

The Chumline | APRIL 2025

The official publication of the Ventura County Sportfishing Club
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Visit our website at: <https://vcsc.info>

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I hope to see you all at the Weds, April 2nd VCSC Meeting - usual place (Flatfish Brewery) - meeting starts at 6:30pm - come early for food and drink and socialization with speaker Brian Nguyen.

Last month's meeting on March 5th - speaker Tucker McCombs gave a great presentation about local fishing... He talked about fishing for White Seabass and Halibut. He recommends Owner - Aki Twist Hooks for both species. We have several charters on Tucker's boat - the Endeavor - this year...!!!

Our first Club Charter for the year is coming at the end of the month - Saturday April 26 on the Island Spirit. Hopefully the weather will cooperate. We are having some nice weather now at the end of March, let's hope for good April weather also.

The VCSC Board is looking at getting some new and interesting speakers lined up for the near future meetings. So check your Chumline for upcoming events.

We are still looking into getting an AVET factory tour - probably on a Saturday. That is always interesting, and it has been many years since our last one. They are really close by - over in Chatsworth, so easy to get to.

Some of us will be going fishing to Alaska, in July, August and September. Several of us to Kingfisher Charters, in Sitka. We have been there many times before - they always take good care of us, and we always come home with lots of Salmon and Halibut, which is nice...!

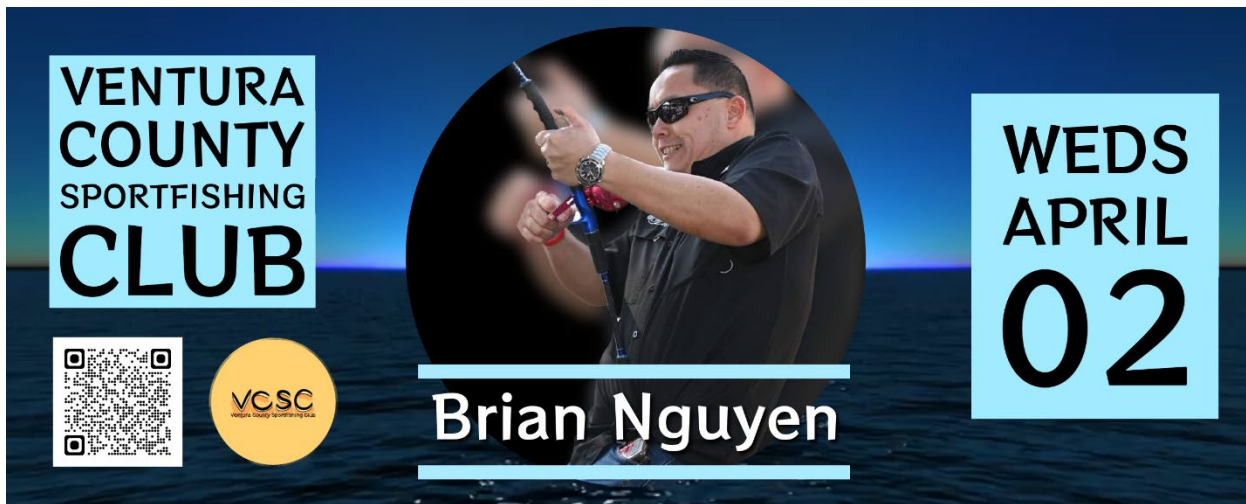
That is about it for now. I hope your fishing adventures are fun and exciting. See you soon.

Chuck Brinkman IV, VCSC President



MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 2nd at 6:15pm

The Ventura County Sportfishing Club will hold its regular meeting at the [Flat Fish Brewing Company, 126 Wood Road in Camarillo.](#)



SPEAKER [BRIAN NGUYEN](#) is in da house sharing his “LIVEBAIT FLYLINING FACTUALS workshop”

Fishing a livebait is a basic yet one of the most important fundamental skills to possess in our West Coast saltwater fishery. Successful livebait fishing involves adapting to conditions and changing things up when needed. It goes beyond rods and reels, lines, and hooks. You have to understand what entices a bite and, of course, how to get your bait in front of the fish.

This is one of the most informative livebait fishing clinics you'll ever attend and is **OPEN TO ALL ANGLERS!!**

Come early and join us for dinner and drinks.

BONUS a cigar session!

Our meetings are free & open to all fishing enthusiasts!

[Click here](#) for more info or share the URL with friends.



2025 CHARTER OPENINGS:

Charter #1, on April 26th – two spots: [more info](#)

Charter #4, on July 16/17th - four spots: [more info](#)

Charter #6, on Sept 6th - FIVE spots: [more info](#)

View ALL CHARTERS ON OUR WEBSITE > [CLICK HERE](#)

Please contact Rick Lane to book a spot!

venturacountysportfishingclub@gmail.com

SUPPORT THE FLATFISH BREWERY OUR HOME BASE!



The Flatfish Brewery continues to be a great venue for our club. They do not charge us a fee for the meetings, or even the Christmas party, but they do expect us to order food and drink. The problem is that there are plenty of members who do not order anything, and they have noticed a decrease in revenue. Their food is pretty good! And they even have a full bar with excellent beer, wine and mixed drinks. ***AND please tip your waitress who delivers and cleans up after!***

We suggest ~ maybe ordering a pizza or a bottle of wine to share with your table! It's nice to share and you might make new friends at the meetings, and we can continue to have our meetings at this nice open venue!

And don't forget this fine brewery is linked to the Cantara Winery! They offer a large selection of Red and White wines for you to enjoy grapes sourced from Sonoma, Lodi, and the North Coast. Another option is to order a bottle of wine or 6-pack of beer TO GO for home meals and/or parties!

Let's show our appreciation by ordering food and drinks from Flat Fish Brewing Co!!!



REMINDER: APRIL IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP MEAN?

- Monthly club meetings where we share the technical aspects of sportfishing with speakers who educate and inspire us! We talk about upcoming charters and have a great social time together with like-minded people!
- Members have access to book charters with limited loads with our own club chartermaster overseeing the organizational process of each charter.
- Being on charters with super NICE and HELPFUL people! Have a question while on a charter? Ask any club member for help!
- MEMBERSHIP IS \$60 A YEAR payable through check, Zelle or Venmo.
- MORE INFO > [click here](#)

NEW & USED GEAR for the KIDS' TRIP!

Peter Syapin, VCSC Drawing & Raffles chair



The sale of donated used fishing gear at the March meeting was very successful.

We sold all the rods, several reels, and nearly all the tackle! My garage and myself would like to thank the VCSC for their support.

Anyone wanting to donate gear – stream fishing gear, ocean or surf fishing gear. Even camping gear, tents, stoves, any outdoor gear -- PLEASE reach out to Peter, Art, Rick – or really any lead chairperson in the club. We are actively looking for any and all ways to raise money for the kids' trip!





TIME TO GET READY FOR FISHING!

Rick Lane, VCSC Treasurer

PDF instructions for payments are on our website – [click here](#)

Instructions for sending payments to VCSC

- If you are going on any Endeavor trip, the charge is \$350. The fuel surcharge will be due at the dock.
- The Island Spirit trips are all \$180, and the Mirage is \$330.

You can contact Rick at:

venturacountysportfishingclub@gmail.com or (310) 819-7372

Option 1: Give Rick a check at our next meeting on March 5th.

Tucker is our speaker, so you will not want to miss this meeting. He owns the Ventura Harbor Landing and skippers the Endeavor. Make the check out to Ventura County Sportfishing Club. Include a note or specify in the memo what the check is for. If you are not at the meeting, then mail the check to:

Ventura County Sportfishing Club (VCSC works just fine)

P.O. Box 302

Moorpark, CA 93020

Option 2: Transfer Money with Zelle from your bank to ours (Rick's favorite option)

Log on to your online banking. Make selections to pay with Zelle. The apps are all slightly different. Look for a Transfer money option. Use our email:

venturacountysportfishingclub@gmail.com

Your bank may impose a limit on the amount of money you can transfer in one transaction (\$500). The money should show up very quickly. Rick will respond to verify.

Option 3: Pay with Venmo ADDS 2%

Start your Venmo app. Venmo charges VCSC 2% per transaction. Please add that to your payment. For example, if Jim paid for his charter using Venmo he would transfer \$367.20 (360*1.02).

DO NOT use Paypal. They do not transfer the money quickly and charge more fees.

SURF FISHING?

The WHO, WHAT, WHERE AND HOWs - May 7th Meeting

The VCSC board voted to bring in Kaspar & Gary Kazazian, SoCal surf fishing guides whose social media presence is a tsunami, not a mere splash!

For various reasons, whether it's age, an injury, a hectic work schedule, or even seasickness—charter fishing isn't always an option for everyone. And let's be honest, many of us just want to keep fishing during the off-season. That's where surf fishing comes in! Kaspar and Gary are here to share their expertise, provide valuable insights, and help us fine-tune our gear so we can hit the surf and, with a little luck, reel in a keeper or even a trophy catch. So “save the date!”

Excerpt from their website: “The journey began with a few small perch and quickly transformed into a lifelong passion for targeting big fish from the surf. By focusing on the factors that affect fish behavior, we developed our two methods for consistently catching trophies.

Mark your calendar and join us for an exciting presentation at our May meeting! View our calendar > [click here](#)



MAY 7th SPEAKERS
Kaspar & Gary | californiasurffishing.net

CURRENT FISHING CONDITIONS

Norman Rodewald, VCSC Editor

April 1st is the long-awaited opener for local rock fish season. Like last year, it will be any depth now through September 15th followed by 50 fathoms (300 ft) or deeper. Most local boats have been spending the down time doing annual maintenance tasks to prepare for the upcoming season. Due to the reduced season, ticket prices will remain high, with fuel surcharges also in effect for some boats.

The San Diego fleet has been keeping busy with yellow tail runs to the Coronado Islands and longer trips to rock fish and ling cod reefs further south. Long range boats have been hitting large yellow fin tuna at the lower banks, wahoo and yellow tail at Alejos Rocks.

Once again, there have been exceptionally low counts for Chinook Salmon in the Sacramento River drainage leading to prospects of either total closure as has been the case for the past two years or a severely reduced season. The extended drought period of 2020-2022 has led to low reproduction levels for salmon.

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Norman Rodewald, VCSC Editor

Unfortunately, the wave of personnel cuts in the Federal workforce has hit Channel Islands National Park. Several staff members have been let go and support contracts terminated. The office leases in Ventura Harbor have been greatly reduced, closing the visitors center and consolidating offices for remaining staff into a small space.

Most of our local fishing trips are to the reefs and kelp beds of these islands. The long-term success of these trips depends on continued protection from both pollution and overfishing both legal and poaching. Sadly, the only guarantee of protection requires a periodic physical presence by park rangers, naturalists and California Fish and Game wardens. These islands are often referred to as the Galapagos of the North, the visitor's center offered a great learning adventure for local school children and adults from all over the world. Let us hope we can preserve this resource for the generations to come.

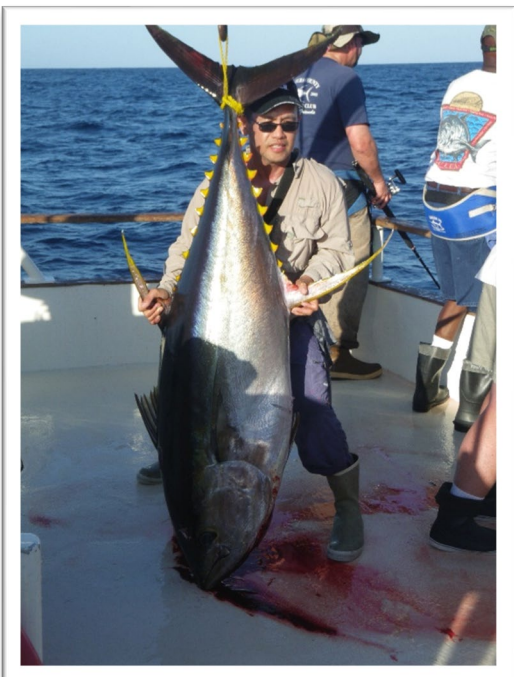


The club has its heart on sponsoring a “kids trip” and now with restrictions on raffles – we will be relying on donations.

If everyone donates at each meeting, every little bit will help.

At our meetings, we discussed ways to fundraise the kid’s trip. IF you want to be part of a fundraising committee just

for that event, let us know! For now, we encourage everyone to donate gear for resale & money (cash, check, electronic).



[**VSCS SWAG**](#)
[**CLICK HERE**](#)



COOKING YOUR CATCH

“EASY” JACKFISH CHOWDER!

<https://www.socalspearit.com/single-post/2019/07/18/easy-jack-fish-chowder-great-for-yellowtail>

Ingredients:

- 6 oz butter (1.5 sticks)
- 1 medium brown onion
- 3 carrots (peeled)
- Half a bunch of celery
- 1/3 cups of flour
- 8 oz sliced white mushrooms
- 12 oz frozen yellow corn
- 1 or 2 potatoes
- 32 oz chicken broth
- 8 oz seafood stock (see the Winter Seafood Chowder recipe for some seafood stock tips, or you can purchase clam juice from many grocery stores)
- 2 lbs any kind of fish, or mix of fish and shellfish
- 3 5 tablespoons Old Bay
- 1/2 tablespoon black pepper
- 2/3 cups half-n-half

Melt butter in a 6 quart stock pot under medium high heat. Add chopped celery, onion, and carrots. Saute for 10 minutes until veggies start to soften. Add mushrooms.

Add flour to the cooking veggies and mix thoroughly. This is important, adding it now it will coat the veggies easily and when you add the liquid stock next, the soup will thicken as the liquid comes to boil, without clumping. After stirring in the flour, add stock and chicken broth. Mix it all together. Add chopped potatoes and yellow corn. Bring it to boil, then turn it down to medium heat and continue to cook for another 10 minutes at a low boil. Add Old Bay and black pepper. If your seafood stock isn't very salty, you might add a little salt (taste first!), but my homemade seafood stock is always plenty salty from the mussels.

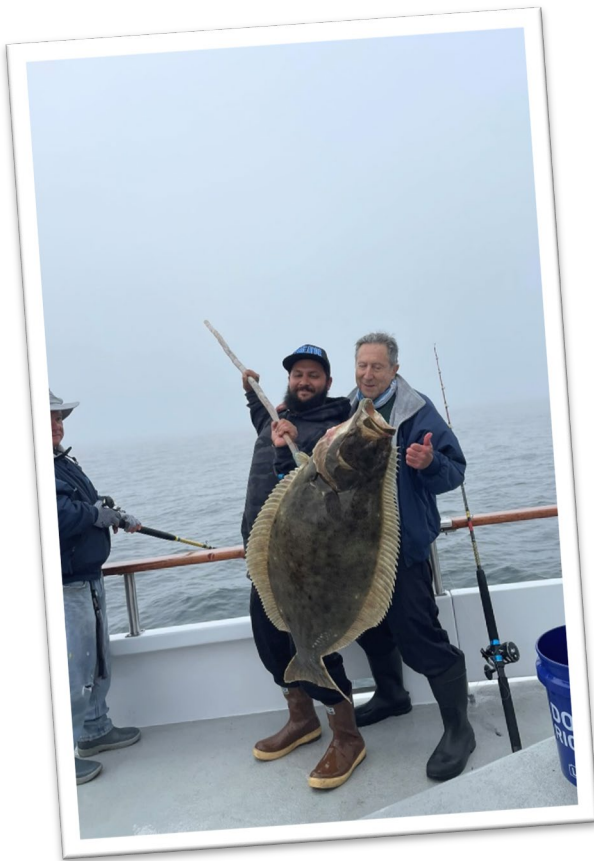
Add cubed fish/seafood, turn heat down to simmer. Add half-n-half, stir, then simmer for another 20 minutes.

Serve on its own or with bread for a simple, healthy 'one-pot' meal. Handful fresh chopped fresh herbs like cilantro, Italian parsley, marjoram, basil, and tarragon. Couple dashes of Tabasco.

- * Special thank you to our fishing merchant friends who donate and/or give deep discounts!
- *Click on their logos to check out their businesses.



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<https://vcsc.info/>

<https://www.facebook.com/VCSCVenturaCountySportfishingClub>

<https://www.instagram.com/venturasportfishingclub/>

<https://twitter.com/VCSportFishClub>

<https://linktr.ee/venturacountysportfishingclub>