

## The Chumline

The official publication of the Ventura County Sportfishing Club March 2016  
Ventura County Sportfishing Club, [www.vcsc.info](http://www.vcsc.info)

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### March Meeting

The Ventura County Sport Fishing Club held its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 1st at 7:00 PM at Marisco's Cancun Restaurant, 1070 E Ave De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks. Our guest speaker will be Valerie Hoperich, owner of Queen Charlotte Safaris Lodge in Sandspit Canada. Valerie will discuss the fishing opportunities in the Queen Charlotte Islands as well as the features of her lodge.

### February Meeting

Our guest speaker was Holly Lohuis, marine biologist and team member of Jean Michel Cousteau. Holly presented new videos of her 2015 expeditions to Cozumel and the Sea of Cortez. Holly's presentations are always exciting and educational. The scenes and videos were spectacular.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Holly hosted a vigorous Q&A session which educated members on many subjects ranging from conservation to climate change.

### Current Fishing Conditions

The annual rock fish closure ends March 1st. All conditions indicate this should be another spectacular year. El Niño is still present and expected to linger well into the year. This will keep exotics present in local waters. Also, over the past couple of years, there has been a marked increase in the number of smaller ling cod in catches, indicating larger fish should be present this year.

### 2016 Charter Schedule

Charter master Scott Williams has arranged for our 2016 charter schedule. Reservations go on sale at the January meeting. A 50% deposit is required to hold a reservation, with the balance due 45 days before sailing. Be present at least one hour before departure.

Date	Boat	Departure time	Landing	Cost
5/7	Mirage	5/6 at 10 PM	Channel Islands	\$180
<b>8 spots available</b>				
5/19	Aloha Spirit	5/19 at 5:00 AM	Channel Islands	\$110
<b>5 spots available</b>				
6/5	Mirage	6/4 at 10 PM	Channel Islands	\$195 Fish off!
<b>SOLD OUT</b>				
6/10	Mirage	6/9 at 10 PM	Channel Islands	\$185
<b>SOLD OUT</b>				
7/10	Mirage	7/9 at 10 PM	Channel Islands	\$185
<b>SOLD OUT</b>				
7/28	Mirage	7/27 at 10 PM	Channel Islands	\$175
<b>SOLD OUT</b>				
8/21	First String	8/21 at 9 PM	H&M landing	\$895
<b>10 spots available</b>				

In addition, club members are signing up on the Tunaholics Open on the Independence seven day departing September 10 at 11AM. Cost is \$2895.00 for seven days. Call Judy at 619-226-6006. Currently, there is 1 spot open.

The club open ten day charter on the Royal Star November 2nd is sold out, wait list only. Cost is \$3695.

For all club trips, send payments to VCSC at PO Box 302, Moorpark, Ca. 93020. All trips not filled 45 days prior to departure will be opened to the public.

### **Trips filling fast!**

The club charters are filling fast. There are now only 1 spot left on the May 7th trip, 1 spot left on the May 19th trip and 10 spots left on the three day trip.

### **Lead tackle issues**

During the Q&A session with Holly last month, the question of continued use of lead in tackle came up. Researching it, basically lead is considered to be inert in water. However, this is a relative term. Lead will leach into the water if the water is "soft" or slightly acidic. This is only possible in fresh water lakes and streams. The ocean is slightly alkaline, as a result, lead will not leach out directly. Lead objects, however may serve as an anchor for various plant or animal species in the ocean. At the point of attachment, a highly localized acidic condition may develop. As a result, some contamination may occur.

As a result, there may be efforts to restrict use of lead in fishing tackle particularly in fresh water lakes and streams. These fresh water sources tend to leach lead. I would expect that a local condition, comparable to restricting use of lead bullets in condor habitat areas such as California and Arizona, restricting lead tackle from various waters in some states would evolve.

### **Reel Donation**

Thanks to Rick Lane for donating an Avet Sx reel to the club.

### **It's March, time for Fred Hall**

Yes, it is time for the Fred Hall show at the Long Beach Convention center. The show starts Wednesday, March 2nd, and runs through Sunday, March 6th. Weekday hours are 1:00 PM though 9:00 PM. Saturday, doors open at 10:00 AM, with closure at 8:30 PM Sat and 7:00 PM on Sunday.

This is a great time to meet the owner/ operators of local boats, as well as finding about recreational vacation spots. In addition, the tackle bargains are always a great opportunity to fill your needs for the upcoming season.

### **Kids trip raffle coming**

The big annual Kids Trip raffle is coming up. As in previous years, we will have a outstanding array of prizes, including a free trip on the club charter on the First String, a \$895 dollar value. Tickets will be \$5.00 each, with drawing at the July meeting.

### **Cooking your catch**

This month we will fix rock fish fillets, Veracruz style

2 6oz fish fillets

1 16 ounce can chopped tomatoes

1/2 bell pepper, finely sliced

1/2 onion finely chopped

1 tsp Mexican oregano

1 Tbsp olive oil

salt and pepper to taste

Sauté the pepper and onion until softened, 3-5 minutes. Add tomatoes, oregano, salt and pepper, heat until near boil. Add fish fillets, reduce heat, and cover. Cook until done, about 10 minutes. Serve over Spanish rice, spooning tomato mix over top.

