



October 2019

The

TRIDENT

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The Trident is the official newsletter of the Long Beach Neptunes, a Non-Prophet organization. The Trident is published monthly and is provided free of charge to members of The Long Beach Neptunes and Associates.

Any inquiries or any questions regarding the Newsletter should be addressed to :

LBNeptunes@yahoo.com

2019 Neptune's Calendar

10/02/19 Wed Meeting
 10/12/19 Sat Fall Classic
 11/06/19 Wed Meeting
 11/30/19 Sat Xmas Dinner @ The Phoenix Klub
 12/04/19 Wed Meeting
 01/01/20 Wed Happy New Year !! (No Meeting)

2019 Long Beach Neptunes Board

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Fish Competition 2019

California Awards

Calico Derby	Kyle Brannon (Final)	7.5 lbs
Calico Bass	Jeff Benedict	8.25 Lbs
White Seabass	John Hughes	61.1 Lbs
Yellowtail	Seamus Callaghan	40.0 Lbs
Halibut	Open	
Sheephead	Robert Strohbach	16.25 lbs
Bonito	Open	
Barracuda	Open	
Dorado	Open	
Wahoo	Open	
Bluefin Tuna	Jason Taylor	106.7 lbs
Marlin	Open	
Lobster	Open	

Out of State/Country Awards

Yellow Fin Tuna	Masahiro Mori	45.6 lbs
Reef Fish (Pargo)	Masahiro Mori	39.1 lbs
Pelagic	Open	

Kent McIntyre Award

John Hughes 61.1 lb WSB + 27.8 lb YT = 88.9 lbs

Big Fish Perpetual Trophy

Jason Taylor 106.7 Lb Bluefin Tuna

A Message from the President



Fellow Neptunes,

October has long been my favorite month. The water is about as warm as it's going to get. The visibility is usually good. The Santa Ana winds knock the swell down and we get beautiful, flat, calm days. The kids are back in school, so the beaches aren't as crowded. Lobster season starts (as well as upland bird and duck season). And last, but not least, Oktoberfest starts! So, while I'm in Munich celebrating with beer and brats, Ivan has kindly agreed to run the October meeting.

I know the summer is over, but we still have some exciting things to look forward to. The Fall Classic is coming up on Saturday October 12th. With improving conditions and good fish numbers, it's going to be interesting to see what gets weighed in. In addition, we will have some amazing raffle items you won't want to miss. The entrance fee is only \$20 (including a Fall Classic beanie), so sign up soon!

Believe it or not, the Christmas Party is right around the corner. This year it will be held on Saturday November 30th at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim. The venue is beautiful, the food will be incredible, and the Neptune Christmas Gift will be something special. It will be a great time to relax and enjoy the camaraderie of your Neptune family. Did I mention the awesome door prizes?

I will be back from Germany in time for the Fall Classic, but I probably won't fit into my wetsuit anymore. So much for placing this year!

Dive Safe!

Jeff



Long Beach Neptunes FALL CLASSIC

Saturday, October 12th, 2019



This meet is held by the Long Beach Neptunes at Catalina Island and is OPEN TO ALL QUALIFIED FREE DIVERS. **Divers may begin at dawn but must conclude their diving and be at the Isthmus by 4:00 PM (Lobster may be taken the evening before [Friday, October 11th] starting at dusk).** Any fish and/or lobster not in the weigh-in circle by 4:00 PM will be disqualified, NO EXCEPTIONS! The eligible fish are: Yellowtail, White Sea Bass, Dorado, Barracuda, Bonito, Halibut, Tuna Family, Calico, and Lobster. **"NO SCUBA DIVING IS PERMITTED"**. The diving area will include all waters from Mexican Border to Point Conception and include Catalina Island, San Clemente Island, San Nicholas Island, and Santa Barbara Island. **The Cortez and Tanner Banks are OFF LIMITS.** THE WEIGH IN AND WINNERS CIRCLE WILL BE LOCATED AT THE PICNIC AREA BEHIND THE HARBOR REEF RESTAURANT AT ISTHMUS COVE, CATALINA ISLAND (ALSO KNOWN AS BUFFALO PARK) AT 4:00 PM SHARP.

YOU PROVIDE: 1) Entry Fee; 2) Signed Registration Form/Liability Release; 3) Your own transportation; 4) Steak, Fish, Chicken, Lobster or other protein; 5) Game Fish/Lobster

WE PROVIDE: 1) 1st – 4th place trophies for largest fish taken the day of the meet (Only one fish per person); 2) Biggest lobster trophy; 3) Largest Calico Bass trophy. The winner's name and club affiliation (If applicable) will be inscribed on the trophies. 4) On the beach BBQ and charcoal, fire pit, grandstand, green salad, rolls, side dishes, BEER, soda/water, and paper plates, napkins, utensils. (BBQ Utensils not provided)

"ALL ENTRIES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LANDED WITH NO ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER DIVERS"

LONG BEACH NEPTUNES FALL CLASSIC 2019 WAIVER

DIVER'S SIGNATURE REQUIRED. IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST SIGN AS WELL. I assume entry into this event at my own risk. In consideration of my participation, I intend to be legally bound. I do hereby assume risk for myself, heirs, executors, administrators and assign, waive, release and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages I may hereafter accrue to me against the sponsors, LONG BEACH NEPTUNES or any other individuals and/or groups involved in the LONG BEACH NEPTUNES 2019 FALL CLASSIC MEET. I further attest and verify that I am physically fit, enjoying good health and have sufficient expertise for participation in this event. Parent and/or guardian agree to indemnify and hold harmless the above sponsors of any and all damages received in the event the entrant is a minor.

"REGISTRATION FORM & ENTRY FEE MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 9TH, 2019"

PARTICIPATING DIVER ENTRY FEE (\$20) NON-DIVER (\$10)

"ALL PARTICIPATING DIVERS RECEIVE A TOURNAMENT BEANIE"

NAME OF DIVER (Please Print): _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

IF DIVER IS A MINOR, INDICATE AGE: ___ PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

Make checks payable to **LONG BEACH NEPTUNES** and mail, along with signed entry form, to: **Long Beach Neptunes c/o Brian York 1940 Volk Ave. Long Beach CA 90815**. You can also send forms by email to, LBNEPTUNES@yahoo.com. PayPal payments can then be made to: LBNEPTUNES@yahoo.com. Include Full Name and "Fall Classic 2019" in description field. Please choose the, "I'm sending money to family or friends" option when sending payments via PayPal. Direct any questions regarding your entry form & payment to, LBNEPTUNES@yahoo.com.

Club Announcements..

- The Fall Classic will be held on Saturday, October 12th. Entry Fee is \$20 for competitors and \$10 for non-competitors. The Application is in this Newsletter.
- The board has decided to move the 2020 Blue Water Meet weigh-in from Buffalo Park to the front beach area. This move will increase cost to the club slightly, but we were able to budget this into our operational expenses. Arrangements are already being made.
- Neptune hats with Embroidered Patch are now available. Cost is \$15 for Flex-Fit hats and \$10 for Trucker style Snap Back hats. Hats will be available at the July meeting. Full and Life Members only.

Farquhar boys accepting their Neptune campout fish awards



Bloody Sunday on the Gunslinger

By Jon McMullen

Do you know what dunnage is? Have you ever met the Optometrist To The Stars? Are you deeply familiar with your second amendment rights?

If you answered 'no' to any of these questions, then you obviously haven't boarded Gunslinger for any meaningful amount of time. And if you answered 'yes' to all of these questions then you've been fortunate enough to dive with King Neptunes Allan Drexel and Jeff Bilhorn on the aforementioned beauty of a 26.5' Skipjack. On the afternoon of Monday September 23 I found myself lucky enough to be able to answer affirmatively to the above questions after an amazing two-day trip...

Our primary objective was Tuna – nothing new there – seems like that's what everyone is after these days. After loading Gunslinger with enough ice to build an igloo we dropped her in the water at Huntington Harbor and set out for the backside of SCI by way of the east end of Cat and northwest end of SCI. The chatter was rich with stories of prior tuna successfully landed, accumulation of King Neptune fish (interesting note here: both Allan and Jeff accomplished their King Neptunes feats exclusively at SCI) and perhaps most interesting to me – tales of great feats as well as sorrow involving the prior generation of Neptunes with whom Allan had the privilege of diving.

Piss break off the east end – BOOM – striped marlin feeding on surface bait 15 yards from the boat...I was ready to break for my gear then the Volvo Penta Diesel hummed back to life...no time for Catalina on this trip...a wise decision...the striper sinks out of vision after a few ticks...

The ocean surface is an oily glass that would have permitted water skiing 60 miles off shore. Our first stop was a high spot that I'm told is rarely diveable either due to conditions or military closure. There was bait everywhere and a helicopter above, but unfortunately neither was an indication of fish; Jeff pops in for a few dives but doesn't see anything.



Allan and I suit up too and we are now motoring to the backside to trade off on the swim step. What happened next? Well...pretty much nothing...we (think we) meter some fish but our descents yield no visible proof of that tender red meat that keeps showing up on Balta's Instagram (is he importing them from Japan?). After a few hours of burning diesel, we decide it makes sense to follow up on a tip Jeff received for a spot that was yielding game fish the day prior. We need fish on the boat.

As we head to the spot we pass Little Fallujah (a Navy Seal training area on the NW end) and begin talking about Fuckin Merica type shit – mostly how taxes suck. I'm amazed at the amount of kelp in these beds and the beauty of the backside of SCI. There isn't another soul around except for the 19-year-old buzzcuts doing heli drills above our heads. (By the way

the helicopters never stopped – I felt like I was diving in south central LA on a Friday night.) Allan breaks into stories about this exact spot and fish taken by the fathers of our sport like Harry Ingram, Terry Maas, Jay Riffe and Doug Ulmer – and it all starts to soak in...this is my first dive as a member of the Long Beach Neptunes – I'm honored to be part of such a group!



I step onto the swim step as Allan is telling me how Harry once shot a white right under the boat at this spot. I slide into the water and yell back at Allan: 'there's whites right under the boat!' Four beautiful wsb glide elegantly through the water right under me and off into the thick bed – that's more wsb than I've ever seen collectively over my short time in this sport. There are fish here, and over the next hour I encounter this site multiple times - there are schools of three and four fish, singles and doubles. I take point blank shots on several occasions thinking I'm about to land my largest wsb each time...only to come up with an empty shaft. What was I doing wrong? Then it hit me...I still had my tuna rig on my gun (cable wrap and slip tip, with the slide ring allowed to travel down the length of the shaft). I look at the slide ring and it's covered with wsb scales...my slip tip wasn't deploying! Then frustration was trying to creep into my mind...but I wasn't gonna go there. I'm seeing these fish and not scaring them, I'm getting shots, this is progress for me, I'm not at work right n – YELLOWTAIL!!! A pair of beasts is charging right at me from my left as if it's their responsibility to guard this island for the Navy Seals. They make a left turn and show me their beautiful colors – I make eye contact with the trailing fish right before pulling the trigger. I'm already dreading the retrieval from this thick bed of macrocystis...but the fish stops dead in its tracks...stone shot!

I get back to the boat and Jeff had already pulled out a nice yellow and a white – a social combo in September – what an amazing feat! Dude was on fire and played it off cool...I guess that's how it is when you have a jar full of otoliths at home. I tell them about all the whites I saw and they both only saw a few, which somewhat frustrates me since it sounds like I blew a magical opportunity...but on the other hand...my time will come...right now I'm spearfishing and life is good...

We motored into a cove that I'm told rarely allows anchorage. The sun is setting and we are getting ready to clean our fish. Jeff and Allan recommend I weigh my fish...the scale skips from 28 to 32 to 31 to 29...I'm informed that the King Neptune yellowtail requirement is 30 pounds. This is already my largest yellow by a few pounds so I'm pumped. But the 5% boat penalty isn't going to work here. Jeff offers to swim into shore with me to weigh the fish. It feels weird dragging a bloody fish through the water at dusk. We make it to shore and my fish is still pooping out digested red crab. Will Jeff let me scoop the poop back up and into the mouth if necessary? Luckily that thought was never verbalized and my personal best yellowtail came out at 30.2# - I was pumped!



We spent the evening on the boat filling out my King Neptune fish application, brandishing firearms and trying on Allan's MAGA hat. The next morning we spent an hour looking for Jeff's wetsuit bottoms with Allan's drone (I told him not to leave those on the rail overnight) and I shot another nice yellow in the kelp...but the whites were gone. We chased some crashing tuna on the way home but came up empty. No worries – we had plenty of stories from the first day.

This write-up doesn't even scratch the surface of the awesome time we had on this trip...if you want the rest of the story then you're just going to have to spend a couple of days on Gunslinger with these two legends.

- Jon McMullen; proud member since September 2019



Neptune Fish & Bugs Pics



Boat for Sale

2006 Glacier Bay 2680

Honda 150's with 950hrs

Aluminum Trailer

Excellent condition, turnkey \$59,800

Call Josh for full details/pics 714-234-7165



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