



February

2026

CHUMLINE NEWS



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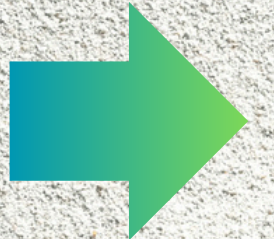
*to navigate between pages, click "anywhere" on the page you are viewing



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!



30 years of excellence!!

2026 is the club's 30th anniversary year!

The club was started by our founder Brian Zimmerman in 1996 in Westlake Village. He coined the phrase "Fish with Friends" And his 90th birthday was January 13! Happy Birthday Brian.

Our next meeting, on February 4 should be a good one. Tucker McCombs is our guest speaker, he will talk about fishing the islands this year.

At this meeting, Charter Master Rick Lane will take full payment for those who sign up for the April trip. Come early for dinner, we expect good attendance. We had 45 members and guests at the January meeting.



Art Hernandez, VCSC president

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

meeting location



take note:

Meeting Venue


“BLACK BEAR DINER”

2401 E Harbor Blvd
Ventura, CA 93001


VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

club meeting

TUCKER McCOMBS



WEDNESDAY
**FEB
04**



WWW.VCSC.INFO

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 4, 2026

As part of our agreement with Black Bear, all attendees are expected to order at least one food item and one beverage from their reasonably priced menu.

Location:
BLACK BEAR DINER
2401 E Harbor Blvd
Ventura, CA 93001

5:30-6:30 – Dinner & Social Time

**6:30 – Meeting Starts which includes:
Club Business / Drawing & Speaker's presentation**



MONTHLY MEETING - Wednesday - Feb 4, 2026

Captain Tucker McCombs is a well-known Southern California sportfishing captain and the owner/operator of the Endeavor, a 60-foot by 20-foot modernized sportfishing vessel running out of Ventura Harbor Sportfishing. His boat is based at 1500 Anchors Way Drive, Ventura, CA, and is a staple of the Ventura Harbor fishing fleet

Our meetings are free and open to the public! You just need to purchase a meal/dessert of food item and a beverage. Easy Peasy! www.vcsc.info

Location:

BLACK BEAR DINER
2401 E Harbor Blvd
Ventura, CA 93001



**** Right off the 101-Ventura freeway!**

5:30/6:00 – Social & Dinner
6:30 – Club Meeting & Speaker
9:00 - Wrap up

2026 Meetings > [click here](#)

February 4 - Tucker McCombs & charter signups
March 4 - Aren Antounian > Bob Sands Tackle
April 1 - James Kikkawa
May 6 - Dan Hernandez
June 3 - to be determined

More info on our website: www.vcsc.info

CHARTER DATES FOR 2026

- Visit our “charters page” > [click here](#)
- All charter info is subject to change.



2026 CHARTER
SIGNUPS

FEBRUARY 4TH MEETING

CHARTER DATES FOR 2026 > [more info](#)

- #1 April 2–3 (15/\$350)
- #2 May 28 (25–28/\$180)
- #3 June 18–19 (12/\$380)
- Kids Trip (Tentative) July 8
- #4 July 16–17 (12/\$380)
- #5 August 1–2 (15/\$350)
- #6 September 9–11 (15/\$500)
- #7 October 28–30 (15/\$500)
- #8 November 6–7 (15/\$350)



2026 CHARTER
SIGNUPS

FEBRUARY 4TH MEETING

All dates are to change” due to weather and captain’s updates

*These trips are 1.5 days.

More info on our website: www.vcsc.info

MORE ABOUT - Captain Tucker McCombs

Experience & Background

- Tucker has spent many seasons fishing the Southern California coast, building a reputation for strong local knowledge and consistent results for anglers of all experience levels.
- He both owns and skippers the Endeavor, leading trips ranging from overnight to multi-day excursions targeting rockfish, whitefish, lingcod, sheephead, yellowtail, tuna, and more.

Reputation

Tucker and his crew are known for:

- Professionalism and friendly service
- Strong catch counts
- A welcoming environment for both novice and expert anglers
- Running one of Ventura Harbor's most reliable overnight boats



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

club notices

Annual dues will be due in April.

You can make payment at the
April 1st meeting ~ or at any of
our upcoming meetings!
Dues are \$60 a year. Thank you!

*** Membership is as sweet as honey!*





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!



The Santa Barbara County Fish and Wildlife Commission: Comments on Proposed MPA Petitions



The Santa Barbara Fish and Wildlife Commission is a county commission consisting of nine members appointed by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. The commission, among other things, aids the county board on active fish and wildlife related matters with our combined hundreds of years of local fish and wildlife experience between our fellow commissioners.

This comment letter (links below) serves to provide our input regarding the current MPA petitions requesting changes be made to the MPA network specifically around the Santa Barbara Channel and Channel Islands. We feel our county fish and wildlife commission's input on the MPA petition process may prove especially valuable due to our local experiences and local understanding of the ecosystem, as well as our variety of backgrounds, consisting of non-consumptive users, fishermen, and biological scientists. This letter serves as a culmination of many public meetings learning about the MPA petitions that have been proposed as well as fellow commissioners observations being involved in local discussions about the petitions outside of official meetings to gauge public input and sentiment. This county commission appreciates the opportunity to provide the following feedback on these local MPA petitions.

- Learn more > [click here](#) to download & read / share the PDF
- Most recent agendas and minutes online > [click here](#)
- More about the SBCFWC: <https://www.countyofsb.org/1701/Fish-Wildlife-Commission>

other charters 2026

Richard Campos has reserved two boats for fishing with Kingfisher Charters in Sitka Alaska August 2027

[download the flyer](#)



KINGFISHER CHARTERS

INFORMATION ON VCSC ALASKAN CHARTER

WHEN/WHERE:

- Holding space for a group of 8.
- Arriving Saturday, June 26, 2027.
- Fishing June 27, 28, and 29.
- Departing Wednesday, June 30, 2027.
- 3 days/ 4 nights



HIGHLIGHTS:

- All inclusive Lodge Package.
- Full day guided charters on contracted boats (modern, fast 28 - 34' cruisers, heated and fully equipped).
- First class lodging accommodations each night.
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, and soft drinks each day.
- Fish cleaning, vacuum packing, freezing, and boxing.
- All fishing gear, tackle, bait, rain gear, and rubber boots provided.
- Airport pickups and transportation in Sitka provided.



ESTIMATED COST:

\$3,595

PER PERSON + SITKA
SALES AND ROOM TAX

*AIR FARE NOT INCLUDED

MORE INFO MID SUMMER OF 2026

SIGN UP NOW!
2027 SEASON



LADIES!!! LET'S "GO FISH"!

Although the 2nd charter is not an “official” ladies charter we ARE still trying to get a lot of our lady friends to go out and fish for one day! I know when I tell my girlfriends that I went fishing - they are amazed and mention that they want to try fishing too!

It's a “one-day” event, same-day charter (not an overnighter) – and a great way to see if our “girlfriends” might also enjoy the sport of sportfishing in our wonderful local waters! So share the new with friends or email me, Cece Rubin for more info at: vcsc.webmaster@gmail.com – or contact Rick Lane and book the trip, email Rick at: venturacountysportfishingclub@gmail.com

If you've never fished before, myself, Kim and the club guys will help us out! They're the best and want us to “catch fish!”

NOTE: club has fishing rods & reels WE CAN LOAN you for FREE! You'll just need to buy a license, hooks and sinkers!

#2 – Island Spirit (Day Trip)

Date: May 28

Departure: 5:00 AM

Capacity: 25–28 anglers

Cost: \$180

Charter Master: Rick Lane

Landing: Ventura Sportfishing

1500 Anchors Way Dr.

Ventura, CA 93001

Phone: 805-676-3474

WHITE SEABASS

GROW-OUT PENS ~ LATEST REPORT

On Saturday January 24th we began the reconstruction of the White Seabass pens. A large group of volunteers worked together to tear down the above water structure and haul it off to the dump. We intend to begin covering over the open pen that will not be used however we found from some of the construction guys there that the method we were going to use was not optimal so we need different materials. We have those materials now and will continue over the next few weeks. Watch for my calls for additional help. Next effort will be Saturday 1-31-26 at 9am. (*note: email went out to club members on Jan 28).

Jimmy is available to do the framing of the deck, if anyone is available to assist him please call or text him at 805-901-5924.



WHITE SEABASS GROW-OUT PENS

Robert Groeber worked on the pens and took a few snapshots of the day's work. Looking forward to hearing from Frank Sullivan on volunteer opportunities soon! If anyone would like to reach out to Frank, his contact info is listed below!



FRANK SULLIVAN | 805-205-4073 - GROW-OUT PEN VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR, CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR

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**



Thank you to all the VCSC members that took time out on a beautiful sunny Saturday and attended the "Aloha Spirit" breast cancer awareness fundraising event organized by Mike Armenta and Midwest Brewery and of course the Aloha Spirit boat. We were happy to participate with donations and members who participated in the special event!





ART'S BIG YELLOWING TUNA & BROKEN ROD!





CHILLIN' BETWEEN BITES

< Norman
Rodewald

Dave Hill >



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB



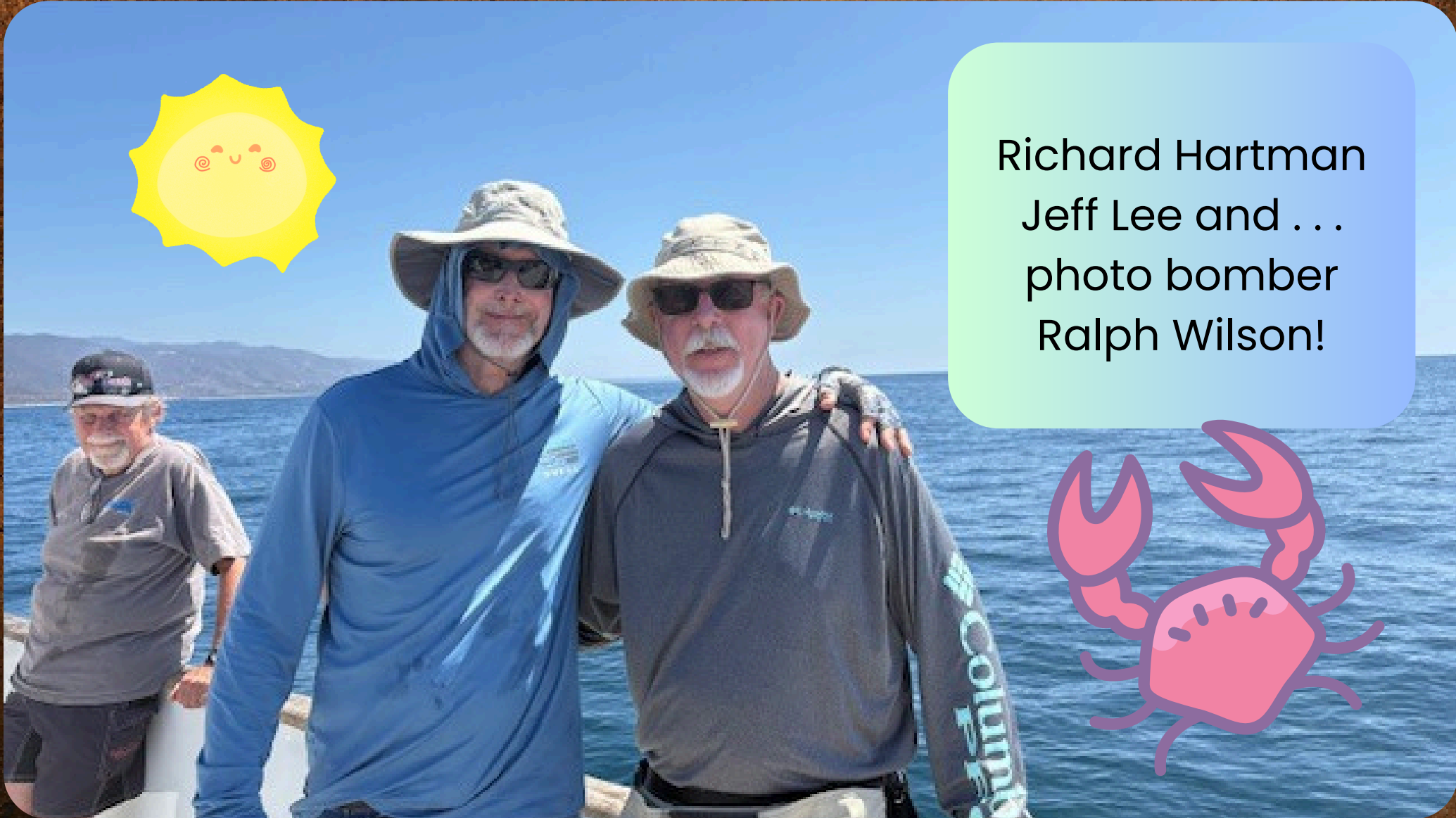
Last year's August Charter on the Endeavor

Walt Kainz and Son



Prez Art Hernandez
Wahoo caught with
no wire leader.





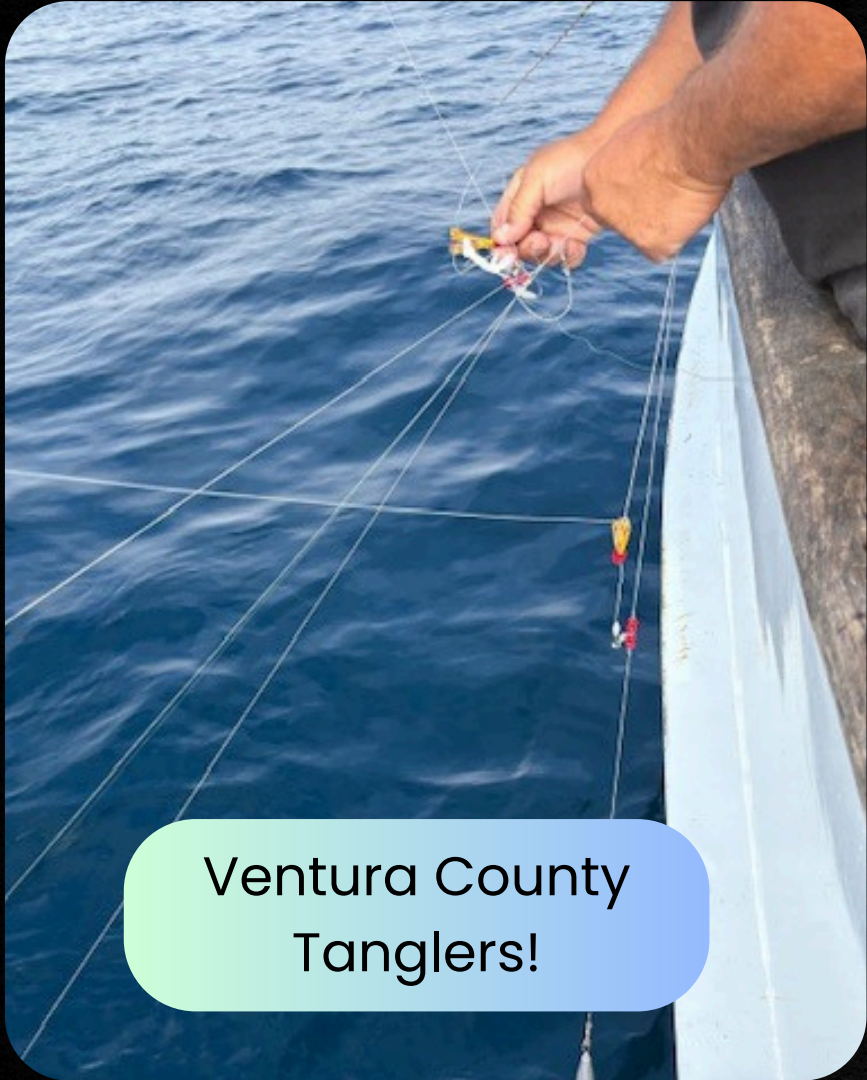
Richard Hartman
Jeff Lee and ...
photo bomber
Ralph Wilson!



LIKE

**KAI LU &
RALPH WILSON
“WAITING FOR
THE BITE”**





Ventura County
Tanglers!



**John White &
Ira Nepus**



Did you know that we send out "promo posters" every month for club meetings to our local "loyal" tackle shops?

Please support all our tackle shops. Where would we be without them!



Norm, Dave and Art at the Alijos Rocks off the coast of Baja



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB



[Watch video on YouTube](#)

Error 153
Video player configuration error



Check out Tucker McComb's
YouTube video - that'll be a
GREAT TEASER for the
upcoming 2026 charters!
Sign-ups for the charters
will be at our February
meeting - don't miss it!

Click on the "play button"





[Watch video on YouTube](#)

Error 153
Video player configuration error



RICHARD
CAMPOS
ALASKA
ADVENTURES





CHARTER ANNOUNCEMENT & REGISTERING CLUB MEMBERS!

February 4, 2026
5:30 – dinner & social time
6:30 – meeting

The Black Bear Diner
2401 E Harbor Blvd
Ventura, CA 93001

More info > [click here](#)

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

blast from the past!



VCSC

**“WE FISH
WITH
FRIENDS”**

newsletter photos



CAPTAIN DAN & CHEFIE ON THE ENDEAVOR

Photo credit: Cece Rubin



GETTING READY TO "ROCK-N-ROLL"
VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

Photo credit: Cece Rubin

THE ENDEAVOR ~ GOIN' FISHIN'



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

Photo credit: Cece Rubin (2023)

TUNA SUSHI & SASHIMI CUTTING GUIDE

Based on insights from experienced sushi cutters across Reddit communities

Essential Tools

- **Sharp Knife:** A razor-sharp blade is non-negotiable. A traditional Yanagi-ba (single-bevel) knife gives the cleanest cuts. Keep the blade slightly wet to prevent sticking.
- **Cutting Board:** Use a stable, sanitized board large enough for long slicing strokes.

Preparation

- **Thaw & Dry:** If using frozen tuna, thaw fully and blot with paper towels to remove moisture and blood.
- **Remove the Bloodline:** Trim out the dark red bloodline — it carries a strong, metallic flavor.

Cutting Techniques

- **Saku Blocks**
 - **Form Rectangles:** Break down the loin into rectangular saku blocks for consistent slicing.
 - **Cut Against the Grain:** Slice the blocks so the final sashimi pieces are cut against the grain for tenderness.
- **Sashimi**
 - **Slice Thinly:** Aim for 5-7 mm slices (thickness varies by preference).
 - **Use One Stroke:** Pull the knife through in a single, smooth motion — no sawing.
- **Nigiri**
 - **Rice Portioning:** Use a small, uniform amount of rice for each piece.
 - **Shape Gently:** Lay the tuna over the rice and shape with light pressure.

Additional Tips

- **Practice:** Precision improves with repetition.
- **Quality Matters:** High-grade, fresh tuna dramatically improves results.
- **Handling Fatty Cuts:** For rich cuts like o-toro, pair with something sweet or spicy to balance the fat.



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

thank you!



ERIC'S TACKLE
2127 E THOMPSON BLVD,
VENTURA, CA 93001
805 648 5665

<https://www.wegetbit.com/>

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

thank you!



HYUN'S TACKLE

3695 HARBOR BLVD, STE 102

VENTURA, CA 93001

+1 805 639 4131

www.fisherman-hyun.com

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

thank you!

BOB SANDS TACKLE

6743 SEPULVEDA BLVD

VAN NUYS, CA, 91411

(818) 994-1822

www.bobsandstackle.com



VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

thank you!



TURNER'S

C/O MIKE ARMENTA

2051 N ROSE AVE

OXNARD, CA 93036

805-988-2049

[WEBSITE](#)

VENTURA COUNTY SPORTFISHING CLUB

thank you!



ANGLER'S DEN

**1810 VENTURA BLVD
CAMARILLO, CA 93010**

805 388 1566

FACEBOOK PAGE



Brian Nguyen “the cigar afishinado” & the “medicare guy”

Never one to bemoan the end of rockcod season, I love this (upcoming) time of year!

Winter structure fishing for sandbass, sculpin, and whitefish!

Casting distance and accuracy, the feel game, when/why/how to downsize or upgrade your presentation, and pull like a motherf*\$%er!

You can use whatever you like! I just prefer....

9-foot Graphite or Composite Rods:

- Casting accuracy and distance
- Sensitivity to stay in contact with structure
- Move more line on a sweeping hookset

White color Spectra because my aging eyes see it better in gray light or in the dark (in the case of Twilight trips).

8ft Fluorocarbon topshots. I can cut off and change weights or rigs several times before the topshot gets too short ...think efficiency.

The Detailed Breakdown:

The 30# Power Rig:

- I keep a 1oz or 1.5oz B52 Bucktail tied on here. For bigger fish or if they are reacting better to a more aggressive presentation, it's on like Donkey Kong and the bucktail gets licked!

The 25# Standard:

- I fish a sliding sinker on this anywhere from 3/4 to 1.5oz because on some trips, they eat this better than a leadhead. I can also set this up with a dropper loop if needed, or fish a lighter line presentation with a leadhead.

The 20# Finesse'r:

- In colder water with little to no conditions, I slow down my presentation and fish a lighter 1/2oz to 1oz banana leadhead. I prefer a banana leadhead such as the ones made by Leadmasters to a bucktail simply because I like how they lay vertically on structure to facilitate my slower presentation. I can also switch to a slider with a small hook and squid strips in really touchy bites.

One of my favorite styles of fishing that can be done on local 1/2 and 3/4 day boats! A great way for a novice to continue learning, and for an experienced angler to keep his/her line wet! Give your local landings a call in the New Year and make those reservations!

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

PACIFIC COAST SPORTFISHING SHOW

TACKLE x BOAT TRAVEL x OUTDOORS

PRESENTED BY

GEICO

Orange County - March 5-8, 2026

OC Fair & Event Center
88 Fair Drive - Costa Mesa, CA 92626



San Diego - March 19-22, 2026

Del Mar Fairgrounds
San Diego 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, CA 92014





FEBRUARY: SEARED TUNA WITH SPICY MAYO

Recipes by Jay Ducote | Food and Cooking
Photography by Collin Richie

Seared Tuna with Spicy Mayo is a game-day showstopper that takes tailgating to the next level. Fresh Gulf tuna gets a sesame seed crust and quick sear, then pairs with a creamy Cajun-spiced mayo for bold, crowd-pleasing flavor. Easy to slice, share, and serve, this dish is perfect for tailgate spreads where you want to impress without the fuss. | [PDF DOWNLOAD](#)

Ingredients:

- 1 pound fresh Gulf tuna
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds
- 1 tablespoon black sesame seeds
- 1 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon cooking oil
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon Slap Ya Mama Cajun Pepper Sauce
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 2 tablespoons finely sliced green onions

[RECIPE LINK](#)

Instructions:

1. Remove any skin from the tuna and then coat all sides in a blend of soy sauce and sesame oil.
2. In a shallow bowl, mix together brown sugar, both types of sesame seeds, garlic, and kosher salt. Press the tuna down into the spice and seed mixture to coat it; repeat on each side of the tuna until it is entirely covered.
3. In a well-ventilated kitchen or outside, bring a frying pan to high heat and then add the cooking oil. When very hot, place the tuna down and sear for approximately 1 to 2 minutes and then flip it. Repeat on all sides until each surface is seared. Remove the tuna from the heat and allow it to rest.
4. Add mayonnaise, pepper sauce, and garlic salt to a small bowl and stir to combine.
5. Slice tuna and plate. Garnish with green onions and serve with spicy mayonnaise.

"YouTube" RECIPE OF THE MONTH | February 2026

In this Mercury Cook Your Catch video, Ali Hussainy of BD Outdoors brings a taste of SoCal to wherever you call home with his **Southern California rockfish taco meal**. It's simple and easy, but with a bold flavor that brings to mind beachside outdoor dining in the sunshine. | PDF (ai) transcribed recipe > [click here](#)



WWW.VCSC.INFO

LINKS TO GREAT STUFF



[venturaharborsportfishing](#)



[endeavorsportfishing](#)



[royal_starsportfishing](#)



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



[bobsands tackle](#)



[ericstackleshop](#)



[islandspirit_805](#)



[californiasurffishing](#)



[hyun’s tackle, ventura](#)



[Angler’s Den, Camarillo](#)



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The MEDICARE Open Enrollment Period is upon us! All the mail you've been receiving, and the calls you've been receiving....it's signature hunters - and I'm not! So what do I do?

First: No charge for conversation... No charge for consultation... Never any obligation...

Let Brian Nguyen, help you either find or create LONG-TERM MEDICARE SOLUTIONS for you, your Medicare eligible friends, families, or loved ones who have been blessed with 65 years or more on this Earth.

I standby ready, willing, eager, and able to assist! Thanks for your time and have a great weekend!
Ask me about MEDICARE! Visit mhlis.com for more information! -

VCSC - 2026 board members

FOUNDING MEMBER

BRIAN ZIMMERMAN

PRESIDENT / MEMBERSHIP

ART HERNANDEZ

PAST PRESIDENTS

CHUCK BRINKMAN

NORM RODEWALD

VICE PRESIDENT

JOHN WHITE

SECRETARY

RICHARD HARTMAN

TREASURER / CHARTER MSTR

RICK LANE



MEETINGS/PROGRAMS

BOARD MEMBERS

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE

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DRAWINGS

PETER SYAPIN

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IRA NEPUS

ROBERT GROEBER

KAI LU

MICHAEL STAFFORDCRANE

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venturacountysportfishingclub@gmail.com

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