



Connecting and Informing our Neptune
Community with:
Safety, Camaraderie, and Club Legacy
January 2017



A Belated Welcome to 2017!

Alright ladies and gentlemen, here it is coming to you hot from your new newsletter editor Dave Freeman. I apologize to those of you who have been sweating it out wondering if your January issue of the newsletter was going to make it to you at all. I'm going to put excuses aside and let you know that I will have the future Trident editions out to you before each month's meeting. I will be working on some new content/formatting for the Trident. You will see that there have already been some updates in this edition and it's going to take a club effort to continue with some of these new modifications. This is what I will need from you as club members. Pick up the phone or call me back when you have a missed call from (949)945-8930. Why will I be calling you may wonder? I'm going to simplify the process for you to get me content. Here's how...

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What!!! That's right, you're going to need to wipe the drool off of your keyboard, before I continue. Now that I have your attention again I'll begin where I left off. I want to make a drool worthy publication every month. Here's what I have in mind. When you go diving send me a couple pictures of your hunt. If you shoot video I want it as well. We can work on coaching those that have issues with technology. When I receive your pictures or video I'm going to call you and here's why. You will no longer need to sit down and write a report. Unless you want to, in which case, that'll work as well. I'll be the journalist that listens to your 1min-15min report filled with lies(100ft deep), lies(3min breathe hold), lies (65# wsb but you didn't have a scale to weigh it) and I'll write it up. If you're feeling wild you can even invite me on an adventure. I'm going to make an effort to hound all of you at the meetings when I hear you telling fish stories and showing off photos. If I haven't received anything from you, I'll be ready to jot it down and we'll have it published in the next issue!

- Dave Freeman



2016 Final Fish Standings

2016 Awards

2016 Calico Derby: Robert Strobach - 5.8 lbs. **Biggest Bluefin Tuna (California):** Ron Warren - 245 lbs.

Calico: Dave Freeman - 6.92 lbs. **Biggest Yellowfin Tuna (California):** Mike De Giosa - 61.18 lbs.

Dorado: Mark Hultgren - 19.86 lbs. **Bonito:** Dave Freeman - 6.34 lbs.

Biggest Tuna (Out of Country/State): Robert Strohbach 210 lbs. YFT (Panama)

Sheep Head: Dave Freeman - 24.20 lbs. **White Sea Bass:** Jesse Goode - 61.5 lbs.

Biggest Pelagic Fish (Non-Tuna) Out of Country/State: Masahiro Mori - 59.4 lbs. Amberjack (La Paz)

Lobster: Dave Freeman - 13 lbs. **Yellow Tail:** Dave Freeman - 40.8 lbs.

Biggest Reef Fish Out of Country/State: Dave Freeman - 57.5 lbs. Pargo (Ceralvo Island)

Kent McIntyre Award: Mike Marsh - YT 38lbs / WSB 35lbs

No Submissions: Halibut, Abalone

Neptunes To Do's:

- Pay your dues for 2017
- Purchase your 2017 License
- Get out there and shoot a big calico for the derby
- Send the calico picture to (949) 945-8930



January 2017 President's Message

What an utterly stupendous year we all experienced in 2016! And now I am very proud and honored to take on this role as your President of the Long Beach Neptunes for 2017. Big thanks to Keith Kauffman for his Presidency of the past year. I hope all of you and your families enjoyed a wonderful holiday season. Time to start getting serious about the year ahead. I've seen and heard of some epic bug diving lately – for a few of you brave souls willing to get out there in the winter chill. Without a doubt, we'll soon hear of the first White Seabass landed, and that will get the party started. It remains to be seen if '17' will be as glorious as the year just departed. With the wane of El Nino, it remains to be seen. Will the Bluefin, Wahoo, Yellowfin and the plethora of Yellowtail we just recently tasted come our way again? One thing is for certain, we all are ready. The theme as we start it out this time around is "Long Beach Neptunes – The Few The Proud". We are the oldest, the most exclusive, and the most prestigious spearfishing club in the United States. We are part of an amazing heritage that is replete with the heroic accomplishments of so many amazing bluewater hunters, some whose diving career is simply behind them, some who have transitioned to the life beyond, some who you can trade stories with at Me and Eds Pizza on the first Wednesday of every month. All of you members are inextricably connected to the glory of this timeless LBN legacy. This year we need to document our exploits, take a lot of photos & video, log your dive experiences, and send in stories to our Newsletter Editor for publication. As we approach the end of 2017 we will compile our greatest ever "The Year in Review" compilation. If we can keep that up for a few years, in about 2020 we can publish an amazing coffee table book that will be all about the So Cal Spearfishing experience. At each meeting this year we will show a short video or two, to really get our juices flowing – and see some of the outrageous & surreal dive imagery being produced these days. And oh yes, don't forget, there will be very cool rewards for everyone that comes up and shares fish tales at the meetings and sends in photos and stories for our monthly newsletter! One last thing for the year ahead guys. Convince yourself that time is going by slowly. Don't ever say that the day, the month or the year just "flew" by. Once you can feel it, and say "Wow, it seems like this year lasted so long", then, for the benefit of you and your family, no matter what your age, you can and you will . . . have a **Long Life Ahead**.

Best – Happy New Year!

Todd Norell



PB Yellowtail

I joined Team Corsair for the Fall Classic with Scott Bamsey, Mark H. and Phil P. Early Friday morning we started scouting at Catalina. We found a spot with tons of current and baitfish. We drift dove the spot taking turns driving the boat. Phil was the first to put blood on the deck with a nice 15lb YT. Mark and I had seen breezing fish but too far for a shot. Got back on the boat to make another pass. The vis was about 50'-60'. I watched



Mark dive down and line up on something out of my sight. TWACK I heard his gun fire but noticed the shaft sink out. I immediately punched down to 30' and waited. Two YT came into view and I started to parallel

them closing the gap to about 25' away. They kept their distance so I had to take a Hail Mary shot. BAM! The 3/8" shaft hit the fish but only penetrated 2". Luckily the inertia of the heavy shaft was able to break the spine and the YT just rolled over! I couldn't believe I stoned a fish 25' away! I pulled the fish right to me and swam it to the boat!



On the deck I noticed the breakaway tip was barely under the skin and it pulled right out. Sometimes it's better to be Lucky then Good!!

We weighed it at Avalon for an official weight of 38.55lbs. My PB Yellowtail was the easiest fish I'd ever landed!

Dive safe,

Mark Navas



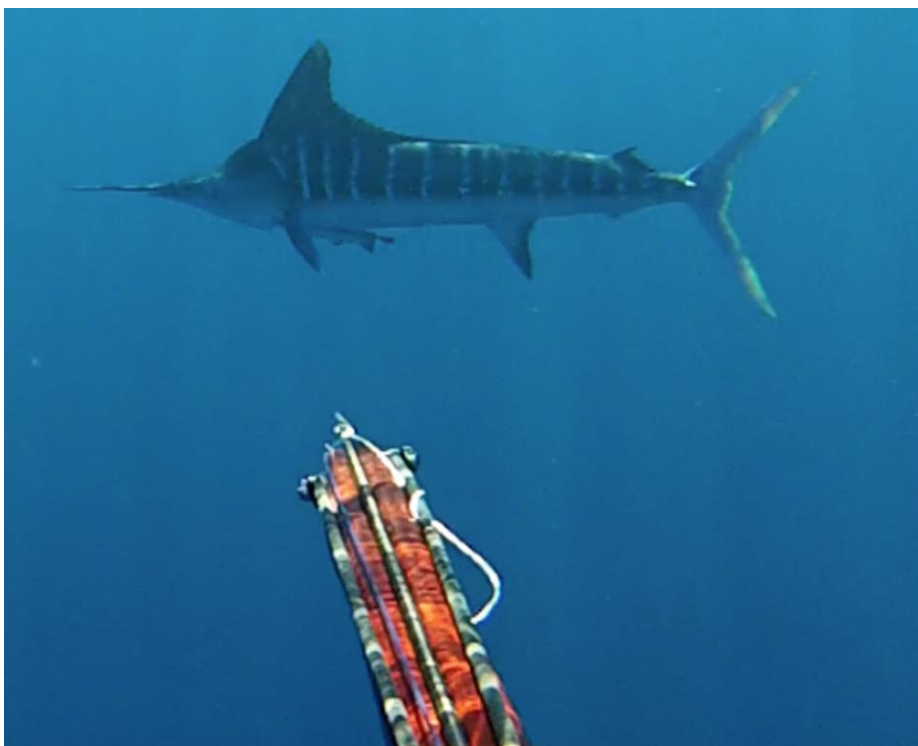
Attention Tentative/Sponsors of Tentatives

If you're reading this I need a couple of things from each of the tentative members to contribute to the newsletters. Tentative members please send me a text with your contact info and I will get back to you asap. Members that are sponsors if you're reading this and are not sure if your tentative is aware of the Trident. Please send them a text with my number and ask them to contact me.

Thank you,

Dave

Some of the best friends are the ones you've had from childhood. Having gone our own ways, but every now and then we get together and it's like we never left. I got a text from an old friend of mine who I haven't heard from in years. Dr. Bill Resh, now a cardiologist in Nevada. He informed me that he just bought a new boat a 60ft Ocean Sportfisher. The old owner had won the Bisbee Billfish Tournament twice. The maiden voyage was a local trip south of Sandy Clemente island, Dr. Resh, Jack Naber, Joe Naber, Capt. Willy Baxendale and I, all lifelong friends. We fished for 2 days catching and losing a



few marlins. I landed my first marlin ever it was the best fight I've ever had on hook and line. Around 150 lbs. a fun trip finding out the bugs in the boat. Fast forward to Nov. 9th. We departed long beach on the boat heading to Cabo!!! 2 more passengers on the boat, Mark Garret, and deck hand Ricky.

The first stop was Ensenada to do paperwork, 5 hours later we were on our way again. Me being the only spearo on the boat, the captain being a diehard marlin fisher not wanting to target any other kind of fish besides wahoo no matter what we told him, seemed like it might be a problem. We trolled on south, the 2nd stop was Turtle Bay to refuel. A few hours and we were on our way. Passing countless giant kelp paddy's captain Willy wouldn't stop!!! That night we anchored on a high spot 60 miles from shore. The next day all marlin, it was marlin, and a lot of them. That night we anchored in a bay north of Mag Bay. A few lobster may or may not have been grabbed to eat with the ribbon eyes that night. We kept telling the captain that we want to target some reef fish, he kept saying, "You're not going to want to do

that!" The next day it was marlin, three people on in the back of the boat and 1 on the front of the boat. That happened a lot! Marlin were everywhere it was ridiculous.

Finally, I said, "I'm jumping in on the next one." Grabbed my fins, weight belt, loaded my 50 inch herranen rollergun I got at the auction, hooked up my float line, and was ready. The captain said there's only one as the boat stopped. I jumped in and there are 4 marlin right in front of me, then another, and another. I threw my flasher, I almost took about 4 or 5 shots but they were to close or turning to fast. So I waited throwing my flasher again, I looked around and saw over 15 marlin, all around at different depths, from the surface to 60 to 80 ft.





I turned around and saw Joe had jumped in with his go pro mounted on a hockey stick with a big nail stuck in the other end for protection! Lol obviously he's not a diver. Joe is a hockey photographer. In between Joe and I there is a bait ball so I grabbed my flasher not needing it with the bait ball there! It was so incredible just watching all these marlin swimming all around. Going thru the bait ball. I focus on 2 marlin near the surface, one swimming past to the right and one coming right towards me, it turns right in front of me giving me a perfect shot. The moment of truth! I've never shot a fish this big. What's it going to do? It's not even 10 feet away! I pull the trigger! Having no recoil on the roller gun, I see the shaft penetrate just behind the gill plate. A perfect shot!!! I thought I might have hit the spine seeing that it slowed down and was swimming really slow. I let the floatline go thru my hand until I got ahold of the float. I let out a scream and started laughing(found out on Joe's video).



Then the marlin took off, yanking the float out of my hand and pulling the go pro off of my head from the force! I grabbed my go pro turned around and saw my float going down about 80 ft. It started coming back to the surface with me swimming after it. It went back down, it came back to the surface. I threw my gun and go pro on the boat. The captain said just pull it up from the boat. Hell no I yelled! Finally I reached my float and started pulling and synching down my tuna clip 3ft at a time. Wondering if my 8 year old neponics float line would hold up. I made it to the shooting line looking at the boat for my 2nd gun for a 2nd shot, but no gun! I pull up the shooting line wondering if this is even safe to do. The fish is swimming right below me. I grab the shaft and pull it up. I grab right next to the slip tip line and then grab the marlins left pectoral fin. Bear hugging its head out of the water I turned it towards the boat and it swam me back to the boat. Ricky grabbed the bill and we got it into the boat!!!

All though it was probably the easiest fish I've ever shot it was the most fun I ever had! Just swimming with that many marlin was the most incredible thing I've ever done in my life!!! Such an experience! That was the only time I took my gun in the water the whole time but what a time it was. We jumped in the water and took videos after that. It was such a site to see, so many majestic creatures, feeding on bait balls!

We caught many more marlin and released them. We caught around 50 marlin on that trip, we even had a giant bait ball swimming under the transom with about 30 marlin following the boat at one time, what a sight! We made it to Cabo, not catching anything but marlin. Not one wahoo, not one dorado, only one small yellowfin tuna, if anything 2 skipjacks. The next day we trolled for marlin again nothing. Bored out of our minds I told the captain, "If catching other fish besides marlin isn't in your skill set that's cool." Think I might have pissed him off a little, but we went closer to shore and got a double hookup on wahoo and lost one wahoo. Then we got 1 dorado then 4 more dorado. A super fun trip even though I didn't get to spear anything else. Dr. Bill left the boat in Cabo and we flew back! Hopefully the next trip will be a little more spearfishing!

Hobie Ladd

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Long Beach Neptune! (The few, the proud)



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Todd Farquhur left his sweat and Neptune pride on the floor of a rock climbing gym. He must have been running hot to scorch the floor with that killer Bluewater Meet t-shirt.

Last Words

We will be incorporating videos into the Trident newsletter. Enjoy. It's not easy pulling 58# mad reef dogs from 90ft, but when they're begging for a bone someone has to answer the call.

I hope you guys enjoy the updates that I've incorporated. I don't know if 2017 will be another amazing year with huge schools of wsb, yt, and bft, fantastic weather, and exotic places filled with big fish or not. But what I do know is we'll all be having a good time. I look forward to hearing all your stories and getting to know more members on a personal level.

Have fun, be safe, and don't forget to keep in touch with the newsletter editor.

-Dave Freeman

