



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

June 2015

Local, Island and Offshore Lighting Up

As if numerous stories of epic yellowtail trips were not enough, reports of Jumbo tuna are now swirling around as well. How much can a spearo take while stuck at work. John Carpenter has the right idea (see photo --->)

If this is any sign of things to come, we are in for stellar conditions for the Blue Water Meet and for an Amazing summer.

So get that gear tuned up, grab a buddy and a ride and get out there.



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Neptune To Do's:

- Turn in those BWM Applications.
(due by June 9th)
- Finish your planning for The Blue Water Meet on June 13

2015 Neptunes Calendar:

June 3rd- Club Meeting- accepting BWM applications
 June 9th - BWM applications due
 June 13 - BWM
 July 1st - BWM Awards/ Speaker Mike Shane of Hubbs
 WSB Research Institute
 August 5th- Speaker Jim Billotti of Coastal Conservation
 Agency
 September 2nd - TBD
 October 7th - Fall Classic applications due

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

LongBeachNeptunes.com

Thanks to Brandon Ward (Wardo) for the updates!!!





Photo by Terry Maas

2015 Fish Standings (updates since last newsletter in [Blue](#))

California

Barracuda:	Open
Bonito:	Open
Calico Bass:	Open
Calico Derby:	Keith Kaufmen: 6.9 lbs
Dorado:	Open
Halibut:	Open
Kent McIntrye:	Open
Lobster:	<u>Jeff Benedict: 10.8 lbs</u>
Sheepshead:	John Hughes: 22.8 lbs
Tuna:	Open
White Sea Bass:	<u>Jeff Bilhorn: 69.5 lbs</u>
Yellowtail:	Open

Out of Country

Reef Fish:	Open
Pelagic (non tuna):	Michael DeGiosa, Amberjack: 53.0 lbs



Photo by Terry Maas

June 2015 President's Message

Hello, Fellow Neptunes, Families, and Friends!

What a great year we're having! Our club is growing as strong as ever, with incredible new members eager to contribute, impressive tentatives eager to fulfill their roles, a record auction, phenomenal speakers at our (very well attended) meetings, and now... June brings you the historic Long Beach Neptunes Blue Water meet!

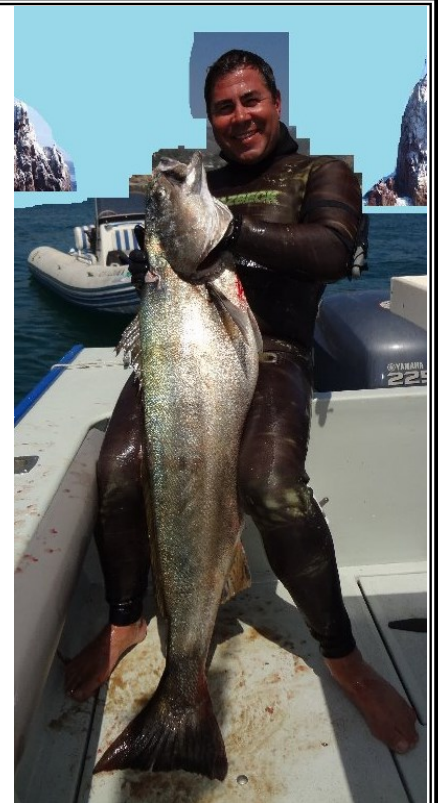
That's right, what an honor it could be, to have your name engraved on the Big Jim Christiansen trophy. Just think how high you'd hold your head, knowing that your name will go down in history, winning what's considered to be the most enduring big fish spearfishing tournament in our country! Just one objective-one big game fish to win. Your name, along with so many great spearos, including Big Jim Christiansen, Al Schneppershoff Jr., Yas Ikeda, Bob Stanbery, Dewey Hennessey, Brian Donnell, Ron Mullins, Bill Kroll, Julie Riffe, John Carpenter, Robert Strohbach, Danny Jones, Scott DeFirmian, Rick Hadley, Seamus Callaghan, and of course, Terry Maas.

Our tournament will be held this upcoming June 13th; see the newsletter for further details. It will be another great event for our club, as we continue to show leadership in the dive community, welcoming invited guests from other recognized clubs. Of course we have some epic raffle items, thanks again to the contributions from our sponsors! So bring some dough, a smile, and camaraderie to the weigh-in circle, Catalina Isthmus, 3pm! Good luck to all divers, and I look forward to seeing a Neptune atop the board on the 13th!

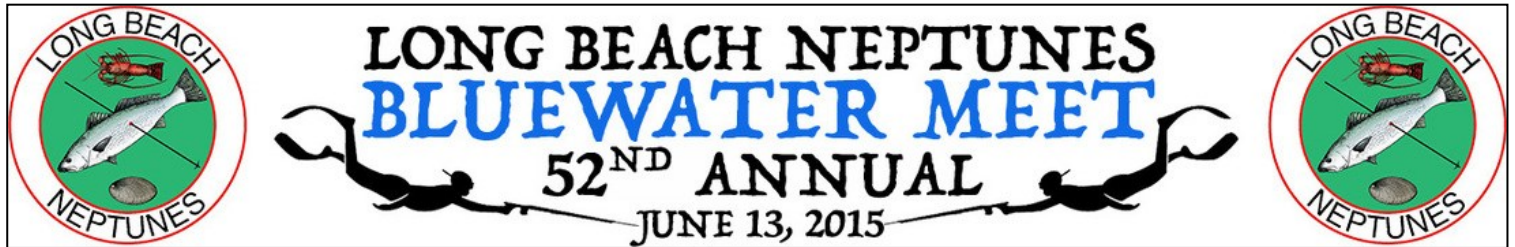
PS- Don't forget, entry fees for all current active and lifetime members are paid for by the Long Beach Neptunes board!

Dive safe, and I look forward to sharing time with everyone at the weigh-in!

Your President,
Byron Quinonez



It is Finally Here!



Do what you have to, but don't miss the most legendary spearfishing competition known to mankind!

What you need to know:

- Application is available at our web site ([Click Here](#))
- Completed App and Payment Due by June 9th (**FREE ENTRY** for Active and Life Members!!!)
- Bring your fish to the beach by 3pm and meat for the grill. Everything else is taken care of.
- Bring Cash for the Amazing Raffle following weigh in.
- Need a Ride/Have a Ride?-Let's get everyone out there:
 - If you need a ride, email me at tfarquhar@me.com and I will put you on the list.
 - If you have a slot to fill, email me at tfarquhar@me.com and I will send you the list of names and phone numbers.
- Awards will be presented at the July 1st meeting.

Blue Water Meet Tees and Sweatshirts

Okay guys, here it is! Check out the epic artwork from Wardo, and our good friend Dam Nguyen! This year's t's are going to go fast!

Short Sleeve T's: \$10.00

Long Sleeve: \$15.00

Hoodies \$30.00 (Pullover or Zippered)

Come get it at the auction, or order from Bruce or via PayPal!!!



Front



Back

EARLY History of the Long Beach Neptunes

1943 **First Neptune Club**
Too young to serve in WWII, James Miller founds the Los Angeles Fire Department Neptune Club.

1950 **LBN Founded**
Doc Mathison, Jim Christianson (then L.A. Neptunes President) and Doty Frazier split off to form the Long Beach Neptunes. Doc Mathison elected first LBN President. First club meetings held at Doc Mathison's and Jim Christianson's houses. King Neptunes registered with State of California.

1946 **L.A. Neptunes**
Reorganizes to become the Los Angeles Neptunes. Fish Records Committee members include Jim Alexander, Bill Barada, David Jeffery and Ralph Davis.

1951 **Monthly Activities**
Space rented at the end of the Belmont pier for monthly meetings. Monthly club beach dives/BBQ held at various beach locations.

1959 **Dragon Swim**
Neptunes build a whale float for the Long Beach Christmas Boat Parade in Naples. Later, a fire-breathing dragon float is created. In the 1970's, Omer Nielson's hosts this annual event.

1964 **Blue Water Meet**
Jim Christianson wins the first Long Beach Neptunes Blue Water Meet.

When I joined the club in 1983, the guys who came to the meetings and taught me about diving were Charlie Sturgill, Jim Christianson, Mel Clark, Big Sid Campbell, and others. Those guys knew the club's history, firsthand. We are lucky enough to have one of the founding members of the LBN still with us, Dottie Frazier. It was she, along with "Doc" Mathison and Big Jim who started our club. So I took it upon myself to do some digging, reviewed some historic docs in the collection of the guy who I consider the authority on our club's history, and spoke with Dottie via email to get some of the most basic facts and dates. This has been double checked and verified by the original membership card of the only member who was actually there at the beginning (Dottie). Attached is a PDF I made up so that we can all be better educated about our early club history. Also, I thought it fitting to put Est. 1950 on our logo, since that is a significant date to all of us Neptunes.

Best,
Vance Carriere

A BIG Thanks to Vance for this great contribution to the History segment! You can look forward to finding it in full size and detail on the web site soon.

Please forward your History segment submissions to me at tfarquhar@me.com. Thanks, Todd

Guest Speaker at Club Meeting July 1st

We are honored to have **Mike Shane of Hubbs Seaworld White Seabass Research Institute (HSWSRI)** presenting. HUBBS has recently achieved over 2mm white seabass released into the wild since its inception, so lets hear what the latest science has to say about the state of our most storied gamefish.



If you drop-off a white seabass head at any of these locations please include your name, phone number, date you caught the fish, and the location (latitude and longitude would be the best) where you caught the fish.

Santa Barbara

Calif. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Sea Landing

Ventura/Oxnard

Eric's Tackle Shop
Channel Islands Sportfishing Center

Marina Del Rey

Marina Del Rey Sportfishing

Torrance/Redondo Beach

Redondo Beach Marina Boat Hoist

San Pedro/Long Beach

22nd Street Sportfishing
L.A. Harbor Sportfishing
Long Beach Sportfishing
Pierpoint Landing

Santa Catalina Island

Avalon Seafood (at the end of the green pier)
Two Harbors (harbor patrol office on the pier)

Los Alamitos/Huntington Beach

Calif. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Huntington Harbour Fuel Dock (Mariner's Point)
Mako Matt's Marine
Pacific Edge Bait & Tackle

Newport Beach/Irvine

Angler's Center
Balboa Angling Club
Davey's Locker
Newport Landing Sportfishing

Dana Point

Dana Wharf Sportfishing
Hogan's Bait & Tackle
Jig Stop Tackle & Tours

Oceanside/Carlsbad/Solana Beach

Helgren's Sportfishing
Leon Raymond Hubbard, Jr. Hatchery
Blue Water Tackle

San Diego

Dana Landing (Mission Bay)
Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute
Calif. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

"NEW CLUB MEMBER UPDATE"

Congratulations to **JESSE GOODE** on his new status as an Official Long Beach Neptunes Club Member. Jesse was voted in at the May 2015 General Club Meeting.



morifish



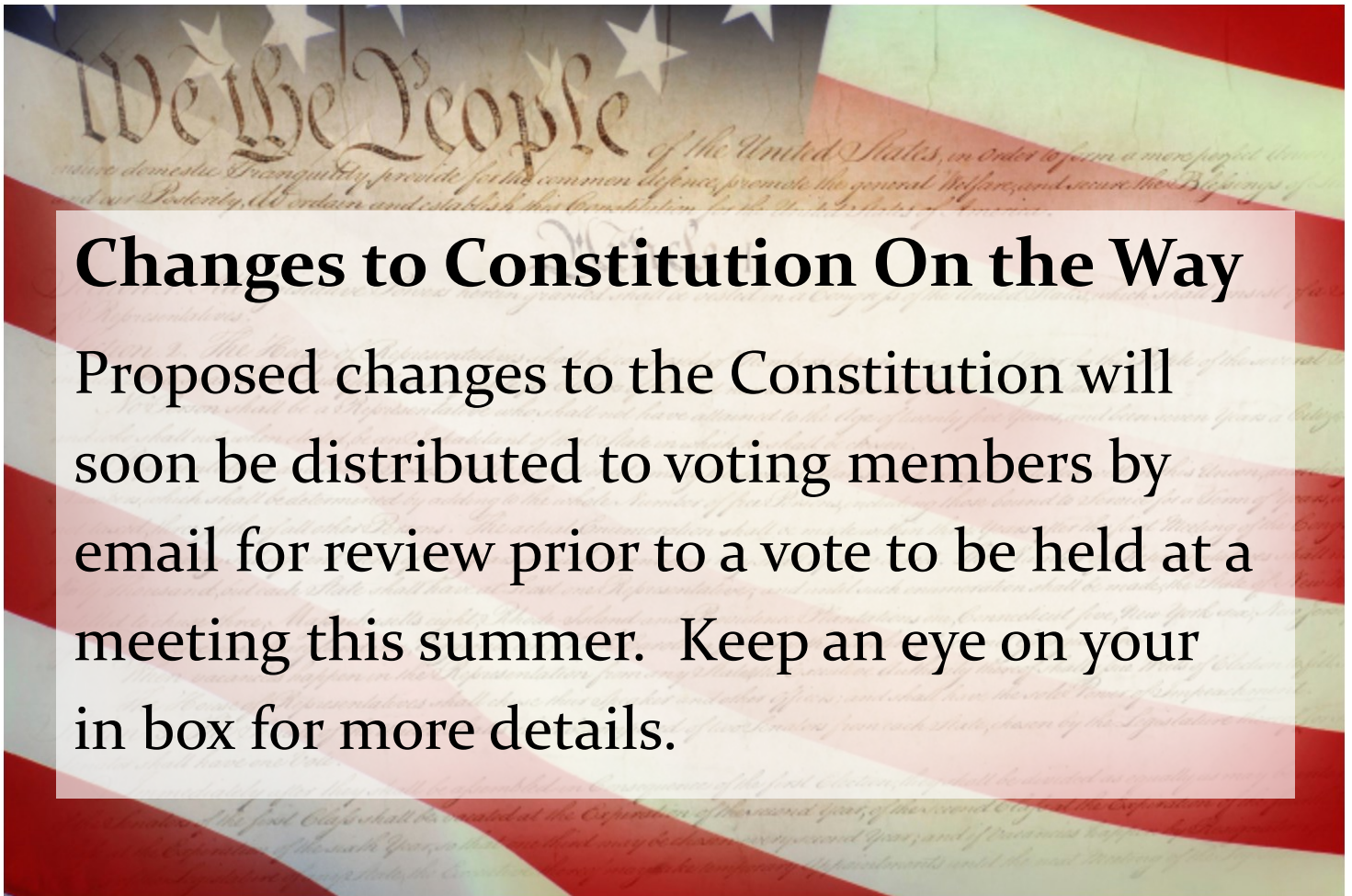
Tentative Update: Prospective Tentatives, Tentatives and Sponsors please see this updated guideline



Long Beach Neptune's Tentative Member Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Long Beach Neptune's. These guidelines have been put forth by the Executive Board and summarize our constitution to help future tentative members and their sponsors better understand what the club expects of a new tentative member.

1. Tentative Members shall attend at least five consecutive club functions, three of which must be meetings.
2. The tentative candidate must have an Active member of the Long Beach Neptune's as a sponsor for the duration of his tentative status.
3. The tentative member will remain tentative a minimum of one year. There is no maximum time limit and is subject to the current board review of the applicants attendance, contributions, willingness to meet and associate with other members of the club and current membership capacity. Once the applicant meets these requirements and is approved by the Executive Board, the applicant will be presented to the general membership for acceptance into the club at a monthly meeting. A 100% "YES" vote by the club members in attendance at the meeting is required for acceptance into the club.
4. Per the constitution the Long Beach Neptune's maintain an active member roster not to exceed 75 members. If membership is at capacity, tentative members will maintain tentative status until a membership spot opens up. It is then up to the club to vote on the status of the perspective new member.
5. All tentative members will be issued a high visibility tee shirt and are encouraged to wear this tee shirt at all club meetings and events. This is for active members of the club to recognize the tentative member in order to get to know them.
6. The tentative member is encouraged to get to know as many club members as possible and help out in any way they can at meetings and events.
7. There will be a one-time \$25.00 application fee along with the annual \$50.00 club dues.



Changes to Constitution On the Way

Proposed changes to the Constitution will soon be distributed to voting members by email for review prior to a vote to be held at a meeting this summer. Keep an eye on your in box for more details.



Second Annual Neptune Family & Friends Catalina Campout

This summer, July 23-26 (Thursday-Sunday), we have two campsites at Little Harbor on the backside of Catalina, reserved that can hold approximately 40 campers. The campsites are site #2 and site #6. The camping trip is for Neptune members, their families and friends. If you are not a Neptune, you must be a guest of a Neptune (family or friend). If your schedule does not permit you to stay for the full four days, you are welcome to come for however many days that you can stay.

Little Harbor is a beautiful campsite and you can find more information about the site by visiting <http://www.visitcatalinaisland.com/camping-and-boating/two-harbors-camping/little-harbor> on the web.

Transportation to the campsite will be up to the individual camper. If you do not have a boat and cannot get a ride, the Catalina Express makes daily runs to two harbors from San Pedro. From Two Harbors, you can take a van to the little harbor campground.

If you are planning to attend, please contact me at long.beach.neptune@gmail.com, so that you can be kept informed of any information or planning that you should be aware of. In addition, you will need to take care of your own reservation by following the instructions in the next paragraph.

The cost is \$22/night for adults 12 and older and \$12/night for children under 12. You can reserve a spot by email, telephone or in person. To reserve a spot by email, include the reservation #11001203, the number of people in your group, the specific dates that you will be staying and a callback number. (The reservation is under my name) Visitor services will then call you back or email with the amount and take your credit card number. Their email is visitorservices@scico.com. To pay by phone, call (310) 510-4226 with the reservation number and the number of people to add and number of nights. Especially as we get closer to summer, it may be difficult to get through and email may be the best option. Last minute adds (if there is space), can be made with the onsite ranger on arrival (cash only), or at visitor services at Two Harbors. If you have questions or suggestions, let me know at long.beach.neptune@gmail.com

Lou Rosales



Fish and Wildlife Information and Updates

Seasonal Fish and Wildlife Dates to Keep Track of

- ◆ March 15: WSB limit changed from 3 fish to 1 fish (through June 15)
- ◆ April 1: Red Abalone Season opens (through June 30)
- ◆ June 16: WSB limit changes from 1 fish to 3 fish

Fish and Wildlife Regulation Changes

The below Lingcod Reg from DFW includes the limit change from 2 to 3 fish.

Lingcod: The recreational fishery for [lingcod](#) (*Ophiodon elongatus*) is open year-round to divers² and shore-based anglers. The fishery is open to boat-based anglers from March 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 (see important NOTE at the end of this section). Lingcod may only be taken or possessed³ in waters less than 360 feet (60 fathoms) deep. The daily bag and possession limit is 3 fish, with a minimum size limit of 22 inches total length.



Club Day

By Todd Norell

Epic trip with the boys - mid May. Parked in the harbor Stayed at the iconic Tuna Club of Avalon with Sir Danny Jones II. Entirely deserted excepting just the four of us. Sipping cognac in the trophy room, admiring the relics and objects of heroic fishing lore. Scouted the dark corridors and cavernous deep recesses of its hallowed bowels. Spirits of all them old salts lurking around every darkened corner, 100 year old skin mounts glaring down from their dry and carefree positions,



assumed so long ago. Each of us retired to our own private suite once the last cigar was extinguished and the final snifter emptied. I enjoyed gazing into the trophy case within my capacious personal retreat. A postcard from the thirties sent blessings to the east with a tale of Bluefin just outside birdrock, that ran for a week. 80 pounders that stretched the linen lines to their max and provided memories aplenty for Uncle Art & Junior. We dove Starlight that Saturday. The wildly screaming bird flocks were in turbulent disarray

above. We new it was ON. One could hear the rambunctious gull chatter even with head down and focus to the deep. It was the tuna crabs . . . darting and drifting in the water column. The birds were diving on them with impunity. The water was deep azure and just teeming with everything that day. Baitfish in hordes, blue sailor jellies tacking through by the thousands, their glorious undersides - mesmerizing when gazed up at from below. Moving forward against the





current, brilliant red bursts were popping all around, it was like flying through flack, with battle raging below. The Tuna Crab crap being off'd by the gull flock! Opaleye were in frenzied mass attack on the poor drifting crabs, defenseless under the hurried onslaught. The bonito fighters



were breezing by in stealthy formation, scrambling the organized line of horse sardines tucked just under the surface. Then the blacksmith would scatter in an instant, yielding to a

stunning line of barracuda – gone in a flash! Look left, wall of yellowtail veering outside, then a quick turn right, dive on em -- Bang, whiz, hell ya!



Long Life Ahead

Tman



I'd Rather be Lucky than Good

By Stephen Parkford

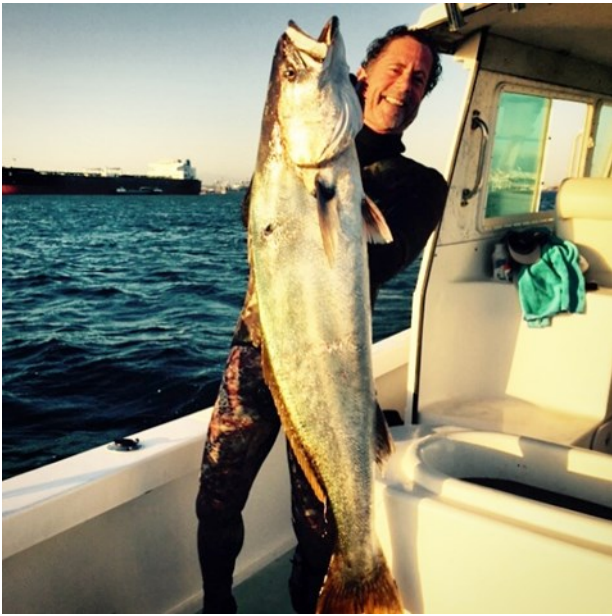
I'd rather be lucky than good.
But they say luck goes to those who are prepared.

I've had some good eyes of late.
I see fish.
I see fish from the surface. I see fish at depth.
And sometimes I kill fish.
This year, mostly White Sea Bass.
Can't apparently buy a Yellow Tail.

Last month on the Half Dozen I had three sightings in the same day.
The first was on my first "get the bubbles out" dive right next to the boat... drifting down below the murk to about 30 feet I spied a WSB swimming lazily away from me... not my usual tactic but I began kicking pretty steadily toward it aiming... finally realizing I wasn't closing in any more and took the shot, hitting the fish from the back. Tagged it for sure but no hook-up. Surfacing I shared with the guys on Lyle's boat and felt very excited. 10 dives later, I'm drifting down and forward in what I call my superman position, and before me sitting there just atop the short kelp coming up from the bottom is about a 40+ WSB... just sitting there. Angling downward toward him, I'm calculating the distance to his midship as the fish was perfect sideways to me... "30 feet, 25 feet, 20 feet..." then boom and gone.



Last sighting was the best. Down near the bottom at 35 -40 feet I see movement to my left and behold the biggest most magnificent WSB I have ever, ever seen. I did a mental double take as this beast slowly swam 45 degrees away from me never closer than 30+ feet. I took measure of it's massive size and estimate that the top to belly girth was at least 2 feet and that the fish was probably a 100lbs or more!! But I just stared as it drifted away silently. Wow, what a sight!



My luck changed the next time I went on the Half Dozen. Down just off the bottom at about 35 feet, I spied a WSB swimming the opposite direction just at the edge of my visibility. I made a half turn and in half-circle position took a long shot at this sizable fish... staring at my reel I saw it tagged the fish and took freely the line... I let it have all of it... but not knowing how well I hit the fish I put two fingers on the ling for tension... and swam

with the line.... as the fish exhausted itself I continued to use only my index and thumbs to slowly with virtually no pressure, pull the fish... eventually straight up and down I slowly so carefully pulled up to see the tail first and was stunned to see my shot — tip had cut in and then back out and was dangling with only a 2 inch piece of skin holding the fish... double checking this as I continued to slowly pull I realized I was seconds from losing the fish... letting go of the line and diving to the fish released the line pressure and the tip and the shaft fell away with the fish suspended untethered. Just a couple of beats and I was on the fish, hands in it's gill and retrieved the fish.... 60.02 lbs... great fish.

Then another with Tom Murray the next week at PV. Then another the next day. It's been so far a good year for me.



Hunting is Hunting

By Cody Lightfoot

Although my gills have all but dried up, I've been trying to land hunt as much as possible and spend more time outdoors with my family. A few weeks ago, I got to join the Hultgren clan for a Tejon hunt and helped Mark's son Jake get his first pig (featured in the last newsletter). A couple weeks after that, I was invited back with Mark's dad, Carl and my buddy Landon. Landon had just joined the ranch and had minimal knowledge of the roads and other priceless info, so the 3 of us left Carl's house about 3:45 and headed for the ranch. We hit some terrible traffic through LA and didn't make it to Lebec till way after light, but were excited to get after it. We bounced all over the ranch that day and saw the usual herds of deer, including a bachelor group of 6 bucks that were all in velvet. There was plenty of fresh sign in the areas we checked but it looked like we had just missed them. To kill some time midday, in between spots, we managed to eradicate about 120 ground squirrels, some at distances well over 100 yds. As it got later we decided to hit one of the proven areas that they commonly see pigs and take a quick nap, while waiting for the evening. I found a dead tree to lean against with my rifle in my lap and had just started to drift off when I heard "BOOM...BOOOM!" from below us, in the canyon. Carl had already been headed my way and we both started scanning furiously to see if any pigs were scurrying up the surrounding hills and just as we spotted 3 adults and a few youngsters they crested a hill about

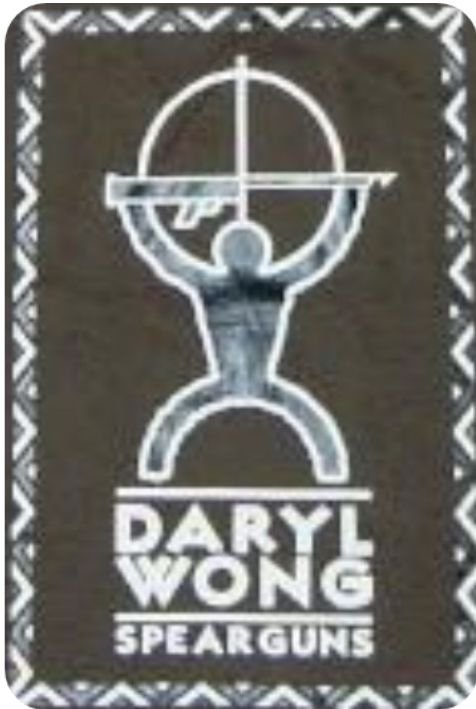


220yds away. We ran to try and get a chance at them and by the time we ran 200 yds, they had reached the peak of the next hill... easily 500yds away and weren't slowing down! We regrouped and gave Landon the scoop and decided to head the way they went in hopes that they had settled down and may be in the area. Approaching that area, we stopped short and walked in different directions. Carl, armed with only his new video camera, of course got some good video of a group feeding at 200yds. Mine and Landon's paths crossed and we were discussing a plan when I spotted a monster boar feeding about 150yds below us, in some thick brush. You could tell he was big, just from the way he lumbered through the brush, like a big bear walking slowly. I dropped to a knee and found him in my scope and waited to get the best shot possible, as he was feeding away from us. When the shot presented itself, I fired, and we both lost sight of it in the brush for a second and then saw legs in the air as it tumbled down the



path it had been on. We got some great pictures before the sun went down, thanks to Landon for dragging his DSLR camera with us all day. This old boar had had a rough life, scars, missing teeth, torn up ears...he was a fighter! I field dressed it while Landon brought my truck as close as we felt comfortable and began the relatively easy drag to where we could get a rope to it. My diesel did the hard work and pulled it up the steep part and saved us some time. The headlamps came out and we all pitched in to skin and quarter it to get him in the cooler. We made it off the ranch about 10pm and after dropping everyone off, I got home a little after midnight. I spent the next day processing and packaging it, with some help and company from my dad. Bones for the dogs, ribs went on the bbq, the best cuts got saved, and the rest was ground for sausage. Whether on land or sea, we're all hunters and need to take the time to do what we love, even when life gets busy. Tejon ranch is one of the most diverse, beautiful, unmolested places left in Southern California and will not disappoint, should you ever get the chance to visit!

Please continue to appreciate and support our Sponsors!

An advertisement for Freedive N Spear. It features a central image of a diver in a wetsuit holding a large, silvery fish. The background is dark with some light spots. Text is overlaid on the image.

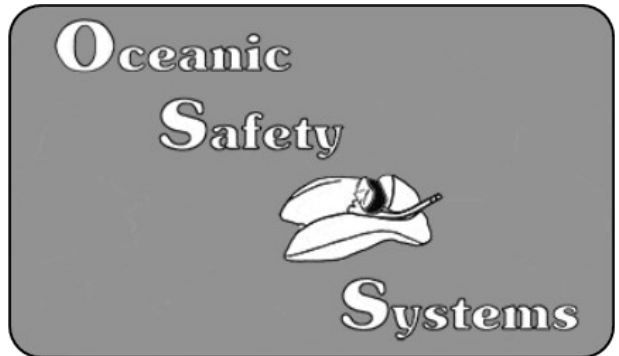
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Thanks for your Contributions!

I would like to thank all of the contributors to this edition of the Trident: Vance Carriere for the historical piece, Mark Navas for DFW update, and Todd Norrel, Stephen Parkford, Cody Lightfoot and John Carpenter for the great trip reports and photos. Thanks again to Terry for the amazing underwater photos.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting this Wednesday night and at the Blue Water Meet.

Wishing all in the Neptune Community meaningful connection with one another, fulfilling adventures, and safe diving.

Best Regards and Dive Safe,
Todd Farquhar,
Newsletter Editor

