

the
TRIDENT

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The Trident is the official newsletter of the Long Beach Neptunes, a non-profit organization. The Trident is published monthly and is provided free of charge to the members of the Long Beach Neptunes and associates.

The Long Beach Neptunes would like to thank the following members for their work in obtaining our 501(c)(7) non-profit organization status:

Jeff Benedict, Brian York, Jon McMullin, Will Wither, Steve Parkford

2021 CALENDAR

- September 1st - Monthly meeting IN PERSON at Me 'n' Ed's Pizzeria
- October 2nd - Spiny Lobster Season Opens
- October 9th - Fall Classic
- November 25th - Thanksgiving
- December 4th - Christmas Party at Acapulcos in Marina Pacifica Long Beach
- December 25th - Christmas

FISH STANDINGS

CALIFORNIA

Calico Derby	Closed
Calico Bass	Juan-Carlos Aguilar - 5.62 lbs
White Seabass	Jeff Benedict - 72.0 lbs
Yellowtail	Juan-Carlos Aguilar - 41.8 lbs
Halibut	Open
Sheephead	Open
Bonito	Open
Barracuda	Open
Dorado	Bill Peratt - 12.3 lbs
Bluefin Tuna	Josh Wells - 143.312 lbs
Lobster	Open

OUT OF STATE/COUNTRY AWARDS

Yellowfin Tuna	Open
Reef Fish	Jorge Veliz Ramirez - Grouper 78.94 lbs
Pelagic, non-tuna	John Hughes - Yellowtail 45.5 lbs

Kent McIntyre Award

Jeff Benedict - 72.0 lb WSB + 23.9lb YT = 95.8 lbs
Steve Parkford - 64.2 lb WSB + 29.8 lbs YT = 94 lbs
Juan-Carlos Aguilar - 51.6 lb WSB + 41.8lb YT = 93.4 lbs

Perpetual Big Fish Trophy

Josh Wells = 143.312 lbs Bluefin Tuna



MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

September 1st, 7:00 PM



**This month's club meeting will be held IN PERSON,
at**

Me-n-Ed's Pizzeria

**4115 Paramount Blvd, Lakewood, CA
90712**



President's Letter



Hi everyone, well summer just keeps getting better and better. I know a lot of you have speared tuna, yellowtail and seabass. What a great place we live in! Fall is creeping in on us and soon we'll be competing in the Fall Classic. It would be great to weigh in a tuna and a lobster! I may make that a goal of mine this year. I will be traveling in September so Byron will run the show while I'm gone. Be safe everyone and Get A Big One for me!!

PAUL ZYLSTRA

Editor's Note

Summer's end is drawing near. But the chance of glory is ever present in the wild blue world we all know and love.

I have had an amazing time chasing dreams, and waking up to full freezers.

Make the most of it while it lasts, and try to remember to enjoy yourself while you're out on an adventure.

Hope to see you out there!

**Juan-Carlos
Aguilar**



A little update from Ethan



Cyn and I are sitting tight in Pto. Penasco, having crossed the SoC from Isla Guardian Angel last week for rental-car access to Tucson. After a go-go trip south (due to our late departure) and 'round Cabo with our only a few multi-day rest stops (In the Mag Bay estero and La Paz) we arrived in the Bay of LA area the last week in July.

The water has been mid 80's and with pretty good vis for the most part. While 'refer and demand-side constraints generally keep me from shooting big fish we've done very well with the eats: Callo de hacha, bay and mano del leon scallops, clams of three types as well as halibut, yellow tail, cabrilla and snapper. All the skippies the dogs can eat, too. Mag Bay was a bi-valve freakout with 5 species in 5 days with blue-crabs for a cherry on top!



Beyond the pesca, highlights include some really great down-wind sailing, gunk-holing new arms in the Mag Bay estero, whale sharks in BLA, some nice shark teeth fossils from Isla Monserate, gobs of beach combing (my count of lost Rapalas is now over 80...) as well as the always awe-inspiring wildlife, scenery and geology of Baja.



The WX looks like it will let us bash back to Isla Guardian Angel on Friday or Saturday. We'll do a circumnav of the island to start and then spend the rest of hurricane season wandering the middle-north sea trying to grow gills.

Buen Suerte!

Ethan



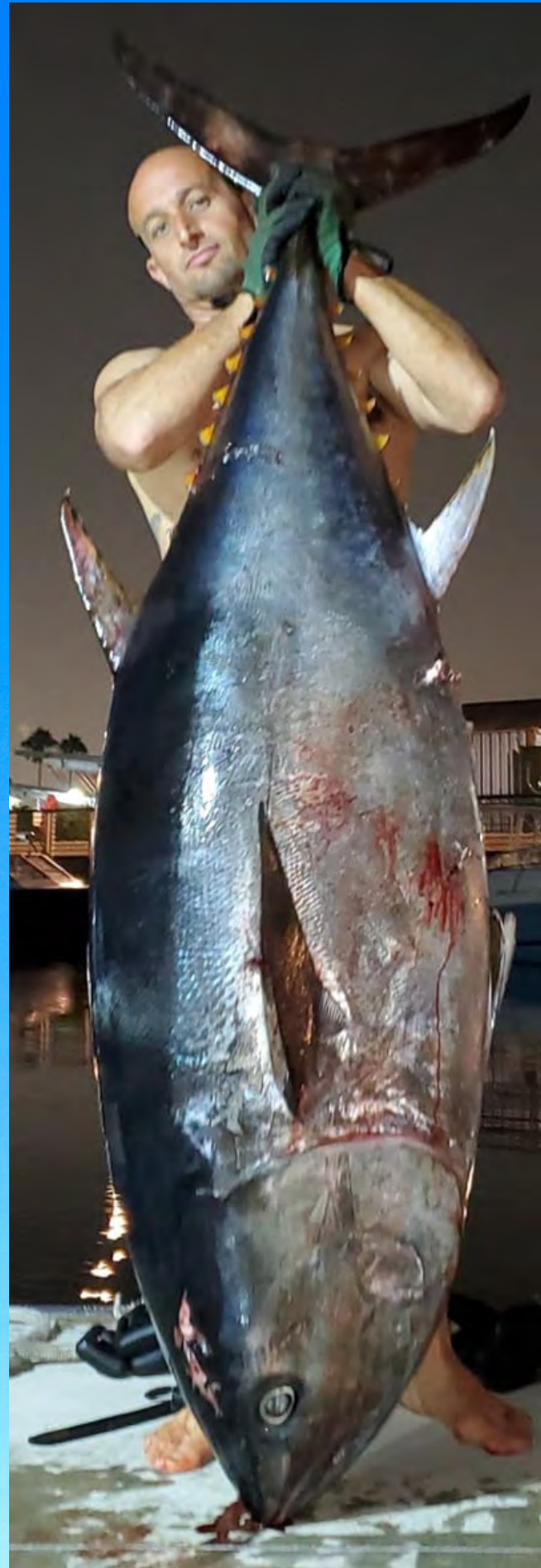
SUNDAY MORNING

I headed out with two buddies & high hopes because we've heard good reports coming in from SCI of big Bluefin being taken by some spearos.

We made it out with great conditions to the snail where we've heard reports but there were a lot of sport boats and not much life on the meter.

After finding one small wolf pack of breezers, I slide into the water and immediately the fish sank out. My buddy Richard, the captain, decided to make a move to the backside West end of SCI where we had seen plenty of private boats and everybody flying kites for Bluefin.

As we pulled in closer we saw people getting bit left and right. We meter a school quickly and I slide in off the swim step, seconds in the water and I shoot my 1st fish & land it fairly quick, that fish later weighed in at 123lbs.





Both of my buddies go in next and shoot fish around the same size with ease. Needless to say at this point we're feeling the stoke & confident we might be able to pull off limits for all of us. I'm next up sitting on the swim step as I get the word to get in the water and dive. Fish are at 50' so I slide in.

I start dropping down and as the water becomes a little dirtier I start to make out silhouettes of fish. Next thing I know I'm getting swarmed on every side by big 120+ pound fish. The longer I'm waiting, it seemed the bigger the fish got. Until a noticeably bigger fish swam from my right side towards the front of me, and I decided this is the one. I wait for what I feel is the right moment and then pull the trigger. I know I hit the fish when I see my shooting line and bungee line rocket off in front of me.

Feeling pretty good about my shot and hitting a big fish, I start to ascend to the surface. I see my float shooting across the surface, tombstoning, and then suddenly being pulled beneath the surface and rocketing past me as I'm still ascending. As I hit the surface I know it's a really good fish and yell out to my buddies on the boat "big fish".

My float finally surfaces after some time and I swim to it to start fighting my fish. After a few minutes of retrieving my fish I clipped my float off to my shooting line and asked for my 2nd shot gun. Loading my gun and doing a quick breathe up, I punch a dive. As I'm going down I see my first shot was about to rip out so I feel the need for a perfect 2nd shot. I line up on the fish's head and shoot. Missing the brain, it wakes up, taking off and dumping almost all of my reel line before I hit the surface.

I yell out for another float because the 1st shot had ripped out on this last run and now I'm fighting the fish from a reel gun. My buddy Joe throws me a float but it only makes it half way to me. Swimming to it, I start to panic a little bit because the 2nd float was thrown way short of me. Now I'm trying to not only stop this fish from pulling me under, taking my gun and me down to Davy's locker.

My buddies finally pulled the boat around to me after what felt like forever, fighting the fish from a reel gun with no float. Richard had told me to give him the gun and get on the boat to fight the fish, not wanting to do it so that I could submit for the big fish, I reluctantly gave it to him and got on the boat which was the smart and safe thing to do. After hand lining the fish to the side of the boat it was doing death circles, getting a burst of energy it took off again and wrapped up in the lower units of one of the motors. I jumped in doing my best to free it but needed both guys to pull on the line & fish to give me slack so I could unwrap it from the lower unit & prop. Once free, I get back on the boat & get back at it, fighting my fish. After a few more minutes we had the fish boatside again and were able to put some gaffs in it, pulling it on deck. Weighing this fish the next day, it came in at 197.4lbs. I learned a lot from this experience, one of them being not to use a reel gun for my 2nd shot, & the most important thing is to come back home alive.

RICHARD CUNNINGHAM











Fun Times on Whisky Tango 8-22-21

Mike Marsh and I joined Bill Peratt on the Whisky Tango to chase some Bluefin Tuna being reported at one of the usual spots between Catalina and San Clemente Islands. We actually struck out the last time we tried the same thing in the same area on a full moon, so I was my usual pessimistic self. However, some of the tribe had great success the day prior.



Upon arrival, we worked the area hard and had some minor sightings, but nothing much was happening. After jumping some deeper, inconsistent meter marks for nothing, we decided to head over to SCI and work some usual YT spots. The weather was great and we were able to pick up a few YT before tucking into Fish Hook for the evening. Marsh was complaining about constipation problems, so I talked him into some of my Tang flavored MetaMucil to assist him with his buoyancy issues. We awoke the next morning to Marsh hopping around Whisky Tango's deck like a spring bunny - talking about how he set a new record relieving himself before his first cup of coffee. TWICE in one morning! He's a believer now - I welcomed him to the club!

We dived the usual spots around Pyramid and China before deciding to work wide around the backside looking for Tuna. We discovered a big kelp paddy not far offshore in about 700' of water. It had birds and a bloated, dead seal on it. Marsh was first to jump the paddy and immediately landed a Mahi Mahi. The paddy was holding a large school of Dodo's and some YT. Each of us pulled a Mahi out of the school before deciding to look for Tuna.

We joined the "fleet" that was obviously working Tuna not far offshore from the back of Northwest Harbor. We saw little surface activity, but It wasn't long before we started metering fish deeper that were slowly coming up to the 40' range. I lined up on one on our first drop only to have Mike shoot & lose one; spooking the school. When I complained about it, Bill laughed and told me that I simply need to dive sooner than Mike! Mike shot & landed one shortly afterward, and I did the same. Bill came down from the helm and said he was going to show us "how it's done." Bill quickly suited up and assumed the position on the swim step. We metered fish and Bill quickly dropped down and shot a fish on his first drop. What did he shout upon surfacing? "That's how it's done you old F***S!" Typical Bill!



It was later in the afternoon and we discussed shooting more Tuna. We easily would have put more on the deck, but all of us have had a good tuna year and decided to leave some fish for the next trip rather than shoot it up and run around trying to decide what to do with all the extra fish - all our freezers were pretty full at home and our fish bag and ice was tapped out.



All three tuna ranged from 120 - 135 pounds, plus we had three YT and Mahi-Mahi. We had mostly great weather on the return trip and logged another successful trip for the Whisky Tango!

John Carpenter



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