THE TRIDENT

The Monthly Newsletter of The Long Beach Neptunes

November 2024, Vol. 76, Issue 11

“Well of course I won! What did you bloody expect?!

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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.

2024 CALENDAR

- **Dec. 4, 2024 - Monthly Meeting**

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 7, 2024, 6:00 PM
Calico Fish House
16600 Pacific Coast Hwy.
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

FISH STANDINGS

CALIFORNIA

Calico Derby	Jeff Benedict	7.0 lbs
Calico Bass -	Jeff Benedict	7.0 lbs
White Seabass -	Jeff Bilhorn	69.0 lbs
Yellowtail -	Dr Ivan Sanchez	45.4 lbs
Halibut -	John Carpenter	23.3 lbs
Sheephead		Open
Bonito	Richard Cunningham	9.4 lbs.
Barracuda		Open
Dorado		Open
Bluefin Tuna -	Juan Carlos Aguilar	129 lbs
Lobster	Bill Withers	10.14lbs

OUT OF STATE/COUNTRY AWARDS

Yellowfin Tuna		Open
Reef Fish		Open
Pelagic, non-tuna -		Open
Kent McIntyre Award	Paul Zylstra	105.7 lbs
Perpetual Big Fish Trophy		Open

The Fall Classic

YOUR WINNERS

Johnny Harris	Lobster	3.05 lbs.

Game Fish

Seamus Callaghan	YT	24.30 lbs.
Kevin Inskter	YT	14.45 lbs.
Juan Carlos Aguilar	YT	13.85 lbs.

A Little Voyage South

Ny Tom and Judy Blandford

We left San Pedro in our boat on November 1, for Mexico. Our plan is to run down the outside of Baja with stops at several anchorages, and fuel stops at Turtle Bay as well as Puerto San Carlos, inside Magdalena Bay. Our first Mexican port of call was Ensenada, where we processed into the country and obtained our Mexican Temporary Import Permit. I'll write a little more on TIPs in the next newsletter.

We fuelled up at Marina Coral and added a few more items to the larder. While I was getting fuel--I was wearing a Neptune T shirt--the dock master asked me If I was a Neptune. I said yes, and he told me that the Neptunes used to come down to Ensenada every year for a spearfishing meet. He went on to say that until club members arrived, he'd never seen so many big yellowtail, white seabass and sheepshead. He was quite impressed. He asked why we stopped holding the meet in Ensenada. I told him I didn't know for sure, but I'm guessing it's because of the extensive and expensive paperwork required by the Mexican government to bring down a boat.

After Ensenada, Our next stop will be the San Benitos Islands, which are a bit less than 300 miles south of Baja's biggest city. San Benitos is one of my favorite dive spots. It's a good anchorage and it's possible that yellows and whites (the friendly kind) will be around. Every Time we've made this trip we've seen elephant seals on the beach. They are approachable, but we are careful not to get too close to the big males, especially if they are fighting.

Our next major stop will be Turtle Bay, which is just 20 or so miles south of San Benitos. I also plan on diving the kelp beds outside the bay for whatever swims in front of my gun. TB is a good anchorage and a fuel stop, with limited provisions.

Our next stop will be Magdelana Bay (Puerto San Carlos) where we plan to take on fuel and water. We plan to spend three or four days inside the bay at an anchorage called Belcher's (not sure of the spelling). It's rumored that there are some big halibut lurking in the sand and clams. There's also wahoo, sailfish, marlin and tuna outside the bay, but as I'm diving by myself, I'll have to pass on shooting fish. However, I will rig a few poles and do some rod and reel fishing.

Our last major stop will be Cabo San Lucas for fuel and water. We'll spend as little time there as possible and then turn the corner for La Paz, which is one of our favorite stops in Mexico.

I'll write more next month about the trip. And if I'm lucky, I might shoot at least one calico for dinner.

Another One in the Books

By Juan Carlos Aguilar

The Fall Classic continues to be my favorite tournament, as it's much more relaxed and varied than the Blue Water Meet. There's usually not a ton of kooks all over your spots, and the water is typically warmer and the addition of the calico and lobster categories equal a fun and challenging day on the water every time.

It started, as usual, on Friday night. It was myself, Kevin Inkster (my long time friend and mentor), and Greg Brule on Greg's boat. We decided to take his 15' Boston Whaler out on the front side of the island, as I'm still not super comfortable with night diving on the backside where my boat is located. En route to the dive spot, I was blindsided by a rogue wave that knocked me on my ass! I never saw it coming and was lucky to only have my ego bruised. We dove for a couple hours, and everyone nabbed a few lobster, with Greg having the honor of the biggest of the evening. We headed home and knocked out early in anticipation of a long day of diving the following day.

Sunrise came and we were greeted with a wonderfully calm and quiet morning. It was to be Kevin and I on my boat, diving the backside in hopes of glory. Two years ago I was able to take first place with a nice white seabass, with Kevin placing second with a solid yellowtail. I dropped him in on the first spot, but it was quiet. I began making way towards Farnsworth but saw a boat anchored out there and decided to check out a spot that had produced the week before.

Arriving at the spot, we anchored, and swam in opposite directions. As I cleared some boiler rocks I noticed motion to my right and saw a smaller yellow cruising slowly. I took half a breath and dipped under the surface. As I leveled off, there were a few dozen yellows milling about amongst the kelp, and they didn't seem to care that I was invading their chill session. I aimed at a close fish, but noticed a larger model slightly further out and started getting greedy. The fish picked up pace, and I realized that I would lose my opportunity if I didn't strike immediately. Pulling the trigger, the targeted fish just stopped swimming and rolled over. Stoned. The rest of the school didn't flinch. As I surfaced and prepared to hoot, I heard a distinct "YEAH" from Kevin only a few dozen yards away. We must have shot our fish simultaneously!

I swam to the boat, leaving the fish to mill about with the hope to return for a second one. I met up with Kevin, and we high fived as we put the fish in the boat. We jumped back in, but the fish must have gotten the memo and were nowhere to be seen. We decided to switch spots, and didn't see anything except for a couple kooks named Byron and Paul.

I decided we should try one more spot that was relatively new to me, and it produced a smaller yellow, but a nice fish nonetheless! We called it and cracked open our celebratory beers on our way home.

The weigh in was lightly populated with fish, and we were one of two boats who brought in something to weigh. Seamus took the gold with a nice yellow, Kevin with the silver, and myself rounding it out. No calico were weighed, and Donny Harris brought in the winning lobster. Though there were only a few fish brought in it didn't dampen anyone's spirits, and we had a fantastic time as always.

Right Coast Swing

By John Hughes

Well, headed out with Paul and Byron and got a pile of bugs just before heading on a back east adventure with my family.

We are currently out here for a variety of reasons, but it started in Boston and we headed out to Cape Cod for five days for my wife's aunt's 83rd birthday and family reunion. I've never been out here to this part of the country and it's just unbelievable with the history, architecture, and beautiful fall conditions as the seasons change. Also, my wife's family is surprisingly wonderful and the kids are just having a blast everywhere we go.

I had to head into the best local fish market so I could get a comparison on the east and West Coast lobsters and have to say I was pleasantly surprised. I got a legit lobster roll and it was surprisingly tender and flavorful, and I enjoyed it more than I thought I would. Of course at $37 for 6 ounces It was about eight dollars a bite and it's a bit shocking when we are so used to getting this stuff for free lol. My wife said she thought that was the third time she's seen me buy seafood in the 21 years we've been married, so I didn't feel so bad about the price tag.

The wife and kids fly out tomorrow and I head down to Connecticut for a few days to visit some friends. After that, I head into New York City for a day, since I've never been there before. Then I'm driving back up to Boston and flying home. Really looking forward to the rest of the adventure, but not rushing it, as every moment here is so relaxing, I'm just soaking it in.

Looking forward to getting home and figuring out a lobster roll recipe to work into the rotation this winter and also getting back into the water.

Hope everyone out west in the club is doing well as we come into the holiday season!

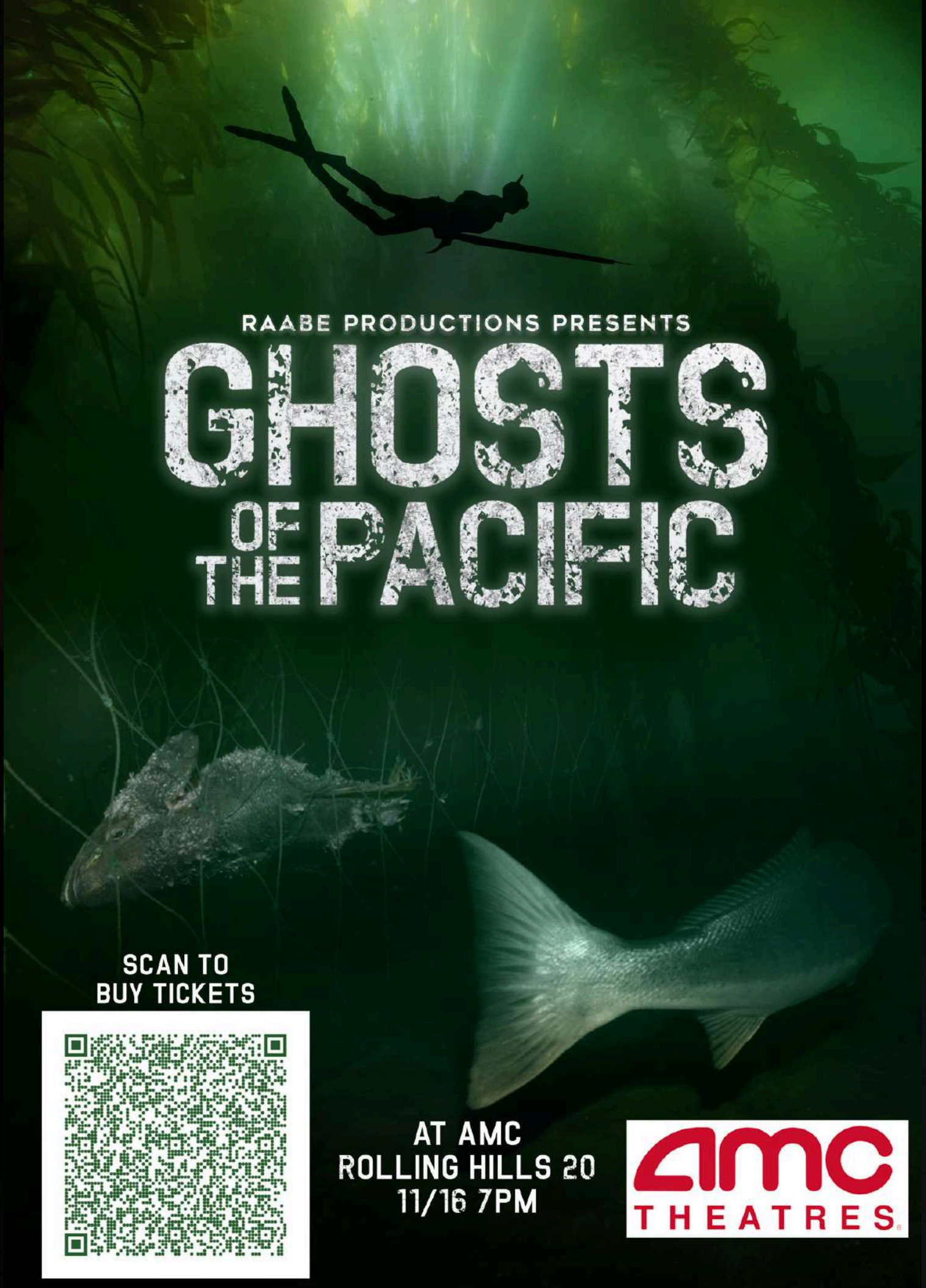
Around the Club

Trevor Kredell with his first trigger-pull of the year while recovering from a severe foot injury, manages this sweet striper while diving in the tight area between Malibu Pier and Aliso Beach. Although spearfishing exclusively for this species, this striper was not taken fro his 21' Striper, the "Ron Armand".

Followed this up the next week with this nice halibut.

Hobi Ladd gettin' after it in Cabo with some old high school buddies.

Killing it on lobster opening weekend with a couple friends from NoCal, they hauled six limits, ranging from 5 to 10 lbs.


RAABE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
GHOSTS OF THE PACIFIC
SCAN TO BUY TICKETS
AT AMC ROLLING HILLS 20 11/16 7PM
amc THEATRES

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

December 4, 2024, 7:00PM

This month's club meeting will be held <u>IN PERSON</u>, at

Me-n-Ed's Pizzeria

4115 Paramount Blvd, Lakewood, CA 90712

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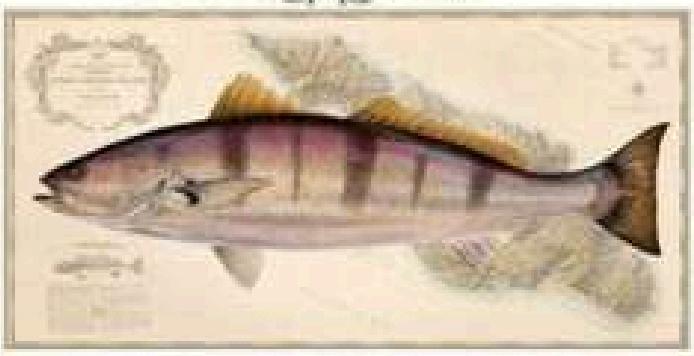

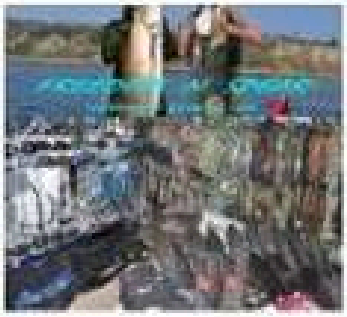

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