

Chum Line



Published by the
LOS ANGELES ROD & REEL CLUB

• JULY 1996 •



From the President

1996 is shaping up to be a great fishing year.

Last week, I spoke with Allan Fields who told me that he was on the recent LARRC charter aboard the *Sea Hawk* and that "the fish were jumping in the boat" — excellent fishing for calico bass and barracuda.

Last Saturday, I fished with Jay Lash aboard his boat and we had terrific barracuda fishing near Rocky Point. The Santa Monica bay is filled with life — tremendous amounts of bait, bird schools and game fish.

At the last board meeting, Joel Zide showed me pictures of his 14 and 23 lb. hailbut taken on his recent trip aboard the *Sea Hawk*. In addition, Richard and Michael Lapidus talked to me about their yellowtail catches at San Clemente island (I wish I were with them at the time).

I read the paper and I see that the boats out of San Diego continue to catch bluefin, yellowfin and yellowtail.

All of this leads me to the question "When is the best time to go fishing?" Bob Selvin is very scientific when it comes to choosing fishing trips. He looks to the tide charts, moon phase, time of the year, etc. I have no doubt that the tide and the moon have a great effect on the fishing. However, I have no doubt that many of the best fishing days occur during lousy moon phases and no current.

I pick my fishing days based on a less scientific method. I look to my calendar, sometimes to my wife, and I always ask for divine intervention. The bottom line is that if my schedule allows me to go fishing, I do it — it is very difficult to have a bad day on the ocean.

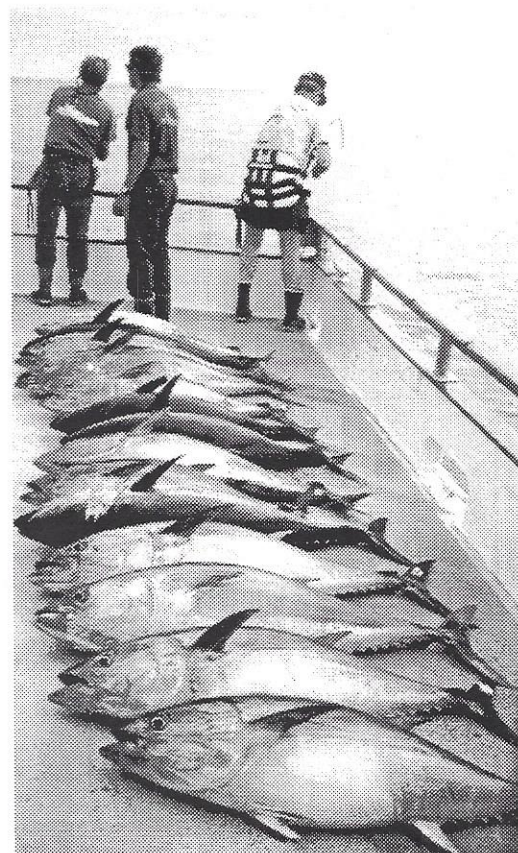
— Randy Sharon

Granddaddy of El Niños Stalks the Pacific Coast

An El Niño appears to be headed up the eastern Pacific that might be the granddaddy of them all. At the least, this event "could rival the magnitude of the 1982-1983 El Niño," says California Department of Fish and Game marine biologist Steve Crooke, quoting oceanographic scientist Tim Barnett. Crooke says the physical oceanographer at Scripps in La Jolla, California, further predicts the major warm-water effect will hit North America's Pacific coast sometime this fall.

For Southern California, that should mean tuna in great numbers and arriving early, as well as more than the usual number of dorado and marlin. For northern California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, it also may mean catching species like bonito or skipjack, normally not seen in those waters. But it bodes ill for salmon fisheries, since recent warm-water years have brought great numbers of mackerel to the north coast, where cool water temperatures normally keep them away. The result: devastating predation on salmon smolts (migrating to sea from fresh water).

Saltwater Fisherman 5/96



A repeat season? From a recent LARRC trip.

Unfettered!

Leaving the *Chum Line* after 39 issues is a little like giving up a kid; you think you've pointed it in the right direction and hope it continues that way. Members have cautioned me from time to time to leave personal comments out of the *Chum Line* and appropriately so, but this is the end of the line, so sage words are in order.

Otto Painter did this job for many more years than I and being of the senior contingent knew everyone and fished with them all. It helps to understand the dynamics of the club in order to have the *Chum Line* continue to be the glue that binds us together. Even though my LARRC membership did not begin until '85 I served on the board, did the dinner thing, and had some environmental stirrings by the time I started to work the *Chum Line*.

Times have changed — a corny observation but true. There's been more than a

50% turnover of members since '85 — maybe more — and regrettably the old-timers are no longer as active. Not only has the club changed but also the world around us. So, I felt that LARRC members must also cope with these changes and for the most part the membership accepted this. One of my objectives has been to focus attention on our diminishing fish resource. I have selected articles which you sent in which had the widest possible interest, i.e. to the greatest number of members. The criteria was that it had to do with fishing, fishing experiences of members, or items about our club activities.

By discouraging extremely personal anecdotes, or those of a highly specialized nature, which would appeal to only a few readers, I stepped on a few toes. Earl Warren told me at one point that I would never be able to please everyone in the

club. Ideally the editorship is a creative job just like advertising, or painting, and someone has to make the choices.

Many good things have happened, the club is sound financially, we're enjoying a greater diversity of people, and most of us have come to appreciate the conservation message and acquired a greater awareness of the fragility and limits of the water world around us.

I thank Tony Mindlin for getting me onto this conservation kick which has finally found me active as Chairman of United Anglers of Southern California. I hope to continue to have as much fun fishing and finding new experiences and with those LARRC guys both inside and outside the club, who have become genuine friends.

Grateful for all the help and good times I'll see you around!

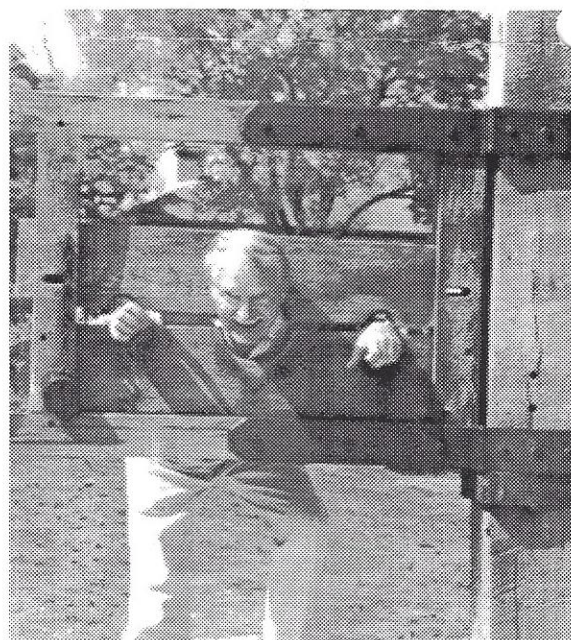
—Ex-Editor, Eric Rogger

Goodwill & Cheer

Wishing you well and thinking of you a lot... Bill Alpert, from all the members of LARRC.

An LARRC member has just earned his second emmy award. David Hallmark, who won his first emmy last year for technical direction on "The Price is Right" was awarded his second trophy for his work on the same show. David was also awarded a prize from his wife Janice, who presented him with his second child, an eight pound baby boy named William Connor Hallmark.

Eric Rogger: Two-time winner — 2nd grandson Avery Lazes, born in N.Y. a 6/28.



Membership News

LARRC Welcomes...

Wei E. Wong, Esq. has applied.

Jim Paulk, UASC President was approved by the board as an honorary LARRC member. Joel Steinman recommended this honor.

Chum Line Contributors this Month....

WILL EBERSMAN

JULIAN WOLF

RICHARD LAPIDUS

TO: LARRC Friends
 FROM: Julian Wolf
 SUBJECT: Trying to get a tan may not be the best thing for you!

I don't know which editor is going to handle this but I believe this article has interest for all of us.

Contemplating a full month in the sun on Lake Lanier, Georgia, site of the Olympic Rowing Events, I inquired of my dermatologist what he considered a reasonably safe way to protect my upper body from the sun. I usually wear a long-sleeved shirt but he recommended two.

The thought of two T-shirts in 88 degree weather at 70 percent humidity was too much. I thought a layer of 30 plus SPF sun screen might make sense with one shirt. I then found a long sleeve T-shirt rated 30 SPF from Sun Precautions located at 2815 Wetmore Avenue, Everett, WA 98201. Telephone 1-800-8827860.

The cost is steep; \$50. But I think the protection factor will be worth it. Obviously, I will use the shirt while fishing. Perhaps it would make sense for the club to negotiate a deal with the distributor and buy some for sale to the membership I stopped counting after having over 200 basal cell carcinomas removed over sixty years. That figure does not include three malignant melanomas. A word to the wise...

TO: LARRC Members
 FROM: Richard Lapidus
 SUBJECT: Catch & Release Mortality

While the debate about release mortality is sure to continue last weekend's work off Cape Hatteras will clearly add to a better understanding of the effects of catch and release on bluefin tuna. Fishing with Capt. Bob Eakes (owner of the Red Drum Tackle Shop in Buxton, NC) aboard the "Bullfrog" out of Hatteras, biologists Greg Skomal and Brad Chase (both from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts) tagged a bluefin with an acoustic transmitter and then tracked the fish for eight hours. NMFS consultant Sara McLaughlin had the exciting task of tiring out the fish, which was purposefully fought for 30 minutes. After the long fight, the 76 inch fish was brought onto the deck for 2.5 minutes while samples of blood were drawn and the transmitter was placed in the fish.

After the release, the fish was tracked with a directional hydrophone for the following eight hours while physical data were gathered including depth of the fish, water depth, water temperature, location, etc.

After about a half hour, the fish had rejoined the school of tuna. The remainder of the school continued to feed throughout the day. The tagged fish remained with the school for most of the eight hours and ventured from near the bottom (about 250 feet) to within 15 feet of the surface.

There is still a great deal of work to be done on this project by Greg Skomal and Brad Chase as well as on the question of release mortality in general. While the verdict will not be in for some time, this experiment seems to hold good news for those who have worried about whether the catch and release bluefin fishery off Hatteras is killing many fish. This fish was battled for about three times the average fight, brought into the boat for over two minutes, and then returned to what seems like a normal tuna lifestyle.

Great work Greg, Brad, Bob, and Sarah. I appreciate the opportunity to take part in this conservation effort.

Capt. Louis Chemi
 Roffer's Ocean Fishing
 Forecasting Service

TO: Fellow LARRC Members
FROM: Will Ebersman
SUBJECT: Does your sturgeon have a false ID?

For those of you who prefer to eat your sturgeon in the form of caviar instead of on the fin, be advised that what you think you are eating may not be correctly labeled.

Genetic test revealed that Russian black caviar taken from endangered species of sturgeon is slipping into U.S. retail markets under false labels. Two biologists with the American Museum of Natural History said they tested 23 samples of Russian black caviar obtained from gourmet food stores located in New York City. A DNA test similar to those conducted in the O.J. Simpson murder trial uncovered five samples of caviar where the label misstated the species that was the source of the fish roe. This was originally reported in *Nature Magazine*.

"Three of the misrepresentations are alarming in light of the fragile status of the substituted fish," said Rob DeSalle and Vadim J. Birstein of the museum's molecular biology laboratory.

The case of the mislabeled caviar is the second report in which researchers have used the so-called PCR test to spot the sale of food products from endangered animals. Previously, biologists from New Zealand tested whale meat bought on the open market in Japan. In a 1994 report, contested by the Japanese Whaling Association, the biologists claimed that some of the whale meat had come from whales such as the humpback which are protected by international treaty.

In the case of the mislabeled caviar, the researchers said they found one lot labeled as malossol or slightly salted, beluga caviar was roe from the Siberian sturgeon. "The appearance of Siberian sturgeon...caviar is of concern because poaching in Siberia has increased dramatically," the pair stated. "Before 1994 the regulated annual catch of this species was 200-300 tonnes for all Siberian rivers. In 1994 in the Ob River alone, the illegal catch of Siberian sturgeon was about 250-300 tonnes," they explained.

A second lot labeled Caspian Osetra by the Russian supplier actually came from a species known as ship sturgeon, the tests revealed. "This species is already extinct in the Aral Sea and is rapidly declining in the Caspian Sea," noted the biologists. A third lot labeled eastern Beluga was roe from Amur River sturgeon which is on at least one international list of threatened animals.

Until now, there's been no accurate method of determining if a shipment of caviar is from an endangered species of sturgeon. "Traditionally, caviar dealers have relied on crude factors such as egg size and the appearance, smell, texture and colour of the roe to identify the species of a particular species of caviar," the scientists explained. A scientific analysis of the proteins in a sample of caviar can also identify the species but this test requires a large amount of caviar and isn't always accurate, they said.

The PCR test, on the other hand is not only more accurate, but is cheaper. The technique can take the DNA from a single egg and copy it millions of times, providing enough DNA for a genetic analysis. The researchers used a pair of genetic probes from a collection of sturgeon DNA brought to the U.S. by Dr. Birstein who moved to the natural history museum from the University of Moscow. Each probe is designed to locate fragments of DNA that are unique to each species of sturgeon, allowing the researchers to identify which species the egg DNA came from.

Source: Excerpted from the Wall Street Journal on May 17, 1996.

TO: LARRC Members
FROM: Eric Rogger
SUBJECT: Pelagic Fisheries

The pelagics, as you may know, are those species that swim in and out of our territorial waters. Those of you interested in the bigger picture should know that the Atlantic coast fisheries are regulated by a whole "mess" of laws. No such regulations exist on the west coast.

In an effort to address this, the National Coalition for Marine Conservation (NCMC) last fall convened an organizational meeting at Shimano HQ's, which I attended.

The result is a Pacific Symposium to be held November 4-6th at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Among other sponsors, United Anglers has contributed \$5,000. The object is to control, study and allocate, preserve the west coast pelagic fishery so as to sustain it. This involves tunas, shark, swordfish, barracuda, albacore, salmon, etc.

Attendance might be a good way to get away for a couple of days and learn something but also to visit the new "offshore" aquarium.

For information call me: Eric Rogger (310) 476-5936 or NCMC 2 (703) 777-0037

**LARRC MULTI-DAY CHARTER SET TO GO
SEPT. 6TH - 11TH.**

Our annual fishing extravaganza, which has been oversubscribed for some months is set to go on the *Q 105* on September 6th. Players are; Abe Cohen, Joe Cronin, Larry Diamant, Dan Felger, Brad Felger, Norin Grancell, Nona Grancell, Bob Horowitz, Kingsley Jackson, Pete Giannini, Sherwood Kingsley, Jason Iash, Larry Methvin, Eric Rogger, Randy Sharon, John Simon, Norm Schindler, Ben Susman, Marv Smith, Richard Stone, Julian Wolf, Raymond Yu.

I've already received 10 requests for single staterooms, 9 requests for midship staterooms, six requests for the one upper deck stateroom etc. You get the message? An order has been placed with John Klein to build a boat with only midship staterooms!

Any questions on any aspect of the trip please call your indulgent charter master at (310) 476-5936. Do your push ups! — Eric

NO HIDING FROM THE FACTS

A recent report on highly migratory Atlantic game fish called No Place to Hide, from the Center for Marine Conservation (202-429-5609), is loaded with documented facts about these fish and fisheries, including the following:

- More tunas, billfishes and ocean sharks are caught on longlines than on any other gear.
- A single longline may be 40 miles long with as many as 1,800 hooks.
- As a result of overfished populations of highly migratory species, the world's commercial fishing industry must now spend \$92 billion in order to earn \$70 billion.
- If populations of these fish could be returned to healthy, abundant levels the U.S. commercial fishing industry could increase its annual financial generating capacity by \$2.9 billion.
- Bluefin tuna once comprised 80 percent of the total U.S. western Atlantic catch of ocean pelagics, but today account for less than 10 percent of that total catch. That's in line with an 80 percent decline in giant northern bluefin populations in the area since 1975.
- About 90 percent of the current commercial landings of billfish are taken as bycatch in the high-seas longlining fisheries (predominantly Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Brazil and Cuba).
- Recreational landings of billfish are about 4 percent of the commercial total.

Source: *Sportfishing Aug '96*

**Trophy Contenders as of
June 24, 1996**

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB.	OZ.
OCEAN WATERS				
Albacore	12	Chris Striepeke	9	0
Bass, Calico	N/A	Michael Grossman	6	10
Bass, Calico	N/A	Dan Felger	6	3
Bass, Calico	12	Bob Press	5	6
Tuna, Bluefin	16	Michael Grossman	25	0
Tuna, Bluefin	20	Dan Felger	27	0
Tuna, Yellowfin	80	Gerald Steinberg	170	0
Tuna, Yellowfin	130	Mark O'Brien	233	8
Yellowtail	12	Michael Grossman	10	0
Yellowtail	16	Dan Felger	33	14
FRESH WATER				
Bass, Peacock	12	Don Lee	13	8 *
Trout, Rainbow	4	Norin Grancell	2	8 *
MEN'S RELEASED				
Tuna, Bluefin (10)	130	Mark O'Brien	N/A	
LADIES				
Trout, Rainbow	2	Nona Grancell	2	12 *
Tuna, Yellowfin	80	Sally Vickers	139	10 *
Wahoo	30	Sally Vickers	46	8

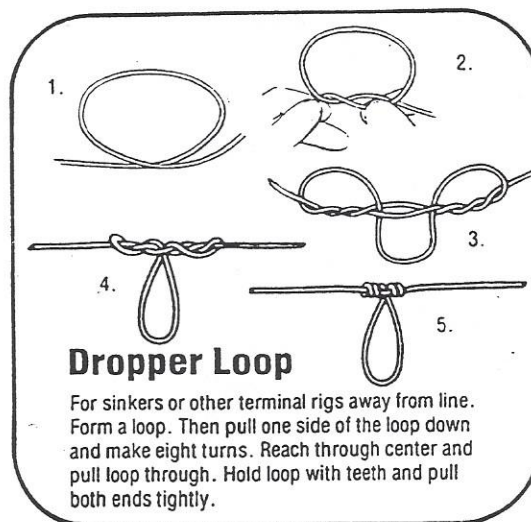
**First Gamefish of the Year
Yellowtail — Michael Grossman**

Weight certificates must be signed by a witness to the catch and witness to the weight, other than the angler.

Weight certificates must be postmarked within 15 days of the catch, unless a written explanation is submitted to the Board of Directors for approval

Send Weight Slips To:

**Dan Felger
5530 Corbin Avenue, Suite 120
Tarzana, California 91356
FAX: 818 708-3657**



DO YOU KNOW THIS KNOT? (COURTESY OF MAXIMA)

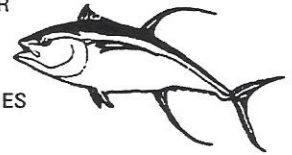
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Whopper of a Wahoo

The world's biggest wahoo seem to congregate around San Salvador in the eastern bahamas each spring, and this year proved no exception, Susan Sellian of Stuart, Florida, whipped this 153.5-pound giant in March, fishing aboard the NUC02 with Capt. Chris Flewellen. That's just 2 pounds short of the all-tackle world record. That 155.5-pounder also came from San Salvador, in April 1990.

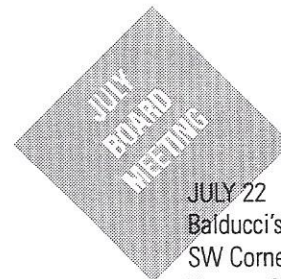
Source: Sport Fishing July-Aug. '96

Meetings

	Dinner Meetings	Board Meetings
Jul	29	22
Aug	26	19
Sep	30	16
Oct	28	21
Nov	25	18
Dec	Dark	16
1997		
Jan	27	20
Feb	Dark	10

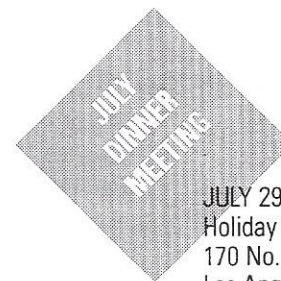
LARRC Other Events

- Jul 9**
LARRC Foundation Mtg.
at Barry Fischers
RSVP (818) 990-6208
-
- Jul 15**
LARRC Annual Kids' Trip
-
- Sept 6-11**
LARRC Club Annual 5-Day Trip
-
- Oct 30**
King of the Calicos
-
- Nov 4-6**
Pacific Pelagics
Symposium @ Monterey



JULY 22
 Balducci's Restaurant
 SW Corner of Sepulveda &
 Ventura Blvd.
 Call ahead: Randy will
 make reservations.

Time: 6:00 pm
 Meeting: 7:00 pm



JULY 29
 Holiday Inn
 170 No. Church Lane
 Los Angeles, CA 90049
 310/476-6411

Cocktails at 6:00 pm
 Dinner at 7:00 pm

**Note: Deckhands still needed
 for the July 15th Kids' Trip — Call:
 Norm (818) 881-9689 or Bryan (818) 702-0190.**

LARRC Charters 1996

LARRC WEDNESDAY CHARTERS ON THE SEA HAWK LXV
SEA LANDING — SANTA BARBARA
1996 — 7/24, 8/7, 8/21, 9/4, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13-14*, 12/4**
***2-Day trip to San Miguel **King of the Calicos**

1. 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.
2. The trips will be planned for local surface calico bass; however, opportunities to fish for exotics, such as white sea bass and yellowtail or salmon, will take precedent. Also, several trips will be for light tackle rockfish and/or halibut at Santa Rosa or San Miguel Island. Other trips may be to Point Conception.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Loads will be limited to 16 adults or 17 people if juniors are participating. The CHARTER MASTER reserves the right to overbook by one.
6. Cost: \$85.00 2:00am departure; \$75.00 5:00am departure 2-day Trip — \$245
 Junior members pay 50% (up to 2 per trip). With the uncertainty of fuel costs there may be a fare adjustment.
7. 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).
8. 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!

Our Next Dinner Will Feature

The July 29th dinner meeting will feature videos from fishing in the '50s — the good old days revisited. See Dan Felger as a young _____ (please fill in the blank). See parabolic rods bent tip to butt. See the mystery albacore actually caught on rod and reel. A step back in time to the so called "glory days" of fishing — to a pre-plastics era when calico bass were considered junk fish. Also, a short video of a great white shark chomping on a whale carcass.

If you have any fishing videos, please contact Dan Fink at 818-340-1860 prior to the meeting.

Chum Line

Published by the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

Eric RoggerEditor

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Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

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