

## The Chumline

The official publication of the Ventura County Sportfishing Club September 2018  
Ventura County Sportfishing Club, [www.vcsc.info](http://www.vcsc.info)

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### September Meeting

The Ventura County Sport Fishing Club will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 4th at 7:00 PM at Brendan's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 495 N Ventu Park road, Newbury Park. Our guest speaker will be Pete Haynes, long time angler in the local area as well as a supporter of various vendors fishing products.

### August Meeting

The Ventura County Sport Fishing Club held its regular meeting on Tuesday, August 7th at 7:00 PM at Brendan's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 495 N Ventu Park road, Newbury Park. Our guest speaker was Ben Frazier of Avet reels. Ben gave an extensive presentation on long range fishing. He covered both large tuna and wahoo. He regularly fishes AVET Raptor series reels. His reel of choice for 80-100 lb class is the AVET HX Raptor. His reel of choice for wahoo, 40 lb class is the AVET MX Raptor. He uses wind on leaders for heavy lines with 3/0 owner circle hooks. For wahoo, he uses single strand wire with a 2/0 mustad hook.

### 2018 Charter Schedule

The remaining charters are all SOLD OUT.

Please pay all outstanding balance due on trips you have booked.

Trip No.	Date	Boarding time	Boat	Landing	Price
12.)	10/4	10/4 9 PM	Pacific Dawn	Fisherman Landing	
San Diego		2 1/2 Day meals and snacks included			\$785

For all trips, fill out a charter reservation form, copy attached. Identify all trips by trip number, it will remain fixed even if date changes for any reason. This will avoid confusion if you send in a check, the reservation form and trip number nails it down.

Send all payments to the club, VCSC, PO Box 302, Moorpark Ca. 93020.

### Current Fishing Conditions

Summer fishing season is in full swing, Calico bass, yellow tail, rock fish are all on the bite as warm water is available locally. Longer range, some Blue fin are still in U. S. waters. Further south, decent size yellow fin and yellow tail are being caught. warmer water has moved north, with dorado and yellow fin getting up to the U. S. border areas.

### Fishing on the Outrider

Eleven club members gathered at 22nd St. landing for an overnight charter on the Outrider. we were presented with two options, head for Tanner Bank and school size Blue fin or head for San Clemente Island, target larger Blue fin. The options contained the restrictions, due to time, fishing at Tanner bank would end at noon, while fishing at San Clemente could continue through about 2:00 PM and give lots of time for yellow tail and calico bass. We opted for San Clemente.

We arrived at the fishing grounds at around 4:30 AM. On fish marks, we began dropping flat fall jigs into the fish zone. Unfortunately, over the next 90 minutes, no action at all.

With the sun rise, we headed for the island and began targeting top water fish, bass, yellow tail and barracuda. Fishing started off slowly, and remained slow all day. We

picked up scattered barracuda and yellow tail, with an occasional calico bass thrown in. We made several moves, and when we targeted calico bass, we hit a pretty decent bite, but the fishing was really tough, with heavy kelp.

I tried a dropper loop and hooked a decent sized yellow tail, but lost it half way up. After that, the rule on a dropper loop was a 4 to 6 lb Boccaccio. All yellow tail were taken on either a fly lined sardine. There were no takers on either surface iron or yoyo iron. At one point, as we were about to make a move, with the anchor coming up, I hooked a 12 lb yellow tail, so I ended up fighting it until we got the boat stopped before I could bring it to gaff. For the day, we had 6 yellow tail, 10 barracuda, 20 calico bass and half a dozen rock fish. Ira Nepus was the big Jack Pot winner with a 20 lb class yellow tail.



### **Rod building 101**

A couple of months ago, we had Charles from Fish On Customs give a presentation on custom rod building. Fish On Customs offered one day rod building seminars for \$100. Stan Greco and myself took advantage of this offer. We arrived at 8:00 AM. Stan had no experience while I had built a few rods and had rewrapped several more. Both of us learned a lot, with the help tailored to our very different experience level.

We started out with Rain Shadow salt water 7.0 ft rod blanks, bags of components and the basics of a hand rod wrapper, masking tape, razor blade, burnishing tool, plus markers and measuring tools. On the table was a hand wrapping jig.

First off, I noticed the rod rear and fore grip were EVA rather than Hypalon. Hypalon is very easy to work with because it stretches easily, while EVA is a denser and non stretch expanded vinyl. Charles explained that the Hypalon production is being bought almost entirely by large rod manufacturers such as CalStar and Seeker. as a result, custom builders are not able to get any. EVA has to be worked like cork, with the hole reamed out using a tapered reamer to fit the rod blank, so Stan and I spent the next hour

reaming the front and rear grips to fit.

We then spined the rod, determining its natural bend. After fitting, we glued the rear grip, reel seat, fore grip and butt cap. We then mounted the tip top, broke for lunch to let the cement to set up. Fish On Customs uses Rod Bond, a two part epoxy gel, while other builders may use either a liquid epoxy or a water proof glue.

After lunch, we marked off the proper spacing of the guides, taping them in place with masking tape. To make the rod class easier, we used single foot guides, cutting in half the number of wraps required. With trial spacing, we loaded the rods to verify the rod bend remained uniform under load. Often, some minor adjustment is required since each rod behaves differently under load. Of note was the stripper guide placement. The stripper guide is the first guide, closest to the reel. A custom rod builder will require the reel which will be used with the rod. The size and placement of the stripper guide is based on the reel. A large spool will require a larger stripper guide and more space between the reel and guide, while a narrow spool will use a smaller guide and closer placement.

Then came the tedious job of wrapping each guide in place. As Stan can attest, this requires patience. I ended up rewinding three guides twice, operator error or dissatisfaction with the result. After all of the guides were neatly in place, we added the hook keeper and then came the final epoxy coat for the wraps. Before epoxy, we carefully made any final adjustments to guide alignment, making sure they were in a true line. Fish On Customs has rod dryers, very slow rotating motors which allows the epoxy to set up uniformly without sagging.



Finished rod

I recommend anyone who wants to either get into rod building or just to learn the basic skills necessary to repair or replace guides to take the one day Fish On Customs class. You will learn the skills necessary. Mud Hole (<http://www.mudhole.com/>) is an online rod building supplier who will sell a basic kit including hand wrapper, dryer and necessary hand tools. A typical kit with a rod and components will cost between \$150

and \$250 depending on rod type and weight.

### **Cooking your catch**

With summer fruit, how about fish tacos with peach salsa.

For the fish tacos, you need 3/4 lb of a flaky white fish, cut into 4 oz pieces.

2 Tbsp Olive oil

fresh lemon juice

1/2 Tbsp blackening seasoning

For the salsa

1 yellow peach finely diced

1/4 red onion finely diced

1/4 Jalapeno

1/4 bunch of minced fresh cilantro

fresh lime juice

Combine 1 Tbsp olive oil with lemon juice, blackening seasoning, salt and pepper to taste. Toss with the fish then let marinate for ten minutes. In a large skillet, heat the remaining olive oil over medium high heat. Cook the fish for about 3-4 minutes per side. When cooked, place on plate and flake with a fork, cover to keep warm until serving.

In a bowl, combine peaches, onion, jalapeno, cilantro and lime juice. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

You will want flour tortillas, warmed for serving. Build tacos with fish, some cole slaw or shredded lettuce and top with salsa.