



SEPTEMBER OCTOBER 2011

TRIDENT



Bugs, Buts and Burrrr

Fall is here and each day the water getting colder and days shorter... but at least we have lobster season to ease the pain. I can't wait to see all the 2011 fall catches of lobster, halibut calico and don't forget the stray yellowtail and White Seabass. If you look at the big fish 2011 record on the next page you will see the bar is set pretty high right now but the fat lady hasn't sung yet plus there is always the option of heading south for some cleaner warmer water to do battle with the big boys that 'no habla Ingles'. (Photo below is courtesy Mori and his recent trip a few months ago)

In this issue:

- Standings
- Announcements
- Neptune fish pix

2011

Neptunes Calendar:

Meeting

Wednesday December 7th

Winter Party

Sunday December 11th

Meeting

Wednesday January 4th

Meeting

Wednesday February 1st



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

Editor: Donny Harris
donnyharris@gmail.com
Telephone: (310) 621-3123



2011 Neptunes Board

President

Mark Hutgren
(310) 930-5993
markh302@verizon.net

Vice President

Cody Lightfoot
(714) 803-4834
lytfeet@sbcglobal.com

Treasurer

Jeff Benedict
(562) 743-5442
PO BOX 41297
Long Beach CA 90853
JSBenedictEnt@gmail.com

Tentative Manager

Scott DeFirmian
(213) 924-5147
spearo10@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Donny Harris
(310) 621-3123
donnyharris@gmail.com

Club Historian

Mori
(310) 628-8082
daledives@yahoo.com

Conservation Liaison

Terry Maas
(805) 642-7856
tmaas@west.net

2011 Calico Derby –
Seamus Callaghan (7.5#)
Calico Bass of the Year –
Ron Warren (10.2#)
Halibut – **Jeff Bilhorn(29.4#)**
Sheephead – **Ron Warren (24.0#)**
Yellowtail –
John Carpenter (33#)
White Sea Bass –
(John Hughes (64.5#)
Bluefin Tuna – **open!**
Lobster – **(John Hughes (10.55#)**
Big Tuna Out of Country
(Yellowfin) – **open!**
Big Fish Out of Country (Pelagic)
open!
Big Fish Out of Country (Reef)
open!
Kent McIntyre Award - **open!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Abalone Fishery Closed in Sonoma County

September 15, 2011. The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) took emergency action to close the abalone fishery along part of the northern California coast. Specifically, the Commission voted 3-0 to close the fishery in the entirety of Sonoma County.

This action was taken in the wake of confirmed reports of dead red abalone and other invertebrates on beaches and inside coves along the coast in these areas.

Data continue to be collected that shows an abalone die-off along the Sonoma coast beginning Aug. 27. According to Department of Fish and Game (DFG) biologists, these abalone deaths coincided with a local red tide bloom and calm ocean conditions. Although the exact reasons for the abalone deaths are not known, invertebrate die-offs have occurred in the past along the northern California coast due to lack of oxygen and/or poisoning when similar weather and bloom conditions existed but not at the magnitude of this event.

DFG is assessing the impact of the situation and provided the Commission with information at today's meeting. Reports of dead abalone and a variety of invertebrates have come from Bodega Bay, Russian Gulch, Fort Ross, Timber Cove and Salt Point State Park in Sonoma County and as far north as Anchor Bay in Mendocino County. Other DFG biologists and game wardens have collected abalone, mussels and water samples since the beginning and are continuing to document reports from the public. The public is encouraged to report the location, number and date of dead or dying abalone to Ian Taniguchi at (562) 342-7182 or by e-mail at itaniguchi@dfg.ca.gov.

Divers are encouraged to avoid diving in the affected areas. The exact implementation date of the emergency closure will be determined by the regulatory process and is expected soon. Please continue to check the Commission's website at www.fgc.ca.gov

AVALON HARBOR ACTIVITY REPORT

August 2011

Summer continued to look hopeful with a high of 79 on August 1st. Temps did not remain as high in Avalon, however mainland heat continued and as usual brought many visitors our way in search of cool ocean breezes.

The 21st annual Church Mouse Invitational Fishing Tournament was held August 29th and 30th with over 60 boats participating. With one marlin on the board brought in by "Club Ted" earlier in the month, anglers knew that at least there were fish were in the area. Bob and Carol Butte, tournament organizers report that the tournament raised \$60,000 for Avalon youth programs, a portion of the funds coming from the auction of the opportunity to throw a pie in the Harbor Master's face once again this year. The Harbor Department again expresses much appreciation to the Butte family and all the volunteers for 21 fabulous tournaments.

One of our mooring owners, Robert Strohbach is an accomplished free-diver and long time member of the Long Beach Neptunes. Although he is a spear fisherman he knows and observes all regulations regarding protected species. Last month, while diving near the rock quarry off of his vessel "Sea Hunt", Robert observed a protected giant black sea bass with a spear embedded in its body at approximately 30 feet depth. He attempted to approach the fish to try to remove the spear but was unable to get close enough. However, he returned the next day and because of the quiet, stealth dive ability of the free diver was able to approach and remove the spear from the estimated 200 lb fish.

The shoulder rate will begin September 18th. Vessels paying mooring fees in advance for any Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday can moor the following Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at no charge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



New Marine Protected Area Website Announced

The DFG announced a new marine protected area (MPA) website optimized for use by smartphones and other portable Internet-enabled devices. DFG created the website to make up-to-date marine protected area information more accessible to the public.

Located on the DFG website at www.dfg.ca.gov/m/MPA this site allows you to:

Search for any MPA by name or county to find information about the MPA's boundaries and regulations.

Use an interactive map to locate any MPA and learn about its boundaries and regulations.

Find and track your current location using the GPS on your mobile device to determine the closest MPAs, and to determine whether or not you are currently located within an MPA.

Read a summary of regulations or complete regulations for any MPA.

The site includes current information for all California MPAs, and may be accessed while at sea, on the beach, or in your home office. There is no phone app download required—simply link to the website. MPA modifications and new MPAs will be added to the site as they go into effect.

This website is the latest addition to [DFG Mobile](#), an information portal to inland and marine fishing locations, hunting and fishing license vendor locations, and fish planting schedules. For more information about the MPA website, contact Marine Region Webmaster Aaron Del Monte at (916) 322-6232 or adelmonte@dfg.ca.gov.

May/June Tentative, **Rick Hadley**



My name is Rick Hadley and I was born and raised in southern California and started spearfishing with a pole spear when I was about 10 years old. Because I had the good fortune of having both my grandparents and later my parents be lovers of the ocean and both own boats, I had many opportunities to dive over the years both on the coast as well as at Catalina.

I remember when I got my first speargun (an old JBL) and I thought it was so cool (especially after watching Ian Fleming's "Thunderball" with the real James Bond, Sean Connery).



In the late 1980's, I started going on trips to Baja and that's where my love for the sport took off. Over the next several years, I graduated up in size with both gun and fish and by 2000, I started shooting big game in Mexico. I've been very fortunate to dive with guys who were much more experienced than me and have picked up a tremendous amount of information on both equipment as well as hunting and safe diving techniques.

May/June Tentative, **Rick Hadley**



I've shot many local fish off our coast (yellowtail and white sea bass) as well as many pelagics down in Mexico such as amberjack, wahoo, pargo, tuna and marlin. My largest game fish is a 315 lb. black marlin and I've shot several tuna over 200 lbs, including one that went 276 lbs.

With family and business consuming most of my time these days, getting out on the water is much more of a rare occurrence. I'm hoping that by joining the Neptunes, it will allow me to expand my network of divers and create opportunities for me to make the most out of my available time on the water. I look forward to continuing to learn from other experienced divers and to pass on many of the things that I've picked up over my lifetime of diving!

Safe diving,

Rick Hadley



Neptunes Fish Pictures

The Neptunes' Fall Classic definitely lived up to its name

Fall Classic Standings

1. Phil Alley (LBN) 19.4 lb. White Seabass
2. Michael DeGiosa (LBN) 18.6 lb Halibut
3. Juan Aguilar (Catalina Island) 12.0 lb Yellowtail
4. Nathan Byron (Fathomiers) 9.0 lb Halibut
5. Mark Navas (LBN) 5.6 lb Halibut
6. Ron Warren (LBN) 4.0 lb Barracuda

Lobster

1. Ron Warren (LBN) 10.4 lbs
2. Donny Harris (LBN) 2.8 lbs
3. Hobie Ladd (LBN) 2.6 lbs

Calico

1. Cody Lightfoot. (LBN) 7.0 lbs
2. Michael DeGiosa. (LBN) 6.4 lbs
3. Steve Parkford. (LBN) 5.8 lbs
4. Mike Marsh. (LBN) 5.0 lbs
5. Ivan Sanchez. (LBN) 3.8 lbs



Neptunes Fish Pictures

The Neptunes' Fall Classic Collage



Neptunes Fish Pictures



Some recent pictures from my boat "SeaBasstard" I thought I would add to the mix, Cody with a winner and me, Donny, with a reward for all the shivering.

Eric Schlobohm with the "classic" post Fall Classic fish. In Eric's words, "A day late and... 31# heavier!"



VP Cody teamed up with me for opening day; his trophy of the night was a hard fought battle that left some urchin in his forehead and wore him out but Cody did come up the champ after the final bell. (Cody's rugged good looks has Dr. Scott Defirmian to thank for the emergency surgery performed on a rocking boat late at night)

New tentative Rick Hadley and Lyle Davis... Great day of diving at Catalina where they were both schooled by yellowfin tuna while shooting yellowtail.

Neptunes Fish Pictures



Mori goes to Mexico

And is nice enough to share some pictures ...



Neptunes Fish Pictures (plus stories!!!)

Neptunes going long...

Craig Manicki

Here are a few pics of Steve and me Abalone diving in Mendocino. We dove two different location over two days. Managed to get our limits for each day.

The other pic is me and my nephew RJ Manicki. This is RJ's fist experience pounding and eating Abalone. I'm showing RJ the art of pounding abalone, like my farther (Bob) did with me when I was RJ's age. RJ is 4 years old.

When I was his RJ's age, I pounded Abalone using the same board and mallet shown in the picture. The board and mallet were my dad's from the 1940's.



Chris Yates

August 2011

My cousin Nate and I had the opportunity to make our first Abalone trip last month. It has been by far my best dive trip yet anywhere in the world. The diving alone was epic with top to bottom vis, no swell and the 8-9s where as far as you could see. What made the trip so epic for me was the simple camaraderie between a good crew of guys brought together through the love of the ocean and food. Thursday morning my alarm was set for 3am and just as I dozed off from sheer excitement and exhaustion, my phone rang at 12:35am "dude, I cant sleep come pick me up". The motor home was already fueled and loaded so that's all it took to get me up. Coffee in hand I shot over to pick up Nate and then off to Mori's shop to load the rest of the characters and gear. Five minutes past 4am we shove off and are underway.



Neptune in Training!

RJ Manicki (4 years old), Craig Manicki's nephew pounding abalone using the late Bob Manicki's original Wooden Mallet and Abalone Board from the 1940's - Priceless!!!



Driving in shifts we motored up I-5 and made it to Fort Ross and into the water by 4:30pm. I was a bit anxious about the talk of the usual snotty conditions. Once

I got a peek over the hill it all went away. Lake Pacific was empty and waiting for us. The rest of the boys took a while grabbing some Uni and looking for bigger abs. I was happy with my first limit with none less than 7 3/4in and back at the bus, showered and beer in hand by 5:20pm. We motored up to Sea Ranch where some friends had rented a couple houses on the cliff and what can I say. The next three days we dove, ate and drank in true Neptune style. 24 hrs of driving, just under 1200miles and around 180 gallons of diesel was the equation for one hell of a dive trip.



The end is near...

...well at least the end of the Neptunes board member cycle that is. While the position of President and Vice president are still being tightly contested I believe the rest of the board is staying put; Scott Defirmian as the Tentative Manager, Mori as Historian, Terry as Conservation Liaison, Jeff Benedict as Treasurer and either because of my spotty performance, or despite it, I will remain as a faithful servant to the Neptunes in the capacity of newsletter editor though I will be only a co-editor thanks to Lou Rosales, my new trusty partner in crime. With Lou's help we have no where to go but up! I will save the gushy thankyou's and required sentimental reflection until next edition but I wanted to let you all know that Lou will be helping starting next month so brace yourselves and be ready to be wowed.

I'll leave you this month with an appropriate image, Lou at the helm, Catalina off to the left with fellow board members Scott and myself along side just standing around.

Donny Harris



The Long Beach Neptunes wish to thank each of our contributing sponsors for their generous donations!



BANKS BOARDS



MAKO
Spearguns





JAMES & JOSEPI.
SPEARFISHING SUPPLIES
SAN DIEGO



PELICAN™

The Original
E~SEARIDER™
Marine Bean Bags



WONG
SPEAR GUNS

