



June/July 2018

TRIDENT



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I hope everyone is enjoying their independence day celebration. Thank you to all the veterans that keep us safe and protect our freedoms.

White Seabass season is winding down somewhat but oh what a season! Paul Zylstra...oh my! Read about it inside. John Huges...wow! Dan Keeler! Seamus at the BWM!

Now it's summer time. The beach, Fourth of July, yellow tail, tuna. Several guys have already gotten into the Blue Fin and it seems to be heating up earlier than last year so who knows. Just be prepared. I went looking for Tuna last week but we went right when we should have turned left! Oh well! If it was easy everyone would be doing it.

I hope everyone has fun chasing their dream fish and especially that everyone stays safe.

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 – Dan Keeler 6.10 lbs
Lobster – Open
Halibut – Scott deFirmian, 14.55 lbs
Calico Bass – Mike Marsh 6.15 lbs
White Sea Bass – Paul Zylstra 76 lbs
Yellowtail– Paul Zyulstra, 40.5 lbs
Kent McIntrye– Paul Zyulstra, 116.5 lbs
Tuna (Ca) – Mike Marsh: Blue fin 38 lbs
Tuna (other) – Mike Marsh: Blue Fin 77
Reef Fish (out of country) – Open
Pelagic (out of country) – Mori: Amberjack 61.2 lbs



June/July 2018 Presidents Message

Hey fellow Neptunes, I hope you all are getting into the summer vibe now. So much to look forward to in these months ahead. We're now on the heels of the 55th Long Beach Neptunes Bluewater Meet ~ and what a meet it was.

The 71 lb (even) White Seabass weighed in by Seamus Callaghan was the largest winning fish in LBN Bluewater Meet history. It was Seamus' personal best WSB in over 35 years of diving. The previous biggest fish was taken by Bob Stanbery at the 1972 BWM. A record that stood for 46 years! The 2018 Bluewater Meet also brought in the largest field of participants in the illustrious 55 years of its existence with an amazing and talented group of watermen! The guys who brought in the runners up fish also deserve utmost congratulations. Randy Weston of the Fathomiers had quite a swagger with his 51.5 lb WSB on the board . . . that is right up until the final call, when I barked "Are there any more fish to weigh – this is last call". As everyone looked around, the silence was deafening. I said "Oh I'm pretty sure there's one more", and out from the crowd emerged a slow stepping Seamus Callaghan. He went to the back of the winners circle, dug deep into his kill bag, and lifted the magnificent head of his awesome beast. As its full form became real, the largest cheer in the history of the Long Beach Neptunes erupted from the ample crowd and still echoes through the Isthmus to this day, & perhaps will for all time. Once assisted with getting the bruiser on the hook, Mori and I saw the 71.0 readout, high fived, and then when I announced the weight, the party was on, the insane level of stoke was over the top. The slob Yellowtail brought in by Lyle - 38, Ivan - 35 and Dan K - 30 were also amazing and beautiful fish. You guys Rock!. I want to thank the Neptunes board for all their efforts in putting together a great event, Juan and Julie Aguilar for truly being "Friends of the Club" in so many ways (Julie designed our BWM shirt this year!), the participants of this year's meet, & each and every one of our LB Neptunes brothers and sisters. I love you all. This year has been tremendous, with an incredible auction, touching tributes, a Bluewater Meet that set the bar, and a lot of breathtaking fish landed by so many of us - as we enjoy these times and this sport we love. So much more to come!!

"Sometimes as a human, we are lucky enough to truly know when our lives, our path, has changed, and we discard the old, embrace the new, and run headlong down an immutable course of profound happiness. It happened to me . . . on that summer's day, when my eyes were opened to the sea."

Jacques Yves Cousteau (1910 - 1997)

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.

July 4, Neptune Meeting Cancelled:

August 1, Neptune Meeting: Neptune Meeting. 1:30 [Me-N Ed's Pizza Place](#).

August 9, Family Campout: Annual Neptune Family and Friends Campout is scheduled for Aug 9-12. For information contact Louis Rosales long.beach.neptune@gmail.com

October 13, Fall Classic: Annual Neptune Fall Classic.

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](#):



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](#)

2018 Fishing License:

If you still don't have a 2018 fishing license, it 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 one per person, per day until June 15. Beginning June 16, it will be 3 per person until it changes back again March 15

Spiny Lobster:

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

First Day of 2018-19 season Saturday, September 29 at 0600.
Last Day of 2018-19 season Wednesday, March 20, 2019.



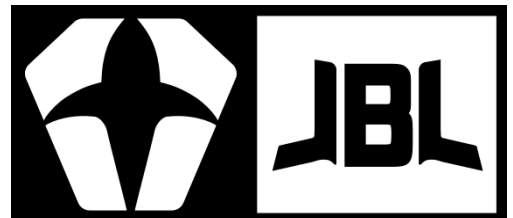
Seamus Wins the 55th Annual Blue Water Meet in Style!!!!

Winning the BWM is a very big deal. Winning the BWM twice is a big deal. Shooting a white seabass over 70 lbs is a very big deal. Shooting a white seabass over 70 lbs to win your second BWM is Huge!

Seamus Callaghan shot a 71 lb White Seabass to win the 55th annual Blue Water meet for his second time. The 71 lb seabass was the largest winning fish in Blue Water Meet history and was Seamus' personal best.

The second place fish would have won most meets in the last 54 years but this year Randy Weston's 51.50 lb White Seabass was dwarfed by Seamus' monster.

A total of 18 fish were weighed in this year and over 70 entries for one of the best attended events in club history.





Winners

1.	Seamus Callaghan	71.00 Lb	WSB	LB Neptunes
2.	Randy Weston	51.50 Lb	WSB	LA Fathomiers
3.	Lyle Davis	37.95 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
4.	Ivan Sanchez	34.85 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
5.	Dan Keeler	30.00 Lb	WSB	LB Neptunes
6.	Joe Prola	24.45 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
7.	Byron Quinonez	23.95 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
8.	Mike Thomas	23.70 Lb	YT	LA Fathomiers
9.	Brandon Ward	18.40 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
10.	John Carpenter	18.25 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
11.	Chase Buchanan	14.20 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
12.	Philippe Habchi	12.05 Lb	YT	LA Fathomiers
13.	Todd Farquhar	11.80 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
14.	Will Withers	11.25 Lb	YT	LB Neptunes
15.	Mike Dahlgren	11.05 Lb	YT	LA Fathomiers
16.	Jared Koenig	8.95 Lb	YT	Guest
17.	Juan Aguilar	8.10 Lb	YT	Guest
18.	Davis Bond	5.85 Lb	YT	LA Fathomiers

Neptune's Annual Family and Friends Campout

The Neptune Family and Friends Campout is fast approaching. The dates are August 9-12 (Thursday-Sunday). The location is little harbor on the backside of Catalina.

The Campout is intended to be an opportunity for Neptune families to experience Catalina diving in a relaxed fun way with other Neptunes and friends. If you are a Neptune, or a friend of a Neptune, than you are welcome.

Usually people get together in small groups (largely based on the age of the kids) and go diving, swimming etc during the day but it is very important to get together around the campfire for the evening meal. That is where the bonding and camaraderie is spread out among all that are there. Also, Jewel has again offered to lead another of her wildly anticipated art projects that the kids have participated in over the past few years.

As always, you are welcome to sleep on your boat or on land. For information on the campout and to be placed on the email list, contact Lou Rosales at long.beach.neptune@gmail.com .





A Quickie Before Bed

After the may meeting when I got home , I noticed there was no wind.so I went down to the local mud hole and there were no waves so I suited up. It took awhile to get my wetsuit on because of the limited use of my hand. Made it to the water and loaded my gun and jumped in and in less than 5 minutes I saw a nice halibut. The visibility was bad. Maybe 2 to 3 feet. I spun around so we were facing each other and let one fly! I hit it right behind the gill next to the pectoral fin and it swam up the shaft and strung it's self. I got the fish into my good hand and crawled onto the beach. I took my knife and stabbed it in the spine breaking it because I can never find the brain on a Halibut! I put it on my stringer and went back out. I loaded my gun again and when I was looking around I felt my bunnies pulling on my knife in my pocket. The life flew out , I searched for it and couldn't find it. I saw a few shorts and then saw another leagal one. I got in front of it and shot it in the same place, it stung it's self just like the first one. Having a bad hand I didn't want to carry much more back to my truck so I got out. Walking up the beach backwards I saw something , it was my knife. The lanyard was



stuck on my tuna clip on my b ungie. I was stoked to have my favorite knife back and 2 nice halibut. Ended up being a fun little session that I hadn't planned on. Just goes to show if you want it bad enough it's possible!!! Dive safe guys, hopefully my hand will be better so I can load a gun bigger than my 50 cm butt stabber

morifish

The Fish of a Lifetime!

It was a spring kind of rainy afternoon and I was looking at the marine forecast. "Hey Babe(that's my wife Christine)what are we doing tomorrow?" "Nothing it's raining" comes the reply.

"I'm going to make a seabass run and get my first one Babe"

"It's raining" she says.

"Yeah but there's no wind and swell in the forecast"

"You're obsessed" is her reply.

I had been seabass hunting since February and hadn't seen one. These things don't usually bother me but I have to admit with about a dozen dives in and coming home with nothing I was in my head a little bit by now. Plus hearing things like so and so got a big one and did you hear so and so got another big one. Sheesh! I mean I'm always stoked for people when they get fish but at this point I'm like F—U.

So I packed up the boat with the usual routine and hooked the truck to the trailer. I was ready for the morning.

I got up, grabbed my back pack and coffee and when I went outside. Everything was wet. Seabass suck is what I was thinking as I pulled away from the house headed for the launch ramp.

As I drove the boat to the promised land of cold and murky kelp beds I drank my coffee and cranked up the tunes. The first spot isn't known for big seabass but I thought maybe if I shoot a schoolie all will be right with the world. When I stepped off the bridge to check the viz it started raining. Oh well I thought the viz looks like crap here anyway.

The next spot looked better and the sun even peaked out for a second. Perfect. I anchored, suited up and slid in to a hazy 15' viz as I made my way to the kelp.

After about 10 minutes I saw the back half of a seabass disappear behind some kelp. I dropped in but couldn't find the fish. Well damn I actually saw one I thought. Cool they're here.

I was excited as I crept along thinking I wonder if there's more on the bottom. Ok next good spot I'll make a drop and take a look when to my right, just in visibility I saw a seabass going in the opposite direction. I dropped and turned left hoping I would be able to find this one. Oh there it is! Shit it's big! Look how girthy the base of the tail is! Oh shit I'm getting closer! Look how big it is! This all went through my head in a matter of seconds then click went the trigger!



Wow this fish is screaming line off my reel as I kicked for the surface. Then clunk I was out of line in seconds. I grabbed the reel line and got drug through some kelp. Uh oh I might have to let go of my gun. I had about 5' to the surface. I grabbed my bands and let go of the line. I hope that knot holds I thought. Literally as I was releasing my grip from my bands everything stopped and I surfaced. What just happened was absolutely incredible. So fast and so much power. I grabbed my reel line again as I caught my breath and I could feel the thump thump of the fish. Good it's still there. I know I had shot a good fish but I'm not sure of the shot. I'm guessing it's not that good by the way it ran so off I went following my line for what seemed like forever. Finally I was straight up and down. I made a dive and I could see my swivel to my shooting line going into a big ball of



kelp. Where are you fish? I know you're close by. Then I saw her in a clearing still swimming. I went up above the fish and got out my knife. When I dropped back in to get her she tried to swim away. I went in for the bear hug. I had her head in my chest and I could feel her tail around my feet. When I got my hands in the gills I could feel her give up. I yanked and pulled my way to the surface. Done!

I unclipped my shooting line and swam the fish back to my gun and then to the boat.

I feel truly blessed and grateful to have taken such a beautiful fish of a lifetime. 76 pounds!

Paul Zylstra





ATOMIC
AQUATICS

3 Ghosts in A Weeks Time

It's been a pretty busy year so far and now that June is here my schedule is much more relaxed and its finally time for me to get out and play. The first spearfishing trip for me this year was actually the blue water meet. The day before the meet we never saw any game fish but I found what looked like pretty good conditions on the front side of the island on tournament day. Once on the spot I proceeded to punch a few dives and on my third or fourth dive I saw a school of fish down below me just on the edge of visibility. I couldn't quite make out what they were but they were tightly packed and swimming like WSB so I punched down a little further and lined one up. As soon as I was able to recognize that they were indeed the intended target, I pulled the trigger on my new 67" Ulusub gun (I was actually hunting yellowtail in some fairly favorable viz on this spot). Having never pulled the trigger on this gun before I wasn't sure how the end result would turn out but the tip went exactly where I placed it and a few minutes later I landed the 30.00lb WSB that took 5th place in the tournament. It's always a great feeling when you have something to weigh in.

Fast forward 6 days later and I called a couple buddies to see who was up for a beach dive at high tide on a Friday afternoon. One of my buddies John said he was game so we met a few hours later and entered the water. After a short swim we were in the bed and John shot a 25lb WSB and returned back to the beach. I decided to make my way up current to the top of the bed and see if I couldn't find some larger models. An hour or so later, after zig zagging, and countless drops, I made my way up to the top of the bed and the current direction and timing of the tide was prime for this location. I hit the up current side of the bed about 15 minutes before high tide and the foam on the top of the water made the area feel just right. I had a quick sighting of a pretty nice



fish but it sunk out on me pretty quickly. About 20 yards or so later 3 nice fish swim about 10 feet off my spear tip, just on the edge of visibility. I lined up the best shot offered and pulled the trigger on my trusty 55" Wong. As soon as I let the shaft fly the fish took off but my float line didn't. I thought to myself "No way I missed that shot." I wasn't able to see my shaft though, but at this point I thought it was a point blank swing and a miss. As I began to pull the shooting line up low and behold I didn't miss, I just stoned it and didn't know it. Got it home and it weighted 57 lbs. Two days later I hit up the same location, and I knew wind swell this day would definitely cut down on the visibility, but Bill Peratt and I made the drive so we entered the water hoping to make the best of it. We got to the head of the current and began to go to work. Once I entered the bed I pretty quickly found a nice WSB sleeping under a kelp stock and lined it up and stoned it with a top down shot. I was pretty stoked to have stoned this fish so as to hopefully not disturb any others in the area, giving Bill a better opportunity to see if he could get on one. I quickly strung it up and decided to just hang on to a kelp stringer so as not make any noise. 10 minutes later I see 3 nice 50 plus WSB swim right below me, they never knew I was there. After an hour and change of hanging on this



kelp stock, and Bill creeping through the area, we eventually had to call it as the tide change started to really hammer the viz, not to mention my hands and feet were now numb from being stationary for so long. Got home and this one scaled out at 52 lbs... It's been a pretty darn good month of June so far and I'm super stoked to finally get some time to get out and get wet. The 3 WSB and diving with good friends are always a nice bonus too... It's Tuna time now...
Dan Keeler



No More Orange Shirt!

Congratulations to Art Tiscareno, Josh Wells, Dan Keeler and Eric Bodjanac who were all voted in as full members at the May meeting. All three were excellent tentative and showed the character that makes me proud to be associated with them as brother Neptunes.



Neptunes,

Jason and I went to Panama the first week of May on a Diving for a Cause trip. I was lucky to land this fish, about 120 pounds.

What was so unusual is when I saw the school most of the fish had passed, and they were moving fast. As the last fish disappeared into the gloom, in desperation I tried my white seabass croak. To my amazement, the school reappeared reversing its course to me.



OKATIN
AMERICA'S SURF CO.

I made a lousy tail shot, but it was landed due to our protocols where almost all fish are given a second shot by teammates just as soon as they have been pulled up to the shooting line.

We donated the fillets to 5 local schools where the lunch staples are usually beans and rice. The fish are always welcome. This is our 6th consecutive year of providing fish, soccer balls and coloring books to the kids.







The guys an animal!!

I've been very fortunate this season. 3 fish under my belt all while Lyles been traveling and Steve is boat less. I've been diving with these 2 guys season after season and not pulling my weight, so this year I just keep sending photos to Lyle to rile him up.

Lyle had been back from Europe for less than 2 days when I got the call. Let's go tomorrow! YES!!

We get to a spot where we had both shot fish in previous years.. Water was green, vis was terrible and he says it's "perfect". Ugh. We were in the water a couple of hours+ and I keep looking to see him climb on the boat, the sign it's time to leave but no sign of him.

I decide to cut through the center of the bed and start working toward the boat. Vis was maybe 8-10. I found some bait and decided to make a drop. I was only down about 15-20' watching the bait through a perfectly framed window in the kelp when she swims across on the far side. She had no idea I was there. I had plenty of time for the shot. I lined up just behind her head and pulled the trigger. Boom! She just rolled over, which makes me nervous because I know once the shaft pulls out she's gonna go ape shit. I surfaced and very gently pulled her up. The tip was barely sticking out the opposite side of her head. I grabbed her and cut her gills, being careful not to be too rough. I proceeded to brain her but it's hard to tell if she's dead while being paralyzed. Lyle was at the boat when I got there so I handed her up and told him where I had found her.

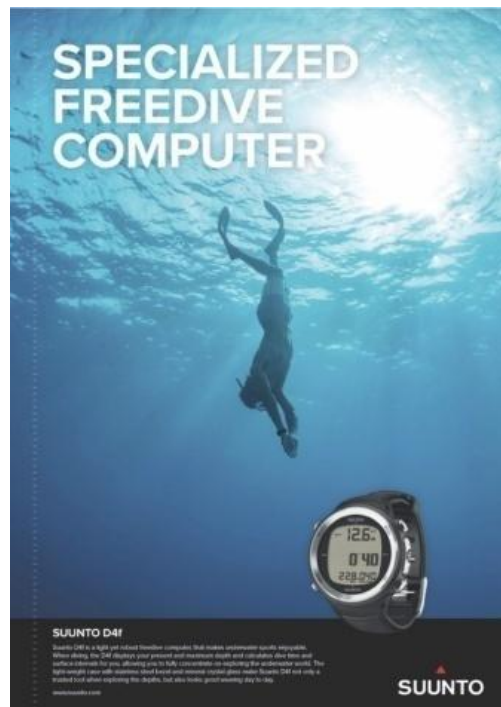


It wasn't long after that I heard Lyle yell from the boat. He had shot a similar size fish but was having a hell of a time finding it. The tide was dropping, the vis deteriorated, the kelp was super thick and it was a struggle just getting to him. I spotted him while he continued to dive and search for his fish. His fish was actually out of sight when he shot it so he wasn't clear on how good a shot it was.

After at least 10 drops he was pretty gassed. He was somewhat reluctant but finally agreed to take my CO2 float down and deploy it on the fish. He was amazed as it brought the fish half way up. It gave him renewed hope. I was a bit worried as he was hell bent on doing it all on his own and I knew he wasn't 100% going in to this. All I could do was spot him. Eventually he prevailed, gathered all his shit and got it on the boat. We stopped in and weighed them at the Balboa Anglers center. Both were just under 60lbs.

2 days later we returned hoping for a repeat. On one of my dives I turned to look behind me and saw a nice fish had past and was swimming away. I did a smooth 180 but I rushed the shot and sent the shaft over top of the fish. Damn it, I continue to learn. No need to rush!

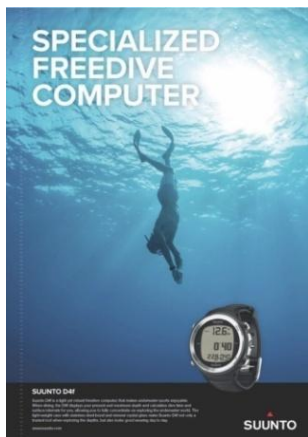
Lyle did better, he pulled a nice 53lb fish that day. 2 days of diving. 2 beautiful seabass. This was his warm up for Panama! Can't wait to hear the guy's stories from that trip!







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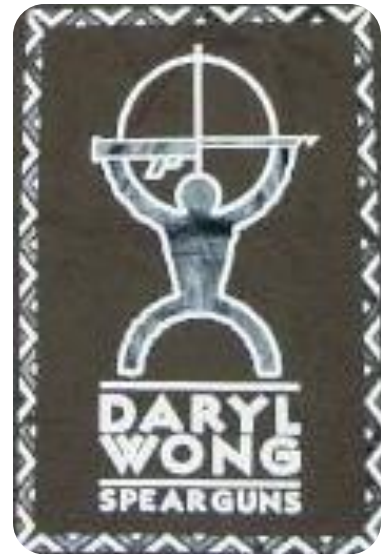
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ATOMIC AQUATICS



HERRANEN

s p e a r g u n s





As we look forward to Summer, the biggest thing on many Neptune's mind is Tuna, but whether you will be out chasing cow BFT or diving for Calico have fun! That's what it is all about.

Without Content this newsletter is nothing and that content comes from you, the members. With that in mind, I want to thank and congratulate to Paul, Jeff, Dan and John Hughes for the stories they sent in and for there great catches.

Congratulations also to our new full members. The Neptunes is a club with a great history; it is a history built on the quality of the members. Not only do we have excellent divers in the club, most importantly, we have excellent people with good character. I am proud to call myself a Neptune and to call other Neptunes my brothers.

Next month we will have a few more photos from Terry's incredible collection of photos and hopefully we will have a few more adventures to get the blood ready for the Fall Classic. If anyone has a recipe, photos or story please send it in so that it can be included in the next issue.

Louis Rosales

Long Beach Neptunes Newsletter Editor