

The Chumline

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Ventura County Sportfishing Club, www.vcsc.info

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NO December Meeting

There will be no December meeting due to the annual Holiday Party. This annual gala will be held on Tuesday, December 6 at the thousand Oaks Inn, 75 w Thousand Oaks Blvd from 6 PM to 10 PM. There will be a major raffle with an Avet LX reel, gift cards, wine and other prizes.

November Meeting

The Ventura County Sport Fishing Club held its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 2nd at 7:00 PM at Marisco's Cancun Restaurant, 1070 E Ave De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks. Our guest speaker was Merrit McCrea, salt water editor at Western Outdoor News. Merritt discussed local fishing history.

Current Fishing Conditions

Local conditions are now into the winter swing. catches of rock fish, with generous counts of lingcod being registered. Long range boats are getting wahoo, large yellow fin and other typical warm water fish. The el Niño is abating but warm water remains.

Fishing on the Royal Star

The annual VCSC open charter on the Royal Star was held, Nov 2nd through 12th. Numerous club members including Brian Zimmerman, charter master, as well as Dave Hill, Art Hernandez, Rhanny Hufalar, Joe Siegal and Scott Williams participated. We left harbor around noon on the 2nd, arriving at Ensenada in the evening to check in for the trip to Guadalupe Island. We arrived around 3 PM the next day. We immediately began fishing for 100 lb yellow fin tuna. Numerous fish hit the deck, with several break offs and Great White chow down.



Joe Siegal with a nice yellow fin

Over the next two days, fishing remained at a moderate pace, with one to three fish going at a time. In addition, yellow tail were being taken on dropper loop. The Great White presence became a major disappointment. If three fish were hooked at one time, two were at high risk of falling prey. One angler went zero for five hooked fish.

The fishing was difficult, I was unable to get a bite on 80 lb line with a 4/0 gorilla circle hook, it was just too big for the bait. I dropped down to 60 lb and a 4/0 regular bait J hook. Finally got bit and landed a 85 lb tuna, with a brief flurry to keep it away from the Great White. I landed three nice 30 lb yellow tail on a dropper loop. I was able to get only a single hook up on a yoyo iron, but he spit the hook half way up.

After three days, we headed for Alijos rocks and wahoo. We hit a nice bunch of wahoo about 20 miles from the rocks. I picked one up on the troll and a second on a raider jig. When Robert from Avet visited in October, he brought an LX 6.0 for the raffle, which I was fortunate to win. Loaded with 300 yds of 65 lb spectra and 100 yds of 40 lb top shot, it proved a worthy reel for throwing jigs for wahoo as I was able to show. There was a heavy surf running at Alijos, which made for some spectacular waves.



Waves crashing on the rocks.

We then began fishing at the ridge and searching up the line. The ridge was loaded with school yellow fin, but after hitting Guadalupe, they were of little interest. There were also scattered wahoo, but if you fished wire with bait, you probably ended up with a kinked up wire on a schoolie yellow fin. As we worked up the line, we hit a school of 20 lb dorado. What mayhem! Five minutes of pure adrenaline pumping action as 18 dorado were landed and another half dozen cut offs.

As we worked up the line, we had our annual calico bass fishing segment for a tasty lunch. We then tried for a mix of yellow tail and bass. The big problem with the yellow tail was often, the bite would happen after along soak. With lots of line out, the yellow tail would easily find the rocks before he could be brought to gaff. In the end, it was another great trip, lots of memories, plenty of fish, and good friends meeting again.

Fishing in Alaska for 2017

Wayne Jackson is heading a trip to Kingfisher Lodge in Sitka, Alaska for 2017. He has a commitment for two boats, four passengers each with six spots filled. The trip will fish August 6th through 9th with travel on August 5th and August 10th. Cost is \$3195 plus taxes and fishing license. Contact Wayne if you are interested in this trip.

Elections

The November meeting held its annual election of officers. Current office holders, President Chuck Brinkman, Vice President Mark Katz, secretary Brian Zimmerman, Membership chair Bill Berger, and treasurer Wayne Jackson all agreed to run for the next year. Members at large, Kichi Iamoto, Jesse Wilson and Tom Hallman are also available. Members are welcome to nominate for any of these positions.

There are numerous opportunities for participation which include raffle chair, charter master, sound system manager, chumline editor as well as other tasks which may arise from time to time. As a volunteer run club, our success depends on members who are willing to contribute for the benefit of all.

Kids trip tackle

We are continuing to attempt to build up our own supply of fishing tackle for the kids trip. Geoff Mosdale has offered to store the equipment. So any usable spinning rods or reels you have which are in the 15-25 lb class that you are willing to donate will be gladly accepted.

Cooking your catch

This month, we will try baked fish with olives and tomatoes.

1/2 lb fish fillets (2 8 oz fillets), halibut, ling cod or white meat rock fish
8 oz diced tomatoes
1 tbsp chopped pitted black olives
2 cloves minced garlic
1 tbsp chopped parsley
salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 400 deg. Spray cooking oil in a baking dish. Arrange fish fillets in baking dish. Mix other ingredients except parsley in a mixing bowl. Spoon over fillets, salt and pepper each fillet. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, until fish flakes easily with a fork. Place each fillet with half tomato garlic mix on a serving plate, garnish with parsley.