



Connecting and Informing our Neptune Community in: **Safety, Camaraderie, and Club Legacy** January 2015

Looking Back / Looking Forward

2014 was an incredible year in many ways. The club marched steadily toward the mission of Safety, Camaraderie, and Legacy in all that we did. We had a top notch line up of speakers, a very successful auction, well attended Blue Water Meet and Fall Classic, awesome Christmas party and many good times along the way. And with local chances at dorado, tuna and even wahoo (when will that happen again???), who could ask for a better summer.

While there is no telling if 2015 will bring the same caliber of opportunity on the water, one thing is for sure is that this will be a great year for the Neptunes. Your board has plans in motion (some that you will see in the following pages) to continue stepping it up to serve the membership and do the club legacy proud.



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Neptune To Do's:

- Pay dues if you have not already
- Place your order for a Medical Kit (Pg 5 & 6)
- Place your order for your Club Jacket (Pg 9)
- Purchase your 2015 Fishing License

2015 Calendar:

February 4th – Speaker on Life Saving Techniques
 March 5th – Awards Banquet – Location TBD
 March 4th thru 8th– Fred Hall Show, Long Beach
 April 1st – Club Auction
 May 6th – Manufacture Night – Deliver Club Jackets
 June 3rd – BWM application due
 June 13 – BWM
 July 1st – BWM Awards
 August – TBD
 Sept.2nd – TBD
 Oct. 7th – Fall Classic applications due
 Oct. 24th - Fall Classic
 Nov. 4th – Fall Classic Awards
 Dec. 2nd – Announce new board

Be sure to visit our New and Updated web site at:

LongBeachNeptunes.com

Thanks to Brandon Ward (Wardo) for the Amazing Work!!!



January 2015 President's Message

Hello, Fellow Neptunes!

The time for reflection has passed, and now its time for anticipation- looking toward our future in 2015!

Its been an epic 2014, but your board is working hard to make it an even better 2015 for you! We have quite a few things planned, with a continued focus on safety, but also a celebration throughout the year, honoring the rich history and legacy of the Neptunes. Look for a dedicated Neptune Legacy section in both the Newsletter and Website!

With that said, your board has a few announcements/ new items for the year:

Big January Kick-Off Meeting! We're looking forward to your fish stories, but we will also share important club updates/requirements. Look to some great presentations from Keith Kauffman, Chris Yates, and John Carpenter. As a special incentive, we're raffling off over \$200 in items! That's right, over \$200 of raffle items! Plus the 50/50 drawing, so let's make it a great turnout!

2015 Neptune's Photo Contest! YES! I know lots of you are taking great pictures, both above and below the water, so now's the time to submit them! Photos will be a great contribution to the new website, and we're providing a special incentive: The club will pay for both the winner and his/her guest at the 2015 Christmas Party!

First Aid/Trauma Kits! Your VP, Keith Kauffman, has worked hard to offer First Aid/Trauma kits to club members, at cost. There are 3 kits available, as well as a nifty Neptune's bag to carry your items.

February: First Aid/Trauma Training! Purchase your kits early, as we will have a special February meeting, featuring First Aid/Trauma training from several true professionals. This training can help save someone's life down the road.

Additionally, we have some awesome speakers and meetings planned throughout the year. Don't forget to continue to send Wardo and Todd Farquhar your newsletter/website photos and pics, and please continue to support our sponsors, who've helped our club throughout the years.

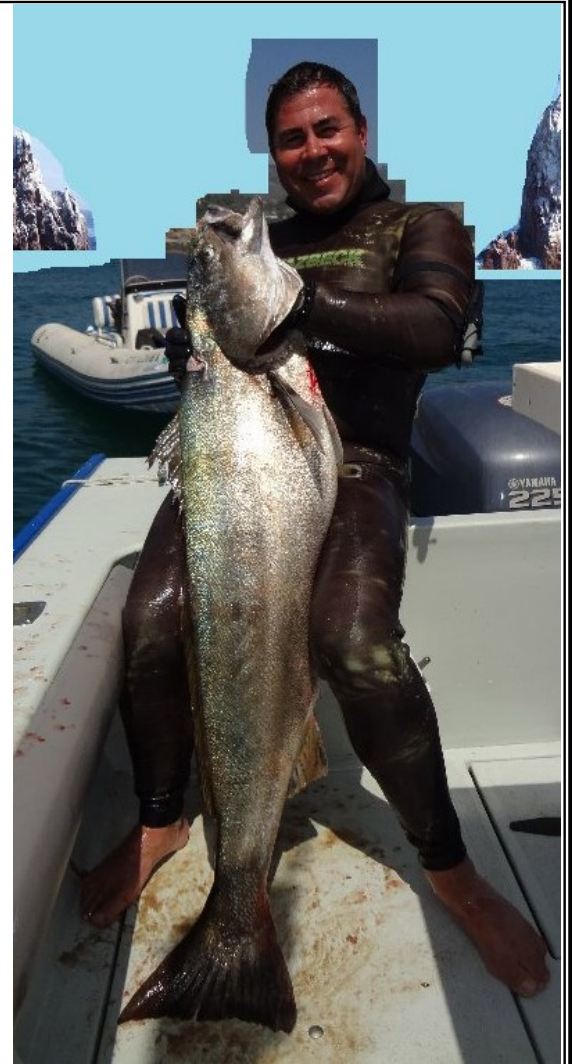
Of course, at the top of this year's agenda, we're looking forward to the greatest freediving/spearfishing tournaments available, including a great Auction, as well as Blue Water Meet and Fall Classic Meet!

There are a few more exciting contributions for later in the year, but those are closely guarded secrets in the vault for now...

And did I mention to please continue to support our sponsors?

Looking forward to a great 2015, beginning with a bang-up January kick-off to strengthen our brotherhood!

Dive safe, and I'll see you Wednesday the 7th!



Byron Quinonez

Do you know your Neptunes History?

Club historian Mori answers some questions about the beginnings of the Long Beach Neptunes in an exclusive email interview

Q: When did the Long Beach Neptunes Begin?

A: In the 1940's, sometime after the war... Nobody really knows for sure, but it was a group of LA firemen and their buddies that founded the club.

Q: What was the original name of the club/who founded the club?

A: It was originally called the "Los Angeles Firemen Neptunes". The Neptunes in Long Beach did not want to have to drive to LA to attend the meetings. Rumor has it that these people who wanted to break away from the main club ended up getting nominated and voted in as board members in LA that year, so the segregation of members to Long Beach had to wait for another year. "Doc" Nathan Mathison was the first president of the Long Beach Neptunes.



Thanks Mori for your account of the earliest days of our esteemed club. Us "new kooks on the block" need to learn where it all started and I'm sure the "Old Dogs" will enjoy re-living the memories of days gone by.



Q: What was the original meeting place and frequency?

A: Early meetings and gatherings were held at Omar Nielson's house. Omar also hosted most of the awards banquets until the late 1980's. He also hosted the Dragon Swim until about 1995. When I (Mori) joined the club, they used to have the meetings at a Mexican restaurant in Seal Beach. In about 1994, they moved the meetings to Me and Ed's and the meetings have been there since.

Q: Do you know the reasons for establishment of the club? Stated objectives, etc ?

A: It was a bunch of kooks who have in common the love of shooting a fish and shooting shit over a beer.

Q: Are there any other interesting facts about the early days that new guys should know about the Neptunes?

A: The Neptune tournaments, including the Blue Water Meet was always a "freediving only" event. The Fathomiers Scramble Meet, which was part of the Long Beach California Sea Festival, started in 1969, but they allowed SCUBA as well.

If you are an "Old Dog Neptune" with history to tell, please contact me to get your account on the record. The board has made it a priority this year to capture as much yet to be documented history as we can and your piece of the puzzle will help to complete the story. Thanks, Todd (call me at 805-587-6637 or email me at tfarquhar@me.com)

Medical Kits

In 2015, your LBN Board has discussed taking the 2014 “diver safety” focus to the next level and we have decided to offer club members three different levels of custom medical kits. We owe it to our families, friends, and each other to have the proper trauma supplies and the basic knowledge it takes to use them effectively. On our city streets, well prepared first responders carry trauma kits and train on how to use them because waiting 4-10 minutes for an ambulance to arrive is often way too long. In certain circumstances, medical help may even refuse to enter the area of a wounded victim because it is too dangerous. Think about the remoteness of the locations that we dive, the dangerous conditions we often endure, and our repeated exposure to loaded spearguns, props, knives, pissed off fish, and taxmen. If cops are worrying about bleeding out in 4 minutes before medical help arrives, we should be worried about 4 hours.

I will have samples of the medical kits at the January meeting for everyone to inspect. You will be able to order the kit of your choice and the goal is to have them delivered at the February meeting, where we will be given a two hour training class by certified medical trainers in pre-hospital trauma care. You will be taught how to stop arterial bleeds with hemostatic gauze, tourniquets and trauma bandages, open an airway, and apply chest seals. You won't want to miss the February meeting because the lessons learned may just save your life or the life of your dive partner.

We decided to offer one bag with the LBN logo, but three different kit options so that everyone can select the one that is within their budget. These are not off the shelf first aid kits, but rather custom built kits containing only the best and proven items recommended by Dr. Joe Nakagawa who is a recognized expert in the field of tactical medicine.

Each of the kits will come in a logoed bag with rollout insert similar to this one made by Dakine (order is pending). It makes for a perfect medical kit bag because the inside expands and the mesh pockets allow all of your supplies to be visible.

The Basic First Aid kit (A) will cost \$30.00 and include: nitrile gloves, Kerlix gauze, superglue, burn gel, hydrocortisone cream, bacitracin zinc, antiseptic towels, surgilube, steri-strips, and various bandages.



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The Basic First Aid kit (A) \$30

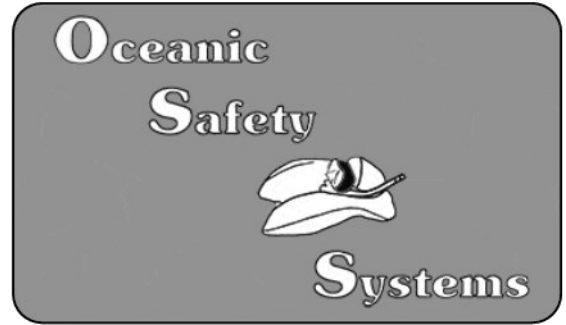
The Trauma Kit (B) will cost \$95.00 and include: a SOF-T tourniquet, 6” combat trauma dressing, quick clot hemostatic gauze, nasal airway (not in pic; see below), nitrile gloves, Kerlix gauze, super-glue, burn gel, hydrocortisone cream, bacitracin zinc, antiseptic towels, surgilube, steri-strips, and various bandages.



The Trauma Kit (B) will cost \$95.00



The Complete Trauma Kit (C) will cost \$195.00 and include: a 36" Sam splint, ace bandage, tape, medical stapler and staple remover, SWAT T rubber tourniquet, 10cc syringe, nasal airway, thermometer, cpr mask, betadine, chest seal, medical shears, sutures and suture tools, SOF-T tourniquet, 6" combat trauma dressing, quick clot hemostatic gauze, nitrile gloves, Kerlix gauze, superglue, burn gel, hydrocortisone cream, bacitracin zinc, antiseptic towels, surgilube, steri-strips, and various bandages.



The Complete Trauma Kit (C) \$195

The more kits that we can get ordered, the better stocked they will be because of bulk ordered items. These trauma kits (B and C) coupled with the training you will receive in February could mean the difference in your life. Most of us wouldn't hesitate at the chance to buy a new speargun or wetsuit for under \$200.00, so try to put it in perspective when you consider making the purchase. Place your order at the January meeting and pay Bruce or use the "dues and payments" tab on the new www.longbeachneptunes.com. If you can't make the meeting and still want to order, email me at kauff270@gmail.com and let me know which option (A, B, or C) you would like and make your payment on the website.

-Keith Kaufmen



Safety Corner: Tourniquets

The value of having quality tourniquets immediately available does not get enough attention. Tourniquets are an easily obtained and an inexpensive medical tool that can be carried upon your person without significant drag in the water. My good dive buddy and now Encinitas Firefighter, Joe Prola, always has one discretely attached to his weight belt. Whether it is one of the high tech models or less expensive ones, they are a valuable medical tool for all divers, perhaps surfers. How often are we separated, several hundred yards from a boat or off shore if beach diving? Many of you surf remote places or breaks far off the beach. Yes, we're comfortable, probably too complacent with the quality and response of local EMS in our highly populated areas. They can usually get to an incident "within minutes" if beach diving. However, consider that even a couple of minutes can be too long when a major artery has been severed. How long does it take you to make it back to the boat or shore?

Medical experts and far too many unfortunate events have shown that it is not uncommon to bleed out WITHIN A MINUTE when a main artery is severed. Remember our late brother, Long Beach Neptune Al Schnepershoff, who most likely bled out from his Great White Shark attack by the time he was brought aboard the boat. His tragedy should be a lesson to all of us! Taking immediate, life saving measures to stabilize a blood loss victim will buy you valuable time that most likely will make the difference between life and death. Also, anything less than an actual tourniquet takes more time to apply and most likely will not be as effective.

Please take a few minutes to research this valuable medical tool, buy one, review some training, and wear one while pursuing your ocean passions. It just might make the difference between you or another making it home to their loved ones – alive.

Take Care, Dive Safe!

John Carpenter



Get in on the Club Jacket Order

If you don't already have one you will want to get in on the Club Jacket order. It has been five or more years since the last time they were offered so putting this off if you need one will set you up for a long wait. Here are the details that you need to know:



- Tru West brand Diving Jacket specifically made to be worn over a wetsuit
- Cost is \$80 Plus \$5 for the patch if you need one. Cost includes embroidery and sewing of patch.

(Some may already have a patch to put on like Ivan S. and John J. with their King Neptune Patches #38 & #39- Congrats guys!!! Tentatives can order a jacket now and add the patch later.)

- Offered in size Large or Extra Large
- Orders must be placed and paid by meeting on March 4th.

(Disclaimer: Mori's teddy bear not included)

morifish



ATOMIC AQUATICS

Fish and Wildlife Information and Updates

MPA Regulation Updates to Know About (Effective 10/1/14)

- ◆ Adding Pacific bonito to the “pelagic finfish” group
- ◆ Providing for transit of MPAs with spearfishing gear
- ◆ Changing the name of three MPAs in central and southern California
- ◆ Adjusting a boundary at Lovers Cove State Marine Conservation Area on Catalina Island

Seasonal Fish and Wildlife Dates to Keep Track of

- ◆ March 15: WSB limit changes from 3 fish to 1 fish (through June 15)
- ◆ March 18: Last day of Lobster season
- ◆ April 1: Red Abalone Season opens (through June 30)
- ◆ April 30: Last day to report Lobster Report Card harvest data without penalty
- ◆ June 16: WSB limit changes from 1 fish to 3 fish

Size and Bag Limit Summary for So Cal Species

Spiny Lobster

The recreational fishery for **spiny lobster** (*Panulirus interruptus*) is open from September 27, 2014 through March 18, 2015. The daily bag limit is seven lobster. The minimum size limit is three and one-fourth inches measured along the midline of the upper body from the rear edge of the eye socket (between the horns) to the rear edge of the carapace (body shell).

Any lobster may be brought to the surface of the water for the purpose of measuring, but no undersized lobster may be brought aboard any boat, placed in any type of receiver, kept on the person or retained in any person's possession or under his direct control; all lobsters shall be measured immediately upon being brought to the surface of the water, and any undersized lobster shall be released immediately. Reference Section 29.90(c) T14, CCR.

There are records of male California spiny lobster weighing over 26 pounds and attaining lengths up to three feet.

Yellowtail

Limit: Ten. Minimum size: Twenty-four inches fork length except that: Five fish less than twenty-four inches fork length may be taken or possessed.

Largest Recorded: 5 feet; 80 pounds (California).

White Seabass

The recreational fishery for **white seabass** (*Atractoscion nobilis*) remains open year round. The daily bag and possession limit is three fish except that only one fish may be taken in waters south of Point Conception between March 15 and June 15. The minimum size limit is 28 inches total length or 20 inches alternate length.

Largest Recorded: 5 feet; 83 pounds. (according to DFW web site but we all know about Bill Ernst's 93.3 lber, so go figure?)

Size and Bag Limit Summary for So Cal Species (cont)

California Halibut

The recreational fishery for [California halibut](#) (*Paralichthys californicus*) remains open year round. The daily bag and possession limit is five fish south of Point Sur, Monterey County. The minimum size limit is 22 inches total length.

Largest Recorded: 5 feet; 72 pounds.

Kelp Bass, Barred Sand Bass, Spotted Sand Bass

The fishery for [kelp bass](#), [barred sand bass](#), and [spotted sand bass](#) (*Paralabrax* species) remains open year-round. The daily bag and possession limit is five fish in any combination of species. The minimum size limit is 14 inches total length or 10 inches alternate length.

Calico Bass: Largest Recorded: 28.5 inches; 14.5 pounds.

Sand Bass: Largest Recorded: 26 inches. Largest taken off California by a recreational angler: 13.3 pounds.

California Sheephead

The recreational fishery for [California sheephead](#) (*Semicossyphus pulcher*) is open to divers and shore-based anglers year-round. The fishery is closed to boat-based anglers as of January 1, 2015 (see important NOTE at the end of this section). California sheephead may only be taken or possessed in waters less than 300 feet (50 fathoms) deep. The daily bag and possession limit is 5 fish with a minimum size limit of 12 inches total length.

Largest Recorded: 36 inches; 36.25 pounds.

Cabazon

The recreational fishery for [cabazon](#) (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*) is open to divers and shore-based anglers year-round. The fishery is closed to boat-based anglers as of January 1, 2015 (see important NOTE at the end of this section). Cabazon may only be taken or possessed in waters less than 300 feet (50 fathoms) deep. The daily bag and possession limit is 3 fish within the 10 fish RCG Complex aggregate limit (includes all species of Rockfish, Cabazon and Greenlings), with a minimum size limit of 15 inches total length.

Largest Recorded: 39 inches; 25 pounds.

Lingcod

The recreational fishery for [lingcod](#) (*Ophiodon elongatus*) is open year-round to divers and shore-based anglers. The fishery is closed to boat-based anglers as of January 1, 2015 (see important NOTE at the end of this section). Lingcod may only be taken or possessed in waters less than 300 feet (50 fathoms) deep. The daily bag and possession limit is 2 fish, with a minimum size limit of 22 inches total length.

Largest Recorded: 52 inches; 56 pounds (California).

Rockfish

The recreational fishery for rockfish (*Sebastes* sp.) is open to divers and shore-based anglers year-round. The fishery is closed to boat-based anglers as of January 1, 2015 (see important NOTE at the end of this section). These species may only be taken or possessed in waters less than 300 feet (50 fathoms) deep. The daily bag and possession limit is 10 fish in combination of all species within the RCG Complex (includes all species of Rockfish, Cabazon and Greenlings) per person, with a sub-limit on [bocaccio](#) (3 per person, also included in the 10 fish RCG Complex aggregate limit). [Yelloweye rockfish](#), [canary rockfish](#), bronzespotted rockfish, and [cowcod](#) may not be retained (bag limit: zero).

A Late Christmas Gift Trip

By Will Withers

We all had the itch after Christmas to get in the water. Todd assembled a crew of Woody, Ivan and myself to hit the islands for a overnight trip on the Farallon. We agreed on a gentlemen's start of 8am. Everyone had their designated meal to bring and we were all pumped.

I woke up early and with no traffic and reached the slip in Dana 30 mins before the meet up time. I was enjoying a cup of coffee listening to the radio when my battery died. Not a good start to the trip. Luckily Todd had some cables and Woody gave me a jump; issue resolved.

Todd let us know that he had been a bit under the weather and almost had to cancel the trip last night. He said he was going to have to play diving by ear, but would at minimum chauffeur us. We were not too happy to hear that he wasn't 100% but in any case we started loading the boat and enjoyed some tunes courtesy of the new deck speakers. 40 mins later we were on our way.

After a perfect warm crossing we came across a monster patty 4 miles short of the island. The water temp was 64 and there had been reports of yellows at the islands. Woody and Ivan decided to suit up to check it. While they were getting ready Todd tossed a hard bait on H&L towards the patty. First cast he yells "well I guess there are yellows here" I look back and his rod is doubled over. Initially I think he is just snagged on the patty or something but nope, a steady run and a huge smile on his face proved otherwise. He fights it for awhile and the fish comes up looking tired. Shortly after I put a gaff in it. We all high five in excitement/disbelief; a December patty yellow is on the boat. Not long after Woody and Ivan are in the water and working the patty. They give it 15 min or so, with no sightings so we move on. But we were all stoked with having a fish on the boat already.



As we reach our first spot vis looks awesome with a steady but not problematic current. Since Woody and Ivan were already suited up they were off first. I followed a few minutes later, promising to yell back a report to Todd if I see anything worthwhile. Kicking my way towards where I typically find backsmith in this particular spot, a school of mackerel comes blasting past. Punching a dive, at the edge of visibility I see a solid school of 10-15 YT at the bottom. They were all "dusting" themselves, rubbing their bodies on the sand. I had in the past seen one or two doing this but never a school of this size seemingly just taking turns rubbing in the sand. As I level off I get curious. Shocked on my first drop to see fish I rush a shot and miss. Already mad at myself, on the ascent I'm knowing I should have held off for a closer shot. I look back to the boat and yell "YELLOWTAIL" to light a fire under Todd who is still on the boat. As I rush to reload my gun the yellows just taunt me hanging out 5ft away the entire time I reload. I swear the moment my final band gets loaded they are gone just like that.



A Late Christmas Gift Trip By Will Withers (cont)

Continuing to work the area I had a few more sightings but was unable to get them close enough to pull the trigger. Making a drop on a picturesque reef with tons of Sargo and Calicos I was just enjoying the view. When I look back over my left shoulder I realize among all this life I'm also schooled with YT. This time I'm patient and get a good shot on one of the larger fish. Having a solid shot I did not give the fish much. I peak my head up and "FISH ON". I was hoping someone was close because the entire school stuck around. but unfortunately no one was close enough to take advantage of a potential double. As I popped a gill I realized that I had left my stringer in the boat. As I worked my way back to the boat the school stuck with me for at least 50 yards. Woody reached the boat with a fish at the same time I did. Both of us were pumped as we rushed to get our fish in the kill bag. The dogs had shown up and had also shown interest in our catch. Back In the water we worked the area for a while. I had a few more sightings and ripped one off when a dog came charging the moment I pulled the trigger. We all made our way back to the boat and Ivan had a couple solid fish on his hip and everyone had scored. Total of 5 yellows were landed at the spot. With a handful of Sea lions circling the boat we decided to try a spot closer to where we planned to dive bugs.

Pulling up to the next spot we see a huge group of birds working a area 200 yards up current from our spot. We attempted to get in a position to dive under this group of birds obviously working something but with them continuously moving we decide to stick to the spot we are familiar with. I was not seeing too much in the area of reef that I was working. I hear some yelling and look up to see Todd fighting a fish. Woody is able to make it over to the action and double up on the school hanging around.

I look up current to see the birds have gotten significantly closer. We all start working our way up current towards the birds. With tons of life in the water the area is looking really good. As we are working our way to the birds I see what I believe to be a baby lobster free swimming. I try to catch it to show the guys what I had seen. As it is kicking away from me it flairs its legs out to reveal it is not a little lobster but some type of crab. Next thing I know there are tons of these 2 inch red crabs everywhere. The birds are going nuts feeding on them, and we are middle of it. I have never been in the epicenter of the bird frenzy the way we were. Birds crashing all around and clouds of red crab swimming underneath. The birds were all pooping half digested red crab, it was truly a sight. Sometimes you just have to marvel at the experiences the ocean gives us. I worked the area for a long time just enjoying the sight. Todd calls out that he has another fish. As we cross paths I caught a glimpse of the fish. It was a big one. Turns out it was the biggest fish of the trip ended up going 28.5 lbs. We totaled 4 YT for the spot. Tired we all are back at the boat each having a story to tell. This was by far one of the most memorable dives for all of us. By this time the sun was setting and we all showered up and got ready for dinner as we discussed what area to work for lobster.



We were all riding high after such a great day of diving, knowing we had the evening dive ahead. We decided to anchor up in a area no one had any experience with for lobster to make dinner. We refueled with Chicken Alfredo, fried chicken, potato salad and a warm cabin.

Soon after we split up the reef to begin our evening dive. Todd and Woody went left and Ivan and I went right. We worked the area for a while and the structure looked good, but we were not seeing too many bugs. I managed a couple keepers but my light began to die. Back at the boat Ivan and I waited for them to return. Woody returned with 4 sold bugs. Todd came back with nice limit. They obviously had a better section of the reef, the only logical explanation as to why they out-scored Ivan and I.

We moved 1/4 mile down the island for one last dive before we catch some ZZZs. Woody called it a night and let me use his light. I was also feeling tired but powered down a Mt. Dew and jumped in. Must have measured at least 15-20 bugs in the first 30 mins, only managing 2 keepers. While on the way up from a dive I spot a huge bug just barely out of a hole. I get my breath and drop on him with a solid 2 hand grab. I call Ivan over to help get it in my bag. A high five and some cheering and we are on our way now feeling good. About 30 seconds later Ivan is calling me over to help him. He had a identical size bug that needed some co-ercing into his bag. After that we continued to work our way through tons of shorts. I finished with 4 more bugs and Ivan about the same. Back at the boat Todd had a few fat calicos, biggest was over 5 lbs. Ivan's and my big bug weighed out to 5.5 each. Having about the perfect day we all changed out of our suits and decided to celebrate with a couple victory beers.



We had a slow morning and I believe we were all in awe of the previous day. We decided to just do the yesterday in reverse. So we made our way to the "Red Crab" spot. With no current and no life we were all back to the boat in 30 mins. Todd had started to make breakfast sandwiches, but the stove was not working. After some Macgyvering he was able to get the stove going and we all enjoyed some awesome bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches.

We planned on making it a half day to get back to the dock relatively early. At the next spot things were happening. Good current/bait and yellowtail breezing though. In a short time fish were hitting the deck. Todd and I were a couple hundred yards up current of the boat, when he gets my attention and yells "Is the boat drifting?". I look up and it is

very apparent the boat is no longer in the same place. We both start swimming to catch it. About 10 min into the swim the distance is not closing as fast as we want. Todd drops his gun (which is attached to a float line) to start sprint swimming to catch it. When I finally see him up on the swim step I can see the relief on his face. I grab his gun and he picks us up. We were lucky it turned out the way it did. If the boat had drifted a few more minutes things could have gone very differently.

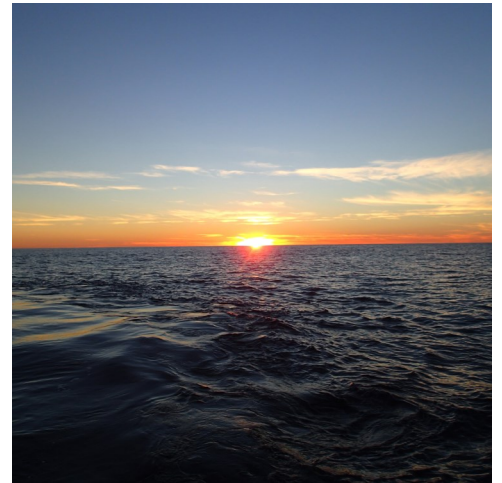
A Late Christmas Gift Trip By Will Withers (cont)



We decide to do one live boat drift then head home. Two more fish hit the deck and we agree to head for the barn. We organize the deck, take some pictures and point the bow towards Dana. When we power up a horrible sound comes from the transom. After some assessing and a second attempt to run the engine we throw in the towel and radio vessel assist. So much for getting back to the dock early. A 4 1/2 hour tow later we are finally in Dana. We had plenty of time to tell stories of the trip and eat dinner.

Once in the harbor we decided to pull the boat instead of putting it in the slip. Around midnight we have the boat out and in the garage. Despite the

ending the trip was a absolute success. Many great stories and memories were made. We were all amazed at the amount of quality fish we had for a late December trip. We all had plenty of fish/lobster to share with family and friend for New Years.



Dive safe,

Will Withers



Maiden Voyage

By Woody (Jason Wood)

So me and my buddy picked up a 14 foot skiff. As we were putting it together and getting her ready to go bug diving the fog rolled in thick so we canceled the trip. We decided to just get the boat ready for the next time, working on the motor, gas tank, running lights, life jackets, etc. As we finished the boat, Jimmy said, "look the fog cleared up, let's dive." With no argument from me we put the tin foil skiff in the water and headed for the spot. As we headed out the stoke was high. We anchored up and got in by crawling out the back, trying really hard not sink the boat. In the beginning of the hunt it was ghost town with not even a shorty seen. I made my way back to the boat with an empty bag. To make things worse, the fog had rolled in thick and we had no GPS. The crew and my self were defeated.

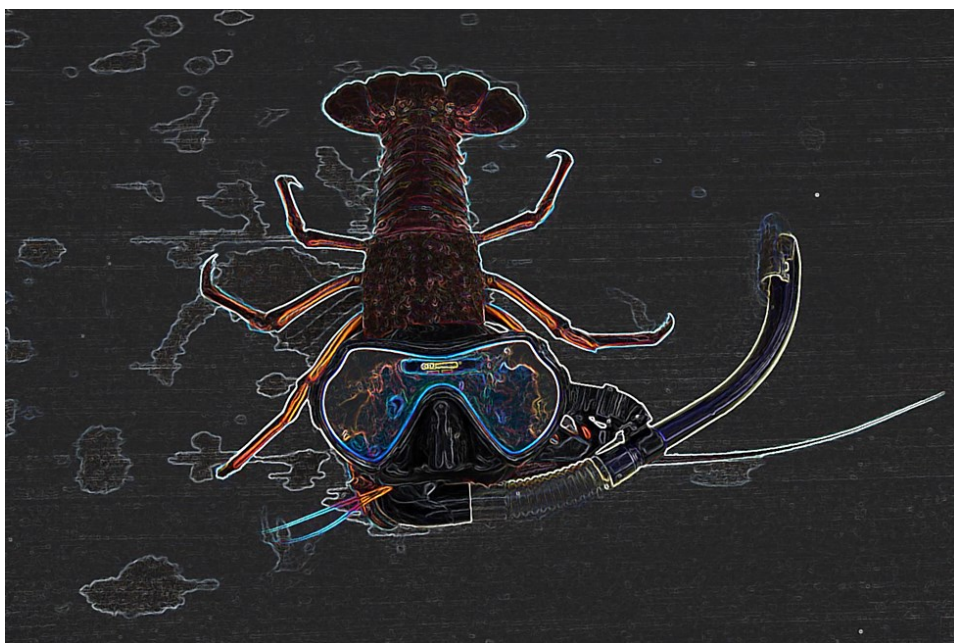
We found an iPhone compass app and that got us to close enough to the jetty so I decided to hit this Lil bitty spot that everyone hits. We dropped anchor in a safe spot, turned on the anchor lights, the fog cleared up and we started the hunt. I see a legal bug from the surface and dive down. It gets away and I get my bag caught and thankfully it ripped turning me loose. I go up for air and look at the boat thinking that this boat is hexed. So I tie a knot in the bottom of my ripped bag and keep going. Five feet away I see a nice bug. I flip on my red light and start the dance ... BAM, I got it. Maybe this boat is not hexed after all. I stuff it in my bag, or what's left it and ... OMG, another one. This one nicer, so back to my red light. I look at the bug and it was already missing body parts. It had one antenna and a couple of legs so I knew this bug was an OG. I get my game tight and go for it and this thing went straight for home. I reached for what ever I could, got my hand on its head and reached in got his tail. I pulled and pulled with one last desperate yank and he came out of the hole. With no room in my bag I put him in a choke hold /full Nelson until I got to the boat. I told my buddy Vocho to grab it and don't let go, "this thing is gangster". Once Vocho saw the bug he reached down in a serious Brazilian Judo hold and didn't let go. We headed in with our victory bugs, super stoked for having wiped the hex off of that Lil boat. It was a great first trip on the new tin can.



Gratuitous and Awesome Neptune Photos



Nice Tail Mark!!!



We caught this bug over the weekend diving off the Glassbreaker. It was walking around close to a high spot wearing this mask and snorkel. I think he was maybe hunting yellows...now i know your secret spot Kook!! (Cough cough Zylstra)



Two Questions: Who and Where??? (well OK, three... any bugs under that deck?)

More Gratuitous and Awesome Neptune Photos



Some good looking bugs and,... well ...some people we know (really, we're all just jealous)



More Gratuitous and Awesome Neptune Photos



Transition Board Meeting; Can you really trust these guys???

One step away from final resting place for some of Ivan's New Years bugs...Yum!



Recipe of the Month Compliments of Chris Yates

Whole Salt Roasted Calico Bass

Ingredients:

1 whole 3-pound fish - Calico Bass
4 egg whites
3 cups kosher salt
4 tbs cold water

Directions:

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F.

Gill and gut the fish and remove scales. This is easiest done in the water just after dispatching the fish. Whisk egg whites to soft peaks and fold in water and salt. Line a baking sheet or oven safe dish with parchment paper. Spread salt mixture 1/4 inch thick over parchment paper one inch longer and wider than the fish. Place fish on top of mixture and spoon remaining mixture over top of fish. Seal all holes with remaining salt mixture. Place fish and platter in oven and bake for 25 to 30 minutes. remove and strike crust to crack. Carefully remove salt crust from top of fish and divide flesh among two plates. Serve with good olive oil and fresh lemon



Neptunes Classifieds

For Sale by: Bruce Dardis (310) 625-1029



Rob Allen – 900 – \$125.00



Rob Allen – 1300 with reel – \$225.00

Neptunes Classifieds

For Sale by: Byron Quinonez

Both items ready for pick up at next Wednesday's meeting, or email your pres at byronq@gmail.com

- 1). Yazbeck Kelp Stalker, 5mm, with Titanium Lining, size 56. Fits well for someone around 220 lbs. A few years old, still in great condition, always rinsed in anti-bacterial after every dive (strictly boat
- 2). Omer 3d Camu wetsuit, 3mm, size 6. Top is in great shape, bottoms have minor neoprene repairs needed. Good for 72+ degree yellow tail and baja hunting. Retail \$370, only \$75.00.



Greatful for the Past/Excited for the Future

Wrapping up this newsletter in the wee hours of the night brings me back to the days of finally finishing up a school project that had to be completed before sun up. The only difference here is that I finally get to work on a subject that I have an absolute and complete passion for: spearfishing and the brotherhood of connection that this club surrounds it with.

The new year always seems to make me look back at what has transpired over the last year or years. When I do that relative to this club, I can not help but feel grateful for the many blessings that have intersected my life in the way of good times and great people that I have come to know in a very short time. And so many more that I have yet to get to know.

The new year also makes me look to the future. And with that I am truly excited to better know this exceptional group of men and to join the Neptune Legacy, doing what I can to further what appears and feels like a tradition of greatness and an honest force for good.

I am seriously honored to have been asked to serve in the Newsletter Editor capacity and am committed to doing my best to carry on the tradition of excellence that has preceded me.

I would like to thank all of the contributors to this edition of the Trident: Will and Woody for the trip reports, Kory and Mark and Ivan for the photos, Mori for the history piece, Keith's work and presentation on the Medical Kits, Bruce and Mark for the DFW info, Chris for the recipe that I can't wait to try, and Lou's guidance in transitioning this responsibility. Also for the Board that has brought me into the fold, trusted me with this position, and answered more than a few neophyte questions to help me get up to speed.

Wishing all in the Neptune Community continued blessings in the new year,

Todd Farquhar, Newsletter Editor





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