



March 2018

# TRIDENT



Winter means different things to everyone. Lobster, Boat maintenance. Equipment maintenance spending a bit more time looking for reef fish or perhaps a trip to that exotic locale on the other side of the world.

## In this issue:

- President's message
- Shallow Water Blackout Wrap up
- Diving for a Cause with Terry
- A Whale of a Tale
- Rolling in the Mud with Hobie and a video from Parky
- Hunting Seabass: Lesson One
- Mori's Squid Salad
- Book Preview from Tom Blandford
- Classified Ads
- What's next?

I have been doing a lot of boat maintenance but several members have taken trips. In this issue take a look at the photos and short little story from Terry Maas from his trip to New Zealand with diving for a cause. Mike Marsh, not to be out done, took a trip to baja looking for Wahoo but got a different sort of once in a lifetime experience instead.

Whatever you have been doing, I hope it was successful and put you in a position to take advantage of the diving that will be available in the upcoming seasons.

Trident Newsletter is a publication of the Long Beach Neptunes – a non-profit organization dedicated to the art and lifestyle of spearfishing.

Editor: Louis Rosales

Web Master: Brandon Ward



### **2018 Neptunes Board**

#### **President**

Todd Norell  
(562) 309-3308  
[todd.c.norell@gmail.com](mailto:todd.c.norell@gmail.com)

#### **Vice President**

Mike Marsh  
(310) 650-6003  
[mmarshinc@gmail.com](mailto:mmarshinc@gmail.com)

#### **Treasurer**

Bill Peratt  
(310) 938-6040  
[Bill.peratt@aol.com](mailto:Bill.peratt@aol.com)  
[Dues/Payments](#)

#### **Tentative Manager**

Scott deFirmian  
(310)  
[Spearo10@yahoo.com](mailto:Spearo10@yahoo.com)

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Lou Rosales  
(310) 469-1639  
[long.beach.neptune@gmail.com](mailto:long.beach.neptune@gmail.com)

#### **Club Historian**

Masahiro Mori  
(310) 628-8082  
[morifish@hotmail.com](mailto:morifish@hotmail.com)

#### **Conservation Liaison**

Terry Maas  
(805) 642-7856  
[tmaas@west.net](mailto:tmaas@west.net)

#### **Recording Secretary**

Dave Freeman  
(949) 945-8930  
[dbfreeman.jr@gmail.com](mailto:dbfreeman.jr@gmail.com)

## **Final Fish Standings 2017:**

2017 Calico Derby – Scott de Firmian; 9.5 lbs  
Bluefin Tuna (Ca) – Mark Navas; 40.0 lbs  
Lobster – Dave Freeman 11.7 lbs  
White Sea Bass – Mike La Riva; 69.05 lbs  
Halibut – Hobie Ladd; 16.6 lbs  
Sheephead – Hobie Ladd: 28.0 lbs  
Calico Bass – Scott de Firmian; 9.5 lbs  
Yellowtail– Jeff Benedict 36.9 lbs  
Kent McIntyre– Joe Prola (Total weight: 78.7 lbs  
WSB 46.7 lbs YT 32 lbs  
Bonito – Robert Strobach 7.2 lbs  
Reef Fish (out of country) – Open  
Pelagic (out of country) – Hobie Ladd; Rooster  
Fish 30.9 lbs

## **Fish Standings 2018:**

2018 Calico Derby – Open  
Tuna (Ca) – Open  
Lobster – Open  
White Sea Bass – Open  
Halibut – Open  
Calico Bass – Open  
Yellowtail– Open  
Kent McIntyre– Open  
Reef Fish (out of country) – Open  
Pelagic (out of country) – Mike DiGiosa: Rooster  
Fish 41.325 lbs



# March President's Message:

Springtime will now be shortly upon us and the glory of Summer 2018 lingers in the distance. Still lots of good times before we get there! It's the time of year we ponder the imminent joys and achievements that the months ahead will offer us. As for me I can hardly wait for the prime conditions to be here again. I shot my own personal best Yellowtail in 2015, PB White Seabass in 2016, and PB Tuna in 2017. What will 2018 bring? I hope the same kind of anticipation is building in each of you and that your *Best is Yet to Come!*

The board has been meeting regularly to make sure things are dialed in for our upcoming events and meets. Remember, all you Neptunes are welcome at those board meetings, especially those of you who are interested in serving on the 2019 LBN Board. It will be one of the most pleasurable and rewarding things you will ever undertake! We'll try and keep you apprised well ahead of the board mtgs time/place. Also, it's almost Auction time! So shake out your gear and donate what you can, & promote others to do the same. Its going to be a great time, back at Me & Ed's in 2018!!

At our March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting we will celebrate our Annual Awards Banquet. Some epic fish tales will be shared and the well deserving winners of the 2017 Big Fish awards will be presented their trophies. Also on this night we will bestow an honor unique in the prodigious history of the Long Beach Neptunes. We will present Jay Riffe with a **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Jays diving and spearfishing career began when he just was 8 years old. He conquered the milestone of 80 years on this recent February 23'd. This award is a tribute to Jay and honors his many decades of dedication and contributions to this sport we all love and to the Long Beach Neptunes. We will be joined on March 7<sup>th</sup> by Jay's family and several "legends" of our sport who will take part in congratulating Jay and in making this a milestone event in the course of his epic and well-accomplished life. I hope you can all attend the banquet when we award our 2017 winners and pay tribute to the magnificent Jay Riffe, as we bestow on him our immense appreciation for all he has done, and hearty well wishes for his many years of life and love still yet to come.

Long Life Ahead  
~Todd Norell~





## New 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.

**March 7, Club Dues:** Club dues are \$50. Please pay by March meeting. After March meeting the cost is \$75. [Payments can be made by clicking here](#)

**March 7, Awards Banquet:** 2017 awards. This year there will be a special award given. Do not miss out!

**April 4, Annual Neptune Auction:** Annual Neptune Auction. This year we will be trying to re-incorporate some of what made the auction special to begin with. We are asking that members donate gear that they no longer need. Gear should be usable and in good condition. Make some room in your garage and help your club at the same time.

**June 2, Blue Water Meet:** Annual Neptune Blue Water meet. Clear the date!

**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](mailto:long.beach.neptune@gmail.com)

**October 13, Fall Classic:** Annual Neptune Fall Classic.

**December 7, Christmas Dinner:** The annual Neptune Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Friday December 7. We are still considering venues. Please make suggestions if you know of a restaurant that would be a good fit for the club.

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 changes to one per person between March 15 and June 15.

### **Spiny Lobster:**

Last Day March 21. 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.

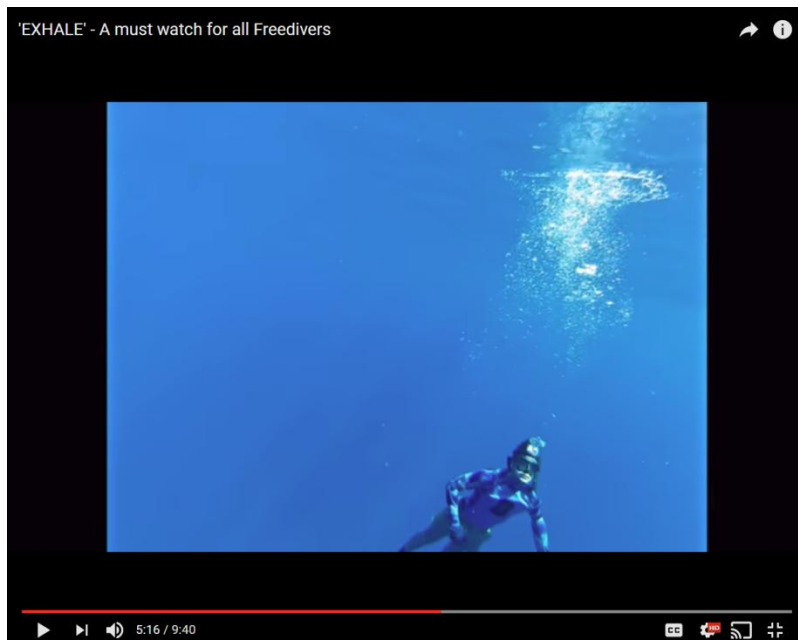


# Shallow Water Blackout:

At the last meeting, Seamus Callaghan gave a wonderfully informative and enjoyable presentation on Shallow Water Blackout. He summarized the basic physiology and physics behind shallow water blackout, talked about things that can be done to minimize the dangers and some of the basics for recognizing the symptoms and rescuing a buddy that has a blackout.

A few of the main points:

- Shallow water blackout generally occurs within a few feet of the surface as the partial pressure of  $O_2$  drops rapidly. Divers rarely blackout at depth.
- At least 50% of blackouts occur when retrieving fish. Even if you do not dive with a buddy (you should), you can at least reduce your odds of dying by about 50% by having a buddy spot you when you are retrieving a fish.
- If a buddy shows signs of near blackout (loss of motor control, ) be sure to watch him for about 30 seconds after surfacing because many blackouts occur after surfacing.
- Do not hyperventilate. It can make you feel better but actually increases your consumption of  $O_2$  by increasing heart rate and stress and, as a result, leads to a greater chance of blackout.
- If a buddy blacks out, drop his weight belt, tap lightly on his face, blow across his eyebrows, talk to him



# Diving For a Cause New Zealand 2018

Over the past few years Terry Maas has been participating regularly in philanthropic events with the group Diving for a Cause. The program combines community service and diving. A typical trip is ten days and involves 4 days of diving mixed in with community service. The cost usually runs about \$2,000 for the trip plus airfare which runs about \$1,000 if booked early. Participants come from all over the world. It is a great way to meet new people and make a positive difference in the world doing something we love.



This is the team.

The backpacks in the foreground were all donated to a home for victims of family abuse.





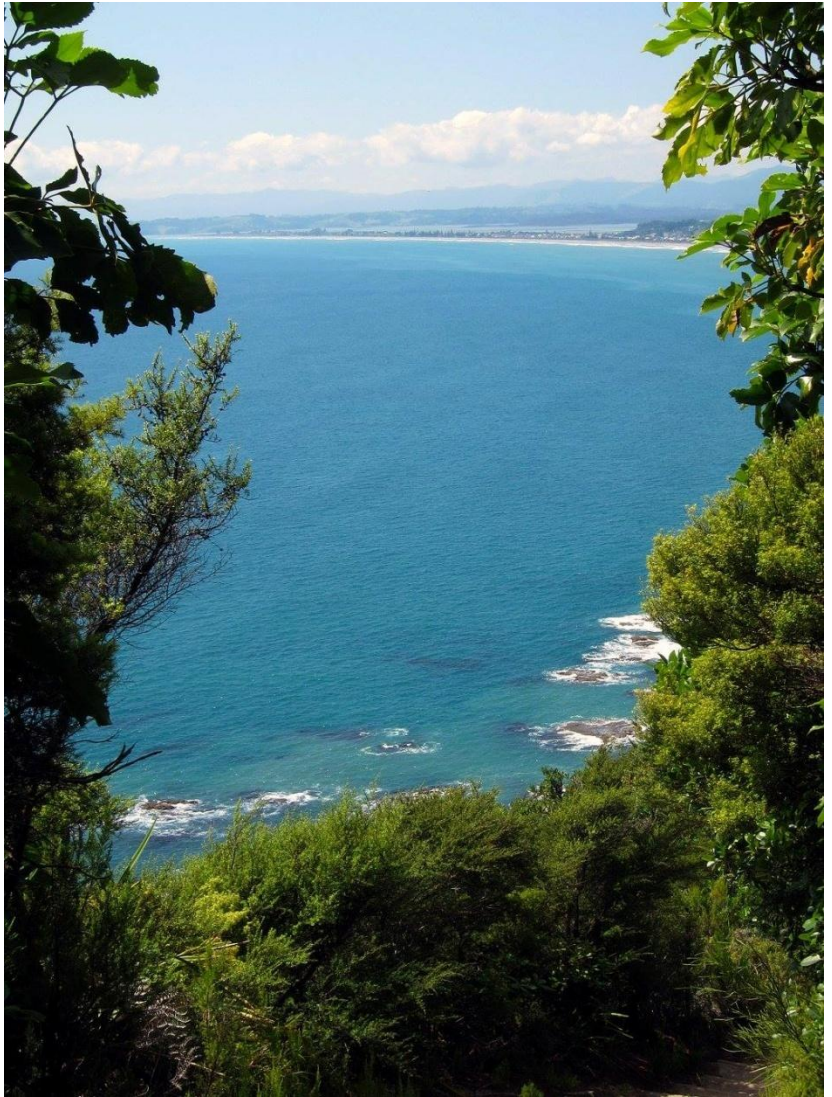


We donated over 2,000 in masks for this indigenous Maori school.  
The 200 middle school students sang us songs of welcome and thanks.

Colleen, one of the participants is shown here teaching kids how to use the masks we gave them



In addition to the community service and the diving, there was plenty of time to see some of the beautiful sights in New Zealand. Here is a view of the Bay of Plenty.



And, of course we also dove....and shot fish. This is my 50-pound "kingfish," the largest on this trip. In past trips, I shot a 270# striped marlin, and an 80# yellowtail.



**OKATIN**  
AMERICA'S SURF CO.





This is Tal, a participant from Israel, and one of his kingfish.

Here is a photo of Colleen, Tal and Terry with three very nice kingfish. in addition to the masks and the backpacks, we donated all of our fish, which had been smoked locally





Diver cruising the kelp and lining up a fish at Sid's outside



It's getting more and more common to see schools of mature black seabass. These fish were photographed at Santa Cruz Island but they are now commonly seen at all of the islands.

Photos by Terry Maas from the book Blue Water Hunting and Freediving.





Over 500 fish swam by in this school of yellows at San Nic. Photo by Terry Maas from the book Blue Water Hunting and Freediving.

An advertisement for the Suunto D4I freedive computer. The background is an underwater scene with a diver in silhouette against a bright sun filtering through the water. The text "SPECIALIZED FREEDIVE COMPUTER" is prominently displayed in white. In the bottom right corner, a close-up of the Suunto D4I watch is shown, displaying "126", "0:40", and "228.2m". The Suunto logo is at the bottom right.

**SPECIALIZED  
FREEDIVE  
COMPUTER**

**SUUNTO D4I**

Suunto D4I is a light and robust freedom computer that makes underwater activity enjoyable. When paired, the D4I displays your pressure and maximum depth and calculates dive time and surface interval. It also allows you to fully concentrate on enjoying the underwater world. The light weight (over 100 grams), shock proof and magnetic resistant gives you Suunto D4I not only a freedom tool when exploring the depths, but also a reliable sportswatch day to day.

**SUUNTO**

# A Whale of a Tale

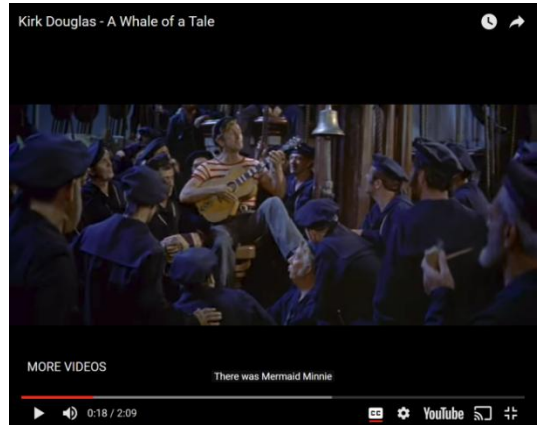
Mike Marsh

Last month, a group of the usual suspects: Seamus, No Deal, Dexter, Too Tail and I, planned a trip to Cabo. According to Fellow diver Dave AKA “Mad Hatter”, in the previous month, the Wahoo action had been on fire. The Mad Hatter and his clan shot and retained several of the long torpedoes, stating the Wahoo had been sighted on nearly every dive. Flights were booked and we arrived at our destination to discover a decline in both the fishing report and water temp. Not to be discouraged, the next morning we met with John

Reed, a fellow NorCal diver loaded the 2 pangas and headed towards Gordo Banks. The water was erupting with countless whale acrobatics and bursts of water shooting upward like geysers. It was truly an incredible sight and one which I never tire.

We dropped into the blue water and drifted across the bank periodically encountering bait balls with only a few sightings of Wahoo and Tuna. What was mind blowing, was the constraint sonatas vibrating one’s body, by whales off in the distance. Another cool sighting was a school of a hundred plus Hammer Heads viewed by Too Tall, Dexter and No Deal. Later that morning, Too Tall landed a 33 pound Wahoo and Dexter shot his first Wahoo. I wasn’t as lucky. John Reed and I were diving near each other when a small group of Wahoo came into view 5 feet below the surface. We dove tracking separate targets. His gun fired and he missed. I shot as the fish turned away and missed. That was last Wahoo sighting of the trip.

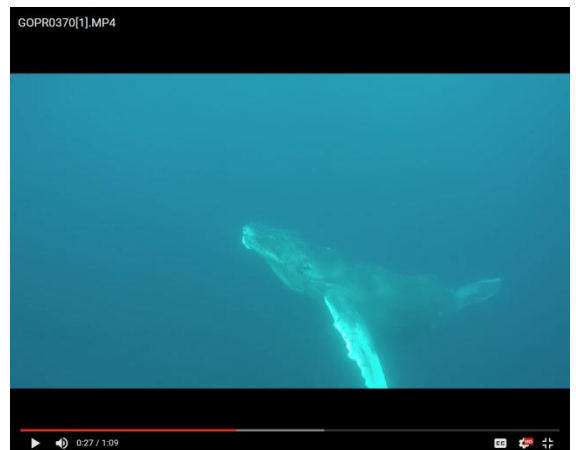
We had purchased squid and were drifting the bank dropping bait ladders in the hope that Tuna would be attracted. Sure enough, I had one 60 pounder come in below me. It devoured the squid parts and swim away. I dove again and started a new ladder at 30 feet. Back at the surface, as I was breathing up, it came back for seconds, so down I went. The fish was probably at 50 feet down gobbling up the tidbits jerking back and forth until not a single morsel was left. I was sort of in range when the stuffed Yellow Fin split, without even a thank you.



We had moved off the Bank to try our luck at some reefs closer to shore where I had my third encounter. The captain dropped us off in the usual scattered formation and began tossing bits of squid to entice something to appear. It wasn't long before a Rainbow Runner was racing below me devouring the bait, with a Dorado hot on its trail. As the Do do made a "U" turn and headed for the surface, I pulled the trigger and watched my shaft clearly miss its intended target. "What the ----", feel free to fill-in the Blanks. All the while, whales were chattering and enjoying the day off in the distance. A lesson I decided to adopt. Quit your belly aching Marsh and enjoy your surroundings.

We move off this Hellish spot paralleling the rugged coast line and enjoying countless whale sightings, which were just incredible. Seamus and I spotted a mother and her calf splashing her fins, not moving from the area. Since I can't hit a fish today, maybe I can shoot a video. The panga slowly approached the pair, keeping a somewhat safe distance and shut the outboard down. I slid into the green water with my Go Pro in video ready mode. They were still a few 100 yards off as I cautiously swam towards them. Man, I hope the Mom doesn't freak out and go into protective mode like a Puerto Rican mother. Getting backhanded by one of her flukes would not just hurt, but would undoubtedly make me considerable shorter.

As I got closer and closer, I notice the calf peel away from mom and head towards me. From the surface, I turned the camera on and pointed it in its direction. The green water soon transformed as the white water turbulence appeared in the center of my view. The calves curiosity allowed me to take this short but once in a life time video included in this article. What I got out of this adventure is not that my game was off in regards to landing a fish, but I was able to share another great story with my friends, and a once in a life time opportunity to be within a few short feet of one of the world's largest mammal. That baby will be really big someday.

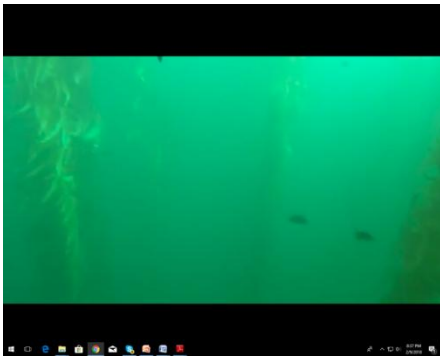




If you are looking for someone that is willing to root through the mud...Hobie's your man! Here is the result of a recent dive playing in some of Hobie's special brown mud.



This is an old video but it sure does get the blood flowing. An oldie but goodie from Steve Parkford.



And one that is just a little bit newer! He's still got the mojo! Never lost it!

***morifish***





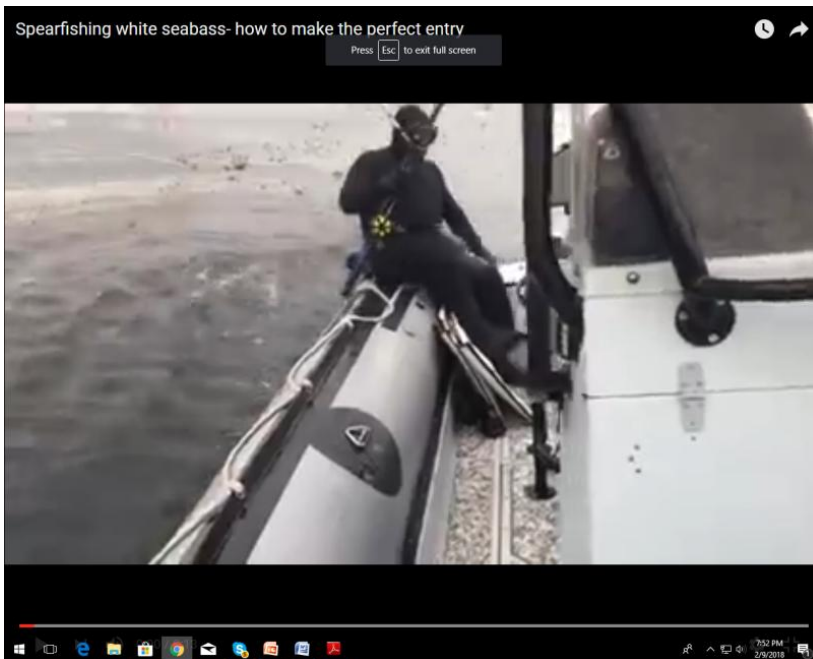
## How to be a good seabass hunter

### Lesson one: the entry

Arriving at the sacred seabass grounds by land or sea, you want to have your stuff together. Mentally be prepared and physically ready for anything. Swimming into the zone or especially anchoring right in the zone, you want to have a few things in mind. It's really all about being graceful. You always want to move slow and you want to be quiet. You want to get in the zen zone and be thinking silence.

Our very own Paul Zylstra has come a long way in his few years of transitioning from a deadly fisherman. To a silent fish slaying machine.

Take notes and look forward to more sea bass lessons in upcoming issues of the Trident.



**ATOMIC**  
AQUATICS



Not everyone has been hunting in the water, some have been taking advantage of other gifts on land. Larry shows off after a successful hunt.

**HERRANEN**  
s p e a r g u n s

## Mori's squid Salad, 2018

Remove squid bone and pull off tentacles, boil about 1min and chill. Then, Olive oil, red wine vinegar, lemon juice, salt and pepper, oregano, fresh garlic, Parsley and celery.

An underwater photograph showing a diver swimming near the surface of the water. The diver is wearing a wetsuit and fins, and is positioned horizontally. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through from above, creating a shimmering effect on the surface. Bubbles are visible around the diver.

YOUR FREEDIVING AND SPEARFISHING SOURCE.

**HOUSE OF SCUBA** 

The logo for House of Scuba, featuring a stylized white silhouette of a diver inside a circular frame.

Neptunes are found in just about every field you can think of. We have a few authors and Tom Blandford is putting the finishing touches on a book. So if anyone wants to check it out, here is a short description:

I recently finished—sort of—my second book. We still have a lot more editing. The book is fiction and mentions several Neptunes (you'll have to buy it to find out who—it could be you). It's a story about two L.A. coppers who are also members of the club. They have been attacked by a white shark at Guadalupe Island; they manage to kill the shark with a well-placed shot; however, its mate, a very large female with amazing tracking abilities, stalks and attempts to kill both divers. She is out for revenge.

Both officers are also SWAT Dogs who were involved in a shootout with Isis terrorists. Several terrorists are killed when SWAT officers serve a search warrant on a residence where heroin has been sold. One of the terrorists is the favorite son of the leader of Isis, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. When Baghdadi learns that two SWAT officers have killed his son, he sends a team of killers to Los Angeles to capture, torture and eventually kill both men, their girlfriends and a dog. An irate Baghdadi is out for revenge.

The big scenes in the book take place at Guadalupe Island, the Blue Water Meet at Catalina and Russian Gulch in Fort Bragg, Northern California. The title has not been determined, but you can bet the word *revenge* will appear on the cover.

It should be an easy, quick read with lots of excitement. The book should “hit the skids” sometime in the fall. It will be available from Amazon as a paper back or an E-book.

My first book was published several years ago. The title is *A Dented Badge*. It's a collection of about 130 very short stories—most of which I know to be true--about cop work in Los Angeles during the seventies and eighties. It's very politically incorrect but accurate. It too is a fun, easy read with a bit of black humor. It's been selling well during the past few years, but will probably never be a New York Times best seller. It was also displayed on the TV series *SWAT*, but only as a prop.

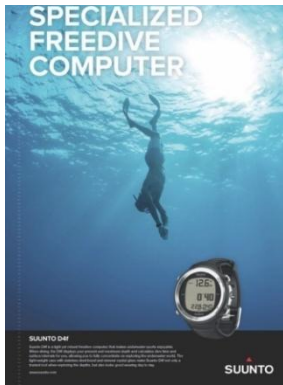
If you buy the books you will not only contribute to my meager retirement fund, but enjoy the read.

Tom Blandford



Please use our sponsors: To access their websites, click on the logos.

**OKATIN**  
AMERICA'S SURF CO.



**ATOMIC**  
AQUATICS



**HERRANEN**  
s p e a r g u n s





As always I would like to send a special thanks to those that helped make this issue special. Terry Maas sent in some wonderful photos of his trip with Diving for a Cause and some amazing blue water photos...I'll print some more for next issue. Hobie likes to grovel in the mud and we all appreciate the results. Mikes' story was almost too big to be true but I guess his video shows he was telling the truth....this time. Mori's squid salad looks wonderful and I am looking forward to trying it....or better yet having Mori make it for me ;). I want to thank all that contributed to making this issue a success.

Each of our sponsor's logos can now be found two places. One is randomly placed in the newsletter somewhere and one on the sponsor's page. Please check their websites by clicking on their logos.

Next month we will have a few more photos from Terry's incredible collection of photos and hopefully we will have a few local adventures to mix in with the international flavor of this issue. 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