

# Chum Line



Published by the  
LOS ANGELES ROD & REEL CLUB  
together since 1950

Good Sportsmanship is Worth all the Fish in the Ocean

• JUNE 2007 •

## What's On My Mind?

by John Ballotti



### MISSION IMPOSSIBLE:

Have you ever had the feeling that whatever you do, it makes no difference to the outcome of an event? I certainly have.

However, does having that feeling make it the truth or just allow us to go on with our daily lives insulated from the world around us, secure in our comfort zone. We convince ourselves that what we do as individuals does not matter so we live with the consequences and most likely, expend a lot of effort complaining about the results. We blame others for not acting effectively on our behalf or denounce opposing points of view with emotion and judgment not logic or reason. We do not want to be bothered to be educated on the issues and then make the effort to do something about it. How else can you explain the low voter turnout for elections at all levels?

**One area where we need to be educated on the issues and do something about it is the MLPA process.** Unfortunately, I believe many in our club have taken the position that, as individuals, they cannot do anything about the coming closures. They are content to complain without making any effort to learn the issues and take action. There is the feeling that it is

impossible to make a difference, and there is the perception that it is impossible for the recreational fishing organizations representing us to work together. With credit to Addias, impossible is just a big word thrown around by small men who find it easier to live in the world they have been given than to explore the power they have to change it. Impossible is not a fact. It is an opinion. Impossible is not a declaration. It is a dare. Impossible is potential. Impossible is temporary. Impossible is nothing. You **can** fight city hall. You **can** make a difference. Start today by researching what has happened to the MLPA process. In the coming weeks and months, you will see a significant increase in club activity addressing the recreational fishing issues we are facing. Pay attention. When the call for volunteers goes out, be the first to raise your hand. Remember, impossible is nothing. ■

### Final Reminder—Our 57th Annual KIDS' TRIP

Be at Pierpont Landing in Long Beach, Monday July 9th at 5:30 am..Breakfast, Lunch and T Shirts for all volunteer deckhands. There will be a morning run on four boats with an option for deckhands to fish in the afternoon. New this year: A "touch" tank for the kids brought in by the Cabrillo Aquarium For details call: Steve Simon (818) 980.7470 or Paul Varenchik (818) 521.7261 Deckhands still needed!

### Dennis Braid—June 25 Dinner Speaker

Dennis was born in Australia working in sheet metal and model and race car building. These vocations however, never distracted him from his main love of fishing. He's become known as one of our big fish icons and creator



of unique tackle. He's been all over the world to pursue his global sport and business. As a result of his widely known travels his line now includes over 200 products produced in a modern facility located in Palmdale.

Be there for one of the most interesting talks you're likely to encounter. Call in your reservations early....this is likely to be a sell out.

Call 818 808-4909 or email [larrcdinnerssvp@yahoo.com](mailto:larrcdinnerssvp@yahoo.com) ■

**The NEXT BOARD MEETING will be held on JUNE 11, at the MARINA CITY CLUB.**

**We have to advise the restaurant so, please RSVP to John Ballotti by email or call (310) 618-2004 hm (310) 252-2861 ofc.**

## LOCAL FISHING AT ITS FINEST!

By Jim Carlisle

When you think back about past fishing trips, the thoughts of some just stand out and put a smile on your face. Our May 7 charter on the *Pacific Dawn* out of Oxnard was one of those trips. We had beautiful weather, a great group of passengers, a spotless boat, and a crew that is friendly, entertaining and always on top of their game. We didn't catch any exotic species but it was just great fishing in our own backyard.

As we gathered to depart, we were all wondering what fishing would be like. Our March and April charters had produced lots of Santa Rosa Island rockfish but windy conditions had dictated where we had to fish. The squid hasn't been found in any volume up there this spring, and thus there has been little sign of seabass. For this, the Santa Ana winds had flattened out the ocean. Once we boarded the boat and departed at 9:30 pm, **Capt. Pat Cavanaugh** ran down his game plan with us. With the calm weather, he wanted to run up the backside of Santa Cruz Island and make squid, then move over to the east side of Santa Rosa to give the seabass a try, then make the crossing to San Miguel after daylight to fish shallow water rockfish. Except for the seabass part, the plan worked exactly as planned.

We made a tank and a half with squid and continued on to Rosa in flat calm seas. The seabass were not around but the sunrise was spectacular. It was a crystal clear day and you could see the coastline from Conception to Ventura. We didn't stay long so we enjoyed breakfast as we made the run over to Miguel. I've been anxious to get back to Miguel for awhile and this was the first weather window we had that allowed it. San Miguel is known for its excellent shallow water rockfishing, but we had no idea how good it was going to be.

We made our first stop a couple of miles short of the spot Pat originally planned to fish. We stopped in an area that was an offshore reef that included

plenty of boiler rocks. With calm seas and a slow drift we were able to drift in close and safely fish in 28-60 feet of water. As we pulled in you could see johnny bass and blues boiling up on top of the reef. We quickly found out the bigger quality fish were hungry too. The fish ate plastics, jigs, and anything else you wanted to



Jim with ling cod.

try. If you got stopped before getting to the bottom it was a big johnny bass, or a blue bass. For awhile, **Chas. Schoemaker** looked like he was trying to corner the market on blues or johnnys. When you made it to the bottom, it was predominantly 3- to 6-lb. reds and chuckleheads. Another bonus was that we were in shallow enough water that you could release anything you didn't want to keep. There were quite a few 4 and 5 pound fish released. I spent most of the day fishing swimbaits on a bass rod. Just imagine the best calico bass fishing you ever had and you are hooking a 3- to 6-lb fish on almost every cast. That's what it was like. The big rockfish fight just like calicos, and may be harder, in that shallow water.

On top of the great fishing for reds, as



Jason with ling cod.

we got shallower, the lingcod really started to bite well. It seemed the shallower we got, the more lings were found. **Jason Fleck** hooked his biggest lingcod ever off the top of a shallow rock as we were powering away to set up another drift. We ended up with 26 legal lings that probably went 12-14 lbs. While the lingcod fishing was good, the big surprise was the size of the sheephead. We had 4 or 5 sheephead in the 10- to 20-lb. class. **Kathy Shriver** sewed up the jackpot with a big goat that went close to 20 lbs. **Norm Weinstock** and Jason also had jumbo sized sheephead. Needless to say, we never left that area until we had all the rockfish we needed. To wrap things up we went in and made a couple of unsuccessful halibut drifts on the beach where the elephant seals hang out.

It was just a wonderful day on the water, So Cal at its best. Thanks again to Pat and his longtime crew of **Mike "Opie" Reidel** and **Mike Nickerson**. We still have two more charters this year on the *Pacific Dawn*. A 1.5 day trip out of San Diego in August and 1 day trip out of Oxnard in November. ■

**Meet New Board Member Larry Martinez. ARE YOU NOT INSPIRED?**



Welcome Larry for his first year on the board.

Larry has worked as a safety engineer at Cal Tech for the past 18 years. He grew up fishing in the Bishop area and barges, and boats off Southern California since he was 8 yrs.old. He says he also enjoys collecting first edition rare books. He and wife Dee have three children ranging from 15 to 18 years old. ■

SW Sportsman did a story on a dog toothed tuna. Seems that this 162-lb. fish was caught off Australia's Willis Island by a **Capt. RT Trosset**. It's a possible new world record. What is most unusual is that he landed it on 30-lb. test. Now there's something for you light tackle guys!

Not to be outdone: A 1237 lb. Pacific Blue Marlin was brought to gaff by a german angler fishing off Rodrigues Island – Mauritius. What is interesting is the fact that he used 80 lb tackle and it took only 40 minutes.


More light tackle news – A ballyhoo bait proved to be the undoing of a 121lb Atlantic Sailfish for a New Jersey Angler fishing out of Los Suenos, Costa Rica. The catch was made on 8lb. line! ■

**Club Member Michael Godfrey sent in this story about a 60 lb. shortraker rockfish.**



This jewel was pulled up by a commercial fishing boat south of the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea. It was 44" long and came up from 2100 feet below the surface! Earbone exams showed the fish was between 90 and 115 years old. ■





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**MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE!**

Steve (Stephen) Simon, organizer supreme, wishes to thank all the members who donated items for the pre-owned fishing tackle sale.

*With the help of LARRC, members Andy MacDonald, Will Ebersman, Seymour Rimland, Tom Carlisle, Dan Fink, Scott and Arthur Schiffman and Steve Ex, we raised \$2,380.*

*Thanks, Steve*

*PS. We still need deck hands for the Kids' Trip July 9, 2007. Still collecting tackle for Super Swap Sale to be held last Sunday of July. ■*

## AS I SEE IT!

# Is Getting Rid of Recreational Fishing the Only Way to Save the Ocean?

**W**e had a board meeting May 14th which turned out to be somewhat unique in that, for the first time since I've been a member, the discussions got almost violent. Perhaps this is a good thing since it concerned the actions, or inactions, of our environmental committee. The topic of course was the MLPA initiative. We know that this bill is law and that we will be asked to respect decisions made by the authorities. We, the recreational community will do this, of course. We do demand however, a voice in the process and fairness in how the rulings are arrived at.

The Central Coast was the first area to be examined. Adoption of the recommendations took place this April. The North Central area is now undergoing scrutiny and it is said to be a more streamlined process. Subsequent to this, look for implementation of the MLPA initiative in our backyard. This may commence sometime in late 2008.

Because of the public's perception of fishermen—and they tend to not distinguish between the recreational and commercial sectors—as spoilers of the ocean environment much the same way many people deride hunters, the environmental committee, just being organized, and anticipating the coming Southern California restrictions wants the input of all club members and cannot act without consent of the board. What to do?

If you keep up with this kind of thing, which very few seem to do, you would realize that decisions arrived at by the politically appointed Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRFT) have not, in some respects, adhered to their mandate. There has been input from privately funded, biased, sources. The scientific input (SAT) has not always been transparent. Some proposals were based on outdated status reports nor were many existing fishery regulations, already on the books considered. Etc.

There are some prominent stakeholders in this scenario—the State, major NGOs (non governmental organizations), California Fisheries Coalition (CFC), and recreational groups such as UASC, SAC, and RFA are among the major ones. A current memo from the state nominates 36 people as stakeholder reps for the various interests. It notes that the planning process for North Central will take 12-14 months! On the basis of Central Coast decisions we have not been well served!

**What do we do?** It is my suggestion that our committee be empowered by the board to start contacting like organizations. In anticipation of what is coming down we would like to have a large number of other club decision makers meet with us and offer their ideas—outside of the current channels—at a venue to be determined. To those who fish Mexican waters I say look at the current reports re: loopholes that could decimate those fisheries. We need volunteers to make phone calls to these people to attend such a rally. LARRC with its 50-yr. history and good reputé will lead! We will appeal to fishermen via the media, electronic and print. Upon approval by the club more details need to be worked out. Send in your comments!

*Eric Rogger—Club Member Since 1985 ■*

## Trophy Contenders as of May 25, 2007

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB.	OZ.
<b>MEN'S OCEAN WATER</b>				
<i>Groupers</i>	40	<i>Paul Varenchik</i>	35	0
<i>Shark, Thresher</i>	80	<i>Joshua Burnham</i>	211	0 *
<i>Sheephead</i>	20	<i>Michael Feinberg</i>	14	7 *
<i>Sheephead</i>	25	<i>Paul Varenchik</i>	14	0 *
<i>Yellowtail</i>	40	<i>Larry Martinez</i>	36	0
<b>FRESH WATER</b>				
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	2	<i>Jason Fleck</i>	4	1
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	6	<i>Joel Steinman</i>	3	1
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	8	<i>Andy MacDonald</i>	3	8
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	12	<i>Jason Fleck</i>	6	6
<b>SARDINES</b>				
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	8	<i>Olivia Sharon</i>	2	5
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	8	<i>Miles Rosberg</i>	2	2
<i>Bass, Large Mouth</i>	8	<i>Holden Rosberg</i>	2	0
<i>Whitefish</i>	30	<i>Christian Hernandez</i>	6	7

\* *New Club Record*

# Marine Mentors Returns Twice in August

by Frank Polak, LARRC Marine Mentors Co-Chair



A happy young lady with her first sand bass ....aided by mentor Marv C. Smith.

Once again this summer, the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club will host two select groups of youngsters on our popular Marine Mentors trips.

Initiated by the late **Bill Alpert** in the mid-1990s, the Marine Mentors program takes a limited group of young people (usually 10 or 12) on local waters and pairs them with an LARRC member. It's the equivalent of taking a young relative or neighbor on their first fishing trip.

This year, our select groups will be treated to a 3/4 day trip on the *Betty-O*, sailing from Marina Del Rey Sportfishing on August 6 and August 20th. Last year our guests were treated to wide-open sand bass fishing on the first trip, resulting in limits and a bonus catch of 10 barracuda. The second trip, which had excellent weather, also had good bass fishing.

If you would like to be a part of this year's trips, sign ups will be available at the June dinner meeting. It's a great way to introduce a youngster to fishing. ■

**ADVANCE SIGN-UPS  
ARE AVAILABLE NOW!**

**PLEASE CALL Frank Polak at  
818 881-8645 or 818 566-6152**

*Be sure to reserve your spot for  
this very special day!!!!*



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# C A L E N D A R

## LARRC Charters 2007



### CALENDAR PAGE -

LARRC's Calendar Page is going to look different!. Arnie Cohen, the week day Chartermaster for a great number of years, has been unable to negotiate a new contract with the Sea Biscuit. He says it is in the water after being refurbished but he's not been able to communicate with them. Will keep trying or chartering another boat. Stay tuned...



## MULTIPLE DAY CHARTERS

**Editor's Note:** By this time of the year most members have made their long range fishing plans. Please refer to any recent *Chum Line* for the details being omitted this month. Remember if you've signed on you are obligated unless in case of withdrawal a replacement can be found! *Chum Line* notes that most of these trips have been sold out but you can call the Chartermaster if interested.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Qualifier 105 Skiff Trip, Jun 16-23    | Dan Felger, Chartermaster (805) 370-1632      |
| Qualifier 105 Tuna Trip, Jul 21-26     | Dave Levinson, Chartermaster (818) 785-1776   |
| Pacific Dawn 1.5-Day San Diego, Aug 26 | Jim Carlisle, Chartermaster (562) 598-0940    |
| Pacific Dawn 1-Day Oxnard, Nov 3       | Jim Carlisle, Chartermaster (562) 598-0940    |
| Red Rooster 4-day tuna trip, Jul 8-12  | Arnie Cohen, Chartermaster (818) 368-5834     |
| Red Rooster 4-day tuna trip, Sep 4-8   | Arnie Cohen, Chartermaster (818) 368-5834     |
| Kingfisher Lodge, Sitka, Aug 2-6       | Arnie Cohen, Chartermaster (818) 366-3300 ofc |



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 www.arniecohen.com



"Ask About My Club Discounts"

### Dinner Meetings

June 25

Next: July 30

Use the hotline for your reservations (818) 808-4909 or email [LARRCDinnerRSVP@Yahoo.com](mailto:LARRCDinnerRSVP@Yahoo.com). RSVP at least two days prior to meeting and confirm if you are having dinner.

THE VALLEY INN  
4557 Sherman Oaks Avenue, Sherman Oaks

### Board Meetings

June 11

Next: July 23

All Club members are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to John Ballotti at 310.252.2258 at least two days prior to meeting and confirm if you are having dinner.

Dinner: 6:00 pm • Meeting: 7:00 pm  
THE VALLEY INN  
4557 Sherman Oaks Avenue, Sherman Oaks

### Other Events

- July 9** Annual Kids' Fishing Trip, Pierpont Landing, Long Beach
- August 12** Annual Picnic at Lake Sherwood
- August 6 & 20** Mentors Kids' Trips
- Sept. 15** Junior Surf Fishing Trip (Contact Randy Sharon or Scott Schiffman)

### Membership News

**Mike Cimmarrusti** has applied for Active Membership  
Mike lives in LA and is a General Contractor.



See John Ballotti is all smiles...

## May 18 Calico Bass Shootout A Major Success by Chartermaster Steve Ex

**T**wenty-two Participants embarked on the *Pacific Star* and departed shortly after 9 p.m. bound for Catalina to get some candy bait. Following the usual safety speech and the rapid consumption of two cakes baked by **Linda Simon**, goodie bags were handed out, rigs put together and shut-eye gotten.

We arrived at San Clemente Island and anchored off the edge of a kelp line about 6 a.m. This was free fishing time since our tournament wouldn't officially start until 9 a.m. We decided on a late start because reports had it that the yellowtail were a morning bite, while the Calico Bass weren't going full speed until later. Unfortunately, we did not find the yellows in the morning but did have fun with a mixed bag of other species, including some unusual ones.

Breakfast was served at about 7 a.m. and it was French Toast stuffed with cream cheese and strawberries, with a side of scrambled eggs. We

moved up the line, and at 9 a.m. I sounded the whistle, and the tournament was officially on!

**Mike Grossman** came out of the gate like a man on a mission! Mike had weighed in a half dozen fish, before many had weighed in even one! Also putting on a stellar performance, was **Michael Feinberg**. Mike F was doing his darndest to keep pace, and for a while, it was a horse race!

The pace quickened, as other LARRC members began to step it up a notch, and at times we had gridlock at the scale. Suddenly, there was a great commotion, and a call for a net—a large one!

The deckhand lowered the net into the water, and as he brought up it's contents, there was loud gasp!

LARRC Club President, **John Ballotti**, had landed a monster calico that tipped the scales at 5 lbs. 4 ozs.

Following a short move, Mike Feinberg decided that he really didn't want to limit his talents to calicos all

day. In an hour's time, Mike boated 4 large Sheephead with the biggest going 14lb. 7 oz. and two more going over 10 lbs. each.

When the final whistle sounded at 2 p.m. and the weights were tallied, the winners were:

**Big Fish (5 lb. 4oz)**

John Ballotti

**Team Event Stringer**

**(20 fish) (25 lbs. 14 ozs)**

John Ballotti & Chas Schoemaker

**Heaviest Individual Stringer**

**(Top 10 Fish) (17 lbs. 1 oz.)**

Randy Sharon.

*And winning the...*

**Big Hammer Award**

**given to the angler catching the largest fish on an artificial bait**

Larry Martinez

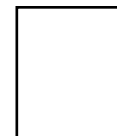
All participants received "Goodie Bags" sponsored by **Big Hammer**, **TyesAlls**, **Lead Master**, and T-shirts with a very cool event logo created by Josh Dunlap. All-in-all we had a great trip! A great group of guys to fish with, on a great and comfortable boat, with a great crew!. I look forward to acting as tournament director/chartermaster again in 2008. ■



Mike Feinberg with a nice checkerboard.

# Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

c/o Eric Rogger  
2625 Westridge Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90049-1234



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Contact Tom Carlisle at 310 541-8263  
email: [tpcarlisle@aol.com](mailto:tpcarlisle@aol.com)

# Chum Line

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Eric Rogger . . . . .Editor

## 2007 OFFICERS

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## 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>FIRST YEAR</u>	<u>SECOND YEAR</u>
Michael Grossman	John Ballotti
Dave Levinson	Mike Godfrey
Larry Martinez	Eric Rogger
Scott Schiffman	Bob Selvin
Charles Schoemaker	Steve Simon
Randy Sharon	

## 2007 FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

<b>Jack Genero, Chair</b>	Sam Rubinfeld
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Will Ebersman	Paul Varenchik
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## 2007 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Q105 5-Day	. . . . .Dave Levinson
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Weekend '07	. . . . .Jim Carlisle/Jan Howard
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Bill Alpert - King of the Calicos	. . . . .Steve Ex
Inter-Club Tournament	. . . . .Paul Varenchik
Marine Mentors Trip	. . . . .Frank Polak and Michael Grossman
Trophies	. . . . .Barry Cohn
Yearbook	. . . . .John Ballotti