



November 2018

# TRIDENT



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- Oh My! Dan Keeler!
- Eric B runs a tab
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"Are you tired of hearing the words "Tuna"?"

Maybe you are just a bit jealous? I am! Some amazing fish have been brought in this year and a two more are chronicled inside.

For all of you guys that spent countless hours looking for Tuna without results, there is always next year and hopefully these stories will help to keep you going until that time when you throw one on the deck and pose next to your new personal best!

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

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## **Fish Standings 2018:**

2018 Calico Derby – Scott de Firmian 10.95 lbs  
Lobster – Scott de Firmian 10.3 lbs  
Halibut – Scott de Firmian, 14.55 lbs  
Calico Bass – Scott de Firmian 10.9lbs  
White Sea Bass – Paul Zylstra 76 lbs  
Yellowtail– Seamus Callaghan 45.6 lbs  
Kent McIntyre– Paul Zylstra, 116.5 lbs  
Tuna (Ca) – Dan Keeler BFT 217 lbs  
Tuna (other) – Mike Marsh: Blue Fin 77 lbs  
Reef Fish (out of country) – Jeff Benedict: Grouper 71.2 lbs  
Pelagic (out of country) – Steve Parkford: Marlin 82lbs  
Bonito – Todd Farquar 10.1 lbs  
Dorado – Byron Quinonez 11.9 lbs



# President's Message:

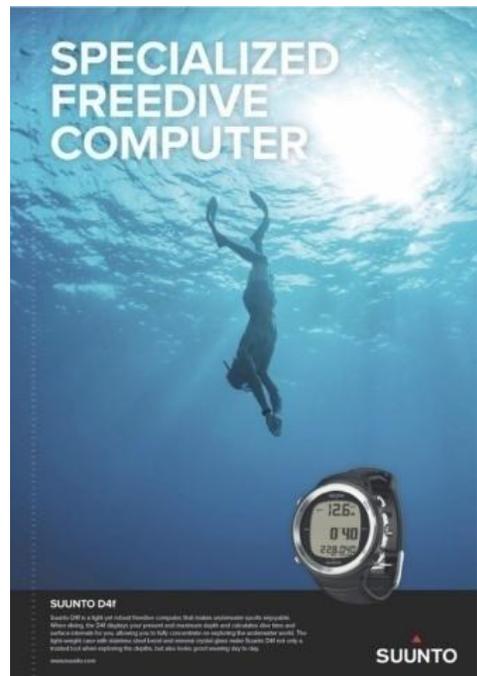
The president is out of the country right now chasing Tuna or Wahoo or what ever crosses in front of his 17-4. As a result, I'll give the message for all of us "Suckas" (to quote a former prez we all know).

Enjoy your time here and cherish every bit of time you get in the water with your friends and brothers.

The vast majority of the people on this planet of ours have never seen and will never be able to experience the wonders that we experience on a regular basis. Whether that means being schooled by BFT or just watching perch dance in and out of the kelp.

Just remember this question..."how lucky are we?"

Louis Rosales  
(I aint your prez....suckas!)



## 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.

**November 7, Meeting:** Me'n Ed's 7:30.

**December 5, Meeting:** Me'n Ed's 7:30.

**December 9, Christmas Dinner:** The annual Neptune Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Sunday December 9. Location will be the [King Harbor Yacht Club](#) located at 280 Yacht Club Way, Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277.

For a complete listing of Neptune dates click on [2018 Neptune Calendar](#):

**ATOMIC**  
A Q U A T I C S



## **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 for white seabass is currently three per person, per day until March 15, 2019, at which time it becomes one per day. Beginning June 16 2019, it will be 3 per person until it changes back again March 15

### **Spiny Lobster:**

Lobster season is now Open. Remember to turn in your report card by April 30, 2019. Report cards can also be submitted online. [Submit report cards here](#)

First Day of 2018-19 season Saturday, September 29, 2018 at 0600.

Last Day of 2018-19 season Wednesday, March 20, 2019.



This write up is a little late but it has been one heck of a busy month of September. Started getting reports from quite a few buddies who were shooting the lights out of cows in early September. I put a trip together with Michael DeGiosa and Eric Bodjanac, one that I knew would consist of very little sleep but potentially would be worth it. We had to skip the Neptune's meeting to make this trip work, but I was optimistic based on all the reports I had received. We only had time for a one-day trip to the tuna grounds so after getting a couple of hours of sleep in Dana Harbor, we started 75 mile trek to some numbers that were sent to me. Weather was less than ideal but we made pretty good time getting out to the grounds. We metered some fish early on in the AM but didn't have any sightings after Eric punched a few dives on the marks. I decided to head a little farther offshore as there were a number of long range boats working the outside of the zone. We spent some time out here working and diving meter marks but the fish just wouldn't cooperate. Eric's write up in the September's newsletter pretty much summed it up. I would see fish down at 50-60 feet on the meter, a diver would hop in and you would see the diver and the fish on the screen, and in unison the fish would stay 40 feet below the diver. Visibility on the outside was a crappy 15 feet so we knew remaining out here would be an uphill battle

At around 3pm I got sick of chasing fish that didn't want to play so I made about a 10 mile run back into the area where we began the day (viz was better over here as well), and within a few minutes the meter was lit up. Eric was the first one in the water on these nice marks and we quickly saw his float tombstoned. Michael then hopped in and had one hanging on his first drop as well. About 20 minutes later both of them were putting second shots into their fish. When they got the fish into the boat we realized that a new grade of fish had moved in. Prior to that trip all of the BFT were either the 30-50lb models or the larger cows. We now had fish on the deck in the 80-100# range.



**OKATIN**  
AMERICA'S SURF CO.



It's my turn to play now... We hadn't moved but maybe an 1/8 of a mile when Eric tells me we've got fish on the screen. I looked at the screen right before I hopped off the swim step, and what I saw indicated that I was about to hop in on the larger models. I dropped down to about 30' with my chin tucked and decided to take a peek and see what might be waiting for me. As I looked up a nice school of 200 plus lb. fish that came in just below me, moving from my left to right. I immediately raised the gun and started to line up on the closest one, the school just started to bend off of me as I was taking aim but with no time to waste I pulled the trigger and let it fly. I instantly knew I put the hurt on this fish. Every other tuna I have shot has immediately sounded. This one almost seemed like it was moving in slow motion and was swimming at a 45-degree angle towards the surface. Once the fish got going it was moving pretty fast but the initial quiver it displayed told me I must have hit the spine.

As I get to the surface I hear Michael and Eric hooting and hollering. I swam back to the boat and the guys told me they had never seen anything like it before. The tuna danced on its tail, completely out of the water for about a hundred yards, similar to how a marlin would when trying to shake a lure. After about a minute or two on the boat I noticed that my float is no longer on the move and it's just lying on the surface. A sick feeling came over me and I quickly hopped back in the water and swam over to my floatline. The floatline was slack but as I began to pull it tight the fish apparently decided to stop

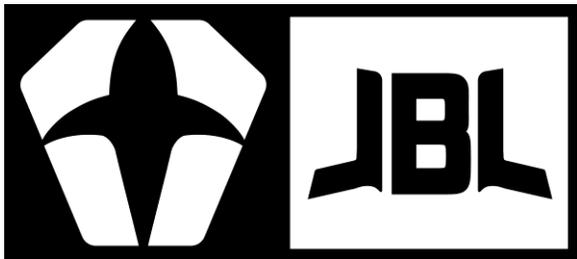
***morifish***



floating on the surface, woke back up, and made a last ditch effort and slowly sounded. I worked the floatline up the clutch, left about 10 feet of bungee to spare, and put a nice second shot on it. I brained the fish and took some quick. photo ops and then we got it into the boat. Once it was on the deck I noticed that my initial shot did not toggle fish. I had to cut the spectra slip tip and surgery would be required later to recover the tip from the spine

After shooting the larger fish we worked the area a little longer, we put another smaller fish on the deck, and then I decided to begin making my way towards home as it was beginning to get dark. Two miles later my meter is lit up solid again, with fish at 40 feet. We still had 2 fish left to make a limit and I figured these were probably the smaller grade so Michael and Eric hopped back in and finished the trip out with some smaller 40 pound models. The entire time they were working their fish up the meter was lit up. It was now sundown and we had to make the trip back home, due to time and ice constraints. Sure would have been nice to anchor up though and get some rest.

We made our way back across the channel in some nice steep beamy wind waves, got back to the harbor at 11:30 pm, got the boat washed down, and headed to Mori's shop to get some weights on these fish. We arrived at Mori's shop somewhere around 1:30 AM and I was pretty beat at this point. Eric's fish I believe went 97#, Michaels I think 81#, and my new personal best 217#. Mori was nice enough to carve up the fish for me while I took a cat nap on his couch. Pulled in my driveway at 5:00 AM and hit the sack shortly thereafter. It took me a few days to recover from that trip but it was well worth it. Very nice first Blue Fin Eric, congrats... And Michael has been killing it this year, I think that was his 9<sup>th</sup> BFT on the season. Way to go gentlemen, great day on the water...



# Happy to be in Debt

My wife just spent the previous two week grinding it out to prepare for my 30<sup>th</sup> birthday party. She ran herself ragged- I knew I'd pay for even bringing it up, but how could I not? I took a break from work and made the phone call to the wife and tossed out the bait. After a few back and forths she took the bait and I set the hook. The hard part was done but I still had to clear my schedule at work and make sure the kids had supervision as I was on duty the night we'd be leaving. I fired off a phone call to my supportive mom the kids were dialed. Then over to the coworkers where a few conversations took place. Key words such as "poke", "tuna", and "big ones" could be heard. This was followed by them making two doctor appointment changes and sweet talking my director, who is also fisherman. Finally. I pushed send and my text "I'm in" was receive by Keeler. I was in debt big time but I knew it would be worth it. The next night I got my gear together and made the 1.5 mile trek to his house where we loaded his rig and set our compass to pick up Mori.

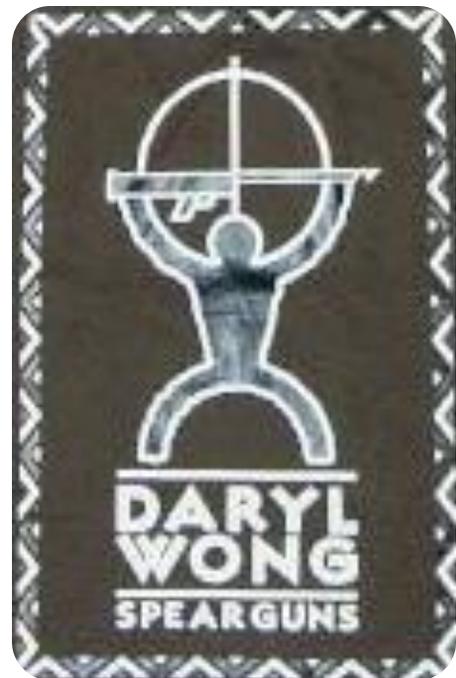
We got to our destination and were greeted by much nicer visibility than my previous two trips. 60-70 foot visibility and calm waters were welcomed. Soon enough I made a drop into a school of 30-40lb fish. Shooting two tuna this year has bumped up to pro-staff expert veteran status so I made the decision to hold off; these simply would not do. I tracked a few fish and listened to the dolphin's echolocation, just enjoyed the dive for what it was. I made few more drops with similar outcome then the school moved on. I climbed back on the boat and quickly began to question my snobbish decision as the following hours would provide little action. Every now and then a single football-sized fish would blow up out of the water but nothing to show for it.

As I was counting how many poke bowls I'd have to buy my coworkers, DK throws the boat in neutral and kills the motors. The fish were at 100' but by the time I got in the water they were at 60' and by the time I made a drop I met them at 40'. This right here- this is what our dreams are made of. A pasture filled with ocean-going cows in beautiful blue water. I slowly descended into the oncoming school and got myself into position without the slightest care



from these fish. They looked odd; they were so fat that they looked stubby. I picked out a fish that was a little smaller but it was the closest and at this point I'd be happy to plug any fish regardless of its size, even if it was a measly 180lbs. Mesmerized by these creatures, they started to jockey for position coming closer then moving out. A beautiful fish moved in and I sent it without hesitation. I saw the shaft land and I knew it was a good shot. The fish sounded and I surfaced to see my float tombstoned. Squealing like a freshman girl I shouted that I was on. I noted that this fish was of size and certainly bigger than my last one. My float took off and the chase was on. It went for about 30 feet then the float dropped flat and so did my heart rate as I thought the fish tore off. As I continued to my float whispers of doubt and mockery filled the air on the "A SALT WEAPON" as DK and Mori could see my float bobbing ever so slightly. "What is he talking about 'bigger than his last one', that float is barely moving." "Thing's probably 30 pounds". "What a kook".

I reached the float and began to retrieve the lifeless tuna bungee. But wait! What is this tension on the line? I gingerly retrieved my quarry to see a near lifeless giant at the end of the line. I clipped off the fish, secured it with a second shot and placed my knife in its head. As I lifted the tuna to the surface I heard a few expletive's drift off the deck of the boat. In short order the fish was on the boat and high-fives went around. We snapped a few pictures and got back to the grind but unfortunately there was little else to be found.

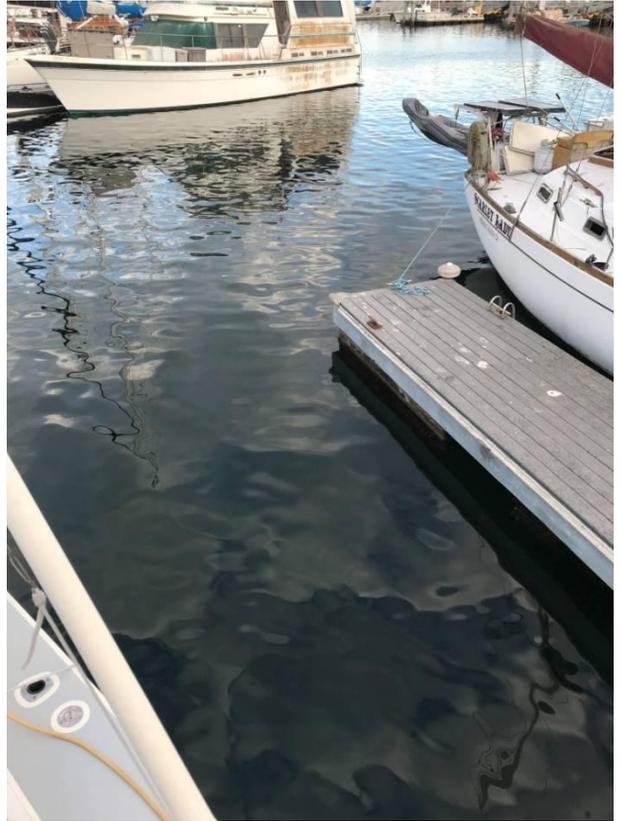


We spent the following morning shooting yellowtail, of which I missed two in a row- but never mind that small detail. The ride home has never been sweeter. I couldn't wait to get a weight on this heifer. We got back to the docks and the final was 213.8 lbs. Later we'd come to find out that my ultra accurate and totally intentional (read lucky) shot placement broke the fish's back, fortunately for me. This is a true fish of a lifetime, one that I won't soon forget. Diving, shooting fish, and eating like kings is all well and good but it's the people that make the memories. The camaraderie is second to none. This experience wouldn't have been the same without the team work, banter, laughter, and shared joy among friends; and for that I'm even more thankful. I will happily pay my debt for this trip.

-Eric Bodjanac  
November 2018



## Classified Ads:

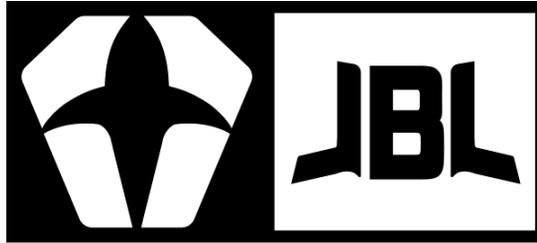
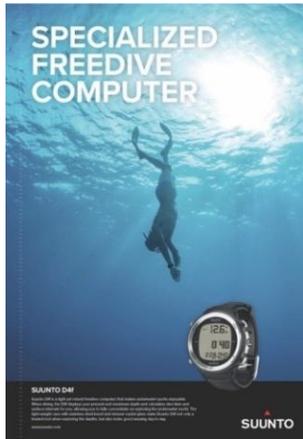


King Harbor 20' side tie available just in time for PV lobster diving with WSB arriving soon! Have your boat ready to go at a moment's notice.

Please Contact Phil Alley for details  
(310) 422-3412



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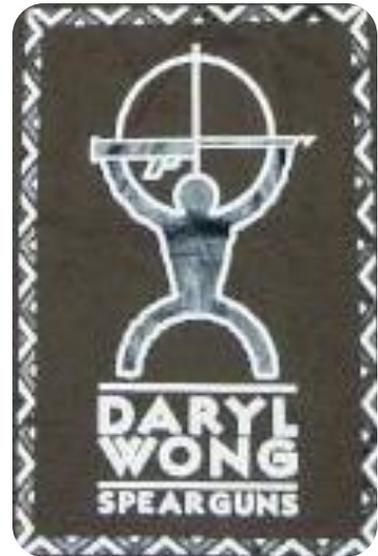
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# OKATIN

AMERICA'S SURF CO.



# ATOMIC AQUATICS



# HERRANEN

s p e a r g u n s





I want to thank the members that sent in photos and articles. Dan Keeler, and Eric Bodjanac both sent in tuna stories. We are the lucky beneficiaries!

Next month is the Christmas banquet...Hope to see you there!

*Louis Rosales*

Long Beach Neptunes Newsletter Editor  
(for one more month)