

The Chumline

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Ventura County Sportfishing Club, www.vcsc.info**

Editor: Norman Rodewald 805-523-8355 VCSCchumline@aol.com

No December Meeting

The Ventura County Sport Fishing will not hold a regular meeting for December. We will be holding our annual holiday party on Tuesday, December 9th.

November Meeting

The Ventura County Sport Fishing held its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 4th at 7:00 PM at Marisco's Cancun Restaurant, 1070 E Ave De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks. Our guest speaker was Wendy Tochiara, sales manager for Izorline. Wendy is a world class fisherwoman and an expert on knots. She gave a hands on discussion of fishing knots and how to use them.

Elections

The club's held its annual election of officers at the November meeting.

President: Chuck Brinkman

Vice President: Lee Harris

Treasurer: Wayne Jackson

Secretary: Brian Zimmeran

Charter Master: Scott Williams

Membership: Bill Berger

Member at large: Bob Tiedemann, Kichi Iwamoto, Mark Katz, Tom Hallman

Sound man

Bob Tiedemann has been graciously supporting the club sound equipment, but we need a volunteer to take over this job. We are currently attempting to make arrangements to store the sound equipment at Marisco's to avoid having to lug it around every month.

Christmas party

The Ventura County Sport Fishing Club will hold its annual Christmas Party on December 9th at the TO Banquet Center at the Thousand Oaks Inn. (For you old timers, this is where Dupar's restaurant used to be.) Festivities will begin at 6:00 PM with appetizers from 6:00 to 6:45, dinner at 7:00 with entertainment and dessert to begin at 8:00.

This will be a catered dinner with entrée, drinks including beer and wine provided. Club members will be invited to bring appetizers and desserts. Cost will be \$10.00 per person, and will include one complimentary raffle ticket.

The big Christmas Party raffle will have an AVET LX 6.0 reel, a custom Bob Tiedemann wrapped rod, and a multipurpose tackle box as prizes, in addition to numerous secondary prizes. The AVET LX is a 40-50 lb class reel, with 15 lbs drag at strike with free spool, and 20 lbs full. Great for tuna to 80 lbs, yellow tail and wahoo. The custom rod is a Seeker graphite and glass blank in their new Tiger motif, with a dark grey base and an off white upper section. It is designed for 20-40 lb line, fishing 30 perfectly. A beautiful piece of art besides a great fishing stick.

There will be separate correspondence on the party, including tickets and suggestions for appetizer or dessert planning.



Bob Tiedemann custom wrapped rod

Current Fishing Conditions

The winter season has arrived locally. There is still some warm water, with bonito showing, but it is primarily a winter rock fish season.

Fishing in Alaska

The dates for the Salmon and Halibut fishing trip to Kingfisher lodge in Sitka, Alaska are; arrive in Sitka Monday July 27, 2015 . Fish July 28, 29 ,30 and 31. Return Saturday Aug. 1, 2015. The trip has proven to be highly popular. The original two boats reserved and eight anglers have now been subscribed to a total of 14 fishermen. This will be three boats plus two anglers paired with other anglers.

Charters for 2015

Scott has talked with Erin about planning for next year on the Mirage. Fishing has been so good this past year, we no longer have the option of choosing dates based on moon and tide, we are just another competitor for available dates. As a result, our charter schedule on the Mirage will look a lot like this year's. We will also try to get a long range tuna trip on the First String or similar.

Fishing on the Royal Star

The annual Royal Star ten day kicked off on November 5th. We had 21 anglers, many from the past few year's trips. We headed out for Alijos rocks directly. We arrived around noon on the 7th. The Vagabond was there, reporting wahoo with a robust afternoon bite. And robust it was! We picked up 42 wahoo that afternoon. Even with sharks, Galapagos and hammer head, around, we picked up fish, though one wahoo was swallowed whole near the boat.

As dusk fell, we set anchor for the evening. I began dropper loop fishing for yellow tail, as did Rhanny Hufalar and Gary Lusk. I hooked up immediately and began cranking away only to feel the line get real heavy at about 90 feet followed by a busted line, busted 60 lb line! Rhanny then repeated the same scenario. A short time later, Rahnnny and I both hooked up. He went to the stern, I went to the bow. Alas, Rhanny fed the shark but I got mine in. I called it quits for the evening, though Rhanny fed the shark

another round. A funny thing happened as I got mine in. When it was just below the surface, in the light of the boat, a wahoo made a pass and took the sinker!



Joe Siegal with his wahoo

The next day was a steady diet of wahoo fishing, though a few attempts were made for yellow tail. The final count between Rhanny and I were each one landed, plus six fed to the sharks.

We then headed down to Potato Bank where the Excel had managed to snag a couple of nice big tuna. We started in after the tuna. Bob Wax coaxed an 85 lb'er in on a sardine. Brian started on the kite, landing a 175 lb'er. A few over two hundred then came in on the kite, with zero on sardines or cut tuna chunks.

We then did the normal ridge fishing as we worked up the line. A few wahoo, a couple of dorado, plenty of school yellow fin, plus several yellow tail. Also, a couple of brown grouper, also known as rubber grouper, came aboard (rubber because that is the character of the meat).

The club was well represented in the JP. Bob Wax took top honors with his 85 lb yellow fin. Art Hernandez took third place with a 60.3 lb wahoo. Second place was a 68 lb wahoo.

Repairing your gear for winter

Now is the time to do your gear repair. The season is over, but taking reels down, cleaning and getting the salt out will go a long way toward preventing frozen bearings in the spring when you break them out.

Also, reels can be serviced by professional repair shops at this time. We have great local service options available.

For Avet reels, you can go to their website to get the shipping info or take them in directly. For the smaller reels, Avet charges a fixed price, \$35 if brought in, 439 if shipped. This includes a tear down, replacement of any defective parts, cleaning and reassembly. They have higher prices for the Raptor and Pro-Ex series, but it is flat rate includes parts and labor

For Accurate reels, their shop is in Corona. Again, you can ship or take them in. Accurate charges a fixed fee of \$25 for labor on all the smaller reels, with parts charged

separately. Again, separate pricing for larger reels.

For Daiwa, you download a repair form detailing the service desired and follow the shipping directions on the form. This is done locally in Orange County. They will tear down the reel and phone you with a repair cost estimate. With a charge authorization in hand, the reel will be serviced and returned in a few days.

For Okuma, you can download a repair request form from their website and ship it to them for repair. Again, this is a local service, in Ontario. They will tear down the reel, provide a cost estimate, and with an authorization, repair and return the reel.

For Shimano, you can download a repair request form from their website, ship it to their facility where they will tear it down and provide a cost estimate for repair. This is local, in Irvine. With an authorization in hand, they will repair and return the reel.

For many others such as Penn, Newell, etc. plus those listed above, many local tackle shops offer repair service.

I have had excellent service from all those mentioned above. I would not recommend ProGear factory service based on my experience. Basically the reel required more extensive service than my local shop could provide. ProGear has outsourced their service to a local repair shop. It took a full year to get the reel repaired.

Wahoo on surface iron?

I was talking with Drew, the cook on the Royal Star when he said he fished for wahoo with surface iron. Well what the hell? I was on the bow throwing iron when he came up and proceeded to hook and lose on immediately on a tady 45 surface jig. I went to the tackle box and dug out a tady 45 in chrome and blue. I hooked and lost two in short succession. One lost when the Wahoo kamikazed a bait fisherman's spectra. With a huge knot of spectra wrapped up around the jig, the unintended release was inevitable.

To get wahoo on surface iron, a tady 45 works well. You want a good high speed reel, 4 to 1 or higher. You then do a moderate speed retrieve. You want the jig to swim in the water, not a high speed run like with a Raider or Wahoo bomb

Cooking your catch

How about a simple broiled yellow tail

2 6 oz pieces yellow tail, skin off, well trimmed

2 TBSP soy sauce

Salt

Freshly ground pepper

Preheat the broiler. Place broiler rack about 4 inches from flame. Place a piece of aluminum foil on a baking sheet. Use a spray oil on the foil to prevent sticking. Using a pastry brush, brush the fillets with soy sauce. Add salt and pepper to taste. Place fish under the broiler for 3-5 minutes, until very lightly browned. Turn and lightly brown the other side, 3-5 minutes. Serve immediately.