

Chum Line



Published by the
LOS ANGELES ROD & REEL CLUB

• JANUARY 1995 •

Since this is the start of the new year and the last *Chum Line* I will write as president of LARRC, I want to thank Joe Mahfet my vice president and the board of directors for all their help in making this a very successful year. I have a special thanks to Pam and Earl Warren, along with Bob Beaver for their efforts on one of the most successful Kids' Fishing Trip.

Other activities included The Awards Banquet, King of the Calico Tournament (Bill Alpert), outstanding dinner programs (Joe Mahfet), bi-monthly trips on the Sea Hawk (Dan Felger), and a great 5-day (Bluefin tuna) trip on the Qualifier 105 (Eric Rogger) and best of all we gained many new members (Miro Hussenjjan).

It's hard to believe a year has gone by and my presidency is almost over. I will be moving on as a trustee to the foundation. Please give your support to the foundation this year as we are working on many worthwhile projects.

My best wishes to Joe Mahfet who will be the new president for 1995. I'm sure he will do well and have the support of the new board and membership.

This is a great club to belong to and I want to thank all of you for giving me the honor of being president for 1994, it has been a fun year.

Joel Steinman

President's Message

PLEASE NOTE: 1995 Officers and Committee Chairs will be published in the February '95 Chum Line. Also announced at that time — 1994 Trophy Winners!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

LARRC Premier Annual Event

**Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club
45th Anniversary
Installation &
Awards Banquet**

Sunday, Feb. 26, 1995

**at
Braemar Country Club**

**4001 Reseda Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91357**

**11 am to 4 pm
\$25.00 Per Person**

*Please R.S.V.P. to
Joe Mahfet (310) 571-2200
Deadline: January 28, 1995*

R E M I N D E R

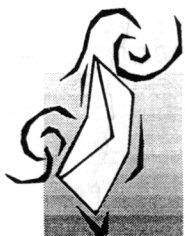
Annual dues for all members of LARRC are now due.

Please remit to:

Tony Mindlin
835A 7th St.
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Checks should be made out to LARRC.

Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!



Letters to LARRC

To: LARRC Club
From: Joe Cronin
Subject: I thought you guys might like to know about this!!!
Perhaps members would like to bring Dr. Kilinka in for a club meeting.

FISHING BEST CURE FOR IMPOTENCE

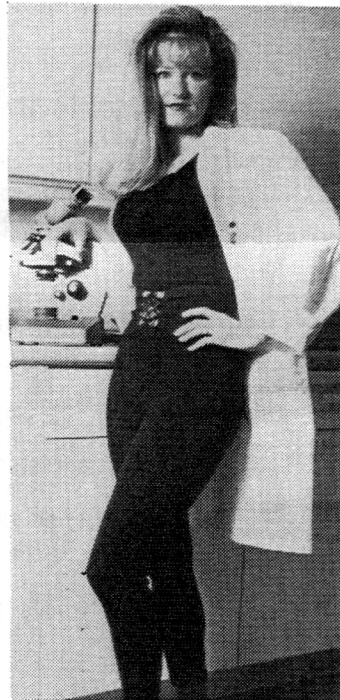
(Moscow) Latest breakthroughs in medical research reveal that lack of fishing slashes vital hormonal production which can make middle-age men impotent, overweight and cantankerous.

Russian scientists have found that city life and work pressures can cause oxygen deprivation in adult males. Oxygen is vital for the production of the male sex hormone, testosterone, says Dr. Tatianna Kilinka, head of the Outdoor Lifestyle Resource Institute of Technology and Production in the Russian Urals.

"Lack of oxygen kills the male sex drive," Kilinka reports, "and leads to impotence." "My personal experiences prove fishermen have increased oxygen levels which improve over-all performance in all facets of life."

"Men with high pressure jobs, living in smoggy environments, should fish at least two days per week," she recommends. "Furthermore," Kilinka adds, "It would be interesting to conduct more research in the western U.S. and have an American man teach me to fish."

Source: Western Angler 12/94

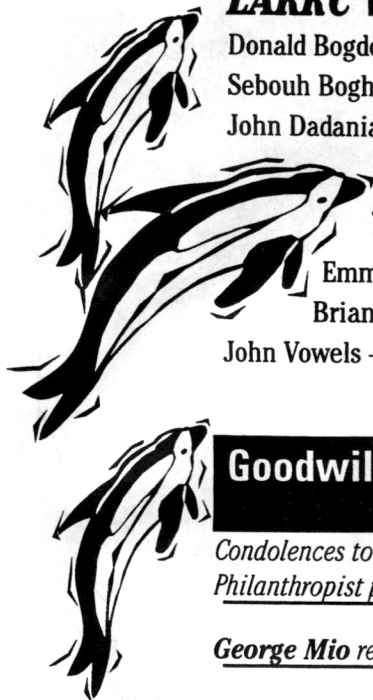


Russian impotency expert, Dr. Kilinka.

Membership News

LARRC Welcomes...

Donald Bogdon — Hematologist, Glendale
Sebough Bogharian — Jeweler, Pasadena
John Dadanian — Jeweler, Los Angeles
David Green — Architect, Venice
Jack Khatchadourian — Diamond Dealer with Miro
Emmet C. Mathews — Lawyer, Los Angeles
Brian Solomon — Importer, Moorpark
John Vowels — Dir. Lifeguards, City of Los Angeles



Goodwill & Cheer

Condolences to **Barry Taper**. **Mark Taper**, Philanthropist passed away.

George Mio recovering from gall bladder surgery.

Otto Painter informed Chum Line that his friend and longtime member ('64), **Bill Nathons**, passed away.

CHUM LINE CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH...

JOE CRONIN
DAN FINK
SHELLY BALZAC
BARRY FISHER
LARRY EDWARDS
DAN FELGER
JULIAN WOLF

A Fish Report



Calico Madness

(This article gives another view of the October King of the Calicos Tournament. The earlier version was featured in the November edition of *Chum Line* by tournament organizer Bill Alpert)

Tough conditions challenged the King of the Calico Tournament and the fishing wasn't easy either.

The Seahawk 65' loaded with hot sticks and past winners backed up by *The Charger* was the scene of this carnage. Always, lethal, Bill Alpert was the first casualty. His cool, calm collected demeanor knocked askew with last minute players chickening out. The stench of fear permeated the air.

This author, most famous for pathetic performances in past tournies, had graciously accepted the role of Judge. Those that can fish—do, those that can't—pass judgement on others. I was prepared to throw out DNA evidence and ban the Bronco. My willingness to accept bribes and consider gratuities is well documented but this plan was derailed by last minute roster shortages. Shanghaied, I filled in on not one, but, two teams.

Others felt unthreatened by my usually laid-back style and lackluster finishes, but it was this dog's day.

First stop, tough, with dinks prevailing and small slime stealing hooks — anglers went nuts re-tying. Filter fishing through shorts, position jockeying got under way with elbows and epiphany flying.

Rubber and iron bit fish staples, proved useless — leaving the plastic fleet beached.

Mindlin and Steinman looked lost with their worms dangling. Alpert, demonstrating an unusual versatility, bought a herring from the deck hand which resulted in a 4 lb. 8 oz. kamikaze and a quick lead. He would later buoy this with a 2 lb. 8 oz. kicker, finishing with 14 lbs. for the 2nd biggest mess of fish. But the team format — his design — proved his undoing. The balance of his squad failed to rally around this anchor. The question persists, where was Grossman?

Meanwhile Pirate's squad picked away. I, exploiting the two-team burden, managed to constantly weasel my way into the Felger corner, (known as the port corner on other vessels). There, between last year's champ and Joel Zide, champ of two years ago, ensued a scratching, biting, loose-elbow and body-checking battle. Felger to the right of me, Zide to the left, we dueled. I strategically cast over them, blew cigarette smoke in their faces as I apologized and traded hip bumps with head butts. Both Felger and Zide were reduced to verbal abuse which continues to this day, although I swear the latter was passing gas fueled by his father's cooking in an effort to control the stern. Talk about using scent products!

This mano el mano scene became so intense that Pirate was able to slip into position un-noticed and scoop up 10 lb. 8 oz.s worth of fish while I kept "Fox" Felger and "Lineback" Zide at bay. In spite of them I finished with 10

lbs. 1 oz. in a strong support role to the first place team No. 5.

Of course we have to add Frank Polak, 13 lbs.+, fishing on the *Charger*, 3rd heaviest weight total of the tourney for leading Pirate's team into the victory circle. I knew this was a sleeper, having been on two charters this summer with "Sweetwater" Frank where he JP'd both times. Guys, take note, those "Branchwater Bass Boys" are lethal, never count them out.

Vogel too, a seasoned veteran, weighed in a well above average 7 lbs.+. Weinstock, the 5th member of team 5, has back-to-back Calico wins, now. His prowess must be acknowledged. Has this ever been done before?

I, in the meantime, finish in both 1st and 4th place which mean averages a 2.5 place finish. Damn, I've marred my last place image.

Now for the real kicker, top angler of the whole event (*drum roll please*) Joe Stern with 14 lbs. 7 oz.! Demonstrating the stealth of a guerrilla fighter, this tiger whupped the whole lot of us. One more example of old age treachery beating youth and enthusiasm every time.

Signed, (in all modesty) Dan Fink

Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

The bluefin tuna, the largest fish in the Atlantic, can swim up to 55 miles per hour and migrate thousands of miles in a year. Overfishing to supply international luxury food markets has caused the Western Atlantic population of this species to decline 80 percent over the last 20 years.

Source: WWF 12/94

Fish Twist

Dan Sansome has seen a lot in his 10 years as a long-range skipper out of San Diego but his latest trip down the Baja California coast was one for the books.

Sansome, 49, said he had never seen anything like it.

Twenty-five fishermen aboard the *American Angler* accounted for 311 yellowfin tuna, 150 dorado, 140 wahoo, 71 yellowtail, nine marlin, one sailfish and a short-bill spearfish.

That so many tuna and dorado were caught was no surprise, but to catch so many wahoo on a 10-day trip is unusual, and to have so many marlin around the boat is practically unheard of.

"We released at least 40 marlin," Sansome said. "I've never seen that many in one area. We probably had a dozen on (people's lines) at one time.

Source: LA Times 11/6/94

Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!

A Fish Story

Odyssey of the Meglodon

On November 8, 1994, Pete Giannini, Don Lee, Bob Thompson, Jack Wax, Julian Wolf and non-member Morrie Yettra headed south out of San Diego. We traveled forty-two hours until we reached the desired thermal break. For most of those two days there was a constant cross-fire lambasting the judges and in turn the judges lambasted the doctors.

The plan was to fish kelp paddies for dorado, then chase wahoo and tuna. The first couple of stops yielded only one dorado, but the third was the "Fourth of July" and "Bastille Day" rolled into one. For one hour and forty minutes the dorado ate anything thrown at them. Casting was a waste of energy, since it was only necessary to drop in to get hit. Actually on one drop, two fish left the water to pick up a sardine on its way down into the drink.

A little rain didn't deter anyone and, finally, while there were several fish going, the skipper decided to find us another circus.

One stop: 34 dorado. Don Lee managed a 12 lb. 6 oz. dorado on four-pound test and a 6 lb. 7 oz. on his fly rod.

Four hundred miles south on Saturday, we trolled for wahoo. A 30-pound line was stripped several times. Pete Giannini put a 68-pounder on board with forty-pound test, and Julian Wolf followed with a 52-pounder on forty. In all 19 wahoo were taken.

Sunday, the ocean exploded on our second stop at Magdalena Bay. Four hours on that one stop and we put 73 yellowfin tuna in the freezer. Additionally, Don Lee caught a 10 lb. 8 oz. black skipjack on his fly rod. Two yellowtail firecrackers and a few more made up the mixed bag for the rest of the day.

At this point we had three days under our belts, the kind we all dream about. How do we beat this? Stay tuned for Monday's results.

Monday's results were nothing to cry about. It was quality vs. quantity! Before going into the last half of the trip, a word about the boat and its crew. John Kirkpatrick bent over backwards to satisfy the group. John Tryon, whom some remember as the deck hand on *El Patron*, is the cook. He does an excellent job in both positions. Randy Rozelle rounded out the crew as second mate and always willing to help. The skipper worked his butt off and left the mooring to assist one of the

guys who was on a stubborn 120 lb. yellowfin for three hours and fifty minutes. Everyone had a hot hand seemingly on a round-robin basis, but none did as well as non-member Morrie Yettra. It was also the day we did some kite fishing. However, the wind died and we only boated one kite fish.

Going into the second half, we stayed in the big tuna area. Some of those who hooked up transferred to the dinghy for a fun ride behind "Charley" tuna, or in Don Lee's case, a wahoo. This was not a red letter day, but those few fish were quality. Pound for pound, these fish were very tough since we could stop bluefin in August and September on a 50-pound line, but the yellowfin stripped 50-pound on this trip. Don Lee and Morrie Yettra capped the day with a couple of released striped marlin.

We traveled most of the night to the 38 on the ridge to make bait at 4:00 a.m. It was strictly scratch except for Bob Thompson who easily scored mackies with each drop, as the rest of us had to be satisfied with an occasional single. Just after day break, we spotted acres of Mackies and just about topped off the tanks prior to starting to troll for wahoo. It was typical trolling time, two hours and no stops. Then, Wham, two wahoo, followed by four hours of steady tuna action in the 20-30 lb. class. In addition to 23 tuna, we boated 5 yellowtail and 1 dorado. The hammerheads had a field day, cutting

the tuna count substantially.

Thursday was a rock-and-roll day at the tuna spot with heavy winds causing us to start trolling downhill for wahoo. Jack Wax stopped the boat. Then it was stop-and-go with a mix of tuna and wahoo until 4:00 p.m. when the marlin came calling. Everyone caught and released at least one. At one time every rod was hooked to a billfish. A 74-pounder on 60. was taken by Don.

Totals for the day: 8 tuna, 4 wahoo, 1 dorado and 11 released marlin.

Getaway day and we're really in rough sea. Last shot at marlin and wahoo. Remember those bass trips when you simply couldn't get below the perch? Well, picture this: the marlin were so thick you can't get by them to hook the wahoo. Over thirty marlin released at the boat; an equal number intentionally released outside in order to try again for the wahoo. None aboard had ever seen so many marlin. Jack Wax decided to fly fish a marlin. It bit, and for a half hour on a one-to-one retrieve, it lasted until the line parted.

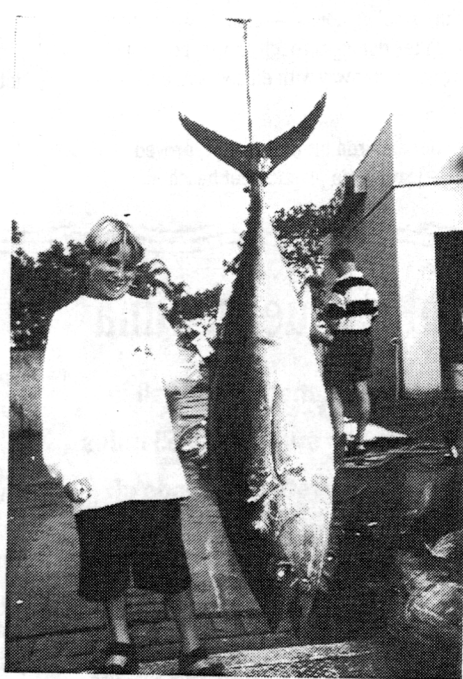
We trolled another four hours to Mag Bay. We all agreed that Baja and its environs probably has the best fishing anywhere. It certainly was for us.—
Julian Wolf

T h e L o n g



Julie Wolf with his record wahoo — 115 lbs.

The Short



Shanone Frumkes with his October '94 bluefin keeper — 112.3 lbs.

The Different Shapes of Santa Claus

There are, among LARRC members, some who give of their time, effort, and money, to concerns other than the next hook-up. Two such members have been called to the attention of *Chum Line*, and if in the future you find your name here then you'll know you're an above average member of society.

HERMAN EPSTEIN MD. A retired orthopedic surgeon, is one of the earliest club members – since '61, who for 50 years has been acting as Santa Claus at USC/County Medical Center. The annual party, which was attended by more than 100 families this year, featured the distribution of more than \$18,000 worth of toys. Recipients were orthopedic outpatients. All six of Epstein's children have also been involved – with his grandson, Scott, recording events on his camera. Norman Epstein, Scott's father, feels that his dad, now 88, is going to go for a 100. LARRC salutes Herman Epstein, MD.

The LA Times (12/9/94) covered this story. It was called to our attention by Shelly Balzac.

ARNIE COHEN Arnie was part of the US Armed Forces during the Korean conflict when he was assigned to Santa Claus duty because "I was the only one in the outfit who had nothing else to do." In a fit of nostalgia, in '83, planning to attend his company's Christmas party, he thought of dressing as Santa and descending on the festivities in a helicopter. The LA Fire Department provided transportation but obliged Arnie to become their volunteer St. Nick. To this day, eleven years later, Arnie still helps distribute toys with the cooperation of SERTOMA, the Fire Department's service organization. Last year alone 26,300 Los Angeles children received toys through these efforts.

The LA Times (12/24/94) covered this story in the Valley Section and it was called to our attention by Barry Fisher.

(PARALABRAX CLATHRATUS)

Kelp Bass / Calico Bass

A recent column in *Western Outdoor News*, by Bill Beebe, referred to a communication which LARRC member, Russ Izor, addressed to the California Fish & Game Department.

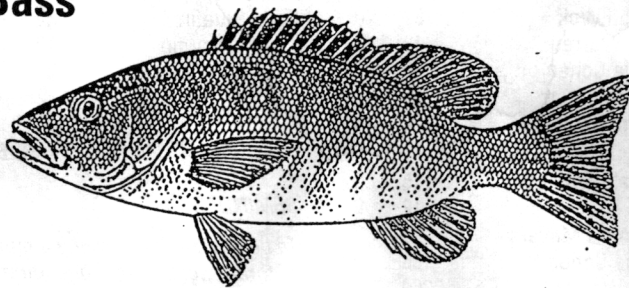
Russ is a member in good standing of the conservation fraternity and was, of course, for many years not only a charterboat captain but also a tackle distributor.

So his comments concerning the problems of the calico bass fishery should be greeted with concern, LARRC members, on many of their charters, target this species in particular and it's fair to say represents their mainstay of routine fishing. Kelp, or calico bass, have been exclusively a fish for the recreational fisherman and are shielded from commercial harvesting.

The article points out that the limits on calico bass have been in effect since 1959 and claims that more restrictive regulations should be imposed.

Russ, who has been a frequent critic of regulatory agencies, finds that basically recreational fishermen are no different than commercial ones. We catch and catch as if there were no end to it. Says he: "It ain't so." Steve Croke, a biologist with the DFG, claims the fishery is still in good health although he concedes their size has suffered.

DFG catch figures appear to support Russ Izor's opinion. Their harvest estimates for 1986 show that 1,583,000 calico bass were caught by the partyboat fleet. The DFG's statistics for 1993 showed a total of 351,000 were taken by all catch methods. *Chum Line* has cited this information from the 12/9/94 Bill Beebe column in *Western Outdoor News*.



LARRC 5-DAY CHARTER STILL HAS A FEW OPENINGS!

December 31st was the deadline for '94 participants to get in their "earnest" deposits and some decided they had time conflicts. If you're thinking about joining us on this Sept. 8-13th adventure – aboard the *Qualifier 105*, please call Eric now. (310) 476-5936. Total number of passengers will be 22 on this very spacious vessel. A doctor will be on board and if he doesn't perform well, several attorneys will rectify the situation. Accountants will keep track of the jackpot money.

Help Wanted

Every year the annual Hall tackle show presents the largest assembly of tackle and boat related equipment during a week at the Long Beach arena. United Anglers will have several booths to help sign up new members and give out information on their efforts. The LARRC is asked to furnish several members to help man the exhibits. You will be appropriately briefed. If you're coming down anyway, to see the new gear, why not volunteer your services for a half a day. The good cause needs you March 1-5. Contact Eric if you want to go to heaven (310) 476-5936



NOTE: The board of directors has decided that starting in '95 — No distinction will be made (as long as the species is identical) between foreign and local waters. Seperate trophies will not be awarded.

1994 TROPHY CONTENDERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1994

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB.	OZ.	SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB.	OZ.
LOCAL WATERS					FLY ROD				
Calico Bass	16	Joseph Stern	7	0	Dorado	12	Don Lee	6	7 *
Calico Bass	16	Miro Hussenjian	6	6	Salmon, Chum	12	Don Lee	11	13 *
Halibut	16	Miro Hussenjian	18	0	Salmon, King	12	Don Lee	32	8 *
Halibut	16	Abe Zide	14	0	Salmon, Sockeye	8	Don Lee	5	7 *
Halibut	16	Arnold Epstein	7	8	Skipjack, Black	12	Don Lee	10	8 *
Sand Bass	20	Steve Simon	9	6 *	MEN'S RELEASED				
Tuna, Bluefin	20	Norm Schindler	65	0 *	Sailfish	20	Eric Rogger	<i>(Est. 80-100 lbs.)</i>	
Tuna, Bluefin	30	Mark O'Brien	113	0 *	Sailfish	50	Jay Lash		
Tuna, Bluefin	50	Joel Steinman	132	0 *	Sailfish	50	Miro Hussenjian		
Tuna, Bluefin	50	David Neufeld	124	5	LADIES				
Tuna, Bluefin	50	Joe Cronin	122	0	Cobia	20	Sally Vickers	19	6
Tuna, Bluefin	50	Mark O'Brien	119	8	Halibut, Pacific	20	Sally Vickers	41	2
Tuna, Bluefin	50	Ken Simpson	106	8	Salmon, Coho	12	Pamela Warren	6	6 *
Tuna, Bluefin	50	Gerald Steinberg	106	0	Salmon, King	20	Sally Vickers	33	0
Tuna, Bluefin	50	Julian Wolf	105	5	Shark, Mako	80	Michi Marshall	80	0 *
Tuna, Bluefin	80	Norm Schindler	122	0 *	Wahoo	30	Sally Vickers	54	3 *
Tuna, Bluefin	80	Daniel Frumkes	116	11	JUNIORS				
Tuna, Bluefin	80	Ken Simpson	109	11	Salmon, King	12	Jeremy Warren	17	8
Tuna, Yellowfin	12	Daniel Frumkes	19	13 *	Salmon, King	20	Jeremy Warren	36	0
Tuna, Yellowfin	30	Arnie Cohen	21	11	Tuna, Bluefin	50	Shanone Frumkes	112	13
Tuna, Yellowfin	50	David Neufeld	67	6	Tuna, Yellowfin	12	Shanone Frumkes	10	2
Tuna, Yellowfin	50	Julian Wolf	32	0	<i>*New Club Record</i>				
White Sea Bass	16	Earl Warren	13	6	FIRST GAME FISH OF THE YEAR				
White Sea Bass	20	Arnie Cohen	39	0	EARL WARREN — MAY 14, 1994				
White Sea Bass	20	Joseph Stern	13	8	REMINDER:				
Yellowtail	20	Norm Schindler	22	14	<i>To be eligible for a trophy a member shall have attended a minimum of three regular meetings during the calendar year. This rule does not apply to junior members or ladies.</i>				
FOREIGN WATERS					<i>Weight certificates must be signed by a witness to the catch and witness to the weight, other than the angler.</i>				
Cobia	20	Gerald Steinberg	15	3	<i>Weight certificates must be postmarked within 15 days of the catch, unless a written explanation is submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.</i>				
Dorado	4	Don Lee	12	6	SEND WEIGHT SLIPS TO:				
Halibut, Pacific	30	Bernard Mayers	41	2	Dan Felger				
Halibut, Pacific	130	Arnie Cohen	106	0	5530 Corbin Avenue, Suite 120				
Marlin, Blue	80	Earl Warren	360	0	Tarzana, California 91356				
Salmon, King	20	Bernard Mayers	31	8					
Salmon, King	20	Earl Warren	30	8					
Salmon, King	30	Joseph Stern	34	8 *					
Shefish	8	Bernard Mayers	25	2 *					
Tuna, Yellowfin	50	Gerald Steinberg	149	5 *					
Tuna, Yellowfin	50	Mark O'Brien	118	0					
Tuna, Yellowfin	130	Dan Felger	130	0					
Wahoo	50	Peter Giannini	68	0					
Wahoo	80	Don Lee	74	0					
Wahoo	80	Julian Wolf	115	0 *					
FRESH WATER									
Northern Pike	4	Bernard Mayers	12	6 *					
Steelhead	10	Dan Felger	10	0 *					

Don Lee (2), Pete Giannini (2), Julian Wolf (4), and Jack Wax (4) — Got into a mess of marlin and released them all.

Meetings

	Dinner Meetings	Board Meetings
Jan	30	23
Feb	26 Brunch	6
Mar	27	20
Apr	24	17
May	22	15
Jun	26	19
Jul	31	24
Aug	28	21
Sep	18	11
Oct	30	23
Nov	27	20
Dec	Dark	11
Jan '96	29	22
Feb '96 Awards 25		12

LARRC Other Events

- Feb. 26**
Braemar Country Club
Annual Awards Luncheon
- Mar. 1-5**
Annual Hall Tackle & Boat Show
Long Beach Arena
- May 6**
AFTCO Annual Parking Lot
Sale & Show, Irvine
- May 13**
United Anglers Annual
Banquet & Auction
Balboa Bay Club

JANUARY
BOARD
MEETING

January 23
 Joel Steinman's
 5826 Ostrom Ave
 Encino, CA 91316
 (818) 345-1356
*(Phone in if you are
 not a board member)*
 Time: 6:00 pm
 Meeting: 7:00 pm

JANUARY
DINNER
MEETING

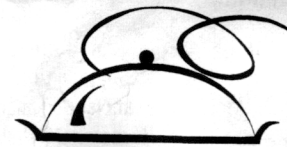
Monday, January 30
 Holiday Inn
 170 No. Church Lane
 Los Angeles, CA 90049
 (310) 476-6411
 Cocktails at 6:00 pm
 Dinner at 7:00 pm

LARRC Charters 1995

LARRC WEDNESDAY CHARTERS ON THE SEA HAWK LXI SEA LANDING — SANTA BARBARA

1/4, 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 3/1, 3/29-30*, 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/7, 6/21, 7/12, 7/26, 8/9, 8/23,
 9/13, 9/27, 10/25, 11/8-9*, 11/22, 12/6 *2-Day trip to San Miguel

- Departure Time will be at 5:00 am, from Sea Landing, Santa Barbara. However, some trips may depart earlier. These earlier departures will be at the sole discretion of the CHARTER MASTER after consultation with the Skipper.
- The trips will be planned for local surface calico bass; however, opportunities to fish for exotics, such as white sea bass and yellowtail, will take precedent. Also, several trips will be for light tackle rock fish and/or halibut at Santa Rosa or San Miguel Island. Other trips may be to Point Conception.
- Return time will usually be 4:30 - 5:00pm, but could be earlier or later depending on fishing conditions and weather, and will be determined by the Skipper.
- Bunks will be on a first come basis and cannot be reserved. However, the CHARTER MASTER may reserve two, large forward bunks for those participants who because of age or physical limitations require special consideration. If you think you qualify please let the CHARTER MASTER know.
- Loads will be limited to 16 adults or 17 people if juniors are participating. The CHARTER MASTER reserves the right to overbook by one.
- Cost: \$75.00 5:00am departure 2-day Trip — \$245 2am departure
 \$95.00 2:00am departure
 Junior members pay 50% (up to 2 per trip). With the uncertainty of fuel costs there may be a fare adjustment.
- Charter price includes trip, bait, soft drinks, beer, icing fish, BREAKFAST AND LUNCH. Not included are tips and fish cleaning. (Please be generous with the tips for the crew).
- Reservations should be made through Arnie Cohen, 11101 Viking Ave., Northridge, CA 91326, Phone-Msg. Ctr. (818) 366-3300, Home Phone (818) 368-5834, FAX (818) 366-4945. Your reservation, written or verbal, is your commitment to pay, even if you do not go, and your agreement to abide by club charter policies as established by the CHARTER MASTER.



The Dinner Hot Line
number is:
818 / 710-7701
USE IT!

**SALMON FISHING GUIDE TO
 BE GUEST AT JAN. 30TH
 DINNER MEETING: World
 famous fishing guide
 Dave Fyfe, from Campbell
 River, Vancouver BC, will
 be our guest speaker.
 Dave will bring slides
 an/or edited videos deal-
 ing with steelhead fishing
 for various salmon
 species in the rivers and
 off the coast of Vancouver
 Island where he operates
 a floating lodge.**

Tribute to Otto

by Dan Felger

At the December board meeting, the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club bestowed upon Otto Painter the first ever fully paid life time membership status in the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club in recognition of his 30 years of dedication to our club. Although most of us know Otto, who is he really?

Otto was born in Philadelphia in 1908. Tragically, his mother passed away when he was only eight and his father then remarried. Home life with his father and stepmother was not a happy one, so Otto ran away and hopped a freight train that dumped him off at the Chicago stockyards where he, "froze his ass off" (Otto's exact words). He jumped another train back to Philly and, although still only eight years old, took a job in the garment trade tying bundles in the cutting room. He also sold newspapers and did other odd jobs. Except for his two stints as a soldier, Otto was to remain in the garment industry until his retirement in 1969. Life as a youngster was not easy for Otto. He lived in various boarding homes and, in addition to his several jobs, found time to educate himself through vocational courses.

Even back in the '20s, '30s, and '40s, Otto was a crusader. A die hard leftist, he, along with his brother, joined the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in 1936, went to Spain, and fought the fascists led by General Francisco Franco. He marched from Bilboa to Barcelona, a distance of over 600 miles, to engage the enemy. But the poorly trained and ill equipped brigade was no match for Franco's army provisioned by Hitler and Mussolini, who kicked the S___'s out of the rebels (Otto's words). Seeing the handwriting on the wall, Otto and his brother left Spain, and Otto returned to Philly and the garment trade.

On September 1, 1939, Hitler's legions marched into Poland and two days later Great Britain and France declared war on Germany. World War II was underway. That same day, Otto enlisted in the U.S. Army Paratrooper Corps. His prewar assignments included Panama, where he underwent jungle training. In 1941, he was transferred to England for additional training where his unit gave jump exhibitions to encourage Britons to join the paratroopers.

The first American offensive action against the Germans was the invasion of North Africa. Allied soldiers hit the beach on November 8, 1942, a day after Otto's unit (the 101st Airborne - AKA "the Screaming Eagles") jumped at Oran. He was an active participant in most major North African campaigns. When North Africa was secure, the next offensive action was Sicily, and then Italy, where the 101st Airborne

landed in the Volturno River area. There a German pill box impeded the advancing Americans. After several attempts to take it out, the order was given to withdraw. Unfortunately, Otto didn't hear the order and continued the assault single-handedly attacking with his Browning automatic rifle. He silenced the pill box, killing 38 German soldiers. His commanding officer was ready to courtmartial him for disobeying the order to retreat, but was overruled by the General in charge, who instead awarded Otto the Silver Star for bravery. Shortly thereafter, Otto was severely wounded, and for him the war was over. He was honorably discharged on November 17, 1944 and returned to Philadelphia. A month later, Otto said, "to hell with the cold", and moved to sunny California.

In 1946 Otto was introduced to what would turn out to be the two great loves of his life: The beautiful Henny Rattiner, whom he married later that year, and deep sea sportfishing. Throughout the forties, fifties and into the sixties, Otto worked hard in the garment trade and fished whenever he could afford to. Although his fishing buddies included many of the charter members of LARRC, Otto, being a proud man and money being tight, did not join until he could pay his own way in 1965. As always when Otto joins he gets involved. In his 30 years he has served our Club on the Board of Directors, as Secretary, Historian, Charter Master, Awards Banquet Chairman, *Chum Line* Editor, Kids' Fishing Trip Chairman, etc., etc., etc. Ask any club president who was president during Otto's active years and you will get the same answer, "I couldn't have done the job without Otto."

Otto has resided in the same home for 46 years in the Pico/Robertson area, during which time, the neighborhood has gone through major changes. Realizing that for the most part the youths in the area had limited opportunities and severe peer pressure to become "gang bangers," he formed a fishing club for the kids and on his own has totally outfitted them with tackle and instruction. To maintain their good standing they must do well in school and stay out of trouble. Many of these kids, thanks to Otto's encouragement, went on to college. Some today are doctors. As a tribute to how these kids feel about Otto, when the devastating Northridge earthquake struck at 4:31 am on January 17, 1994, the kids were at his door 10 minutes later to see if he was okay.

Today Otto is taking life a little easier, but still has time for a little golf, spend time with Henny, his two sons (Paul and Harry) and his five grandchildren, and, of course, his good buddies in the LARRC.

There Goes the Neighborhood

ANDRE'S of Beverly Hills will become Andre's Trattoria. The 34-year-old landmark is closed for a face lift and is expected to reopen by the end of the month. "Andre sold us the restaurant," says Donna Minaise, one of the new co-owners. "But he's going to stay on for a year. It's going to be very, very beautiful."

Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!

Teeth Survive a Fishy Brush with the Sea

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — Cor Stoop sank his teeth into some cod, and he wasn't even eating at the time.

The Dutchman's false teeth dropped overboard during a North Sea fishing trip in September. He got them back yesterday after another fisherman landed the cod and the dentures were found inside.

"It's unbelievable, but true," tackle shop owner Hugo Slamet said after returning the teeth to Stoop.

Stoop lost his bottom plate when he became seasick during a day trip and leaned overboard.

Slamet recovered it Sunday when he took anglers out to his usual fishing haunts.

He was gutting the 19-pound cod caught by one of the fishermen when "I saw this thing in the cod's stomach and turned it over with the tip of my knife, and then I saw the teeth."

Slamet showed them to the skipper of the Hendrik Karssen fishing boat.

"He told me he had someone on board who lost his teeth in the summer," Slamet said. "It's an unbelievable coincidence."

Stoops wife heard of the find over a local radio station.

"You could see immediately they were his," Slamet said.

"They matched precisely with the top teeth."

Source: San Diego Tribune 12/1/94

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Source: National Fisherman 12/94

Ed. Note: How do those fully utilized fins get dead?

Chum Line

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Eric Rogger.....Editor

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