

# Chum Line



Good Sportsmanship is Worth More Than all the Fish in the Ocean NOVEMBER 2023

HAPPY  
Thanksgiving





## *A Message from the President*

By Andrew Ratzky

Dear Fellow Anglers,

It's hard to believe it is November and the holiday season is upon us. I want to extend warm wishes to each member of our fantastic fishing club. Your passion sportfishing, and camaraderie has made this year truly special.

In the spirit of the season, let's not forget the importance of giving and receiving. Just as we share our fishing stories and tips on the water, it's time to give back to our club by participating in the upcoming board member elections. Your vote shapes the future of our fishing family.

Please check your emails for a message from James Purtee ([jgpurtee@yahoo.com](mailto:jgpurtee@yahoo.com)), sent on October 3, containing the details and a link to cast your vote. Your voice matters, and together we can ensure that our club continues to thrive.

Also, mark your calendars for our eagerly anticipated banquet on Sunday, February 25, 2024. Save the date! Invitations will be heading your way in mid-January. This promises to be a celebration you won't want to miss as we come together to share stories, recognize our achievements, and our passion for fishing.

Wishing you tight lines and joyous holidays!

### **Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club Foundation**

#### **Tribute Opportunity**

Tribute Cards are available when you want to send your thoughts or feelings for

• Congratulations • Graduation  
Anniversary • Illness • Appreciation  
Best Wishes • New Home  
Baby Announcement  
Bar/Bat Mitzvahs  
In Memoriam

Your LARRC Foundation is a  
charitable organization.

Donations maybe deducted.

Tributes will be posted in the Chum Line.  
Tribute cards will be sent to recipient.

Information Request and Donations may be  
addressed to:

Mrs. Tammy Steinman  
1941 Majorca Drive, Oxnard, CA 93035  
818-987-2645 • 818-345-6104 Fax  
[tammy2508@socal.rr.com](mailto:tammy2508@socal.rr.com)

## **Hakai** magazine Coastal Science and Societies

Indigenous Thua people, European colonists, and killer whales may seem like unlikely partners, but in the late 19th century, they worked together to hunt baleen whales in New South Wales, Australia. European whalers employed Thua hunters who had a generations-old custom of following killer whales as they herded their baleen prey. When a Thua hunter harpooned a whale, the community got the meat and the killer whales got the tongue. This became known as the Law of the Tongue. (The Conversation)

## **EARN MONEY for LARRC Foundation By Shopping at Ralphs!**



Here's How:

**Step #1:** Enroll in the Ralphs Reward Program if you are not currently enrolled.

**Step #2:** Print out this page and take it with you the next time you shop at Ralphs.

**Step #3:** At check-out, have the LARRC barcode swiped by the cashier together with your Ralphs Rewards Card/phone number.

*Notice: The Ralphs LARRC Barcode needs to be swiped only once to link your Rewards Card to LARRC. Future shopping trips will help raise money for LARRC when you use your Ralphs Reward Card at check-out.*

# CONSERVATION MATTERS

By Theresa Labriola

**The Changing Face of Sportfishing** - My friend Bob Rees shares his experiences as a saltwater fishing guide and seeing opportunity wane and concludes we are at a crossroads, with no real roadmap to righting the listing vessel. Challenges to sportfishing resources are coming at us from all angles. From lethal summer water temperatures on our public forestlands, to the collapse of the food base for critical marine species, to unknown changes in ocean temperatures and acidification, we have a lot to fix. Staving off change is already too late; we need methods and strategies to reverse the damage we've done, and it only comes from collaboration. He concludes "If we continue to have such rare opportunity to enjoy such a unique resource, these special days become even more meaningful. It also means, however, that fewer people will get a chance to enjoy them, compromising the future foot soldiers we need to keep the dream alive."

<https://conservefish.org/2023/10/31/the-changing-face-of-sport-fishing>

**Capturing Carbon with Seaweed: What We Know, What We Don't, and What We're Totally Unsure About** - In the world of carbon offset trading, kelp is a big buzzword. Golden-brown and glistening, certain seaweeds are catching the attention of investors for their seeming propensity to grab vast amounts of carbon and pack it away for the long haul. With companies already clamoring for consumers' climate-conscious dollars, many scientists worry enthusiasm for the burgeoning industry is getting ahead of what kelp can actually deliver. <https://hakaimagazine.com/news/capturing-carbon-with-seaweed-what-we-know-what-we-dont-and-what-were-totally-unsure-about>

**US Help Our Kelp Act aims to support kelp forest recovery efforts** - We've read that kelp may help store carbon, but can it also be sustainably harvested. Grown on the Pacific Coast from California to Alaska and on the East Coast in parts of New England, kelp has been harvested on a large scale in the United States since World War I, when the vegetation was used as a source of potash to make gunpowder. During that time, the harvest was unregulated and destructive to the surrounding habitats. Nowadays,

the harvest of kelp is more sustainable due to harvesters only removing the upper portion of the canopy of the algae.

<https://www.seafoodsource.com/national-fisherman/us-help-our-kelp-act-aims-to-support-kelp-forest-recovery-efforts>

**Calif., NOAA taking urgent action in wake of chinook 'cohort collapse'** - For commercial fishers, losing gear is part of The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries biologists are pursuing urgent measures this fall to save some of the last remaining Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon after the numbers returning from the ocean this year fell sharply toward extinction.

Biologists call this year's sharp decline a "cohort collapse" because so few threatened adult spring-run Chinook salmon returned to the small streams still accessible to them. Mill and Deer Creek — two of the three streams that hold the remaining independent spring-run populations — each saw fewer than 25 returning adults this year.

<https://www.nationalfisherman.com/aggregate-news/calif-noaa-taking-urgent-in-wake-of-chinook-cohort-collapse>

**National Marine Sanctuaries are sources of solutions, partnerships and identity** - Members of the Congressional Sanctuaries Caucus have introduced a resolution to make Oct. 23 the first ever National Marine Sanctuary Day. By drawing attention to our national marine sanctuaries, the nation can see them for what they are: special places where conservation, economic prosperity, and human well being not only come together, but are deeply woven together in our national character and identity. They are also living laboratories for solutions we need to address climate change, protect biodiversity, and even dismantle historic inequities.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/congress-blog/4270592-national-marine-sanctuaries-are-sources-of-solutions-partnerships-and-identity/>

## CALENDAR

### Board Meeting

November 20, 2023

Via Zoom • 7pm

Please email the Club President for link information.

### Dinner Meeting

November 27, 2023

Social Hour 5:30 Dinner and Meeting 7:00

Lulu's Restaurant, 16900 Roscoe Blvd. Van Nuys

### Annual Banquet

February 25, 2024

## Advertise Your Business or Service in the Chum Line

The monthly prices are as follows:

1/8 page: \$20      1/4 page: \$40  
1/2 page: \$80      Full page: \$160

The page format is 8.5 x 11 with 3/4" margins all around

**One month FREE with 6 months of  
paid advertising!**

Contact John Ballotti  
[johnballotti1@gmail.com](mailto:johnballotti1@gmail.com)

**Join LARRC for an afternoon of:**



The Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club will host a morning and afternoon of surf fishing at County Line Beach, at the north end of Malibu. Club member Jim Purtee will lead the group, give us pointers on the conditions to look for, and take us on a surf fishing adventure.

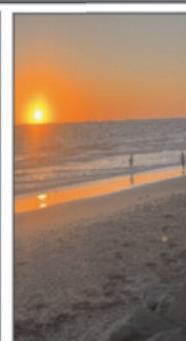
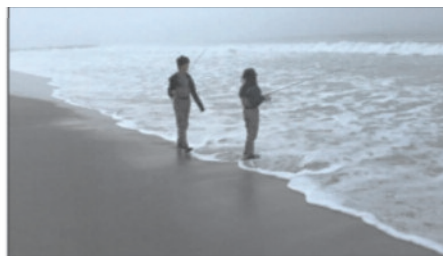
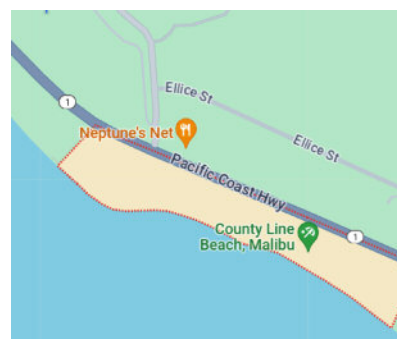
**Date: Sunday, November 19, 2023**

**Time: 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., high tide is at 1:03 p.m. and sunset is at 4:49 p.m.**

**Location: County Line Beach across from Neptune's Net Restaurant – 42505 CA-1 (Pacific Coast Highway) Malibu, CA 90265.**

Type "Neptune's Net, Malibu, CA" into Google Maps for directions.

**RSVP to Andrew Ratzky, [aratzky@att.net](mailto:aratzky@att.net)**







# Surf Fishing 101

## Planning/Scouting

### Conditions

**Tides/Moon Phase** - lots of online tide charts – look at the spread between high and low tide, 3-5 ft. is good. Higher energy tides and surf usually mean higher current and more seaweed

**Wind** Windy.app to forecast less than 10 mph  **WINDY.APP**

**Surf** - Surfline app to forecast 0 - 2 ft. is best but time between waves is more important >10 sec 

**Current** – heavy current will push your bait on shore, change your set-up

**Seaweed** – the less the better, change locations or use heavier leader line

**Contamination** – after storms bacteria load is high, also red tide is a problem check water conditions

### Terrain

Winter vs. Summer Beach

Sand Bars, Troughs, Holes, Cuts, Rip Currents, Points

### Target Fish Peak Season

Surf Perch	September – May (Barred and Walleye) (females are larger, live longer and pregnant Nov. – May) Limit 10 of one species, 20 total
Croaker	June – September (Yellowfin and Spotfin) Limit 10
Corbina	July – September 12" minimum, limit 2
Halibut	June-October 22" minimum, limit 2

### Equipment

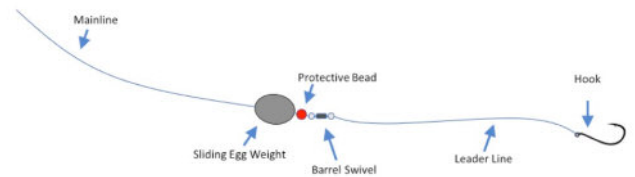
**Rods** range from 7 to 10 feet depending on target fish, conditions, and terrain  
e.g. Carolina Rig – 6 to 8 ft. rod with med. to med, heavy power and mod. to mod.-fast action

**Lure** - 8 to 10 ft. rod with med. Heavy power and mod. – fast to fast action

**Reels** – saltwater 3000 to 4000 series is best but have used freshwater reels, must clean/oil them every trip

**Line** – 15# to 30# main line with 6# to 20# leader 2-4 feet.  
Set-ups (hooks, weights, swivels, beads)

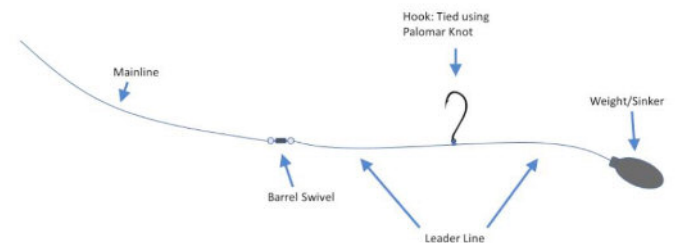
Carolina Rig



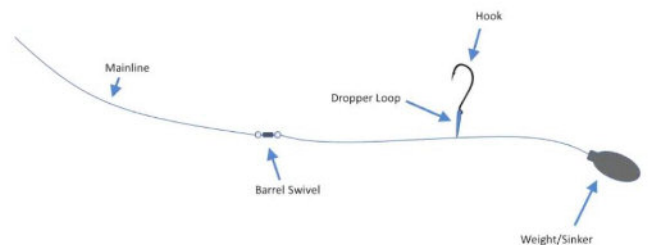
Fish Finder Rig



Drop Shot Rig



Dropper Loop Rig



**Bait** (live, plastics, lures, swim baits)

**Live** - Pregnant Sand crabs, mussel and clam meat, dried anchovies/shrimp

**Plastics** – Red/Green sandworms, oily sandcrab (jigging)

**Lures** – Luckycraft 110 or similar (jerkbait), use Power-clips to quickly change out lures

**Swimbait**s - use Texas rig with weighted hook

continued



License optional 2nd pole stamp

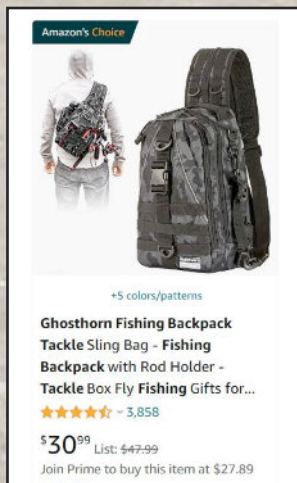
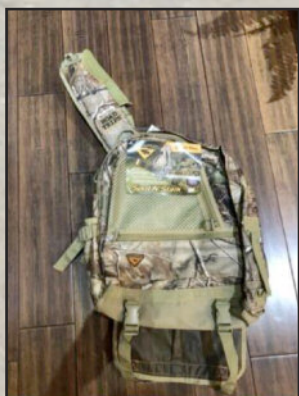
Clothing – hat, sunglasses (polarized), sunscreen, water shoes

Needle nose pliers

Tape measure

Pack for gear, food, water, and fish storage

I use GamePlan Gear Spot-n-Stalk Quiver Pack (Left or Right Hand) keeps your casting arm free (my bowhunting pack). Sold out in most shops I checked. Currently on Ebay for \$75. There are several inexpensive sling-type fishing backpacks out there. The one below can be left-hand, right-hand, or backpack.



Strategies/Tactics

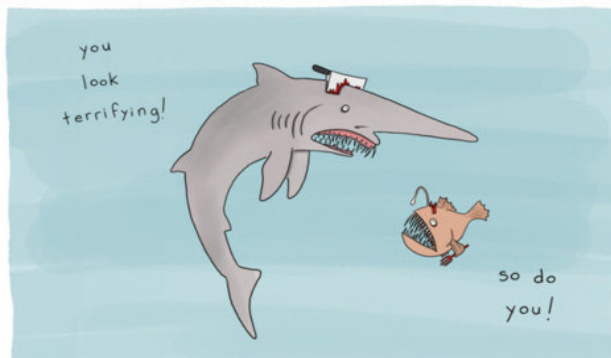
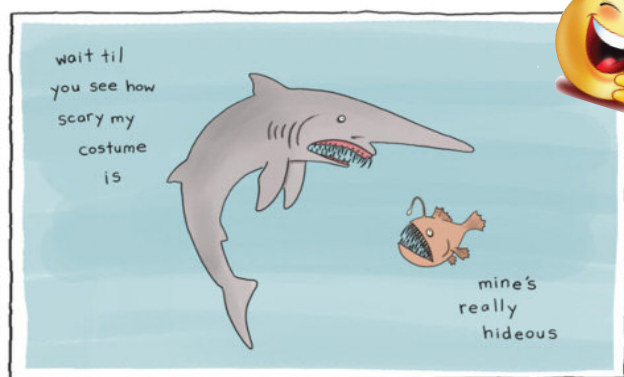
Know the conditions and change your set-up to fit them

Try to scout during low tide and looking from the bluffs, but learn how to read the terrain from the beach during any tide

Fish where the fish are – cuts are fish highways. troughs, holes, foam, rip currents. Keep your eyes open and move from place to place, 3 – 4 casts and move on if not getting bit

Fan casting and using the current to drop in to the trough, cut, holes. I release about 90% of perch I catch

Be an ambassador for the sport



© liz climo

lizclimo.tumblr.com

## Health and Happenings

Linda Simon is our contact for "Health and Happenings"

Please contact Linda either by phone (818-980-7470) or email

([simonmurphy08@sbcglobal.net](mailto:simonmurphy08@sbcglobal.net))

for any information about our club members/ family - i.e., happy or sad news; health issues; graduation or congratulations, etc.

# The Betty O and National Marine Fisheries Service Working Together

*By Captain Michael Reinsch*

The boat Betty O, of Marina Del Rey Sportfishing, is currently participating in an ongoing program to collect groundfish for study along with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). You would be familiar with the Betty O through the Club's Marine Mentor youth fishing trip each August and with the disabled veterans trips which run during the year.

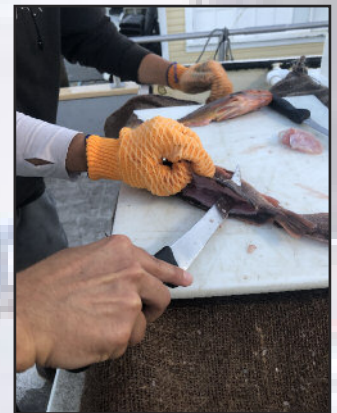
The boat got involved in this groundfish study, known as the Cooperative Recreational Sampling Program, by way of an invitation extended to me by Merit McCrea in early September on behalf of NMFS and the Sportfishing Association of California, the support and lobbying organization of which the Betty O and Marina Del Rey Sportfishing are members. The Sportfishing Association of California (SAC) through its member landing representatives is devoted to maintaining fisheries access based on accurate and updated stock assessment.

In this program, which is a pilot program at this time, groundfish are sampled during the anglers' fish filleting by the boat crew on open party and private group charter trips. Groundfish for the sampling covers Scorpionfish and rockfish, and excludes Boccaccio and Chilipepper. It's an inherently good idea to sample the sport boats, as the flow of specimens for study is constant and the areas sampled range over a broad area and are disparate. The Betty O is one of twenty sport boats along the coast participating in this. The samples, which are limited to 2 species on a given trip, are taken from passengers' odd numbered gunny sacks, the aim being to further assure dispersal in the run of the samples. Fish to be filleted are done so in a procedure which leaves the body cavity intact: the knife enters from the dorsal fin and carves down and over the rib cage so that the guts, including the canal to the anus, remain attached to the skeleton. The carcasses (skeletons) of the filleted fish are subsequently put aside and at the end of fish cutting the crew measures and tags each individual carcass with a preprinted species tag, writing on the tag the length in centimeters and the date. The carcasses are then placed in a common bag with the day's date into the boat or landing's freezer. When the carcass count reaches fifty then the batch of packaged frozen specimens is ready for shipping out, to be picked up by UPS. They end up in a lab in Santa Cruz, CA, for analysis. By the way, I'm describing a cutting proce-

cedure which we do not generally observe on sport boats off our coast, where the cut starts as a forceful slash angling under the gill plate collar and strokes back through the rib cage to the tail, separating fillet, rib cage, and guts from the body. So our deck crew has had to make adjustments, as they were not familiar with the program's method of filleting at the onset of our participating.

The Betty O samples a variety of deep-water rockfish; she is allowed to fish for and keep rockfish only in waters deeper than 300 feet. The Scorpionfish included in the samples are drawn from waters of 80 to 180 feet. Our vets trips target Scorpionfish and inshore sand and kelp bass. Rachel Brooks of NMFS is our biologist and contact person in this program.

\*(The hand photographed doing the filleting is that of biologist Rachel Brooks, demonstrating the proper filleting on board our boat Betty O before a day's run.)





## MOVING FORWARD... LOOKING BACKWARDS

By Barry Cohn

Club Member Since 2001 • Club President 2011

Back in the 1990's one of the top sports boats in the fleet was the Bongos. The Bongos was owned and operated by Captain Joe Bairian. Captain Joe loved to fish for sharks, so we gave it a try. Nothing doing. Next stop Catalina Island. We had a great time fishing for Calicos, caught our limits and agreed to turn the boat around and head back to Newport Harbor.

About 15 minutes later, the boat abruptly stopped, Captain Joe jumped down to the deck and pinned two of our remaining anchovies to a size #14 hook, tossed it out and told me to get ready. Ready or not, the shark immediately grabbed the bait and took off. Line peeled off the Penn International like the 40-pound drag was set at five pounds.

I had never hooked a Mako before. This was one big, acrobatic fish.---The biggest he had ever caught at the time. It ran, it jumped. It ran some more. It jumped some more. Two hours later, the fight ended successfully (for me)---a 225- pound Mako Shark.



## Members



Cathy Needleman with a 209lb swordfish. The fight took 3 hours and lots of patience from Cathy. She went with Dylan and Vinnie from Bight Sportfishing.



# Members

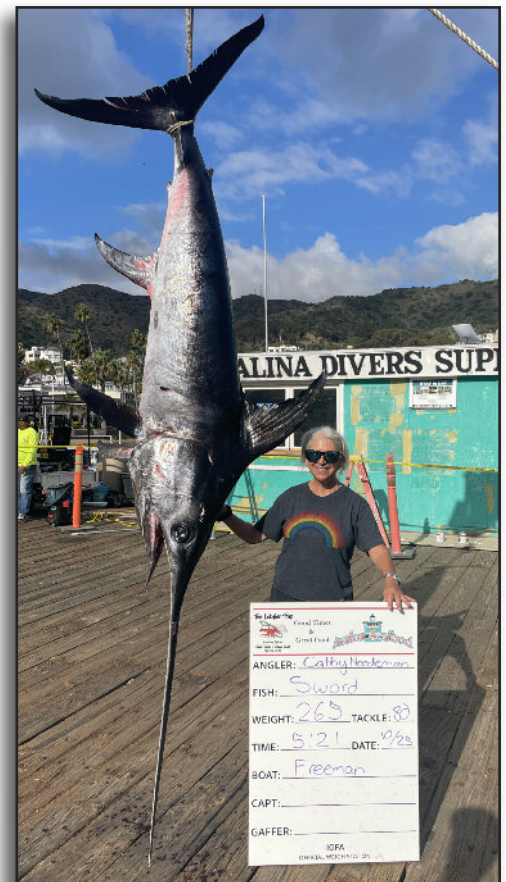
Chum Line NOVEMBER 2023



Steve Simon and Paul Varenchik working Lake Balboa. Fishing lessons every Tuesday 7am Lake Balboa, Call first to confirm.



John Ballotti with some gorgeous Fall colors and biting fish!



Later in the month, Cathy beat her last swordfish with this monster weighing in at 265lbs! Congratulations Cathy!



# Charters 2023

## RULES REGARDING CLUB CHARTERS

All LARRC charter participants signing up for club charters are obligated to pay the full fare to reserve a spot. In the event a participant cannot make a trip, the club will attempt to fill the space once a waitlist forms. A participant may try to fill their space prior to departure. There may be surcharges this year based on fuel price increases. Bunk preference is assigned by the charter master based on the order received. So book early! If you have any special needs please make the charter master aware of them at the time of booking.

## TROPHY CONTENDERS 2023 as of October 31, 2023

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LBS.	OZ.	SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LBS.	OZ.
<b>MEN'S OCEAN WATER</b>					<b>WOMEN'S OCEAN WATER</b>				
Bass, Calico	20	Paul Varenchik	5	5	Albacore	30	Cathy Needleman	3	0*
Dorado	40	Bob Tuttle	35	5	Halibut, California	50	Cathy Needleman	5	10
					Swordfish	65	Cathy Needleman	209	0*
					Swordfish	80	Cathy Needleman	265	0
					White Sea Bass	50	Cathy Needleman	13	5
<b>MEN'S FLY ROD</b>					<b>WOMEN'S FLY ROD</b>				
Perch, Sac	8	Rob Baldwin	3	3*					
Perch, Sac	10	Rob Baldwin	3	5*					
Trout, Cutthroat	8	Rob Baldwin	14	2*					
Trout, Cutthroat	10	Rob Baldwin	13	7*					
<b>MEN'S FRESH WATER</b>					<b>WOMEN'S FRESH WATER</b>				
Bass, Lg Mouth	20	Joel Steinman	6	0					
Salmon, Char	8	Norman Weinstock	17	0*					
<b>MEN'S OCEAN RELEASED</b>					<b>WOMEN'S OCEAN WATER RELEASED</b>				
Roosterfish	30	Chas Schoemaker	Released						
Roosterfish	40	Bob Tuttle	Released						
					<b>JUNIOR MEMBERS</b>				
					<b>FIRST GAME FISH OF THE YEAR</b>				
					White Sea Bass	50	Cathy Needleman	13	5
							7-Apr-23		
					<b>FIRST ALBACORE OF THE YEAR</b>				
						30	Cathy Needleman	3	0





## Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

c/o Andrew Ratzky

23297 Park Ensenada

Calabasas, CA 91302

Email: [aratzky@yahoo.com](mailto:aratzky@yahoo.com)

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Contact Richard Stone at 805-501-6669

Email: [richardstone@specialtyrepswest.com](mailto:richardstone@specialtyrepswest.com)



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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/LosAngelesRodandReelClub](https://www.facebook.com/LosAngelesRodandReelClub)

Editor: Sophia Huynh ([fishnsoph@gmail.com](mailto:fishnsoph@gmail.com))

### 2022 -2023 OFFICERS

President	Andrew Ratzky
Vice President	Andrew Ratzky
Secretary	Dustin House
Treasurer	John Ballotti
Historian	Dustin House

### 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Ratzky	John Ballotti
Richard Stone	Donald Goldsobel
Michael Godfrey	Dustin House
Michael Hartt	

### 2023 FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

#### Scott Schiffman & Steve Simon, Co-Chair

John Goss	Pamela Warren
Ron Glider	Joseph Mahfet, Jr.
Chas Schoemaker	

### 2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Annual Picnic	Mike Hartt
Apparel	Steve Simon
Awards Banquet 2023	Andrew Ratzky
By-laws and Legal	Randy Sharon
Charters	Andrew Ratzky
Chum Line Editor	Sophia Huynh
Communications	Scott Schiffman & Mike Godfrey
Dinner Meetings	Mike Godfrey
Dinner Speakers	Pamela Warren
Elections	James Purtee
Environmental Affairs	John Ballotti
Fishing Records	Joel Steinman
Fly Fishing	Rob Baldwin
Hall of Fame	John Ballotti
Health and Happenings	Linda Simon
Insurance	John Ballotti
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Public Relations	Dave Morgan
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Tax Consultant	John Rhind
Tributes	Tammy Steinman
Trips:	
Earl Warren's Memorial Kids' Trip	Richard Stone
	John Goss & Andrew Ratzky
	Steve Simon
	Joel Steinman & Steve Simon
	Scott Schiffman, Joel Steinman
	Joseph Mahfet, & Randy Sharon
	Steve Simon
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	Scott Schiffman
	Andrew Ratzky
Veterans' Trips	
Trophies	
Website	
Yearbook	