

the staggering starfish

the official newsletter of the GSNDAMBAA SCUBA Diving Club

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Club Meeting

The August Club meeting will be in-person at the **Edmonds Public Library** and virtual, via Google Meet. Login information for Google Meet was included in the email that announced the publication of this newsletter. As usual, the meeting will commence at approximately **6:00 PM** on **Thursday, August 6**. The August meeting agenda includes planning the October and November Club Dives, an update on the Dive/Camp Weekend, further discussion on the club dive trip. The final item will be choosing an eatery for the post-meeting dinner. If you are not on the email distribution list and somehow came across this amazing newsletter and would still like to be added, send Spanky an email at gsndambaa@hotmail.com.

August Club Dive at Les Davis

We swapped the July and August dives to avoid a dive shop event at Les Davis. So, the August dive is at Les Davis in Tacoma. We will meet at **9:00 AM** on **Saturday, August 22** for a splash time of **10:00 AM**. This dive site has a nice easy entry, but there is a bit of a walk from the parking area to the stairs leading to the beach. The site has an artificial reef constructed of concrete slabs and pilings that support a lot of life. We should see lots of rockfish and we need to be on the lookout for large ling cod. We have also seen a variety of nudibranchs and interesting crabs on past dives here. If we are lucky, we may get to see a red Brotula or a Sailfin Sculpin. After the dive we will head to Duke's Seafood for lunch.

Directions to Les Davis:

If you prefer to use Google Maps, set your destination for the Les Davis Fishing Pier. Otherwise, take I-5 to Exit 133 and follow I-705 North, toward the City Center.

Stay on I-705 for 1.9 miles and take the Pacific Ave. ramp to your left, toward Schuster Parkway.

Follow Schuster Parkway for 1.5 miles until you see a ramp to the left for N. Ruston Way.

Go left onto N. Ruston Way. Follow N. Ruston Way for

2026 GSNDAMBAA-at-a-Glance

07/02/2026 6:00 PM

Club meeting, Edmonds Public Library & Google Meet

07/18/2026 9:00 AM

Club Dive at Les Davis

08/06/2026 6:00 PM

Club meeting, Edmonds Public Library & Google Meet

08/22/2026 9:00 AM

Club dive at Les Davis

09/03/2026 6:00 PM

Club meeting, Edmonds Public Library(?) & Google Meet

09/25-09/27/2026

Dive/Camp Weekend, North Vancouver

10/01/2026 6:00 PM

Club meeting, Edmonds Public Library(?) & Google Meet

about 1.4 miles to the entrance to the park to your right. The parking lot entrance is a short distance past the large red fire boat on your right. Park as close to the west end of the parking area (as far from the entrance) as you can.

Dive/Camp Weekend Details

ESSDB Shay has finalized the plans for the Club Dive/Camp Weekend. **Friday, September 25** and to return on **Sunday, September 27**. Booked so far is one Airbnb that can accommodate 8. If we need more space we can either get another small Airbnb and just all convene at the larger place for food etc. For diving, 8 spots have been reserved with PNW Expeditions for Saturday the 26th (boat can hold 2 more). Check out the accommodations [here](#). Check out the dive operation [here](#).

To reserve your spot, send Spanky an email at gsndambaa@hotmail.com.

July Dive Report

Since shell fish harvesting was closed for clams and oysters in Hood Canal we nearly had the beach to ourselves. Mild weather blessed both the divers (SDBs Brandon, Dan, Kim, Peter and Steve) and the on beach support (ESSBs Brittany, Larry, Margaret, and

Taffy). And we got to meet Brandon's mom after the dive!

We sorted ourselves into two groups, with the intent to stay together in the murky viz, but that plan was abandoned on submerging. Both teams wandered around looking for the pipe, one team was eventually successful. At about 40 feet the viz started improving as Dan, Peter and Steve made their way along the pipe. At nearly each concrete anchor block there was an octopus den, with most of them occupied. We nearly made it to the end, turning around at about 75 feet. Brandon and Kim got all turned around after the successful capture of a second red crab. They got one more crab on the dive. They saw lots of nudibranchs along with their lacy eggs that had been laid on the seaweed.

After the dive we enjoyed a great picnic on the beach with brats and all the fixings.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

Cool-Web-Article-of-the-Month:

The Seattle Times published a story on the MaST Center at Redondo in its Sunday Pacific magazine. You can read the story [here](#). For some idea about how the tide can change, compare the picture of the MaST Center in the article with the picture below, taken during a King Tide in December 2022.



Real-life Snuffleupagus found swimming in the Great Barrier Reef! Remember the Snuffleupagus from Sesame St? Researchers found its undersea doppelganger at the Great Barrier Reef. It is adorable! Check it out [here](#).

Cool-Photos-of-the-Month:

This month's cool photos were selected from the Pt Whitney archives of ESSB Larry. The 1st is a Painted Greenling. The 2nd is a Longhorn Decorator Crab that appears to have recently lost a fight as it does not have claws. If you zoom into the picture, you can see where the right claw attached.



Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky.

Visit Spanky at www.gsndambaa.org

Email Spanky at

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Please send items for the September issue by Wednesday, August 26.