

Chum Line



Good Sportsmanship is Worth More Than all the Fish in the Ocean JUNE 2024



TWILIGHT TRIP DINNER MEETING

(No regular dinner meeting in June)

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024

ABOARD BETTY-O, DOCK 52, MARINA DEL REY

TIME: TBD (5 PM ISH TO ?)

COST: UNBELIEVABLY LOW \$40

(Includes crew tip- It does not include food and fish cleaning)

LIMITED TO 22 ANGLERS (10 SPOTS AVAILABLE)

Notify and send checks payable to LARRC to:

John Ballotti

1751 B Andreo Ave

Torrance, CA 90501

johnballotti1@gmail.com

310-995-3592

This trip will sell out fast. Do not get left on the dock.



What's On My Mind

By John Ballotti

Participation

This month, we will be discussing the various membership categories and associated dues as outlined in the LARRC Bylaws:

- a. **Active Member** – All members of the same household living at the same address who are 18 years or older. (Current dues, \$120. The first calendar year is free. Only Active Members may participate in elections or other matters before the membership. There are 105 Active Members)
- b. **Junior Members**—Anglers under the age of 18. A junior member does not need to reside in the same household as an active member, but each junior member must have an active member sponsor. (Note: This does not say a junior member must be a family member. There are 20 Junior Members)
- c. **Inactive Member** - Any current member in good standing who, because of illness or adverse financial circumstances, is unable to participate actively in the affairs of the Club, provided such angler makes a written or verbal request to the Board of Directors to be placed in the class of Inactive Membership. (An Inactive Member does not pay dues. There are 7 Inactive Members).
- d. **Honorary Members** – This membership classification intends to honor those non-members who, over a continued period of time, have given their support to the Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club and/or made significant contributions to the sportfishing community. (The Board of Directors elects the Honorary Members who pay no dues. There are 3 Honorary Members).
- e. **Distinguished Member** – Qualifications for Distinguished Member status are 20 years of active membership and service at one time as an Officer and/or Director Club and/or trustee of the Foundation. (A Distinguished Member pays dues at the Active Member rate. There are 15 Distinguish Members).
- f. **Non-Resident Member**—This membership classification shall be available to anglers who reside outside the State of California. A Non-Resident Member shall have all the privileges of the Club except the right to vote or hold office. (Dues are 50% of the Active Member rate. There are 6 Non-Resident Members)



- g. **Life Member**—The Board of Directors may each year, by a 66 2/3% majority, elect a Distinguishing Member who has achieved 30 years of continuous membership to the status of Life Member. This is the most prestigious honor a member may achieve. A Life Member will not be required to pay dues. A Life Member is a de facto Active Member. (There are currently 9 Life Members).

Membership has been growing over the past two years, which is a good trend. However, Junior Members have stayed the same. With all the new members, there must be eligible Junior Members who are not being counted. Remember, a Junior Member does not need to live in your household or be a family member. And remember the weight slips for Junior Members. An award is given each year at our Annual Banquet and Fundraiser recognizing the Junior Member of the Year. In 2023, the award was not given because no Junior Member weight slips were received. Let's correct that for 2024.

Finally, I would like to welcome all our new members and urge them to get involved. This is your Club. Make it the best it can be.

Advertise Your Business or Service in the Chum Line

The monthly prices are as follows:

- 1/8 page: \$20
- 1/4 page: \$40
- 1/2 page: \$80
- Full page: \$160

The page format is 8.5 x 11 with 3/4" margins all around

One month FREE with 6 months of paid advertising!

Contact John Ballotti

johnballotti1@gmail.com

CONSERVATION MATTERS

By Theresa Labriola ~ June 2024

Dungeness crab fisherman expand testing of pop-up traps amid CA's continuous early season closures

Dungeness crab fishing is an increasingly tight business. Fishermen have watched the crabbing season shrink, with early closures meant to protect migrating whales from becoming entangled in trap lines. But this season, some fishermen are pushing traps into the sea, weeks after last month's official closing.

It's part of an experimental program that's now expanded to more than two dozen boats. All using special pop-up trap systems, designed to avoid entanglements. While it's lying on the ocean floor, the boat is able to locate the individual trap, and then trigger the release using a remote device. The buoy shoots to the surface, carrying the line with it. The crew retrieves the line and pulls up the trap, limiting the time a whale could come in contact with it.

<https://abc7news.com/post/california-dungeness-crab-fisherman-expand-testing-popup-traps/14853791>

Anglers need to demand action on climate change, says new report

The American Fly Fishing Trade Association is challenging anglers with an ultimatum: get involved in climate politics now in order to save fishing for generations to come. In a new report titled, "For Tomorrow's Fish," AFFTA makes plain-language ties between the quality of recreational fishing and a changing climate that's upping the intensity of storms, raising ocean temperatures and lowering oxygen levels in waters from coast to coast.

"Our call for action challenges anglers to fiercely support members of the fishing industry and advocacy networks who are demanding progress toward healthy and abundant marine fisheries in the face of climate change," wrote Lucas Bisset, AFFTA's executive director, and Whitney Tilt, the executive director of AFFTA's Fisheries Fund, in the report's introduction. "Just as we once rallied to protect our fishing grounds from pollution, overfishing and habitat destruction, we must now push for a united front of anglers, industry representatives and other committed advocates."

<https://www.hatchmag.com/articles/anglers-need-demand-action-climate-change-says-new-report/7715914>

Fish are shrinking around the world. Here's why scientists are worried

There's something fishy going on in the water. Across Earth's oceans, fish are shrinking — and no one can agree why. It's happening with salmon near the Arctic Circle and skate in the Atlantic. Nearly three-fourths of marine fish populations sampled worldwide have seen their average body

size dwindle between 1960 and 2020, according to a recent analysis.

Overfishing and human-caused climate change are decreasing the size of adult fish, threatening the food supply of more than 3 billion people who rely on seafood as a significant source of protein. As fish get smaller, there is less meat to cook per catch. So scientists are working to piece together why exactly fish respond to rising ocean temperatures by getting smaller.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2024/05/04/fish-shrinking-warmer-temperatures-climate-change>

Building Boom

Congress Funds Regional Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Projects

By Theresa Labriola

Reprinted from Wild Oceans *Horizon*

The use of ecosystem based fisheries management (EBFM) is widely accepted as the strongest framework for achieving sustainability in fisheries, both in terms of ecological and human well being. More than a decade ago, the regional fishery management councils began developing Fishery Ecosystem Plans (FEPs) to help incorporate ecosystem science into management decisions. The councils made steady progress pursuant to the FEPs by protecting unmanaged forage fish and developing ecosystem risk tables. Now, we are on the verge of an EBFM building boom, with NOAA Fisheries investing nearly \$200 million in the scientific building blocks and the Council's receiving \$20 million more to realize the architectural plans.

On the science side, the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act provided NOAA Fisheries with the opportunity to focus time and energy on moving EBFM from concept to commonplace. In response, NOAA Fisheries decided to strengthen the agency's ecosystem science and survey expertise. The investment will: help scientists build a dynamic system that will incorporate climate and ecosystem environmental data, provide real-time advice and long-range projections, and inform and support management decisions for affected communities.

On the management side, the regional councils will receive funds to:

implement fishery management measures necessary to advance climate ready fisheries by improving climate resiliency and responsiveness to climate impacts, and develop and advance climate-related fisheries management planning and implementation efforts in support of underserved communities.

Conservation Matters continued

The regional fishery management councils submitted a suite of projects to NOAA Fisheries for funding. Many of the proposals echo Wild Oceans priorities over the past decades.

Specifically, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council proposal includes development of a forecast to reduce bycatch of river herring in the mid-water trawl fishery. This project will produce maps of areas of high river herring bycatch risk weekly during the midwater trawl fishery based on sea-surface temperatures, and work with industry to achieve voluntary avoidance of these areas. Linking river herring habitat to ecosystem indicators can provide managers with way to protect river herring hotspots in a dynamic ocean. While this information is vital towards our collaborative work to restore river herring populations by reducing their at-sea catch, the voluntary nature could render it ineffective.

Part of the Pacific Council proposal also focussed on mitigating bycatch. Their project acknowledges that avoiding bycatch will likely become more challenging as climate change results in more extensive shifts in distribution and occurrence of marine species. As a result, more traditional management interventions such as static time area closures may become less effective. Therefore, they are seeking to develop climate-ready fishing methods that mitigate bycatch of non-target, associated species in a changing ecosystem.

Wild Oceans has been working with the Council for many years to build a framework to explore alternative, climate resilient methods for targeting highly migratory species along the U.S. West Coast. In June, we will par-

ticipate in a workshop to brainstorm how to use exempted fishing permits to build sustainable fisheries and how to incorporate new technologies such as dynamic ocean management into bycatch mitigation. The climate science work funded at the national level will prove crucial towards meeting this goal.

NOAA Fisheries has an unprecedented opportunity to mainstream ecosystem information to build a better fishery management framework that can conserve ocean resources and coastal communities into the future. Wild Oceans will continue to provide the critical thinking and stakeholder engagement to ensure NOAA Fisheries seizes this opportunity.

The Foundation Acknowledges this
Tribute Received to Honor

In Honor of Jerry Vowels

Thank you for your support and help for the

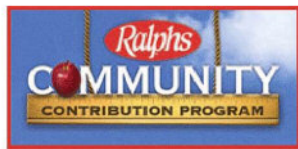
Lou Berke Fishing Derby

Steve Simon

In Loving Memory of my brother Richard Reizner
Tammy Reizner Steinman & Joel Steinman

In Memory of Richard Reizner
Janet & Howard Siegel

EARN MONEY for LARRC Foundation By Shopping at Ralphs!



Here's How:

Step #1: Enroll in the Ralphs Reward Program if you are not currently enrolled.

Step #2: Print out this page and take it with you the next time you shop at Ralphs.

Step #3: At check-out, have the LARRC barcode swiped by the cashier together with your Ralphs Rewards Card/phone number.

Notice: The Ralphs LARRC Barcode needs to be swiped only once to link your Rewards Card to LARRC. Future shopping trips will help raise money for LARRC when you use your Ralphs Reward Card at check-out.

Lou Berke Trout Derby for Special Needs Students

By Steve Simon

For over 20 plus years LARRC Club/Foundation has been partnered with the Lou Berke Family Trust and created the yearly event we now call the Lou Berke Trout Derby for Special Needs Students. In 2024 the attendance was 100 students from Lassen Elementary and 23 additional students from Maclay Academy of Social Justice. With additional assistance, we had over 100 volunteers making this a memorable fishing day - all the students had a great time. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife planted 1,000 pounds of catfish just for this event. The LAPD divers skillfully deployed the net to keep the catfish within reach for all the kids to catch.

We welcome this opportunity to thank you to all our sponsors for their generosity!



- Michael Burke & Family
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Western Bagel Corporate Office
- Yum Yum Donuts (Valley Village, CA)
- Maritime Operations Team - Metropolitan Division
- Los Angeles Police Department
- Hansen Dam Aquatic Center
- Calabasas Custom Catering

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped prep, cook, clean, teach and fish! It is a day the kids will always remember.

Thank you to California Senator Caroline Menjivar of the Twentieth Senate District for your acknowledgement of our event and the Senate certificate of recognition.



Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!



King of the Club

By Scott Cohen

The 2024 Bill Alpert King of the Club tournament was held on June 4th this year on the Amigo. 7 teams, made up of 14 anglers, departed from 22nd street landing on Monday night, June 3rd.

After loading up with 3 tanks of conditioned sardines, we headed towards San Clemente Island with hopes of grabbing some live squid before sunrise.

The hunt was for Barracuda, Halibut, White Seabass, Yellowtail and of course Calico Bass. Calico bass were rewarded with point bonus of 5 points per pound.

After a more than 5-hour ride to San Clemente, we dropped anchor at 3:30am. We grabbed our squid rigs, hung a light, and began to wait for the coveted cephalopod to appear. After only a few minutes, we started to see positive signs of life. While big schools of squid never did rise to the surface, we were able to jig up a few hundred little inkers.

As the sun rose on the back side of the Island, the tournament officially began at 5:30am, and the 7 teams began their quests to be King.

The seas were flat calm, and the Captain was reporting good signs of fish below us. We were in the right spot, and we had the right bait, now we just needed the fish to cooperate.

Over the next hour, we managed to hook a couple of mystery fish that never made it to the boat, but nothing to write home about yet.

Then it happened. While fishing a dropper loop with a live squid, Asher Cohen (17), son of member Scott Cohen, was hooked up. Equipped with a Shimano Tranx 500, and 30 pound test, the line was screaming out at a frantic pace.

Sometimes you just know when you have hooked the "right fish". The crew and everyone aboard were in agreement that, "this was the right fish".

After a tough 10-minute battle, the gaff was set, and the giant, 41-pound yellowtail was lifted over the rail and on to the deck.

Everyone knew this was a special fish. Asher wasn't aware how rare a yellowtail of this size is for Southern California. Fishermen usually travel hundreds of miles on multi-day trips to catch this grade of yellowtail. It was a special catch indeed.

With no other bites happening, the Captain continued to spend most of the morning hours in search of better conditions and signs of life. Ultimately, the decision was made to move towards the front of the island and focus on Calico bass.

We made multiple stops in coves, on kelp beds and along sandy beaches. There was no real sign of any current movement anywhere. Regardless of the smorgasbord of Sardines, Live Squid, Hookup Baits, Swim Baits and anything else we could toss out there, the fish just weren't in the mood to bite.

There were some nice quality whitefish coming over the rail, but they were not a target species for this tournament. We just couldn't get the target species to cooperate.

The crew was kind enough to stay out for an extra 90 minutes past their normal time to return home. In spite of the extra time, it was just a tough day of fishing.

We tied up around 8pm in San Pedro and the final point tally was calculated:

With the help of his 41 pound yellowtail, along with a Calico bass, the father and son duo of Scott and Asher Cohen were crowned "Kings of the Club" for 2024.

This is a really fun annual tradition, and it is highly encouraged that members participate.

Health and Happenings

Linda Simon is our contact for
"Health and Happenings"

Please contact Linda either by phone
(818-980-7470) or email

(simonmurphy08@sbcglobal.net)

for any information about our club

members/ family - i.e., happy or sad news; health issues; graduation or congratulations, etc.

Members. . .



During this year's King of the Club Tournament, Jr Member Asher Cohen, Son of Member Scott Cohen, caught this 41 pound yellowtail on a dropper loop setup with live squid. The fish appears to be a Jr Member club record for 30 pound line.



Kevin Boyle with the one daytime bluefin on his recent 3 day trip aboard the Shogun, Fisherman's Landing. The fish weighed in 109lbs gilled & gutted at the top of the dock. The boat also did some rockcod drifts and lots of nice fish came aboard.

Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club Foundation

Tribute Opportunity

Tribute Cards are available when you want to send your thoughts or feelings for –

- Congratulations • Graduation
- Anniversary • Illness Appreciation • Best Wishes
- New Home Baby Announcement
- Bar/Bat Mitzvahs • In Memoriam

Your LARRC Foundation is a charitable organization.

Donations may be deducted. Tributes will be posted in the Chum Line.

Tribute cards will be sent to recipient.

Information Request and Donations may be addressed to:

Mrs. Tammy Steinman
1941 Majorca Drive, Oxnard, CA 93035
818-987-2645 • 818-345-6104 Fax
tammy2508@socal.rr.com

CALENDAR

Board Meeting

June 17, 2024

Via Zoom • 7pm

Please email the Club President for link information if you would like to attend the Board Meeting.

Dinner Meeting

June 24, 2024

5pm ish

Twilight Trip Dinner Meeting
Betty-O • Dock 52 • Marina Del Rey

Annual Kids' Trip

July 8, 2024

Marine Mentors' Trip

August 5, 2024

Veterans' Trip

August 15, 2024

October 17, 2024

LARRC FOUNDATION STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

By Pamela Warren

I write to you as a Trustee of the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Foundation, delegated as the liaison between the Foundation and applicants for the student scholarships the Foundation grants on a yearly basis. Last year the Foundation voted to give California State University Long Beach (CSULB) \$10,000.00 in funds for their graduate marine sciences scholarship applicants. The University reviews the student applications and awards the scholarship funds to the students they have chosen. In 2023, four students received

the Foundation funds. In the next four months, beginning with this issue, the Chumline will be highlighting each student. The gratitude for these funds expressed not only by the students, but the University liaison as well, cannot be understated. It gives me much joy to be able to represent the Foundation in one of many meaningful ways in which it supports and nurtures the future of the marine environment and sportfishing.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
LONG BEACH
College of Natural Sciences
& Mathematics

2023-2024

Los Angeles Rod & Reel Foundation Scholarship



Corbin Blanch
Biology, M.S.

“With this work, we’ll be able to determine if there is any difference in patch types and fish communities. This research will help future restorations expand these “underwater wheat fields” which will in turn increase the number and size of fish in these local California wetlands...Thank you for this opportunity.”

Why I chose my field of study

From a young age, I have always been fascinated with the natural world and other living creatures. It has always been an interest of mine to understand my surroundings and how the world flows and integrates with each other. Growing up I realized how poorly we were taking care of the world that has given us everything.

I chose marine biology or marine systems specifically for a couple of reasons. Firstly, the ocean is not well understood. The infield conditions always vary largely from lab work because there is simply so much we don’t understand about what is going on. Secondly, the ocean has always been perceived as an unlimited source until about 50 years ago when we noticed how much damage we were actually doing. And lastly, the ocean was an environment that I did not grow up with and have been fascinated with. It is simply the opposite of terrestrial environments, and I wanted to compare the evolution and quality differences between the two. Simply put, I have 3 reasons for my academic field: curiosity, travel, and understanding.

Dear Ms. Warren,

I would like to thank you for your generosity in helping further my education. I would love to shed some light on what exactly I will be doing with my project.

Coastal wetlands in California have been dramatically changed and continue to as a result of human impacts. California wetlands support many economically important fish species to recreational and commercial fishers. One of the important factors in these fishes survival is submerged aquatic vegetation, also known as SAV. One of southern California’s most abundant SAV is commonly know as eelgrass. This vegetation provides many functions to wetlands but specifically I will be looking at what characteristics of eelgrass support these fish communities and how they are different. My project will be looking at 3 different types of eelgrass patches. Once that is dense and rich with eelgrass, one that is sparse, and one that is barren, like a mudflat. I’ll have 5 of each type of patch at four locations which are Seal Beach, Bolsa Chica, Huntington wetlands, and Newport Bay. To understand eelgrass parameters I will be scuba diving to map eelgrass beds and collect individual eelgrass plants. These plants will be looked at in the lab where we will calculate their leaf area and weight. I’ll then be using baited cameras to observe the fish in these patches. These cameras will be placed in the patches and on the edge of the patches. We’ll compare the videos with the respected eelgrass samples and determine fish community composition.

With these compositions and comparisons, we’ll be able to determine if there is any difference in patch types and fish communities. This research will help future restorations and expand these “underwater wheat fields” which in turn will increase the number and size of fish in these local California wetlands.

I’d like to thank you one last time for your support and the opportunity to continue to conduct this research.

Thank you,
Corbin Blanch

Charters 2024

RULES REGARDING CLUB CHARTERS

All LARRC charter participants signing up for club charters are obligated to pay the full fare to reserve a spot. In the event a participant cannot make a trip, the club will attempt to fill the space once a waitlist forms. A participant may try to fill their space prior to departure. There may be surcharges this year based on fuel price increases. Bunk preference is assigned by the charter master based on the order received. So book early! If you have any special needs please make the charter master aware of them at the time of booking.

June 30 - July 2 Navegante

Contact Dustin House ~
cph_bass@yahoo.com

TROPHY CONTENDERS 2024

as of May 31, 2024

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LBS.	OZ.	SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LBS.	OZ.
MEN'S OCEAN WATER					WOMEN'S OCEAN WATER				
Hailbut, California	30	Ed Liberman	15	0	Halibut, California	25	Wendy Tochiara	17	3
Halibut, California	40	Merit McCrea	30	0*	Halibut, California	25	Wendy Tochiara	15	4
MEN'S FLY ROD					WOMEN'S FLY ROD				
Bass, Sm Mouth	12	John Ballotti	3	4*					
Trout, Cutthroat	12	Rob Baldwin	15	5*					
MEN'S FRESH WATER					WOMEN'S FRESH WATER				
Bass, Lg Mouth	15	John Ballotti	6	12*					
Bass, Lg Mouth	12	Joel Steinman	3	14*	WOMEN'S OCEAN WATER RELEASED				
Trout, Rainbow	8	Steve Simon	2	8					
MEN'S RELEASED					JUNIOR MEMBERS				
Bass, Lg Mouth	3	Paul Varenchik	Released		FIRST GAME FISH OF THE YEAR				
Bass, Lg Mouth	15	Steve Simon	Released		Halibut, California	25	Wendy Tochiara	17	3
Bass, Lg Mouth	15	Scott Schiffman	Released		<i>February 24, 2024</i>				
Bass, Lg Mouth	15	Joel Steinman	Released		FIRST ALBACORE OF THE YEAR				



Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club
c/o John Ballotti
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
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Chum Line

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/LosAngelesRodandReelClub
Editor: Sophia Huynh (fishnsoph@gmail.com)

2024 OFFICERS

President	John Ballotti
Vice President	Scott Schiffman
Secretary	Dustin House
Treasurer	John Ballotti
Historian	Dustin House

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Hartt	Scott Schiffman
Dustin House	Michael Godfrey
Richard Stone	James Purtee
John Ballotti	

2024 FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Ed Lieberman & Steve Simon, Co-Chair

John Goss	Pamela Warren
Ron Glider	Paul Varenchik
Chas Schoemaker	

2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Family Event	Mike Hartt
Apparel	Steve Simon
Awards Banquet 2025	John Ballotti
By-laws and Legal	Randy Sharon
Charters	Dustin House
Chum Line Editor	Sophia Huynh
Communications	Scott Schiffman
Dinner Meetings	Tami Shepphird
Dinner Speakers	Pamela Warren
Elections	Jim Purtee
Environmental Affairs	John Ballotti
Events:	
Earl Warren's Memorial Kids' Trip	John Goss & Richard Stone
Lou Berke Trout Derby	Steve Simon
Bill Alpert King of the Club	Joel Steinman, Steve Simon
Frank Polak Marine Mentors' Trip	Joseph Mahfet & Joel Steinman
Fishing Records	Joel Steinman
Fly Fishing	Rob Baldwin
Hall of Fame	John Ballotti
Health and Happenings	Linda Simon
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Website	Scott Schiffman
Yearbook	John Ballotti