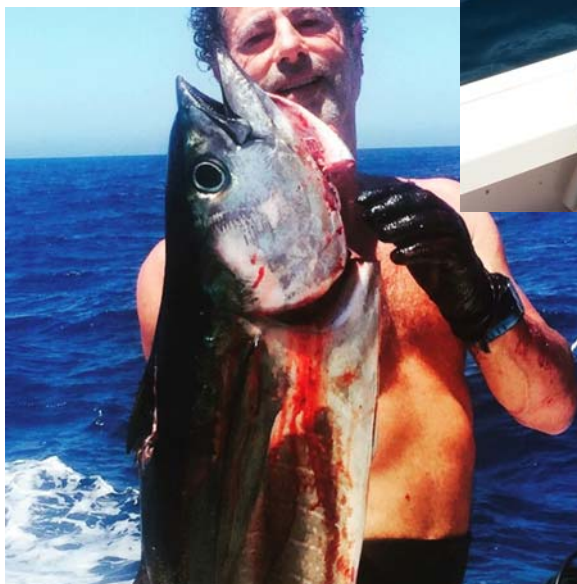




Connecting and Informing our Neptune Community in:
Safety, Camaraderie, and Club Legacy
September 2015

A Summer to Remember

What an unusually fantastic summer of local, island and blue water action! One can only hope that there is just a little more left to be had and that next year has more of the same in store. With all of the epic catches you have been coming in with this just might go down as the “Year of New Personal Bests”. Let’s see if the Fall action (oh, how we can’t wait to start grabbing Lobster) finishes as strong.



Congrats on
the Tuna
Guys!!!

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Neptune To Do's:

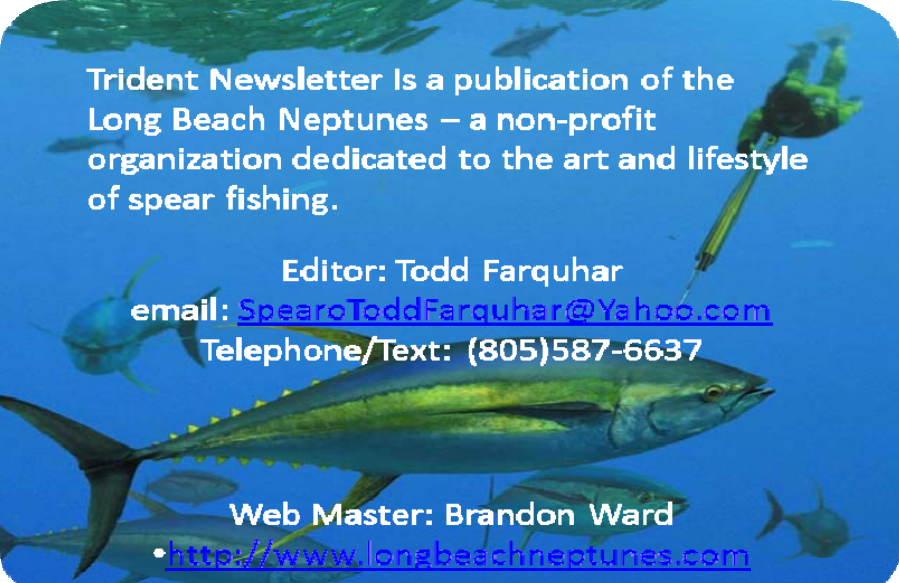
- Line up your crew for Fall Classic

2015 Neptunes Calendar:

September 2nd – Fish Stories
October 7th – TBD/Fall Classic applications due
October 24th – Fall Classic
November 4th – Fall Classic Awards
December 2nd – Announce new board

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

LongBeachNeptunes.com



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

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Photo by Terry Maas

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

California

Barracuda:	Open
Bonito:	Open
Calico Bass:	Keith Kaufmen: 6.9 lbs
Calico Derby:	Keith Kaufmen: 6.9 lbs
Dorado:	John Carpenter : 15.8 lbs
Halibut:	Open
Lobster:	Jeff Benedict: 10.8 lbs
Sheepshead:	John Hughes: 22.8 lbs
Tuna:	Open
White Sea Bass:	Jeff Bilhorn: 69.5 lbs
Yellowtail:	Mike Marsh: 37.7 lbs

Kent McIntyre: Jeff Bilhorn:

69.5 WSB + 31.3 YT= 100.8 lbs

Out of Country

Reef Fish: Todd Bersuch, Pargo: 34.83 lbs

Pelagic (non tuna):

Michael DeGiosa, Amberjack: 53.0 lbs



Photo by Terry Maas

September 2015 President's Message

Hello, fellow Neptunes! I hope this letter finds everyone and their families well!

It's been an epic El Niño year, with some incredible fish being taken! Lots of quality Yellowtail, tuna, dorado, and even some remaining seabass to be had! Don't forget to submit all of your fish in a timely manner, as your fish may still help you qualify for your King Neptune Award!

September is a great month! Goodbye to Summer, but welcome Fall, and Welcome Harvest! Fall represents Harvest Season for most farmers, and it's no different for us Spearfishermen! We just have different fare on our tables.

So now that Summer is in the books, Fall is starting, the kids are off to school, and the Fall Classic is right around the corner! Our sponsors have been so incredibly supportive this year, and we have some great raffle prizes in store! The Fall Classic is much more mellow than our Blue Water Meet- mostly Neptunes, a few close friends, sharing time at the Isthmus. I look forward to seeing everyone out on the water and in the weigh-in circle!

Fall also means something special to every diver in the club: Lobster Season!!! Yay! Early bug season is the best, heading out at night on a warm Santa Ana wind to the island, picking up bugs when the water is still in the '60's, and then coming home wearing a t-shirt! Man, I love those days, before we start hunting in the cold, dark of the winter! Lobster stock, lobster risotto, lobster mac n' cheese, lobster ravioli, lobster rolls, bacon wrapped lobster, lobster wrapped lobster... well, you get the picture!

So, let's look forward to a great Fall and end of the year! The board is working hard for another nice Christmas dinner, the Fall Classic, and maybe another surprise or two in store!

Welcome Fall, Welcome Harvest!

Dive safe!

Byron Quinonez

Fish and Wildlife Information and Updates

2015 Seasonal Fish and Wildlife Dates to Keep Track of

- ♦ August 1: Abalone Re-Opens
- ♦ September 5: Free Fishing Day
- ♦ October 3: First Day of Lobster Season

Fish and Wildlife Regulation Changes

Blue Fin Tuna: The California Fish and Game Commission recently adopted changes to recreational tuna regulations. The new regulations are effective as of today, July 30, 2015.

The changes include a statewide two-fish recreational daily bag limit for Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*), which applies to all bluefin tuna possessed in California waters, regardless of where they were taken. Additionally, there are new requirements for filleting sport-caught tuna on vessels south of Point Conception.

[\(Click for more info from CA-DFW\)](#)



New Bluefin Tuna Regulations

Mark Navas

This year's El Niño event has brought more pelagic fish to our local waters than I can ever remember. Water temps from the boarder to Anacapa are 70-75F+. Dorado, Yellowfin Tuna, Bluefin Tuna, Marlin and Yellowtail are now commonly found from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Floating kelp paddies commonly hold these pelagics.

Effective July 30th, 2015 the limit on Bluefin Tuna has been changed from 10 fish to 2 fish.

Rules for filleting **ALL Tuna** species on a vessel have changed. The specific details can be found at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/cpshms/tunas.asp> I don't recommend filleting tuna on a vessel due to high risk of an Infraction Ticket. Here's a summary:



Subsection 27.65(b)(11) - FILLETING OF FISH ON VESSELS.

(b) Fish That May be Filleted: No person shall fillet on any boat or bring ashore as fillets any fish, except in accordance with the following requirements:

(11) For **all species of tuna filleted on any boat or brought ashore as fillets** south of a line running due west true from Point Conception, Santa Barbara County (34° 27' N. lat.) each fish must be individually bagged as follows:

(A) The **bag must be marked with the species' common name**.

(B) The fish **must be cut into six pieces with all skin attached**. These pieces are the four loins, the collar removed as one piece with both pectoral fins attached and intact, and the belly fillet cut to include the vent and with both pelvic fins attached and intact.

Note: Bonito (Sarda chiliensis), Pacific mackerel (Scomber japonicus), and other mackerels are NOT considered tuna and the new fillet regulations are not applicable to these species.

Don't forget Free Fishing Day September 5th, 2015. Details at: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/fishing/free-fishing-days>



Thank You to our August Meeting Speakers: Jim Billotti and Wayne Kotow of the Coastal Conservation Agency

Jim and Wayne presented the mission and vision of the Coastal Conservation Agency and how bringing their efforts to include California anglers into this nationwide organization can benefit our local fisheries and fishing rights. ([See CCA Website for more details](#))

The CCA Standard Membership is \$30 per year. Membership dues go to the national organization. All fund raising at the local level remains earmarked for local projects.

The club provided a \$500 gift to support the program.



Some Need to Know info from our Friends at Palapas Ventana

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PALAPAS VENTANA GOES TO PANAMA
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Auction Trip on The Flattie Pays Out Danny Jones

Anybody recall the Neptune's auction?

Well aside from Sandi getting some of Todd's amazing Neptune coasters I won the bid to go out with none other than Paul Zylstra on the Flattie. It was an epic battle between myself and Scott De Firmian but the deeper pockets won out.

Month's go by and I finally call Paul and say hey, when are you going to take the guy out who won the bid on your boat at the auction? Paul asks me who won it so I say I did, and Paul exclaims well heck Danny let's go this weekend.

That was it, the weekend was on and we set out to Paul's #1 spot.



Actually I was asked where I wanted to go and I said oh no, your the captain, we go where you know is the best spot, I want to go to all your best spotz kook. After poking around a bit we get in the water and are greeted with some small yellows and after a brief conversation we decide to put some meat in the cooler. It's easy when you are on Paul's #1 spot, the fish just come to you.

We knock a couple off and see some bigger models that won't come in so the captain say's we are making a move, ah finally to the number one secret spot, yeah! We hit the next spot and bag a couple more small yellows and the captain alerts me we are moving yet again. Hm... so, he's been holding out, now I get to see the

Auction Trip on The Flattie Pays Out (Continued)

nirvana that Paul has kept so close to his vest for years.

As soon as he hit's the water Paul is swimming back with a nice mid 20's fish and say's he is moving the boat because the fish are over there. I am told to swim in that direction.

Before this info I had missed a large fish, shot and tore off a larger fish and saw more.

Was I finally at the promised land? Did I really earn the spot to be included in the small Flattie club to be shown where the really big fish live?

Right then mid-thought a school of bruiser yellows appear like an apparition in front of me. I aim, shoot, and watch this fish take off like a freight train straight down. Try as I might to slow it down this is a losing battle. Before I know it my shooting line is a massive cluster F#@k and winds down to the bottom around a myriad of kelp stocks somewhere in the 70' range. Where's Lyle Davis when you need him?

After much diving, cutting, pulling and cussing, along with Paul giving it a go we decide to do just what we had spoke of early in the day on the ride out and not kill ourselves over a fish.

Paul brings the Flattie over and we tie my reel line to the rear cleat and Paul put's it in gear. Streeetch...Uh oh... pop! I start to pull. It's heavy, I know I have a shaft, that's good. And a lot of kelp, but is a fish attached? We get the Gargantuan pile of kelp to the side of the boat and it suddenly explodes in the water. The captain nails it with the gaff and we have yet another quality fish on the boat.

I am stoked, we got all my gear back and the fish, what a great day.

On the way home Paul and I told stories, drank a bottle of good wine and he finally opened up to me. He said Danny, by the way, that was my 54th best spot. And you know I believe him.

Thanks Paul.

Box of Chocolates Mike Marsh

I don't want to sound like Forest Gump, but spear fishing is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. The trip was planned for an pre-dawn shove off with John Johnston, Jim Matsuka, John Francis and me. Larry Heinrich had laundry to do, so he declined the invite, but assured us we would have flat seas. Well let's just say Larry's forecast on sea conditions was a tad bit off. We encountered four foot swells with tight intervals coming from two different directions, good thing I took sea sick medicine.

After a bladder busting ride, we arrived at our destination only to find screaming current and green water. We decided to try this spot later and move to spot #2 where the water was equally green, but far less current. Not wasting any time, I was the first in and while loading my gun, a good size

yellow casually swam under me.

Oh yea. Were in the zone or so I thought. I had several sightings but the larger yellows stayed out of range.

After unloading on a 15 pounder, I headed for the boat. The next spot wasn't much better but John Francis and I each shot a yellow and tossed them in the cooler. Time to move to our first loca-

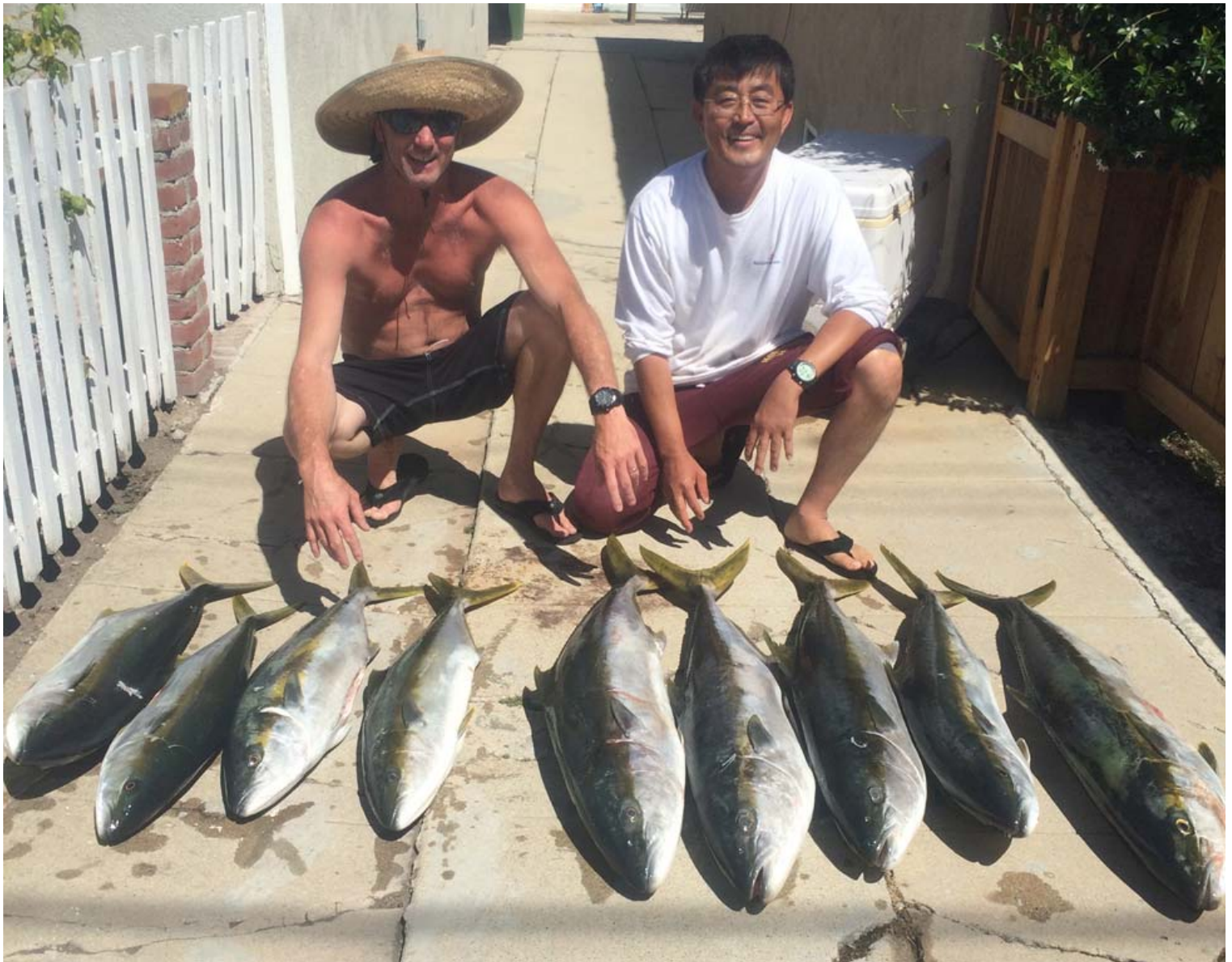


tion to see if the current had died down. NOPE. Jim agreed to run a live boat so the three of us could give it a go. Jim dropped us off into the green nothingness so we could drift over our area and hopefully find bait. It wasn't until my fourth or fifth dive when my box of chocolate opened. It was all happening during this one drift and one moment. Spanish Mackerel 15' below, racing by me, time to breath up. Next on the menu were schools of Bonito and small Yellow Tail darting in and out. As I prepared to descend, the next show began, a school of 20 Blue fin passed by at Mach 5. Kicking down too late for the Blues, I found myself in good position to shoot a toad yellow right through the spine. I'm truly thankful for the friends I've met through diving and the experiences we share. I'll be even more thankful if nobody else in our club turns in a larger Yellow Tail than me. Thanks Mike Marsh.

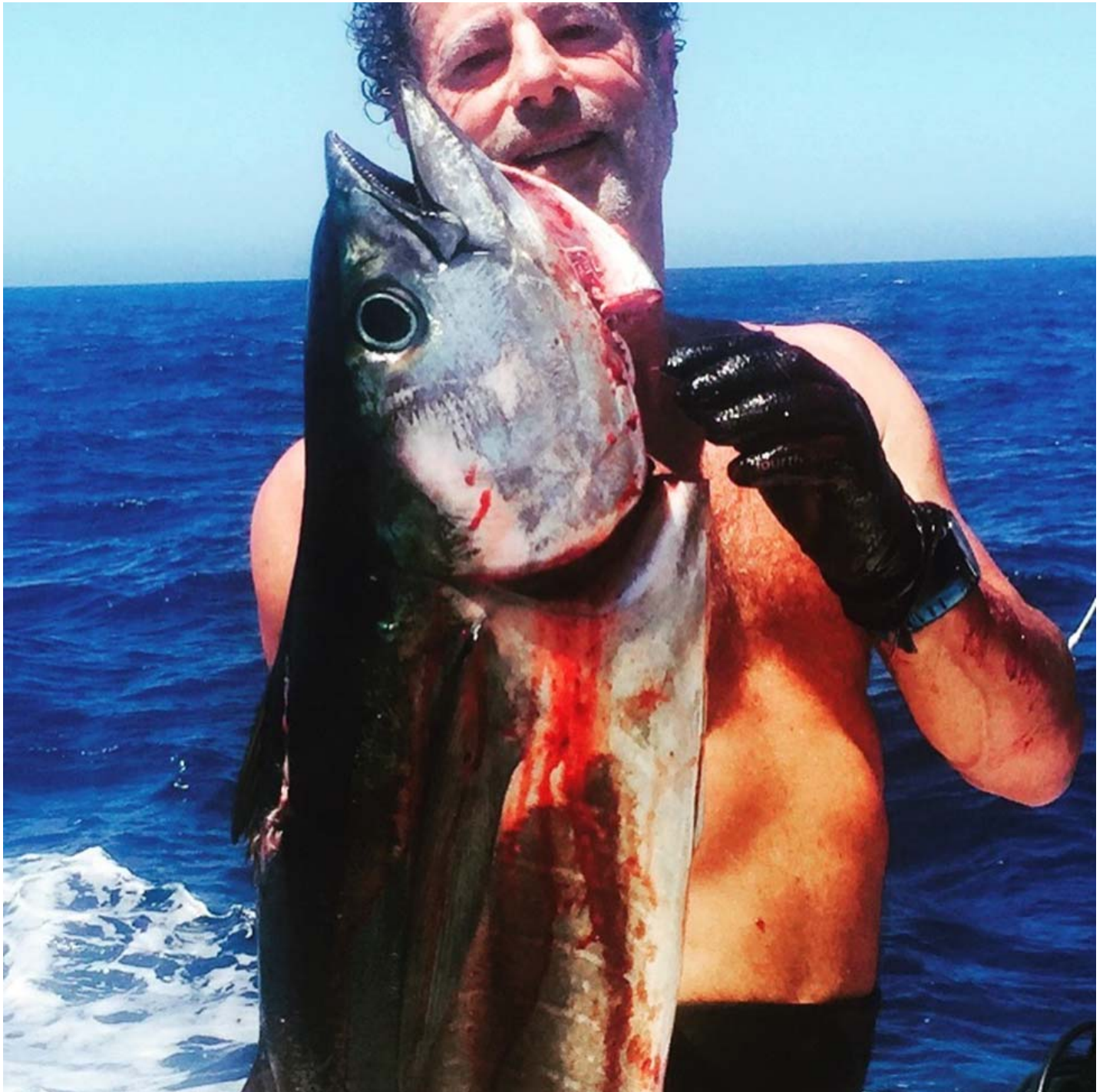
How About Some Yellows... John Hughes

With most of this month off, I've been getting in some unbelievable trips. There's so much life out there we've been able to dive around and enjoy all the sightings rather than pull the trigger on every fish we see. I'm just having a hard time believing how unreal of a year it's been.

Did a two day with my buddy Brian Noh to one of the islands. One nice thing about diving with Koreans is they like to eat among other things. His wife makes the best Kim Chi I've ever had in my life. Good friends, good food and a full fish bag seems to be the norm this year!



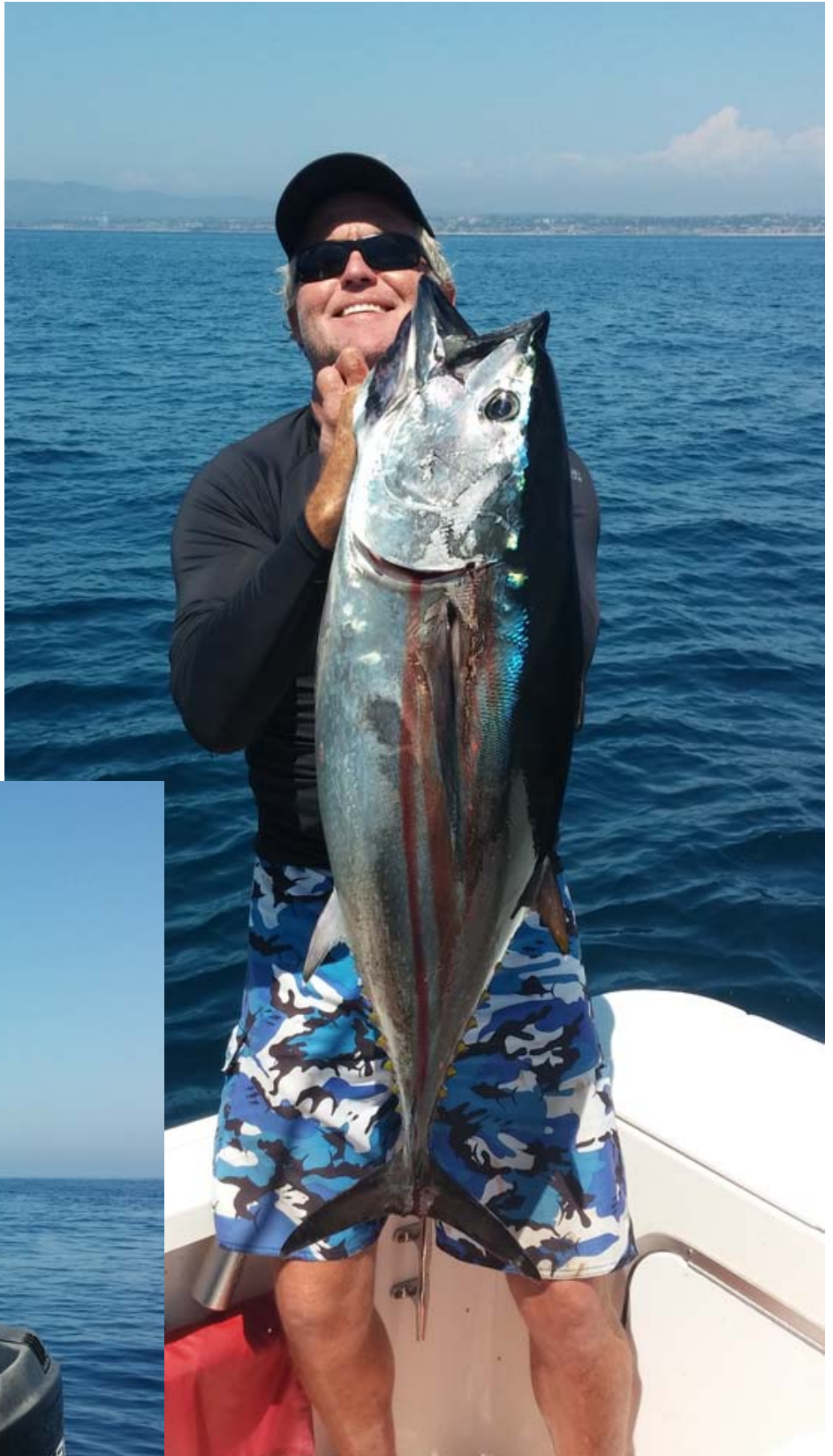
Time for the Photos...



Time for the Photos...

Hmmm, You need content?
OK...Bluefin, I highly recommend them - Great sashimi! Other pic is from a long overdue father/son trip - Adam got a couple Dodos...

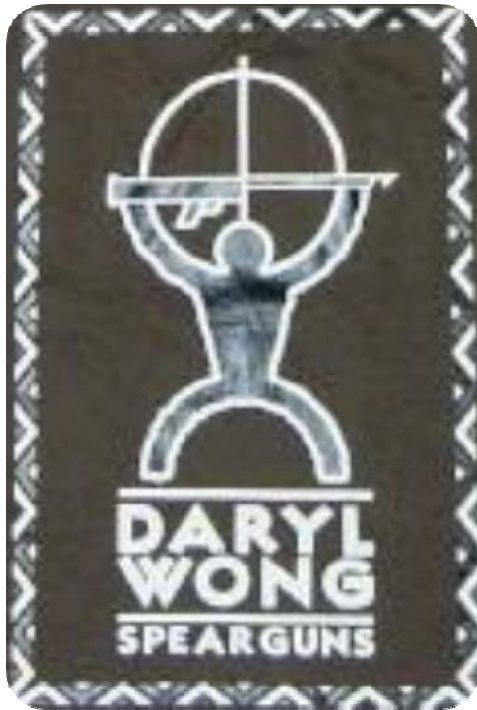
John Carpenter



Time for the Photos...



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Thanks for your Contributions!

Looking forward to seeing you all at the September meeting.

I would like to thank all of the contributors to this edition of the Trident. You guys keep stepping it up with more and more quality content.

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



*Diving for a Cause
Photo by Terry Maas*