

Chum Line

Good Sportsmanship is Worth all the Fish in the Ocean



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LOS ANGELES ROD & REEL CLUB
together since 1950

SEPTEMBER 2003

President's Message by Paul Varenchik

Fishing is steamrolling along now at a banner pace. Last year's record albacore season promises to be eclipsed. The five-day *Qualifier 105* trip, in terms of quantity and quality, should go down as one of the greatest club charters ever. Whether you have already cashed in on the epic fishing, or have a trip planned for the near future, get out on the water and enjoy some of the best fishing in the world, right here in our back yard.

Good luck, good fishing....be safe and keep only what you are going to eat! ■

Now that's a Real Sportfisherman!

Jerry Wells Sr. of Murietta broke his own IGFA records at the Rockpile south of the Coronado Islands. The record on 2-lb. test was a 15-lb yellowtail. His new world record was recognized at 16 lbs., 3 oz. also on 2-lb test.

(WON 8/8/03)

Fish & Game Commission Relaxes Rules Re: 120-ft Restriction.

Anglers may now fish in depths up to 180 ft. This should offer more opportunities. The decision was ok'd by the PFMC and was due to a reassessment of stocks—primarily bocaccio!

William Boyce Headliner for the September 29th Dinner Meeting

Dynamic is the word for this biologist, photographer, sales dynamo, world traveler and conservationist.

His love of travel and adventure led this Southern Californian to pursue a career in fisheries. Known mainly for his underwater photographic skills while an observer on tuna boats, Bill has joined Michael Fowlkes in his prize-winning TV show. After 16 years as a biologist he was part of many filming expeditions to Africa, Azores, and other international venues. Bill has also owned and operated Boyce Custom Rods & Tackle since 1983 and keeps busy with many tournaments and trade shows. He can be reached at

www.boyceimage@msn.com

or 800
319-8216.

Please take time now to phone in your dinner reservations at 818 808 4909. Bill talked to our club last year and it was a sell-out. ■

Web Sites for LARRC Members (record these in your address book)

- www.larrc.org
- webmaster@larrc.org
- www.Qualifier105.com
- www.sportfish-info.com
- www.PolarisSupreme.com
- LARRCdinnersvp@yahoo.com

Or call 818 808 4909

ANNOUNCEMENT
The next foundation meeting has been rescheduled for September 15. Mike Godfrey's home will be the venue.



Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!

Chum Line received these two stories by club members. Different trips taken by a number of LARRC members on the *Polaris Supreme*. Sorry we ran out of space last month!

A Rough Start to a Great Finish

by Eli Livnat

The long anticipation was over and replaced by excitement. On Saturday, August 16th, our group of 18 anglers departed the landing on board the *Polaris Supreme*. The LARRC contingent consisted of **Mike Baar, Dean Hendrickson, Miro Hussenjian, Al Scow, Sam Rubinfeld Julian Wolf, Eli Livnat and Chartermaster Eric Rogger and nephew Alex** rounded out the group. As we arrived at the bait receivers we learned the bait quality was poor due to an algae bloom and unusually high water temperatures in the bay. With spirits still high we traveled south into the winds which blew 25-30 knots at times and sent nasty swells crashing over the wheelhouse. Needless to say, it made the ride and the fishing quite uncomfortable. Sunday morning the trolling jigs went into the water in search of albacore. The fishing was scratchy. We only picked up 3-5 fish per stop averaging 15-20 lbs. Based on reports from other boats, Captain Tommy decided to head northwest to more productive waters. On Monday morning the wind subsided a bit and fishing conditions looked better. We had spent the night on the sea anchor and stayed on it all day thanks to the cooperation of schools of albacore and bluefin tuna. We caught fat albacore up to 35 lbs. and a very nice grade of bluefin ranging from 20-45 lbs. Our prayers to the Sea Goddess were answered and the seas remained calm for the rest of the trip. We also lucked out with the bait situation as the captain of the *Qualifier 105* gave us a beautiful load of frisky sardines. Tuesday and Wednesday were packed with constant action provided by hungry bluefin and albacore. Captain

As Good as it Gets 5 Days on the *Polaris Supreme*

by Larry Brown

Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt weren't there but fishing on the *Polaris Supreme* 5-day trip returning June 26 was



Rough Start—Happy Ending with Alex Rogger.

Tommy located the schools by sonar and visually locating breezers. They were anxious to bite. As we drifted with the school, the ticket to catching the larger fish was to use a live sardine under a helium filled balloon. This technique proved successful for jackpot winner Dietmar Kruger, who got a 74-lb. bluefin. Final fish count: 237 albacore, 196 bluefin tuna, 2 dorado, 2 yellowtail and one yellowfin tuna. Although the start of the trip was slow it ended with a bang and turned out to be a great experience. ■

“As Good As It Gets”. **Tommy Rothery** and his expert crew deserve Oscars for their performance. LARRC members **Will Ebersman, Hon. Member Tom Raftican, Philip Friedman, with his two sons Phillip Jr. and Patrick and Larry Brown** joined the 976 Tuna Charter for epic albacore & yellowtail fishing.

The first day we targeted albacore and caught just shy of our limits of big, fat fish.

Only one bluefin hit the deck and kept being enjoyed as sushi and sashimi. The next day we arrived at Chesters Rocks near the Baja Coast and experienced an immediate slamming of yellowtail anxious to bite sardines as well as iron. By the end of the second day many anglers had limits of albacore and yellowtail. Next day was spent looking for the elusive bluefin but it was still a fun day with most of us releasing fish, filling out our limits and watching a huge whale migration.

Again Captain Tommy was faced with a tough decision, keep hunting for bluefin in relatively rough seas or stop by one of his favorite honey holes for some tasty bottom critters. In four hours we bagged our limits of big reds and a few dozen lingcod.

My highlight observations: The future of fishing was on board with six kids 8-13 years.

These kids displayed maturity, respect and angling skill above their age. I certainly hope there will be clean oceans, abundant fisheries for these kids and in turn for their kids. I urge everyone to participate in some way in the various efforts to save the fishery future.

Also on my radar screen—the cuisine of 5-star Chef Javier. Exquisitely prepared pork loin, NY steak and lobster, etc. Unbelievable! ■

Thunnus Thynnus —Bluefin Tuna

Some of us have been blessed this season with fine catches of the transpacific bluefin. Prized for their firm pink meat bluefin giants may sell for \$35-\$80,000. Dr. Milton Love reports that they spawn from the Phillipines and Japan eastward. Their arrival on our west coast is part of a long cycle arriving off Baja in late spring. The larger fish don't visit us very often—in 1989 schools of bluefin up to a 1000 lbs. came up to the Channel Islands and were pretty well wiped out.

Pacific bluefin can reach a length of up to 6.5 ft. and a 3-year-old measures up to 3ft.

Atlantic bluefin are said to achieve larger sizes but their species has been decimated over the '70s with some estimates declaring that their number is down to 25,000 animals. Severe restrictions have been imposed.

Plank boats are one of the ways to catch the larger fish. Often equipped with electrically charged harpoons they stun the fish so as to preserve the quality of its meat. This prevents a lactic build-up in the muscles which affects taste. Fat content, fat distribution, feel and color are all part of what the buyers look for.

Bluefin are also known as the "jumping tuna" since they may launch themselves completely out of the water in pursuit of their prey. Anchovies, sardines, sauries, squid, as well as pelagic crabs, fit into their diet while off our coast. They are finicky eaters where hooked bait is concerned but are most likely to bite when swimming with albacore.

Dr. Love reports they can swim normally at 50 to 150 miles per day and can reach speeds of about 50 miles per hr. The IGFA lists a 1496-lb blue caught off Nova Scotia in 1979.

Even though electronics help to locate the fish, finding temperature breaks and a sharp lookout from the crows nest aid in finding breezing schools. A sharp captain will issue the order to throw bait, hard,

HOOKED ON CIRCLES?

When Washington State, in the 1980's, decided to require all salmon anglers to use barbless hooks, an uproar ensued. When things settled down most fishermen figured out that their catch rates hardly declined, but that releasing undersized or out-of-season salmon became much quicker and easier—on them as well as salmon. Today, California also requires that anglers mooching bait for salmon use barbless circle hooks. Costa Rico has made the use of circles mandatory when soaking bait for billfish.

(SportFishing) ■

hopefully enticing his meter marks to come to the surface. All eyes are watching for boils at which time anglers cast their lines. What an exciting time! Good luck fishing and keep only what you can eat. The ratio for trade-in of whole fish to a 6.5 oz can of tuna is 8 lbs. Let a few of your conquests live another day! ■

Membership News

Brad Felger has applied for non-resident membership. Brad is a horse-shoer. 4060 Tampico, Atascadero, CA 93422

Scott and Simee Schiffman have applied for family membership. 21315 W. Kickapoo Trail, Chatsworth, CA 91311

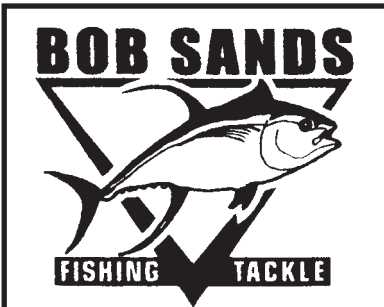
LARRC welcomes:

Jason Boyd – non resident member
4928 Tilden Dr.
San Jose, CA

Vincent Shriver Jr. – non resident member
207 Menlo
Buellton, CA 93427

Goodwill and Cheer

LARRC wishes former President **Earl Warren** a quick and healthy recovery after knee surgery.



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LARRC's First Annual Picnic

On Sunday, July 7th, the LARRC had it's first Family Beach Party. The event took place at Sycamore Campground, north of Malibu, on Pacific Coast Highway, just north of the Deep Hole. Since most LARRC events don't see a lot of participation on the part of wives this was a pleasant change. Lots of wives and lots of children.

The weather was sunny, the fishing was limited to a couple of barred perch and the BBQ lunch was excellent. The casting contest saw much participation and became very competitive. The sand crab contest, another participatory sport, by LARRC members and families, was a little slow. One little girl came up with a green tree frog which made her day. The board will, no doubt, grant a trophy for frogs in the future.

All in all, close to one hundred people enjoyed a relaxing day at the beach. Hopefully we can do it again next year. Thanks, Paul Varenchik. ■



Celebrating the Fourth of July... A spectacular display

by Gladys MacNair

Armed with sundry rods and an icebox full of picnic goodies, a group of LARRC members boarded a 50' fishing boat chartered by intrepid **President Paul Varenchik** and **First Lady Francine**. Moving out beyond the breakwater at Marina Del Rey on a beautiful July 4 afternoon, the anglers were soon busily catching (and releasing) sandbass. The jackpot catch of the day, however, was **Steve Simon's** baracuda.

As night fell, the boat anchored a bit further out, and the anglers gradually put up their rods. **Royal** and I had thought we would eventually get in a bit closer in order to watch the fireworks display from the barge at the Marina. But as the Marina fireworks began their display, as Paul pointed out, it became apparent that we were in a perfect spot to view fireworks from every venue along the whole southern coast, from Redondo Beach up to Paradise Cove. Until all displays had finally concluded with their separate grand finales, we were treated to a spectacular show of beautiful fireworks, at just about anywhere we looked.



Royal MacNair and his eight-pound striper at Lake Castaic.

Everyone had a great afternoon and evening, and probably one of the most unique experiences ever to celebrate the founding of our nation! ■

BOARD BUSINESS

by Jim Carlisle

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Board is looking for volunteers to take over membership chair duties in 2004. Help will also be needed on Yearbook duties. Contact Paul Varenchik or Brad Stich, if interested.

2004 ELECTIONS

Are you interested in getting more involved in the club? A list of candidates is being gathered for the upcoming Board of Directors elections. If you are interested in running, please contact any of the current board members.

AWARDS

If you still haven't picked up your fishing awards from 2002, please contact John Vowels.

He Who Laughs Last, Laughs Best!

When **Royal MacNair** won an ultra light rod at the LARRC awards dinner/auction in February the event was greeted with much laughter. Royal says he thought to himself, "I better catch something on this outfit, if nothing more than to prove it isn't just a novelty item". The rod sat in his rack for about three months, until July 2nd when Royal went to Lake Castaic with **Bob Sands'** and **Kurt Valles**. After re-spooling his "winning" rod with 4# test line, he took it along. Surprisingly, he managed to catch 5 stripers weighing up to 8#, releasing 3 and keeping 2, and came home with some nice filets of striped bass. The heaviest hook-up nearly bent the little rod double, but it survived and proved it was the "ultra, ultra rod that could!". Having the last laugh is o.k. says Royal. ■

Trophy Winners as of AUGUST 17, 2003

SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB. OZ.	SPECIES	LINE TEST	ANGLER	LB. OZ.
OCEAN WATERS							
Albacore	16	Tom Carlisle	32 3 *	Bonita	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	13 0 *
Albacore	16	Tom Carlisle	29 0	Cobia	20	Eli Livnat	28 0 *
Albacore	25	Joel Steinman	19 10 *	Dorado	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	15 0
Albacore	30	Eric Rogger	26	Grouper	20	Eli Livnat	4 6
Barracuda	20	Joel Steinman	9 0 *	Jack Cravelle	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	7 0 *
Bass, Calico	4	Brad Stich	3 0 *	King Mackerel	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	9 0 *
Bass, Calico	6	John Ballotti	2 8 *	Rainbow Runner	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	4 0 *
Bass, Calico	6	Michael Grossman	4 2 *	Sailfish	20	Pam Warren	Released
Bass, Calico	8	Richard Lapidus	2 3	Sierra	20	Eli Livnat	5 4 *
Bass, Calico	8	Eric Rogger	6 0 *	Skipjack, Black	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	6 0 *
Bass, Calico	15	Warren Hoberman	6 11	Snook	12 Tippet	Eli Livnat	9 15 *
Bass, Calico	16	Al Scow	7 2	Trevally, Blue	12	Don Lee	Released
Bass, Calico	20	John Ballotti	8 0	Triple Tail	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	5 8 *
Bass, Calico	25	Bob Selvin	8 4	Tuna, Blackfin	20 Tippet	Eli Livnat	25 0 *
Bass, Sand	16	John Ballotti	6 8 *	Yellowtail	20 Tippet	Jim Carlisle	15 6 *
Dorado	30	Earl Warren	26 4	FRESH WATER			
Dorado	30	Earl Warren	35 6	Bass, Peacock	20	Michael Grossman	17 0 *
Halibut, CA	20	Brad Stich	37 2 *	Bass, Striped	2	Steve Greanias	6 8 *
Halibut, CA	25	Tom Carlisle	26 0 *	Bass, Striped	4	Royal MacNair	8 0 *
Pargo	40	Joel Steinman	16 0 *	MENS RELEASED			
Pargo	50	Joel Steinman	17 0 *	Sailfish (8)	30	Earl Warren	
Salmon, King	10	Eric Rogger	16 0 *	Seabass, Black	20	Barry Cohn	
Salmon, King	20	Barry Cohn	26 0	Sturgeon	80	Al Scow	
Salmon, King	25	Earl Warren	32 2	Sturgeon	100	Al Scow	
Salmon, Silver	20	Barry Cohn	11 0 *	Sturgeon	100	Tom Carlisle	
Tuna, Bigeye	80	Tom Carlisle	70 13 *	WOMEN'S			
Tuna, Bluefin	16	Jim Carlisle	35 0	Albacore	25	Jan Howard	31 5 *
Tuna, Bluefin	60	Frank Polak	118 0	Salmon, King	20	Pamela Warren	27 9
Tuna, Bluefin	80	Al Scow	148 1 *	Salmon, King	25	Pamela Warren	29 9 *
Tuna, Yellowfin	130	Dan Felger	171 3	Tuna, Bluefin	60	Jan Howard	110 2 *
Wahoo	50	Dan Felger	37 8	Tuna, Yellowfin	100	Jan Howard	115 6
White Sea Bass	20	Jim Carlisle	50 2	Wahoo	40	Jan Howard	35 0 *
Yellowtail	20	Michael Lapidus	26 14	SARDINES			
Yellowtail	25	Brad Stich	31 3 *	Trout	4	Harrison Hunter	2 8
Yellowtail	30	Don Lee	26 3	* New Club Record			
Yellowtail	40	Paul Varenchik	44 6 *	First Game Fish of the Year			
Yellowtail	50	Don Lee	27 14	Jim Carlisle—White Seabass, 20 lb.—4-12-03			
Yellowtail	60	Jonathan Varenchik	43 4 *	First Albacore of the Year			
				Eric Rogger—2-13-03			
FLY ROD							
Albacore	20 Tippet	Tom Carlisle	22 0 *				
Albacore	20 Tippet	Jim Carlisle	21 8				
Bass, Striped	12 Tippet	Eli Livnat	19 0 *				
Blue Fish	12 Tippet	Eli Livnat	9 0 *				
Blue Fish	20	Eli Livnat	5 2 *				
Bonefish	8	Raymond Yu	Released				
Bonefish	10	Raymond Yu	Released				
Bonefish	12	Don Lee	Released				

Action Alert

Voice your opposition to **No-Fishing Zones** and your support of the **Freedom to Fish Act (F2F)** by logging on to:

www.Freedomtofish.org

A pre-composed e-letter can be found by following the prompts. **Send it today.**

Dedicated to Fishing, Fun, Relaxation, and Companionship!

MULTIPLE DAY CHARTERS- 2003

Club Members please note: LARRC guarantees the boat operator the contracted number of passengers and payment for each charter trip. Your commitment to go makes you responsible for your fare and that of your guests. (Italics indicate private i.e. not LARRC charter.)

ALASKA – KINGFISHER LODGE

June 3-7, 2004

Price is \$1595 and includes all meals, filleting, and packaging for shipment, Alaska Fishing License, only 10 spots left, no money needed until September. Fares do not include tipping and air transportation (about \$510) to Sitka.

Contact: Arnie Cohen, 11101 Viking St. Northridge, CA 91326, 818- 366/3300 Home: 818 368/5834 Make checks payable to Arnie Cohen.

QUALIFIER 105—Baja Skiff Trip

7-DAY TRIP—June 5-12, 2004

Price is \$1800, reservation requires a \$300 deposit. LARRC participants in the 2003 trip have first priority 'til August 31st. Limited load is 18. Not included are soft drinks, beer, tackle, tips, jackpot, any fuel cost increase and mexican permits. Subsequent deposits due (\$500) Nov. 15, 2003, Feb. 15, 2004 and April 15, 2004.

Barry Brightenberg was our generous sponsor in 2003 and has agreed to redo it in 2004.

Contact: Dan Felger 805 370-1632 or fax 805 370-1483. Address is 860 Hampshire Rd., Suite W, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361. Make checks payable to LARRC

QUALIFIER 105—Albacore/Bluefin Trip

5-DAY TRIP— July 14-19, 2004

Departs NOON, July 14

Price is \$1675. Limited load of 22, Not included are tips, drinks, tackle, mexican permits and fuel surcharge if any. LARRC participants in the 2003 trip will have priority through August 31st 2003. An initial deposit of \$475 must accompany reservation with additional payments (\$400) due Nov. 15, Feb.15 2004 and April 15 2004. Checks are payable to LARRC.

Contact: Dan Felger 805 370-1632 or fax 805 370-1483.



Fishing License Fees are Going Up

The cost of fishing appears to be going up. The department of Fish & Game has proposed a series of increases likely to become law on January 1st. One will boost the base cost of a one-day license by \$2, from \$6.25 to \$8.25. That's better than what the DFG had originally proposed: the outright elimination of one-day licenses.

Additionally, ocean-only licenses, which this year sell for \$17.25 will be eliminated. And the cost for the mandatory ocean enhancement stamp will increase from \$2.50 to \$3.50. So, saltwater and freshwater anglers will have to buy a general license at a cost of \$31.25 (up from the current price of \$29.25). And ocean anglers can add to that the cost of the enhancement stamp.

(LA Times 7/4) ■



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C A L E N D A R

LARRC Charters 2003

- SEPTEMBER 17 *Wednesday*
- OCTOBER 8 *Wednesday* 22 *Wednesday*
- NOVEMBER 12 *Wednesday*
- DECEMBER 10 *Wednesday*



1. Departure time will be 5:00 AM SHARP, from Cisco Landing in Oxnard. However, some trips may depart earlier. These earlier departures will be at the sole discretion of the Charter Master after consultation with the Skipper.
2. The trips will be planned for local surface calico bass; however, opportunities to fish for exotics, such as white sea bass and yellowtail or salmon, will take precedent. Also, several trips will be for light tackle rockfish and/or halibut at Santa Rosa or San Miguel.
3. Return time will usually be 4:00 - 4:30 PM, but could be earlier or later depending on fishing conditions and weather, and will be determined by the Skipper.
4. Sleeping accommodations will be assigned by the Charter Master. Please note that this boat has 3 staterooms and 7 bunks.
5. This is a 6-pac charter. Loads will be limited to 6 people, including juniors. There will be no over-booking and juniors will pay full price.
6. Cost: \$140 Earlier departures will cost additional.
7. Charter price includes trip, bait, fish cleaning and tips. Not included are soft drinks, beer and food.
8. Reservations should be made through Arnie Cohen, 11101 Viking Ave., Northridge, CA 91326. Phone-msg. ctr. 818/366-3300, home phone 818/368-5834, fax 818/366-4945.



Dinner Meetings

September 29

October 27

Please note the HOT LINE number for future reference. Be sure to call it if you intend coming to our dinners. HOT LINE (818) 808-4909

THE VALLEY INN
4557 Sherman Oaks Avenue, Sherman Oaks

Board Meetings

September 22

October 20

All Club members are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Paul Varenchik at 818/285-4645 at least 2 days prior to the meeting to confirm attendance and if you will be having dinner.
Dinner: 6:00 pm • Meeting: 7:00 pm

THE VALLEY INN
4557 Sherman Oaks Avenue, Sherman Oaks

Other Events

October 23, 2003
Inter-Club Tournament
on the AZTEC

February 21, 2004
Annual Awards Dinner

Foundation Meetings

September 15
at Mike Godfrey's home

December 1st
All at 6pm at the Valley Inn

Upcoming Speakers

Sept 29
William Boyce
Noted Outdoorsman

October 27
Dennis Braid, Tackle Guru

November 24
Barry Brightenberg, Fish Trap Lures

When Necessity Makes Strange Bedfellows –

Most of us consider commercial fishermen our nemesis. Who hasn't been on the water when a large seiner made an ominous appearance complete with spotter plane. We've always been resentful of the commercials for being wasteful and fishing our turf. Thoughtful people will understand the need for "getting in bed" with a group of commercials when it comes to the Channel Islands issues.

The Ventura County Commercial Fishermen's Association, happens to be on the same page with us recreationalists when it comes to fighting the Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas. The suit filed by a San Francisco attorney to turn back the Fish & Game Commission ruling was bound to be expensive. Indeed the appeal to get a TRO—Temporary Restraining Order—was turned down by Ventura County Judge Hintz as was an appeal to have this reversed. (May 13, 2003) The law suit is proceeding and is scheduled to resume this September,

It appears that the California Fish & Game Commission intends to expand on these reserves as have certain federal agencies now involved in the process. Recreational Anglers must be supportive of winning this suit if they wish to continue their fishing activities in future years. The suit is critical of the ways in which the reserves were created. Certain recreational fishing organizations have already made contributions in order to help overturn the commission's decision.

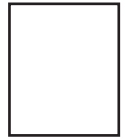
**IT IS NOW TIME TO SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION,
FOR INDIVIDUAL ANGLERS TO HELP PRESERVE THEIR RIGHT TO FISH!**

Make your check out to:
(CILDF) Channel Island Legal Defense Fund.

Mail to:
Ventura County Commercial Fishermen's Assn (VCCFA)
3600 S. Harbor Blvd. #240, Oxnard, CA 93035

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 Dan Felger @ 805 370-1632
email: dan@dartrealty.net



The owner of Fish Trap Lures, Barry Brightenberg, has been most cooperative on our bass charters. We've learned from him and benefitted from his liberal samplings. He deserves our support. Barry will be our speaker on November 24th.