do's:

- ❑ Pay your dues for 2016
- ❑ Buy your 2016 fishing license

Attention all Fish Slayers!!!

It is imperative that if you get a quality fish that is worthy of a fish Application that you get your app turned in timely. If you have even a hint of a question or think that there may be something that could affect a successful entry call or E-mail Todd Norell. He will be there to help you sort it out. (562) 309-3308

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Be sure to see what is at our web site at:

LongBeachNeptunes.com



The Trident Newsletter is a publication of the Long Beach Neptunes, a Non Profit Organization dedicated to the art and lifestyle of spearfishing.

Editor: Chris Malloy
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Photo by Terry Maas

2015 Fish Standings

California

Barracuda:	Open
Bonito:	Keith Kaufman: 9.31
Calico Bass:	John Hughes: 9 lbs
Calico Derby:	Keith Kaufmen: 6.9 lbs
Dorado:	Larry Heinrich: 18.24lbs Paul Zylstra: 18.3lbs (Rule 12)
Halibut:	Open
Lobster:	Jeff Benedict: 10.8 lbs Byron Quinonez: 10.8lbs
Sheepshead:	John Hughes: 22.8 lbs
Tuna:	Steve Parkford: 29.4lbs
White Sea Bass:	Jeff Bilhorn: 69.5 lbs

Yellowtail: Lyle Davis: 43.14 lbs

Abalone: Mori: 10 3/8"

Kent McIntyre:

Jeff Bilhorn:

69.5 WSB + 31.3 YT= 100.8 lbs

Jeff Benedict:

42 WSB + 30.4 YT= 72.4lbs

Out of Country

Reef Fish: Todd Bersuch, Pargo: 34.83 lbs

Pelagic (non tuna):

Michael DeGiosa, Amberjack: 53.0 lbs

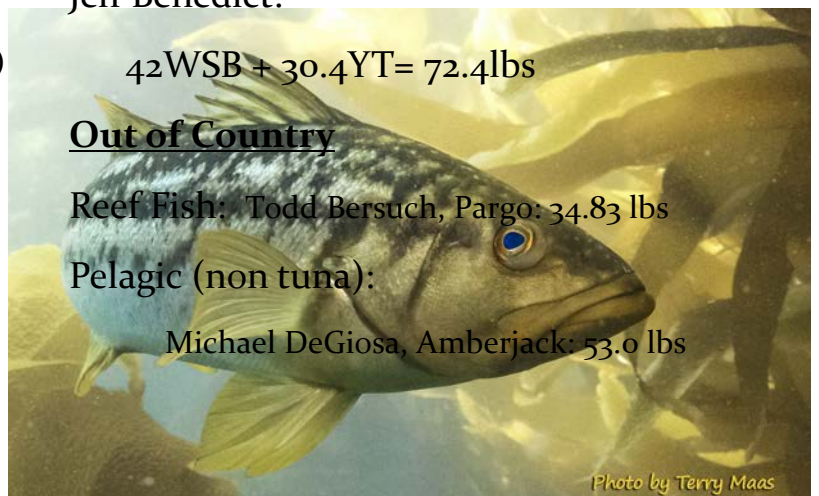


Photo by Terry Maas

February 2016 President's Message

Winter is full swing and the swell has been consistent and relentless in So Cal. Bad for diving but great for surfing. Some of the guys have made it down to Mexico and we hope to hear from them during a presentation at the February meeting. Be sure and check out the calendar for all of the dates of our upcoming meetings and events. Malloy is doing a great job with the newsletter, and this month happens to be filled with stuff, so rather than read a useless message from the President, enjoy what this month's edition has to offer. See you out in the line up, unless the swell dies.

Keith



The 2016 Neptune Calendar

- February: Monthly meeting 2/3/16: Fish and Game discussion / Exotic fish trip stories
- March: 3/2/16: 2015 Awards presentation.
- April: 4/6/16: THE AUCTION! Clear out the gear you don't use and add to the club's loot!
- May: 5/4/16: CPR-Difibulator training.
- June: 6/1/16: Video training. Set up, use in the water, and editing.
- June 10-12 Blue Water Meet:
- July: 7/6/16: BWM results/trophies. Member videos and slideshow.
- July 21-24th: Neptune family Camping Trip.
- August: 8/3/16: Diver Safety meeting.
- September: 9/7/16: Manufacturer's night.
- October: 10/5/16: Tac Medical training.
- Fall Classic: 10/15/16

The 2015 Fall Classic Results

Big Fish Entries

1.	John Carpenter	31.30 lb Yellowtail	Long Beach Neptunes
2.	Steve Parkford	26.70 lb Yellowtail	Long Beach Neptunes
3.	Jim Dexter	25.65 lb Yellowtail	Guest
4.	Seamus Callaghan	24.25 lb Yellowtail	Long Beach Neptunes
5.	Dave Freeman	17.80 lb Dorado	Long Beach Neptunes
6.	Todd Norell	17.10 lb Yellowtail	Long Beach Neptunes
7.	Scott DeFirmian	16.05 lb Yellowtail	Long Beach Neptunes
8.	Juan Aquilar	8.65 lb Yellowtail	Guest

Big Calico Entries

1.	Alex Ray	6.50 lbs	Guest
2.	Rick Bae	5.85 lbs	Long Beach Neptunes
3.	Paul Zylstra	4.25 lbs	Long Beach Neptunes
4.	Dave Freeman	4.15 lbs	Long Beach Neptunes
5.	Eric Donohue	3.70 lbs	Long Beach Neptunes

Big Lobster

1.	Eric Donohue	4.30 lbs	Long Beach
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For a few laughs courtesy of Del White

A TYPICAL DAY SPEARFISHING TUNA



Congratulations George and Lindsay!!

Lindsay sent me a message a week or so ago announcing that George had asked her to marry him around Christmas time!! Congratulations to two of our best!! Not sure if this has ever happened in the History of the Neptunes!

Well done! Best wishes all around!!!



Hoo de Hoo! By Jesse Goode

"Hoody Hoo"

A couple weeks back the Bersuch's and I headed out in hopes of finding some wa-hoo. We've been hearing some reports, seeing some pics hear and there, mostly hook & line guys. So that was enough to get us out there.

Early Sunday morning the weekend before the fall classic we arrived at a garage door paddy. Todd and I suited up and jumped in . Kory and another friend manned the boat and threw some rods in. The only reason Kory was playing with rods was cause of the fresh tattoo he'd received a couple days prior. I had been in for probably 15 minutes and look to my left and see a torpedo coming at me. He saw that my mojo was so dope and came in to take a peak. I try to aim but had to act quick so I pulled the trigger and my shaft goes right over his head and misses by an inch. I was pissed but had to reset my emotions and get my head back in the game. So I hoot at Todd and let him know the hoo are in the area and reload. 10 minutes later I see two more come in from the outside , the one in back was giant and the one in front significantly smaller. I couldn't get greedy so I took the shot on the smaller of the two and it took off like a missile.



Hoo de Hoo!

I back off for a lil and let the float and bungee do the work. I punched a dive to see my shot placement and it was securely toggled and I also see the bigger of the two wahoo still circling the scene. I can't get it out of my head how big he was!! So I pull mine in and was really surprised of his size and at that point I was foaming at the mouth with stoke cause I landed a wahoo in my front yard. Swam it over to the boat & the boys were tripping . I could tell Kory was frothing to get one , I tell him use my gear and get one. So what did he do ? He went and got one!! I'll never forget that day and hope we'll have more to come!!



Buzzer Beater. By John Hughes.

At the buzzer..... Last year I ran over to Cat the day after Christmas and was shocked to still see yellows all over. Since nobody had been out there, I put the word out and dove 3 times in the last week of the year and just crushed them. It was an amazing year end and it was beautiful seeing the temps and the fish holding. This year we had a series of wind storms that had the temps fluctuating and I wanted to get over and see if I could do a repeat. I had a month off and only managed 3 dives in 3 weeks. Christmas came and went and it was blowing like crazy. There was a small window on the 28th and I was determined to get over to the island to see if I could score a last minute yellow. I borrowed a buddies boat and hit it with a newbie friend of mine. The ride out was a bit sloppier than I was hoping but upon arrival I was super excited to see the place jugged with red crab! There were so many crab, as I looked at the beaches there were line upon line of dead crab on the tide lines. It was crazy. Thoughts of earlier this summer and walls of dumb, crab stuffed yellows passed through my mind. Excitedly, I suited up and told my buddy the best locations for finding fish at this particular spot. I did a big loop and not only were there crab but the place was walled with bait. I started doing drop after drop as I moved along the drop off edge and never saw a thing. I worked that whole location and then another that was equally jugged with crab. The only sighting I had was digging out the anchor at the second spot in 30' of water I got circled by two 1 pound yellows.



Buzzer Beater

The vis was 20-40' and doable but maybe the 61 degree water had something to do with it? Not exactly what I had in mind. Switching gears, I told my buddy that I wanted to go shoot a limit of calicos. We ran over to a spot I've had really good luck at before and the vis looked absolutely great. We hopped in and everything looked decent, just kinda dead. Not alot of bait going on, not much current and no big bass around in the water column. As I moved out into some stringers the vis hazed up and my seabass senses started tingling. I switched into seabass mode and that definitely made the difference as absolutely nothing changed and no fish appeared. We dove that spot for about an hour as I moved around trying to find the fish. I swam back to the boat with an empty stringer and I saw one big bass over 7lbs right before I hit the boat but it swam down into some boulders as I stalked it. I tried a few dives poking in those boulders trying to find it but it's a bit hard hole hunting with a RA 130. We decided to start working down the island towards the isthmus as we had a date to meet Capt George on the Sand Dollar around dark to do some bug hunting.



We passed a certain location I had never dove and told my buddy I wanted him to live boat me as I didn't have any electronics and didn't know what the bottom was doing. This place like the last looked fairly dead. I dove the whole zone and right at the end my interest got peaked. There were some big boulders covered in kelp that went right over the edge of a drop off. I started doing drops creeping around the boulders and slowly swimming through the channels. On my third or fourth drop I came around the corner on one and see two big bruiser calicos sitting in one of the channels facing me. As the biggest of the two started moving I saw that he was going to have to pass in front of me as he scooted through a gap in the rocks. Instead of tracking the fish I swung my gun ahead of him and just waited for him to pass through. He was moving pretty fast but as luck would have it I timed the trigger pull perfectly. I strung the fat bastard and as I ascended I just let him swim around a bit trying to wear him out and not put too much pressure on him. I've torn bigger bass than him off in this exact scenario even with perfect shots. Those big bass don't mess around and have a surprising amount of power. As I pulled him to me and got him in my hands all I could think of was how pissed Kaufman was going to be at me. Hee hee, I had been chasing that guys 6.9lb calico since February. Every couple of months I'd send him some text saying I blew him out of the water and send him an old photo just to get him all worked up. Of course it's no fun when you're dealing with a nice guy like Kieth who would just congratulate me each time. Boo.

Buzzer Beater

We met the Sand Dollar at a spot just after dark. First thing we did was weigh that Calico on two different scales and both showed 9.0lbs. Boy was I stoked! It was nice to get a hot shower as I put on another suit and threw the tanks on for some deeper bug diving. Wyatt and I followed a reef down to about 80' and although the diving was nice, we only ended up with 3 bugs between the two of us. The free divers came back with one apiece. The current was absolutely screaming on the way back and I fought it the whole way. As I hunkered down to rest in the rocks at 50' I came across a big turtle that was doing the same thing. I thought it was dead as it was just laying there but as I tapped it on the shell with my light, it turned it's head around as if to say "leave me alone, I'm resting" end quote;. I played with it for a few minutes and then struggled back to the boat. The bugs were definitely not happening but George suggested one more deep spot. As Wyatt and I slid down the anchor line to 120' I knew I was fairly gassed. I was good hitting the bottom at 109' but as I eased down past 115' I started to feel fairly narced out. I couldn't even read my gauges clearly so I knew my day was up. I had two more bugs in the bag and I signaled Wyatt to head back and off we went. Smartly, he had hung a light on the chain so we knew where to go. On our deco stop I was still just floating, high as a kite and it was super surreal as we hung at 20' in a huge current of Red Crab. By the time I hit the deck and got changed, it was 10:30 and I'd been diving since 8 am. Full day and I was TOAST. Although it wasn't exactly wide open, it was an amazing day filled with good friends and great diving. The 9.0 Calico and the 4 bugs I brought home were just a bonus. Winter diving at the island is always stress free and exciting at the same time!



The Neptunes and the Magic Rocks. By Steve Parkford.

Alijos Rocks Trip – November 11-19th 2015

Del White – Spero in Command (SIO)

Mel Mitchel (LA Lobsterman)

Steve Parkford (2nd Shot Steve)

Robert Strohbach (Doc Robert)

Bill Peratt (Just Bill)

John Carpenter (Captian John)

Pete Correale – Guide/photographer (Pettie)



Original Schedule: Which Changed

The following was our schedule. Alijos Rocks is 200 miles out and requires 28-32 hours to get there

Nov 11- Travel LA to Cabo – drive to Puerto San Carlos – 7-8 hours all in – load boat, crash

Nov 12 - drive all day to Alijos Rocks (30 hours)

Nov 13 - Arrive Alijos Rocks 8:30 –two big 40lb Dorado on troll as we arrived – good omen

Dove “The Pencil” a pinnacle on the west side of the rocks about 2 miles off – top rose to about 80-90 feet – one wahoo sighting, none taken—everyone disappointed

Nov 14 - Almost bailed to head back to Thetis Banks but Robert and Mel insisted on diving East side – Big Score – all our fish were taken that day – 9 wahoo, strip marlin, dorado – saw tuna at depth – chummed but no action – lots of reef sharks cruising – most fish seen in 100-200 feet of water

Nov 15 - Blown off the rocks due to poor weather – heading to Theatis banks in rough seas

Nov 16 - All day on water – slow boat in heavy seas – retreated to safe harbor – dove wreck for pargo, dove shallow for lobster – decided to bail and end trip

Nov 17 - Early departure back to Puerto San Carlos, load van, head to Palapas Ventana

Day 18 -All day at Palapas Ventana –hanging out

Day 19 - bfast and airport shuttles Return Flight



We all arrived within an hour at Cabo -

Packed up and headed in one van and a trailer in tow to Puerto San Carlos where we arrived in the evening.

Loaded up the boat with our gear, had a meal and hit the sack.

Motoring out to the opening of Mag bay we all fell asleep as the Captain anchored for a few hours just inside the bay... just to get a little shut eye.

Then at 4am headed NW to Alijos Rocks... all the next day we motored —eating, sleeping, telling stories

Woke up the second day at sea to find we were behind schedule and wouldn't get to the rocks until around 10am — but as a good sign we double hooked on two good size Dorados.

There was a long range fishing boat anchored on the Eastern side so we motored over to the western side of the rocks to a pinnacle called “The Pencil” which came up to about 80 feet from some 150 below.

Del spotted a good size Wahoo but nobody saw any real game fish except Yellow Tail and some Spotted Grouper that hung right on the pinnacle.

Visibility was 60-80 feet but hazy. We baited and created chum ladders and I used my flasher-chandelier — no tuna, no wahoo.

Late in the day we took the panga close into shore with crystal visibility but mostly saw sharks trolling around which were very attracted to my flasher system.



The next morning Pete, our guide held a meeting where he made the reasonable point that should have seen Wahoo if there were here, and since we hadn't and the long range fishing boats came and left we should consider heading in-shore to Thetis Banks where Wahoo were more certain.

Most of us agreed to drive another full day to Thetis especially since we were expecting heavy winds and accompanying seas in a few day and in-shore might treat us better. Mel Mitchell and Robert Strohbach disagreed and won us all over to their point of view — which was to at least try the West side of the rock which was more up-current —with over 30 hours getting there we should at least try... so we did, and immediately it paid off. Dell got a Wahoo, then Robert, Then Bill, then Me, then Robert and Dell got a second and finally Del shot a marlin. Poor John was either missing or they had learned to keep their distance from him — I think it was that probably that ugly mug he has that turned the fish away — who'd want to get closer to that?

Oh, but by the end of the day John, way out on his own, and in 500 feet of water nails a really good size Wahoo. So the crew was complete, we all had fish.

Visibility was amazingly good, clean 80-100 horizontal feet and nearly the same top to bottom.

We all pretty much covered the boat with wahoo. Although it was reported ate Tuna were passing by us at around 80 feet as curious Wahoos came closer at 30 feet depth.



The plan for the next day was to focus on tuna, chum them up and create some opportunities. The problem was the next day we lost our sea. Winds came up as did the swell and it was decided we could not keep track of divers. We had expected big winds but not for yet another dayso unfortunately we left for Thetis Banks.

Driving about 8 knots we got slammed by a 6 second 5-7 foot swell on our aft-port, hard waves lifting and pitching the boat all made us a little nervous. Some made plans on how to ditch over-board; what to grab, who was going to do what. Some laughed at the sea but all of us got used to it.

The next day we found our course had been changed and were no longer going to Thetis but instead to a safe harbor about 3 hours north of Mag Bay.

Now wahoo and tuna were off the table as the only options were reef fish. We dove a wreck unsuccessfully but later all convened to grab lobsters for a big feast that night.

That evening some suggested we “cut bait” and head back to San Carlos early as our diving adventure had been reduced by the heavy winds coming down from the north and were expected for several more days. So, we did. Got to San Carlos, and then drove the La Palapas just south of La Paz and chilled for a day before flying home to LA —







Incredible photos and story. Great job guys!!



Get out there and fill your freezers with lobster before the season closes! Keep an eye out for a Seabass!!!

Thank you to those of you who sent in content for this edition of the Trident!!

Send me your stories and Pictures!!

Sincerely,

Chris Malloy

Newsletter Editor

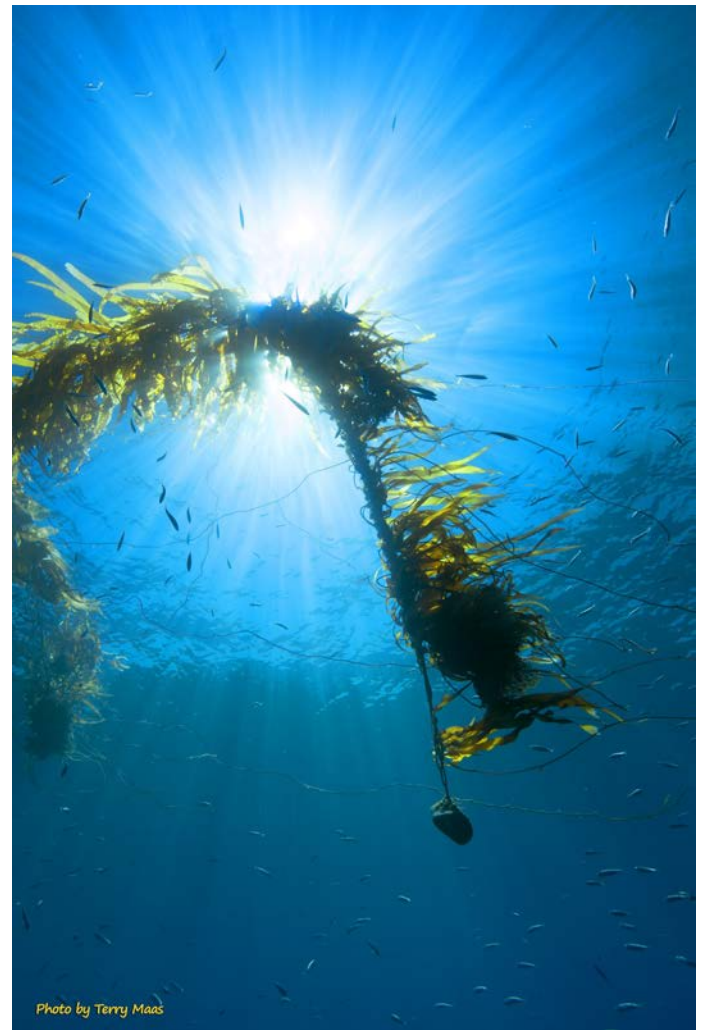


Photo by Terry Maas



*Diving for a Cause
Photo by Terry Maas*



Spearfishing Tournament

DATE: Saturday, March 19, 2016

TROPHIES: 1st thru 4th Place (Biggest Yellowtail Wins)

ENTRY FEE: \$50.00 (See entry form attached) Includes tournament rash guard, raffle ticket for \$1000's in prizes • Weigh In Party at Hammerhead

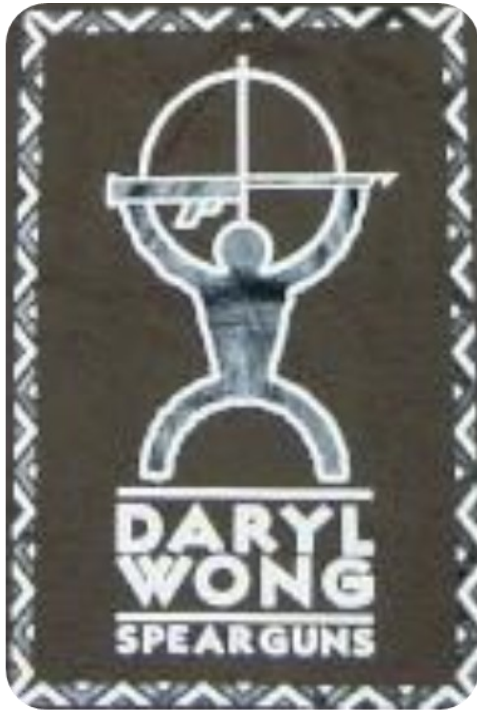
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