

# VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

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Oct  
2025

NEWSLETTER



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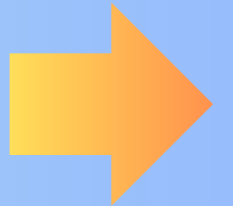
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# Welcome to our “**new**” online “**magazine style**” newsletter

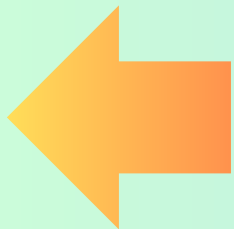


How to view each page:

“Click” on the right side to go to the next page.



“Click” on the left side to go back. Easy peasy! Enjoy!







***Happy end of September!***

Our Next VCSC Club meeting is Wednesday October 1st. This club meeting will be at a **new venue** called "Fusion Grill". More info > [click here](#)

We are finalizing the Christmas/Holiday Party info... as of right now, we are reserved for Saturday December 6... so you can put that on your calendar. More info (about location, food, cost) will be coming soon...!

Our last charter of this year is coming soon.. on October 6, 2025. Our Charter committee is working on Charters for 2026. If you have any input, let any of the officers or Board Members know...!

Speaking of Officers & Board Members - our annual election will be at the November 5 Meeting. All positions are available. [More info](#)

Below is a summary of duties, of each position... feel free to nominate yourself, or someone else (best to check with them first). We always need new people and new ideas...! New term starts January 1, 2026.

## **ELECTED Officers:**

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Member-at-Large (4 positions)  
Charter Master  
Membership Chairperson



## **APPOINTED:**

Chumline Newsletter Editor

To learn more, go to our "elections" information page on our website at:  
[www.vcsc.info/elections](http://www.vcsc.info/elections)

**Chuck Brinkman, president**  
**Ventura County Sportfishing Club**



**Chuck Brinkman IV, VCSC president**

**Next Meeting**  
**Weds, Oct 1st**

**NEW VENUE:**  
**FUSION GRILL**



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

venue change

***take note:***

Venue change for  
October's Meeting

**“FUSION GRILL”**

**2024 E Avenida De Los Arboles  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362**







## MONTHLY MEETING - WEDNESDAY: OCT 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2025

**Special Guest Speaker:**  
**Phil Friedman - High energy host of his own sportfishing focused podcast, YouTube Videos and get high rotation on social media!**

Our meetings are free and open to the public! [www.vcsc.info](http://www.vcsc.info)

### **Host of the Friedman Adventures**

**Podcast:** Phil Friedman leads a lively podcast, often featuring “Daily Morning Briefings,” where he covers the latest in sportfishing—especially from Baja and Southern California waters. Topics include halibut hauls, bluefin tuna updates, wahoo, yellowfin, yellowtail, white seabass, and more.

6:00 – Social time (food & drink)  
6:30 – Club Business / Drawings  
7:00 – Speaker(s) presentation  
8:00/8:30 – Wrap up



**FUSION GRILL**  
2024 E Avenida De Los Arboles  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
[google maps](#)

## CALENDAR EVENTS

### OCTOBER 1 - CLUB MEETING / 6:30PM

Special Guest Speaker: Phil Friedman  
[Fusion Grill](#), 2024 E Avenida De Los Arboles

### OCTOBER 5/6 - Charter on the Endeavor

### NOVEMBER 5 - CLUB MEETING / 6:30PM

Special Guest Speaker: Bob Semerau  
Club Elections > [more info](#)

### DECEMBER'S SPECIAL HOLIDAY PARTY

**\*\* Tentative date: Dec 6, 2025**

More info on our website: [www.vcsc.info](http://www.vcsc.info)

## CLUB ELECTIONS COMING IN NOV

## CHARTER DATES FOR 2025

- Charter 7 is the Endeavor on Oct 5/6







## MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are where we share the technical aspects of sportfishing with speakers who educate and inspire us!

We talk about upcoming charters, gear, line, bait, lures – and have a great social time together with like-minded people!



## CLUB CHARTERS

Members have access to book “club charters” with limited loads with our own club Chartermaster overseeing the organizational process of each charter especially for first timers!

[CHARTERS, LEARN MORE](#)



## PEOPLE PERSONS

Being on charters with super NICE and HELPFUL people! Have a question while on a charter? Ask any club member for help!

Being on charter with people with good temperaments and manners can “make or break” a fishing trip



## **BOTTOM LINE** We are fishing fanatics!!

WE share our love and passion for sportfishing – you will KNOW that when you see us in action on the deck, lines in the water, fish on, fish on the deck!

[MORE INFO](#)

**JOIN THE CLUB, BOOK A CHARTER — AND GET HOOKED FOR LIFE! > [CLICK HERE](#) TO LEARN MORE OR TO JOIN!**





VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

# newsletter photos



**Our members FISH and  
we like to share their  
adventures here in  
our monthly newsletters!**

**Email your images,  
with names and  
info on your trip to:  
[vcsc.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:vcsc.webmaster@gmail.com)**



**Michael Falcone brought his son and his father on a charter trip!**  
**If you remember, Michael was our “one-man-band” at last year's Christmas party!**  
**His son Marcello, 11, went ocean fishing for the second time—and caught the most fish!**



*Marcello Falcone's  
nice size Calico Bass.  
His first ever!*



Ira (right) with a nice sea bass!  
Not a "bass trombone"



**LEFT: Mark & Rick**  
Rick is holding Mark's  
jackpot halibut.  
Mark wanted to keep  
his hands clean, so  
Rick offered him one  
of his underpants rags,  
but Mark said NO!!







**LEFT:**  
Richard & Rick doing the  
jackpot weigh off.

The bass was big, but  
halibut are heavy.

At least Rick did not  
offer Richard his  
underpants rags!!



**Daniel rigging up  
a dropper loop**





**John White's  
successful  
trip chasing  
albacore.**

**Landing at the  
port of  
Ilwaco, WA**







**From bucket to cart - to truck bed!!  
Fishy photos: John White**





VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

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# newsletter photos



Beautiful sunset or sunrise

Photo credit: John White





Long-time VCSC member and amazing musician, Ira Nepus celebrated his birthday when he got home from a local fishing trip. FYI - He did not catch that shark on that trip!

🎉 Birthday Joke for Ira 🎉

Why did the jazz-loving shark crash the birthday fishing trip with a trombone?

Because it heard the bass was electric, the vibes were reel, and Ira was the catch of the day! So it slid in with a smooth glissando, blew a bubbly solo, and shouted: "Let's get this party kraken!"

*Note the "trombone shirt!!"*



Gary London's picture from his 3-day trip on the Red Rooster; 69.9# bluefin, caught on a jig in the evening



**“we fish with friends!”**



**Art Hernandez, club membership director, fishing with friends - catching some nice yellowtail at Cedros Island**



**Club Prez, Chuck Brinkman and Linda Karabin were fishing in Sitka Alaska, with Kingfisher Lodge (Sept 12-15, 2025). “We each caught a King Salmon, about 25 lbs ea... and 36+ Silver/Coho salmon between us... plus some Halibut and Ling Cod.”**







**Chuck & Linda in Alaska**





## Island Tak Fishing Report: Ira Nepus

Sunrise on the Island Tak.  
Seven of us had  
one of the best trips!

Wide open Calico Bass,  
small barracuda and  
mostly small white  
Seabass for 4 hours  
straight nonstop.

Great live sardines.  
Fished the Malibu coast  
again, but this time the  
ocean was on fire.  
Warmer water temps

Everyone took home  
limits of Calicos!



(L-R): John Fitzgerald, Richard Hartman  
Peter Kern, Terry Cavicchi  
Photo credit: Ira Nepus





VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

# volunteer opportunities

## **COMMITTEE FOR THE HOLIDAY PARTY**



Dear VCSC members,

We are looking for a few good men & women to “join” the Holiday Party planning committee. Tentative date: Saturday, Dec 6, 2025.  
For now this is the short list (see below).

Some of tasks we need covered are:

- Pre-event, set-up 5:00 to 6:00 PM.
- Post-event, clean-up 9:00 to 10:00 PM
- Table decor & decorating ideas.
- If the club pre-orders meals, we'll need someone to pick up the food.
- Will add more requests to this list as we get closer.

Email Art to join the holiday party committee: [iorart4431@gmail.com](mailto:iorart4431@gmail.com)



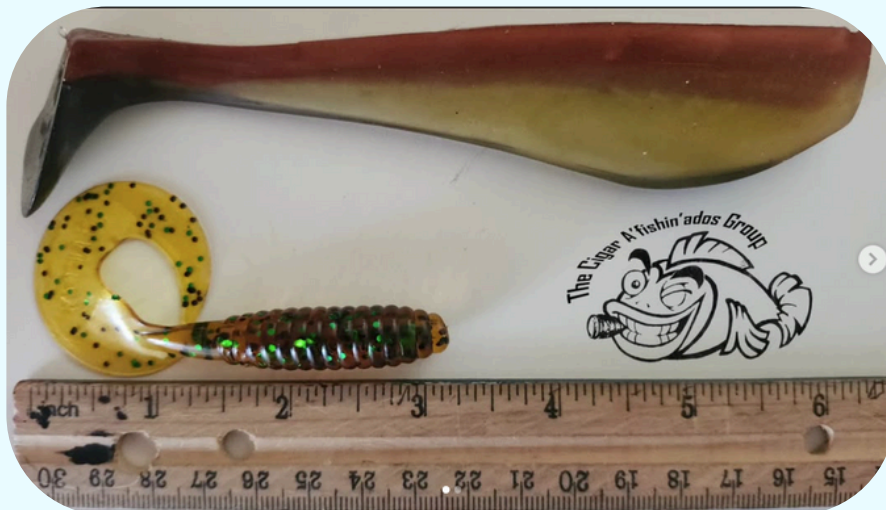




## BIG BAIT, BIG FISH? | BRIAN NGUYEN

**Valid.** But outside of tuna, locally, it has rarely panned out for me. Occasionally, I'll spot a mackerel in the tank, to which I've been told my whole fishing life that whatever bites it will be a good one. No doubt! Problem is, I can't remember ever getting a bite on one!

**To make matters worse,** while I'm soaking this mackerel, anglers around me are getting bit using anchovies or sardines! To reiterate, I'm not doubting the concept. Rather, maybe the concept needs to be expanded upon when it comes to fishing our local 1/2, 3/4, and even overnight waters.



"In my opinion, **the successful deployment of "big bait, big fish"** means understanding the data Mother Nature provides. There's a time and place for it as one size doesn't fit all. First, I like to see what the current is doing. With low or no current, I find there isn't enough activity to keep fish as interested. If water temps drop suddenly and dramatically, it could slow their metabolism. And I like to know what they've been feeding on to help plan my approach - hard and fast, or slow and easy.

**Downsizing your tackle** and downgrading your presentation doesn't mean you won't catch bigger fish. It's simply adjusting to conditions to increase your odds of success. Big bait, big fish...totally agree. But if you're not getting bit, you're not getting bit. Time to DO WORK!

**I've caught more 5-7lbs calico bass** on the small grub in general than I have with the 6.5" swimbait. The 6.5" swimbait, however, is one of my go-to's casting it far towards boiler rocks into the turbulence...bigger profile for them to see and even feel.

**Downgrade to Upgrade. Like it? Share it.**



Follow Brian on Instagram > [click here](#)



## “Let’s Talk ‘Hook Up’” ~ Online YouTube show

Wayne Kotow and Cory Sanden chat with Brian Nguyen ~ “the cigar afishinado”

Click on the YouTube “play button” below to watch or [click here](#)





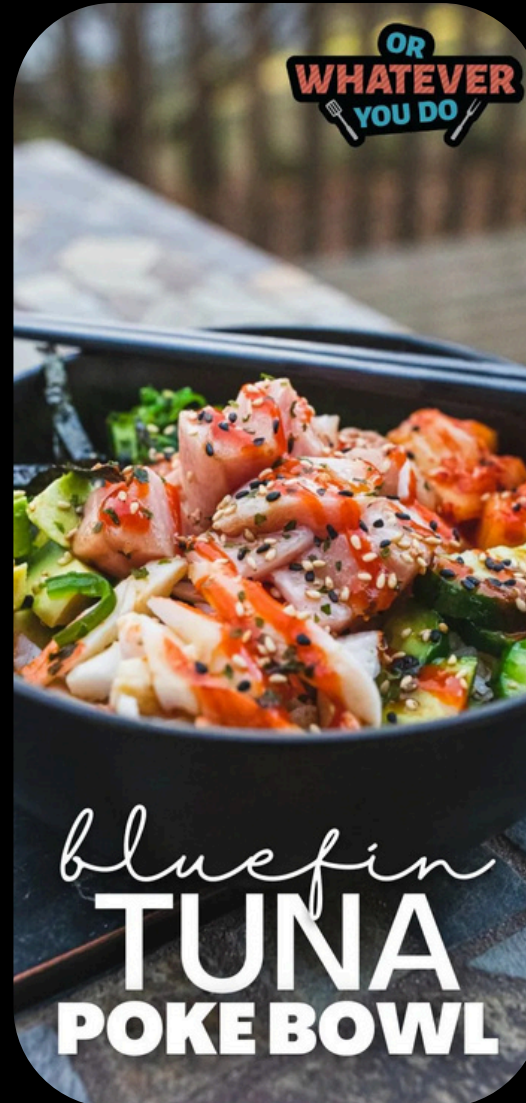
## blue fin poke bowl

### Tuna Poke Bowl Shopping List

Wondering if you have to hit the store? Here's the list of items you'll need to make this recipe. For specific amounts, please refer to the printable recipe card at the bottom of the post.

- Sushi Rice
- [Sushi Rice Seasoning](#) < click to order
- Edamame
- Japanese or English Cucumber
- Crab Salad
- Seaweed Salad
- Tobiko
- Bluefin Tuna
- Shoyu
- Wasabi Mayo
- Sriracha
- Furikake

[RECIPE LINK](#)



### How to Make Tuna Poke Bowls

This is just the overview so you can see what you're actually getting into here. When you are cooking, you'll want to use the full recipe at the bottom of the page.

1. Mix Rice – Take your cooked rice and mix in half of the seasoning packet.
2. Assemble – Split the poke bowl toppings between the two bowls evenly.
3. Prep Fish – Slice your fish into cubes. Sprinkle some of your shoyu over the fish and gently toss to evenly coat. Split the fish between the two bowls.
4. Garnish – Drizzle your sriracha and wasabi mayo over the poke bowls. Sprinkle with furikake.
5. Enjoy – Whip out the chopsticks and get busy enjoying this delicious poke bowl you made at home!



## Cook Your Catch: Pan-Seared Lingcod with Lemon-Butter Garlic Sauce

While lingcod is often battered and deep fried, Rob is bypassing the fryer this time for something a little lighter but every bit as tasty. Using a well-seasoned cast iron skillet, Rob sears the lingcod fillets, resulting in a gorgeous golden-brown crust on the outside and moist, succulent meat in the inside. Rob then tops the fish with a creamy, lemon butter and garlic sauce, made from scratch, of course. It's simple, delicious, healthy, affordable and will satisfy even the most fickle of diners. [CLICK HERE](#) TO WATCH!





[WWW.VCSC.INFO](http://WWW.VCSC.INFO)

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# LINKS TO GREAT STUFF



[venturaharborsportfishing](#)



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[royal\\_starsportfishing](#)



[brian & bob sands \(aran\)\\_podcast](#)  
“Smokin' Drags Session”



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# board of directors

## 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **FOUNDING MEMBER:** Brian Zimmerman
- **PRESIDENT:** Chuck Brinkman
- **VICE PRESIDENT:** Aaron Levi
- **SECRETARY:** Richard Hartman
- **TREASURER:** Rick Lane
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Art Hernandez
- **CHARTER MASTER:** Rick Lane
- **MEETINGS/PROGRAMS:** Board Members
- **NEWSLETTER:** [Cece Rubin](#)
- **DRAWINGS:** Peter Syapin
- **MEMBERS AT LARGE:**
  - Shane Busicko, Ira Nepus, Matt Rubin, Norm Rodewald.

## Non-board Leaders / Volunteers

- SOCIAL MEDIA & Website: [Cece Rubin](#)





## **“YouTube channel by: John Skinner Fishing**

Flounder (fluke) Fishing with bucktails and Berkley Gulp. Underwater view in Long Island Sound. This supplements chapter 11 in my book, Fishing the Bucktail <http://tinyurl.com/FishingTheBucktail>





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