

Chum Line



Published by the
LOS ANGELES ROD & REEL CLUB

• OCTOBER 1996 •

A Quick Fix For Backlashes

As any baitcaster knows, a backlash means wasted fishing time — not to mention frustration — while you “pick it out.”

Backlashes occur when the reel spool rotates faster than line can feed out, and the line forms into loops that pile up, snarl, and burrow into the spooled line. Small backlashes are relatively easy to fix; bad ones (“birds’ nests”) aren’t.

Gary Giudice of Oklahoma learned a simple fix for backlashes while fishing the BASS-MASTER Tournament Trail.

“Most fishermen try to immediately pull out the loops,” says Giudice. “What they’re doing is pulling the loops backward, and that causes the backlash to dig deeper into the spooled line.”

Instead, Giudice applies heavy pressure with his thumb on the reel spool, engages the reel, and turns the handle three complete rotations. The thumb pressure, he says, forces the loops to line up in a direction that allows them to be pulled off more easily.

Continued on page 3
SEE QUICK FIX



Logs and Lox

The following occurred on September 25th and 26th.

Abe Zide started a tradition several years ago. Toward the end of September, some deli guys, shoe guys, and few people of other denominations head out to the islands for two days of fishing and feasting on the *Seahawk LXV*.

Last year the timing was just right, and we got into the albacore. This year we made squid and tried for the white seabass, but only one was caught, by Max Wunderman. However, in calm seas we did the shallow-water rockfish thing, mainly around San Miguel Island.

Nice varieties of fish were brought up including lings, reds, chucks, sheep, and the ever-abundant salmon grouper. The amazing Tim Vowels hooked up with a very sizable shark, stuck with it and brought it up to the side of the boat before Captain Merit purposely broke it off.

On the second day, Merit spotted a whole bunch of birds working the water. He threw in a jig and instantly hooked up a log-size barracuda. Many of the shoe guys had never caught one before, so we stopped and let them bring in some. In about a half hour, over 70 were landed. It was as wide open a barracuda bite as I’ve ever seen.

The food was amazing, thanks to Rita and Joel Zide. Besides lox and bagels, cream cheese and hot-house tomatoes, we dined on filet mignon, salads, homemade cookies and muffins (which for some unknown reason retained their tops).

—Richard Lapidus

The deadline
for copy for the
Chum Line is the
25th!

Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!



From the President

At the dinner meeting on November 25th, the Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club will honor one of our own — one of our own who has been involved with our club since our inception, forty-seven years ago. On that night, we will be honoring DAN FELGER.

Dan will be presented with the “Mr. L.A. Rod and Reel Club” award. This is the first time that this honor has ever been bestowed to one of our members. The board has decided that no one can ever match what Dan has given to our club, and for that reason, the board has voted to make it the last time that this award will ever be given.

Dan’s passion and concern for our club is unmatched. It is impossible to state all of the work that Dan has done for our club, but let me try to mention a few: he is the only two-time President of our club, he has held every office, he has been the chairman of every committee of our club, and he has been deeply involved (and continues to be deeply involved) with every aspect of our club.

On behalf of the Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club, we thank you Dan for all that you have given to our great club.

The LARRC was going to give Dan a perpetual interest in the stern corner of all club charters; but we decided against it, because we wanted to get Dan something that he does not already have.

The dinner meeting will be held at the Sportsman’s Lodge.

Please help us honor Dan by your attendance on the 25th. Spouses and guests are welcome and are encouraged to attend this wonderful event.

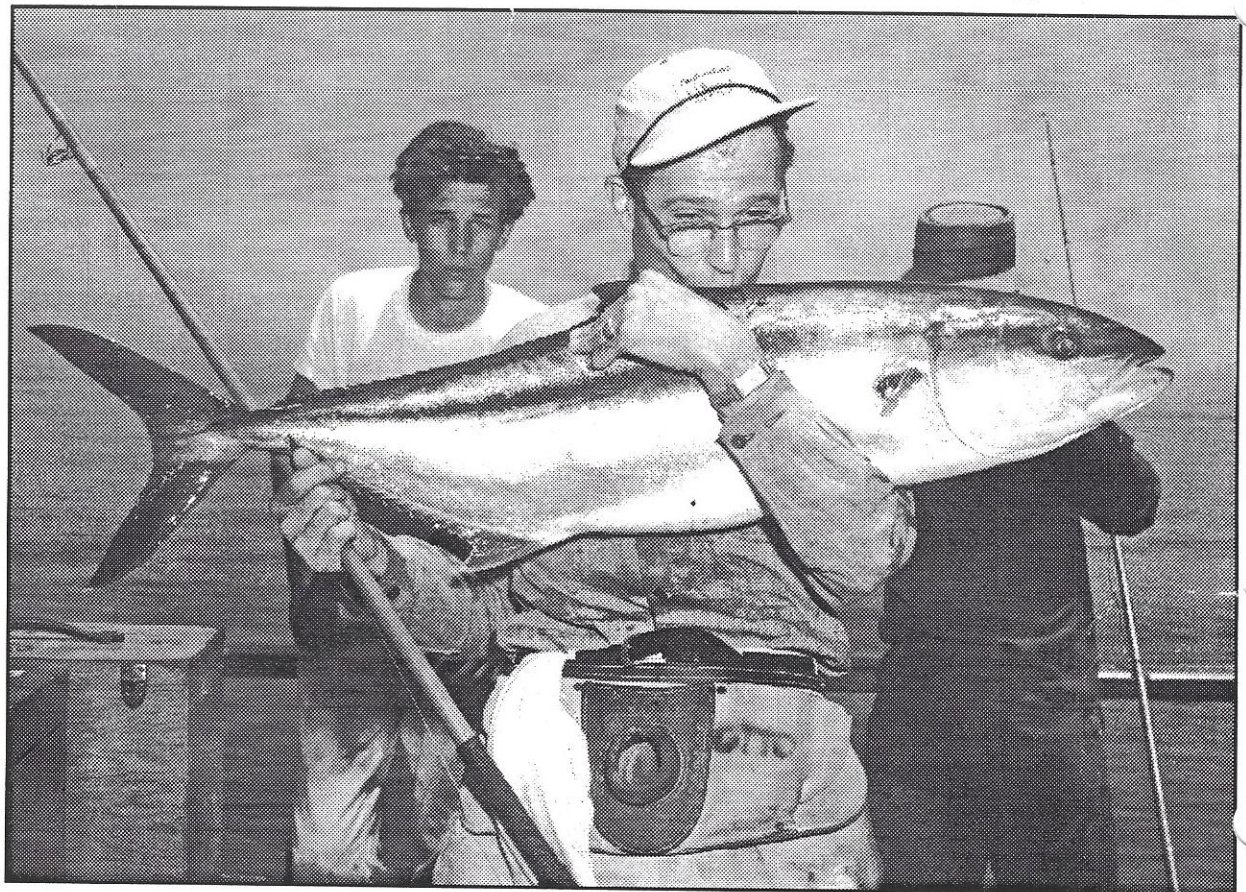
— *Randy Sharon, President*

DID YOU KNOW?

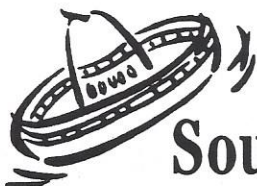
Number of U.S. women fishing in 1991
— 9.9 million.

Number of days fished — 97.7 million.

Amount women spend on trips and equipment — \$3 billion.



**It'S obvious
that this
38 lb. baby
wouldn't
kiss Otto
on the lips!**



South of the Border

The following occurred on October 1st and 2nd

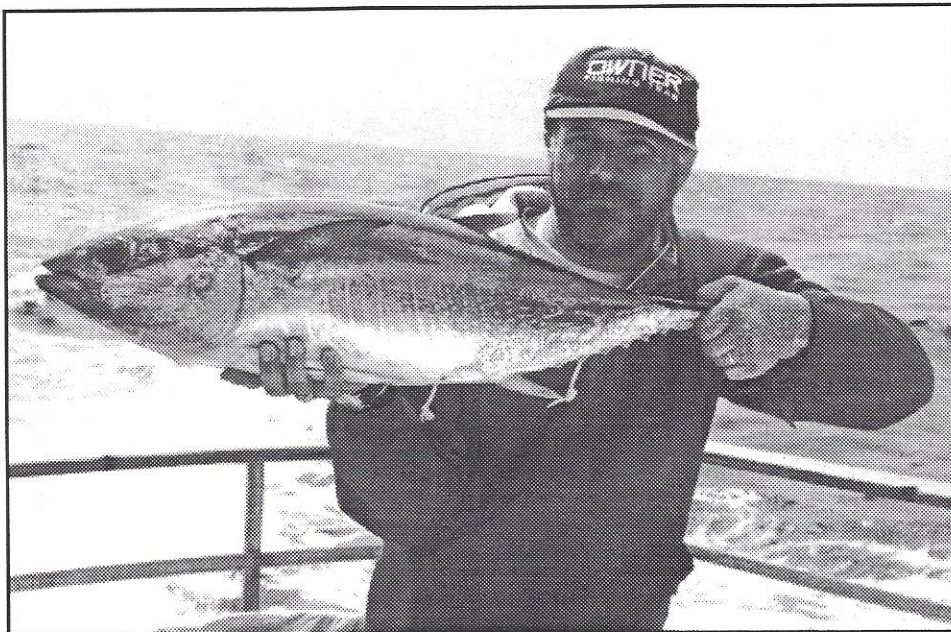
There were 12 anglers on Arnie Cohen's 2-day charter aboard the *Charger*, which was down in San Diego for the summer. My brother, Mike Lapidus and I would be fishing for tuna for the first time. The newspapers were full of reports of how great the fishing was, so we borrowed all kinds of heavy equipment with up to 80 lb. line, hoping that even this would be strong enough. But reality smacked us in the face when the majority of the boats, even the 2-day boats, were coming in close to empty.

Our first stop was a jig stop about 70-80 miles south. Several tuna were landed, but Captain Rick Craddick wanted to move down to the 90-mile zone, where he had gotten some good reports. It was there that I learned some of the ins-and-outs of tuna fishing, and landed 2 or 3 small ones and one in the mid-20s. I landed the larger one on the iron, and that was fun.

I have to say that the Captain Rick did a great job in finding fish. His deck hands were both competent and accommodating. If they had not been, I would have surely lost more than the few fish I ended up farming.

The best time was had when we had turned for home. Rick found a kelp patty that was full. There was a lot of excitement, as newbies like my brother and I were yelling and screaming and running and sliding, and the pros like Dan Felger, Arnie Cohen and Mike Winn (who so able deckhands for us on the *Seahawk* and who recently got his captain's license, but on this trip was enjoying himself as a passenger), were quietly and efficiently landing one tuna after another.

My brother won the jackpot on the second day with a tuna in the mid-20s, which he caught on 15-lb. line. All that equipment we borrowed was neither



needed nor used.

In all, the 12 of us landed 103 yellowfin, 12 dorado and 1 yellowtail.

Aside from a very rough ride home, it was a great trip. Thanks Arnie!

—Richard Lapidus

QUICK FIX

Continued from page 1

"After the three turns of the handle, I disengage the spool and pull on the line gently until all of the snarl is removed," he describes. "Then it's just a matter of rewinding the line until all of the slack is out. This method works 90% of the time.

"It's amazing how many little things I've learned from the pros," adds Giudice, who fishes as a pro on the invitational tournament circuit. "But because I'm a klutz, this is one of the most valuable tricks I've picked up."

—Louis Stout, Fishing Tackle Retailer

FOUNDATION AUCTION A SUCCESS

Foundation Chairman Barry Fischer is pleased to announce that the auction held at our October meeting was a huge success with over \$4500 dollars collected from the sale of fishing related merchandise and fishing trips donated by club members and friends.

The Foundation Board wishes to thank all who donated. They will be receiving acknowledgements by mail in the near future. We also want to recognize those who participated in the auction for going that extra mile for the foundation.

All funds received by the foundation are used for the annual Kids' Trip, the annual Bill Alpert Big Brother Trip, and other youth and fishing related projects.

A Rebuttal To A Rebuttal?

This is in response to the letter that Russ Izor had written in your October issue. It was his fiery rebuttal to remarks that Dan had made in the recent past about Russ, (in jest, I'm sure!)

Russ, in your letter, you wrote, "What prompts this ongoing engagement from yesteryear? Why this deep down resentment," etc. Hey, that's exactly what I would like to ask you! I resent your allegation that "Gentleman George would look the other way at the gross violation of Fish and Game limits," etc. That's ridiculous! Could I have survived all of those 30-plus years in business had I ignored the rules? Would I really jeopardize losing my license? I can't ever remember getting a ticket from a F&G warden — except one time way back when filleting of fish out at sea was illegal. I felt that it made sense cleaning the fish while on the way back to port, so I solicited the service of Earl Warren, who, with his expert lawyer friend, Norin Grancell, presented my case in court. By golly, we won, and filleting of fish at sea became legal thereafter. It was one of the "Solutions to Pollution" since it would help the docks and harbors from attracting flies and fish junk dirtying the waters. It was one of my contributions toward the betterment of fishing regulations.

Russ, there's no doubt in anyone's mind that you've been a champion for the cause of sportfishing and the environment. You did it your way, and I did it my way. "What prompts this ongoing engagement from yesteryear?" I say to you, fight your battles with Dan or anyone else, but damnit, leave me out of your squabbles, okay?

Your ex-skipper friend,

— **George Mio**

T I D E C H A N G E
November 25th Dinner Meeting
Sportsmen's Lodge Hotel
 (not the restaurant)
12825 Ventura Boulevard
 (corner Coldwater Canyon & Ventura Boulevard)
Studio City
(818) 769-4700

NOVEMBER MEETING HONORING
DAN FELGER
"Mr. Los Angeles Rod & Reel"

Wives, family & friends welcome
Make your reservations early
Cocktails at 6:00 pm. • Dinner at 7:00 pm.

Please note: Hotel entrance is located on the east end of the parking lot. Parking is located east of the hotel. The meeting room is on the second floor. The Vista Room. There is an elevator at north end of hotel — handicapped parking located here also.

Trophy Contenders as of July 22, 1996

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB.	OZ.
OCEAN WATERS				
Albacore	12	Chris Striepeke	9	0
Albacore	30	Peter Giannini	36	0
Bass, Calico	N/A	Michael Grossman	6	10
Bass, Calico	N/A	Dan Felger	6	3
Dorado	6	Royal MacNair	5	0 *
Dorado	20	Bill Vogel	55	6
Halibut	12	Joel Zide	14	0
Halibut	16	Joel Zide	23	0 *
Sailfish	20	Joel Steinman	90	0
Salmon, King	20	Gerald Steinberg	22	2
Tuna, Big Eye	50	Barry Taper	87	8
Tuna, Bluefin	16	Michael Grossman	25	0
Tuna, Bluefin	20	Dan Felger	27	0
Tuna, Yellowfin	10	Michael Lapidus	24	8
Tuna, Yellowfin	30	Barry Taper	68	8
Tuna, Yellowfin	30	Bob Beaver	52	9
Tuna, Yellowfin	50	Gerald Steinberg	108	4
Tuna, Yellowfin	50	Bob Beaver	67	9
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
Yellowtail	30	Mark O'Brien	35	2
Yellowtail	50	Randy Sharon	35	0
White Sea Bass	16	Joseph Stern	28	0

FRESH WATER				
Bass, Peacock	12	Don Lee	13	8 *
Perch, Nile	50	Barry Fischer	46	3 *
Pike, Northern	8	Don Lee	11	6 *
Pike, Northern	12	Don Lee	14	8 *
Sheefish	8	Bernard Mayers	30	0 *
Trout, Lake	12	Bernard Mayers	25	8 *
Trout, Rainbow	4	Norin Grancell	2	8 *

FLY ROD				
Pike, Northern	8	Don Lee	8	7 *

MEN'S RELEASED				
Dorado	6	Joel Steinman		
Marlin, Blue	50	Seymour Rimland		
Marlin	50	Bryan Bach		
Tuna, Bluefin (10)	130	Mark O'Brien		

LADIES				
Salmon, King	20	Sally Vickers	22	6
Trout, Rainbow	2	Nona Grancell	2	12 *
Tuna, Yellowfin	30	Sally Vickers	70	4
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

The Good Old Days, But Were They?

When the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club set up shop in 1950 fishing was fantastic, but for club members who participated in tournaments or wanted trophies for their catches it was miserable. The Club's fishing rules were patterned after the archaic mandates of the establishment (International Game Fish Association). Tackle was precisely defined. Rod tips could not exceed 5 feet in length (6 feet including the butt), and line was restricted to natural materials, such as linen (no synthetics). Fishing under these circumstances certainly made the playing field level for the fish, but what a pain in the ass for the angler.

My fishing career began on the Santa Monica pier in the mid-to-late '30s fishing for herring, tomcod, and mackerel using a bamboo pole without a reel. After WW2 I was a "pinhead" deckhand on the newly launched *COBIDO* operating from the Malibu pier, and in 1948 and '49 I decked on the *Spitfire* from Pierpoint Landing in Long Beach. Then my tackle consisted of one long calcutta "pole" and a Penn #155 with 36 lb. braided nylon. Who needed a tackle box? I just stuffed a few sinkers, hooks, and feathers in my pockets and was ready to fish. So, now I join the newly formed LARRC and in order to be one of the "boys" I go out and purchase a regulation 3/6 outfit in order to compete for trophies and enter tournaments. For the benefit of the majority of our members, most of which weren't even born in 1950, 3/6 tackle means a rod not exceeding 6 feet (including butt) constructed with wood and 6 thread linen line. Please note: breaking test is equivalent to 3 pounds of thread.

The early postwar reels were basically the same as prewar; heavy and clumsy. The prominent makers were Cox, Ocean City, and Penn. The drags were a joke and many a thumb was burned trying to stop a big one. Because linen line has to stretch any sudden jerking or irregular drag



meant a lost fish. Linen line needed special care. In addition to the no-stretch it would mildew and rot if not dried soon after each use, and further, since the threads were twisted and not braided, it had a nasty habit of unraveling. After each trip, no matter how tired I would wind the line onto a line winder, and then when dry would reverse it. The rods also required special care. Regulation rods were made from split bamboo. They had a tendency to crack, peel, split, and take a permanent set. God help you if you leaned your rod against the wall. In order to counteract the set, every year or so the rod required rewinding with the guides positioned on the opposite side. Now your rod had an upward curve, but in time this straightened out and then the downward set appeared. Whoops! Time to rewrap. This back and forth procedure continued until the fibers just plain wore out. Then you bought a new rod for the outrageous price of \$25.

My first time out was a bloody disaster. How do you cast a short, non-flexible rod with line that reminds you of Aunt Sophie's knitting yarn? Back lashes were the order of the day, and what fun undoing them. Each time you tried to pick one out you would end up with 39 separate strands. A good cast was 14 feet. Fortunately, in the "good old days" you could drop straight down and catch yellowtail, white seabass, barracuda, and of course, junk fish like calico bass. Oh yes! Be very careful when setting a hook. Linen line was not too forgiving. If one was fortunate to set a hook without breaking the line the next adventure was landing the fish. Never! Never, did you want to get into a dangle.

Around 1952 or '53 the IGFA became a card carrying member of the 20th century and nylon line and longer rods were permitted. Fishing became fun again.

— Dan Felger

Local Fall Yellowtail

The fall local yellowtail bite is here. It started on the Horseshoe kelp and is going who-knows-where next? Initially most of the fish are being caught on live mackerel. It will probably stay this way with live squid also being effective. Your success will depend on several factors. The first being tackle selection. A 7' to 8' moderately stiff rod with enough backbone to pull the hook out of the bait and into the fish. Line test ranging from 25-40# is ideal considering 15-30 lb. yellows. Reel selection will vary with the line selection. I recently had the opportunity to use the new Penn 535 and it is an excellent reel with 25-30# test. Hook size 2/0 to 5/0 depending on bait and line size.

The second factor is getting the hook out of the mackerel and into the fish. Yellowtail normally bite best in current. In most cases your bait will be swimming back in the chum line creating some slack. When you get a pick up and the line is definitely moving out faster, put your reel into gear, wait for your rod to bend and then set the hook firmly. If you don't get all of the slack out of the line you will be swinging at air.

The third factor is fighting the yellowtail. Yellows are usually caught around structure; rocks, kelp, etc. Set your drag for the maximum of your line test. Always keep your fish in front of you and use short strokes never lifting your rod above parallel to the water. If

you give the yellow a chance, he will cut you off for sure.

blowing in the wind.

Good Luck.

— Bill Alpert

There are other factors leading to an increased ratio of bites to fish on the boat. However, if you follow the above mentioned recommendations, your fish sack will not be

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Looking For a Few Good...?

Board of Directors to Elect Two Members to Board of Trustees of Foundation



The Board of Directors, at the December board meeting, will appoint two members of the Club as Trustees of the Foundation to succeed outgoing Trustees, Norm Weinstock and Earl Warren.

The Trustees of the Foundation meet quarterly for lunch at the home of one of the Trustees to discuss and act upon the following matters:

1. Review, analysis and action on requests for grants from non profit sportfishing organizations and charitable foundations, including underprivileged, disabled and terminally ill children, for the benefit of salt water fishing activities in Southern California;
2. Funding for the annual disadvantaged Kids' Fishing Trip, which is the single most important event sponsored and funded by the Foundation and run by the Club each year;
3. Acting on requests of sportfishing groups for use of our fishing tackle to take other youth oriented groups fishing;
4. Collection of new and used fishing equipment for sale at the annual Foundation Auction usually held in October or November of each year;
5. Solicitation of donations, including long range fishing trips, other fishing trips and cash contributions to the Foundation to fund its annual activities; and
6. Organizing and sponsoring the annual "Big Brothers Trip" which commenced in 1996 under the joint leadership of Bill Alpert and Dan Felger, and which will become an annual event with support from Club members as deckhands.

There are seven Trustees, all of whom shall be members in good standing of the Club. Depending on the calendar year, either two or three Trustees are appointed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors to serve a consecutive three year term.

Trustees receive no compensation for their services and are expressly prohibited from carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation in the name of the Foundation.

Historically, a suitable Trustee is a person meeting the following criteria:

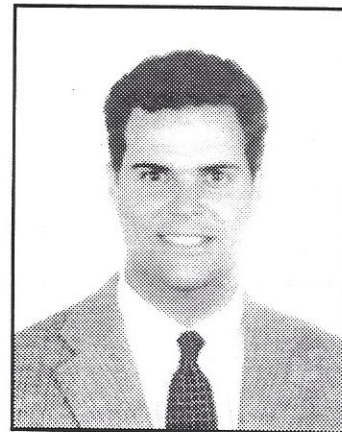
1. Longstanding and active membership in the Club;
2. Previous experience as a member of the board or officer;
3. Exceptional organizational and management skills;
4. Background that enables proper assessment of grant applications submitted to the Foundation;
5. Has sufficient time and energy to fulfill the responsibilities of a Trustee; and
6. Understands the history and role of both the Club and the Foundation.

If any Club member is interested in being considered by the Board of Directors for appointment to the Foundation you are encouraged to contact President, Randy Sharon, before the Board of Directors meeting to be held on December 16, 1996.

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DICK "SCOOTER" BASS, L.A. Rams Great
& President of the National Football League Alumni Association

WE NEED PHOTOS!

Dig up some old ones... Shoot new ones! We'll start a photo contest.

Meetings

	Dinner Meetings	Board Meetings
Nov	25	18
Dec	Dark	16
1997		
Jan	27	20
Feb	Dark	10

NOV 18 BOARD MEETING

Bolducci's Restaurant
SouthWest corner of Sepulveda and Ventura Blvd.

If not a board member, please call ahead as a courtesy to the host.

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

BOB SANDS FISHING TACKLE

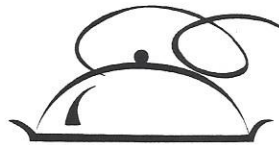
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The Dinner Hot Line number is:
818 / 710-7701
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You will not have a choice of entree if you fail to make a reservation on the "Hot Line"

NOV 25 DINNER MEETING

Sportsman's Lodge
12825 Ventura Blvd.
Studio City
(818) 769-4700

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

LARRC Charters 1996

**LARRC WEDNESDAY CHARTERS ON THE SEA HAWK LXV
SEA LANDING — SANTA BARBARA
1996 —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.



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For complete information, contact

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FAX (619) 461-9303

Brochure — Courtesy to Brokers

Calendar

Chum Line

Published by the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club
Al Spievak Editor

1996 OFFICERS

PresidentRandy Sharon
Vice PresidentHal Clark
SecretaryLarry Clark
TreasurerTony Mindlin
HistorianDan Felger

1996 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hal Clark	Richard Lapidus
Larry Clark	Garo Minassian
Dan Fink	Randy Sharon
Mike Grossman	Steve Simon
Miro Hussenjian	Joel Zide
	Pam Warren

1996 FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Bill Alpert	Joe Mahfet
Barry Fischer	Joel Steinman
Dan Felger	Earl Warren
	Norm Weinstock

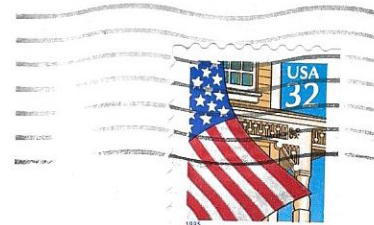
1996 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Awards Banquet (1996)	.Hal Clark
By-laws and Legal	.Earl Warren
Charters, Multi-day	.Eric Rogger
Charters, Wednesday	.Arnie Cohen
Chum Line Editor	.Al Spievak
Chum Line Associate Editor	.Garo Minassian
Chum Line Computer Graphics	.Marcia Matson
Elections	.Shelly Balzac
Environmental Affairs	.Eric Rogger & .Richard Lapidus
Financial Auditor	.Sherwood Kingsley
Goodwill and Cheer	.Bill Vogel
Kids' Fishing Trip	.Hal Clark
King of the Calicos	.Earl Warren & Joel Zide
Meetings	.Steve Simon
Membership	.Miro Hussenjian
Merchandise	.Pam Warren
Programs	.Dan Fink
Raffles	.Michael Grossman
Director at Large	.Dan Fink
Tournament s	.Bill Alpert
Trophies	.Hal Clark
Year Book	.Tony Mindlin & Dan Felger

Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

c/o Al Spievak
2905 Mandeville Canyon Road
Los Angeles, CA 90049

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS

HENRY LEVY MD
4146 MANTOVA DRIVE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90008