

the staggering starfish

the official newsletter of the GSNDAMBA SCUBA Diving Club

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February Club Meeting

Welcome to February! The February Club Meeting will be a virtual only affair, so no pants required (as long as the camera is pointed above the waist) Join us on **Thursday, February 5 at 6:00 PM**. The meeting link is included in the email that announced publication of the newsletter. The February meeting agenda includes planning our May club dive, updating the Club website, adding a signature to the Club's bank account and discussion on this summer's Dive/Camp Weekend.

February Dive @ Norrander's Reef

For the February club dive we will be travelling to Bainbridge Island to revisit Norrander's Reef. Our meet time for this dive is 10:00AM on Saturday, February 28. Parking can be a bit tight at this site, so please carpool if you can. There are no facilities, so you should plan on stopping somewhere on the way. (The closest known facilities are at Pritchard Park and Blakely Harbor Park.) This site has some natural rock reefs where you can see lots of life. It is not known for large fish. After the dive we will head over to the Harbor Public House for lunch.

A good dive site report is [here](#).

Directions to Norrander's Reef:

The address for Rockaway Beach Park is 4002 Rockaway Beach Rd NE, Bainbridge Island, if you want to set your GPS. Otherwise, travel to Bainbridge Island by ferry or another convenient route. From the Kingston ferry, stay in the left lane and turn left onto Iowa. Continue straight onto NE West Kingston Road, and continue until you reach Miller Bay Road NE at a tee. Turn left, and continue until it takes a right run and becomes Suquamish Way NE. Suquamish will end at Hwy 305, where you turn left. Follow Hwy 305 until you reach Sportsmen Club Road NE, where you turn right. Follow Sportsmen Club Road (it will eventually turn left and become Finch Road NE) until you reach Wyatt Way NW, and take a left. After 0.1 mi the road turns left and becomes Eagle Harbor Dr. NE. Follow.

2026 GSNDAMBA-at-a-Glance

02/05/2026	6:00 PM	Club meeting, Virtual via Google Meet
02/28/2026	10:00 AM	Club dive at Norrander's Reef
03/05/2026	6:00 PM	Club meeting, Edmonds Public Library & Google Meet
03/14/2026	12:00 PM	Club dive at Day Island Wall
04/02/2026	6:00 PM	Club meeting at Edmonds Public Library? & Google Meet
04/11/2026	10:00 AM	Club dive at Triton Cove
05/07/2026	6:00 PM	Club meeting, Edmonds Public Library? & Google Meet

Eagle Harbor; it will turn to the right as you approach the waterfront and become Rockaway Beach Road NE. Continue until you see the park on your left, toward the waterfront. Park along the street. From Tacoma, follow Hwy 16 to Hwy 3, get onto Hwy 305 in Poulsbo, and follow the directions above. From the Seattle/Bainbridge ferry, exit the ferry and turn left onto Winslow Way E, and then right on Erickson Ave NE. Turn left onto Wyatt Way, and follow the directions above. If you live on the Peninsula or take a different ferry, you will have to figure it out.

January Club Dive Report

The day dawned clear and cold as 8 divers gathered at Saltwater State Park. Buddies were determined by those with scooters and those without. The water was flat as a pancake for the long walk/surface swim out to the mooring buoys, and the divers dropped through decent winter vis to the site. As expected, it was teeming with plumose anemones and rock fish, as well as crabs, both kelp and Dungeness. Despite his impressive camouflage efforts, a pint-sized, color changing octopus was spotted hiding among rocks and sculpin on a slope next to one of the beams. Several nudibranch species including a rather large lemon nudi

were also spotted. After the dive, everyone enjoyed a convivial lunch at Mama Stortini's where they continued to discuss past and future dives.

Cool-?-of the Month Section

Cool-Web-Videos-of-the-Month:

This is a video with dive equipment tips:

https://youtu.be/Faac_Tg-nU8

This is a video of the search for a live giant squid in its natural habitat. It contains footage of other kinds of squids and some interesting fish, such as a Prickly Shark. Did you know that the esophagus of a giant squid is less than an inch in diameter?

<https://ocean.si.edu/ocean-life/invertebrates/question-giant-squid>



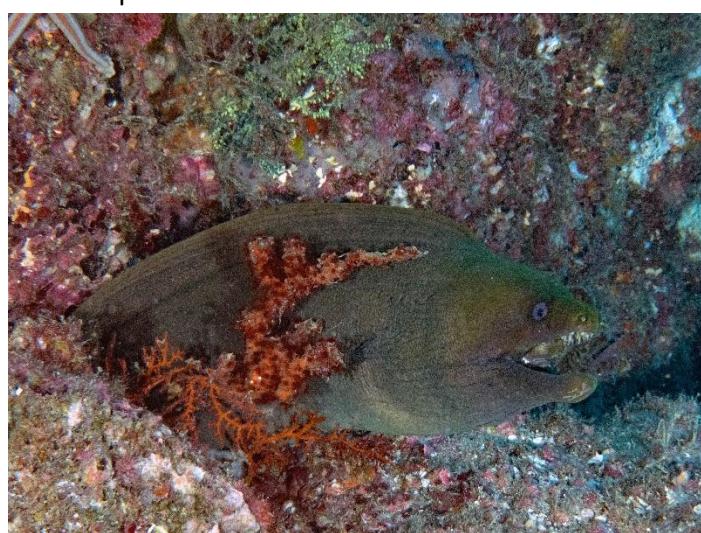
Cool-Slideshow-of-the-Month:

This slideshow has pictures of creatures found around Curacao. Read about the life of the Pearlfish!

<https://ocean.si.edu/ocean-life/fish/collections-curacao>

Cool-Photos-of-the-Month:

At the January Dive Club meeting we discussed the possibility of a dive trip to Loreto Mexico. To whet your appetite, ESSDB Larry has provided pictures! The antepenultimate picture is a Green Moray, the penultimate picture is a Guinea Fowl Puffer and the ultimate picture is two Blue & Yellow Chromis.



Cool-Sightings-of-the-Month:

Bart at the January Club Dive: Joe's & Mi Lin's puppy Max!

Kim at the January Club Dive: A pint sized octopus that was changing colors!

Got a C?OTM? Send it to Spanky.

Visit Spanky at www.gsndambaa.org

Email Spanky at

gsndambaa@hotmail.com

Please send items for the March issue by **Monday, February 23.**