

Chum Line



Good Sportsmanship is Worth More Than all the Fish in the Ocean FEBRUARY 2020

*THE SIXTY-NINTH
ANNUAL
DAN FELGER AWARDS
BANQUET AND
FOUNDATION AUCTION
SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 23!*

**PLEASE NOTE - THERE IS NO
DINNER MEETING THIS MONTH**

A Message from the President

By Mike Hartt

It's hard to imagine almost two years have passed since taking over my position as President of this amazing club. Two Kids Trips, two Lou Berke derbies, many Vets trips, and many, many other wonderful memories.

We have one more Board Meeting on February 17th, and then on February 23rd, our annual banquet honoring our trophy winners, installation of our 2020 Officers, and our all-important Foundation auction to help raise funds for our 2020 activities and scholarships. All of you should have received your invitations, and I sincerely hope we have a wonderful turnout for this year's event.

If for any reason you haven't received an invite, please call or email me ASAP.

I remember how anxious I felt when I started two years ago, but the support I received from other members and past Presidents helped the transition in many ways. This year Ted Feit will be taking over as President of the club, and I know Ted will receive the same support as I so much appreciated. Please don't hesitate to contact Ted and offer any support he may need.

I have offered to continue supporting the club as Committee Chair for meeting programs. I would ask for any support and suggestions in searching for good dinner speakers. As you know, quality speakers can really have a positive effect on dinner meeting attendance.

It has been an honor serving as your President, and I hope to see many of you at the banquet later this month.

Good fishing,
Mike Hartt

From the Foundation

Cathy Needleman has termed out as a trustee. She has been a huge asset to me and the foundation. I hate to see her leave. Ron Glider will be the newest trustee and I look for him to be a valuable addition to the foundation.

Don't forget the auction for the banquet coming up on the 23rd.

Joel Steinman
Foundation President

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday Evening

April 25, 2020

FAMILY GRUNION RUN EVENT

Can one have a family event involving the visual observation of the implementation of the biblical command to "be fruitful and multiple"?

Yes! LARRC is happy to announce our Family Grunion Run Event in association with the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, San Pedro CA. The Aquarium will open at 8 pm. The educational auditorium program begins at 9 pm. This is followed by a guided beach observation of the actual mating rituals of this silvery fish, found only in southern CA and northern Baja. LARRC families and friends of LARRC families are welcome.



**Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club and Foundation's
Annual Banquet and Fund Raiser
Sunday, February 23, 2020**

*Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club Foundation
Live Auction Items
February 23, 2020*

- **Ben Florentino Full Day Fishing for two, \$300.00 Min. Value \$600**
- **Randy Sharon – Trust \$1,200 Min. \$2,500 Value**
- **Paul Varenchik – BBQ for 20 – must be used in one year, \$300 Min.**
- **Dan Trippeda – Full day fishing for two, \$300 Min.**
- **Dan Trippeda – Full day fishing for two, \$300 Min.**
- **Tom Speirs San Diego Bay or Diamond Valley Lake full day fishing for two, \$300 Min.**
- **Rob Baldwin Salt or Freshwater trip full day for two. \$300 Min.**
- **Jimmy Decker – half day fishing for two, \$300 Min.**
- **Admission for 4 to Aquarium of the Pacific behind the scene tour, two-night stay at the Cove Hotel in Long Beach and admission for 2 to Disneyland. (Disney tickets to be used by June 7, 2020). Min. \$450**

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Submitted by Eric Rogger

◆ FIRST ITEM THIS MONTH!!! . . .

Did you order your 2020 Fishing License?
As mentioned in our last issue the powers in Sacramento have still not come up with a plan to extend the life of a fishing license for a whole year, no matter when you purchase it. An annual license is currently priced at \$51.02. Expiration is 12/31/20. To make a long story short to get your new license and DFW info go to: www.wildlife.ca.gov

◆ **WESTERN OUTDOOR NEWS.** . .had an editorial (Jan. 17) urging the DFW to act on the legislation (AB 1387) now being considered by the State Senate. It reports that since 1980 license sales have dropped almost 50%. This editorial was submitted by Marko Malotkin of the California Sportsfishing League. It encourages all fishermen to support his efforts.

◆ **SPERM WHALE.** . . leaves a message! A recent report in the NY Times deals with a dead sperm whale that was found beached on a Scotland shore. A post mortem exam revealed that it had ingested more than 220 lbs. of plastic and other debris.

◆ **CCA.** . .published a memo announcing a successful win when the Pacific Fisheries Management Council decided not to allow shallow set longlining in West Coast waters. Industrial pelagic longlining was declared as "abhorrent".

◆ **ALSO, GOOD NEWS.** . .The California Department of Fish & Wildlife has awarded \$10.1 million for help to restore fisheries habitat and forest projects. Included is \$9.8 million dedicated to salmonid restoration projects. The funds are coming from the CDFW fisheries restoration grant program. These projects will address items like barriers removal, water quality and habitat shortcoming.

◆ **THE SAN DIEGO UNION.** . .reports on a new court decision (1/2/2020) which prohibits longlining because of their danger to sea turtles. Long line fisheries have been closed off our coast since 2004 but several permits had been issued.

◆ **BLUEFIN TUNA.** . .is said to be the most desirable fish to be served in Sushi bars. In early January news came that a Japanese businessman had bought a tuna for \$1.8 million at a New York auction. Kyoshi Kimura, who owns a chain of restaurants paid 193 million yen for the 608 lb fish. (Also noted that he paid \$3 million for a 612 lb. fish the year before) What's so desirable about bluefin tuna? They say it's the marbling of the flesh.

As usual... comments would be welcome c/o Eric Rogger wstridge@aol.com

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KING OF THE CALICO TOURNAMENT

Date: July 23, 2020 (Departs July 22nd at 8pm)

Boat: Trueline

Place: 22nd St. Landing, San Pedro

Cost: \$225 - Includes Tournament, T-Shirt, Prizes and Tip

*Only TEN TEAMS Competing -
ONLY 5 Teams left -
Get your 2 person team together NOW!*

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For more information call:

Joel Steinman - 818-384-2326 or

Steve Simon - 818-469-7651

TWO DAY PACIFIC DAWN TRIP



Fishermen,

This is to announce a two day tuna trip out of Fisherman's Landing in San Diego on the Pacific Dawn. www.pacificdawn.com/ Will be departing at ~ 9pm on Saturday August 1st, returning August 3rd at approximately 8pm. Will be going with a light load of 16 passengers, the fee per passenger will be **\$835**.

Fee will include Fare, Food, Mexican Permits, and Crew Gratuities. Not included Beverages (beer, water, coffee, and soda), fish cleaning, optional jackpot and fuel surcharge if applicable.

Those interested will need to pay in full the \$835. Checks will be made payable to LARRC, mailed to Mark Manculich at 18440 Tribune St. Northridge CA, 91326. Please contact me prior to sending in a deposit to confirm there is space available on the trip. There are currently 15 spaces remaining.

Those signing up for a club charter are obligated to pay the full fare even if they cannot make the trip. The Club will attempt to fill your space, we suggest you do the same, in a timely manner to mitigate the charge.

Bunks will be pre-assigned. Earliest payers get the preferred bunks. Please let me know if you have any special needs I need to be aware of when you make your reservations.

Our Standards on this trip:

- The four rod holders at the front of the bait tanks are reserved for the boats trolling rods, no exceptions.
- We support our Captain. If called on the trolling rotation, we will either fully support, or enroll another to stand in our place, now, not later. If we stand in for another, it does not change our own rotation.

Thank you,

Mark Manculich

818 613-6575 Cell Phone • mmanculich@socal.rr.com

Chum Line Advertising

Do you have a business that fellow members would be interested in? If so, place an ad in the monthly Chum Line!!

Advertising Pricing

1/8 page: \$20 per month or \$240/year

1/4 page: \$40 per month or \$480/year

1/2 page: \$80 per month or \$960/year

Full page: \$160 per month or \$1920/year

Buy 12 months and get one month free!

Checks should be made payable to LARRC.

The ad will be published once payment and graphics are received.

Contact Sophia (fishnsoph@gmail.com) or

Donald (donald@dgoldsobel.com) for more information.

Thank you!!

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The LONG & SHORT of Fishing South

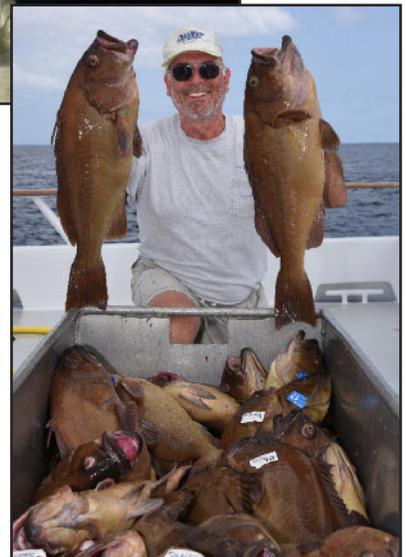
By Marc Monforte

Each year I take a number of both “short” and “long” range trips out of San Diego, primarily aboard the luxury sportfisher **Excel**. In January, I ventured south aboard the **American Angler** on a 15-day trip, and followed that up with a 16-day trip aboard the **Excel** in late May. As with both of those particular longer trips, we traveled four days south to reach our two primary/targeted fishing destination (**Hurricane Bank & Ghost Island**), in search of giant Yellowfin Tuna and speedy Wahoo. Most recently, I was also aboard the **Excel** for a shorter 10-day trip in October. As compared to the two previous longer trips, we only traveled for two days south before we were at our first destination (**Alijos Rocks & near-by Alijos Bank**), and already fishing. After two full days of fishing we had caught plenty of school sized **Yellowfin Tuna** (20 to 45 pounders), and also smaller sized Yellowtail (8 to 20 pounders), before it was time to make a move. Moving east, we found very good fishing on the **Ridge** area, specifically at the **Uncle Sam Bank**. Over the next four days, the 26 passengers completed their limits of yellowtail and yellowfin tuna, all the while putting 190 **Wahoo** in the fish holds as well. To complement the game fish, there was also very good fishing for a wide variety of bottom fish, including various **grouper, bass, lingcod, reds, and others**. To add to the fun, **sailfish, marlin and dorado** also kept us busy with their acrobatics. By the trip’s end, everyone aboard had plenty of time at the rail, and all the variety/quantity of fish they chose to keep and/or release.

Although 10 days is not necessarily considered a “short” trip per se, it is in comparison to the “longer” 16 day trips. Although you may or may not have the opportunity to fish some of the same fishing grounds during a 16-day trip that you would on an 8 to 10 day trip (while initially traveling south and then back north again at trips end), you would not be traveling the nearly **1000 miles south** on a 10-day trip, rather half that distance. Allowing for the eight travel days just from and to San Diego, and the usual travel time between the two primary fishing grounds on the voyage, you average about seven days of actual fishing time. During that time at the rail, the primary focus is large Yellowfin Tuna and secondarily, Wahoo. Notwithstanding all the associated disadvantages of a number of competing boats all fishing a relatively small area (**Hurricane Bank**) at the same time, the likelihood of untenable shark activity, and the timeliness of no large tuna, and/or any appreciable volume of school sized tuna/wahoo available at all, makes for a costly and speculative opportunity to have a successful/productive trip. With a visit to **Ghost Island** the only viable back-up alternative to locate trophy size tuna or wahoo, the unpredictability of access and fish presence there is always a concern. Over the past few years, it appears to me anyway, that the once highly productive fishery for both COW tuna and the “fill-in-the-time” tuna and wahoo has dramatically changed/declined!

So, the long and short of this message is that if you’re sole mission is to battle **Giant Yellowfin Tuna**, your best opportu-

nity may be to take that **LONG** trip (December through May). But, if the motivation is to have a better opportunity to catch fish of various species, and of varying sizes and quantities (in almost the same amount of fishing time), then a **SHORT** trip (June through November) just may be the best option. And if you are still looking to catch that **COW Tuna**, there is always a short window of time/opportunity to catch one on the shorter 10-day trips that venture further down the Ridge area to the **Southern Banks**. Given all the variable factors (including time and cost) to consider in planning the right short/long range trip, the thought and expectation of just having a **FUN TRIP** first, and the **catching of fish as a bonus**, will go a long way in setting the right mental attitude and mind-set! **There is nothing like being on the boat with a fun group of fellow anglers, having a great time, and also catching fish as well!!**



Introduction to Fishing Knots

By Larry Brown

I have a couple very strong philosophies about fishing knots. First, all popularly known fishing knots are strong and reliable when tied correctly and horrible when tied incorrectly. Second, learn and practice just one knot for each application so you learn to do it PERFECTLY, in your sleep, if the wind is howling, the rain is torrential and the fish are boiling everywhere. I have seen so many anglers screw up a knot (and lose a fish) because they learned 5 different knots to tie a hook to mono and they couldn't remember the precise steps for the one they were tying, especially when all amped up with boiling fish and their own adrenaline and frustration raging. KISS – Keep It Simple Stupid.

There are so many great knots. To tie a hook or a jig onto mono or fluoro you can use the San Diego Jam, Double San Diego, Palomar, Trilene, Uni, Joe Miller, Perfection, etc. They all work when tied perfectly and all fail when tied imperfectly. Learn one, master it and don't try to be a knot guru.

The Chumline Editor asked me to share the knots I use. These knots have been very good to me and I can highly recommend them. But if you tie another knot and it has never failed you I suggest you stay with your winner.

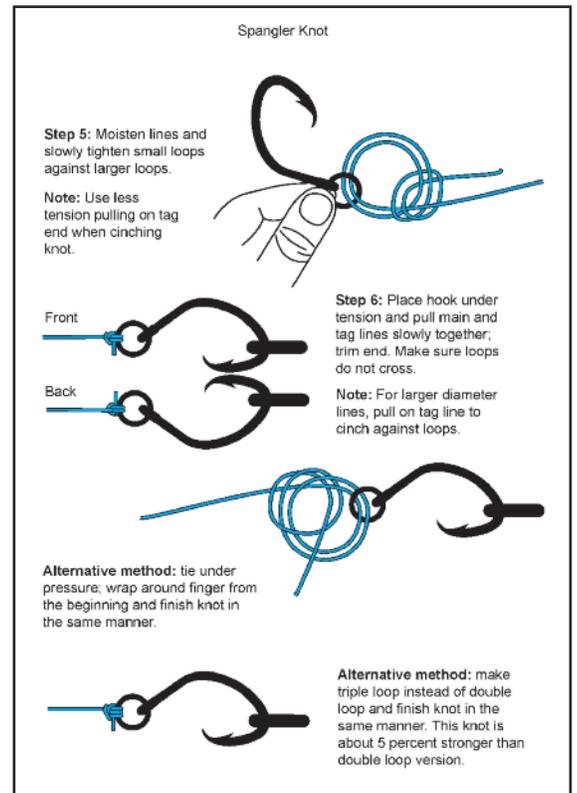
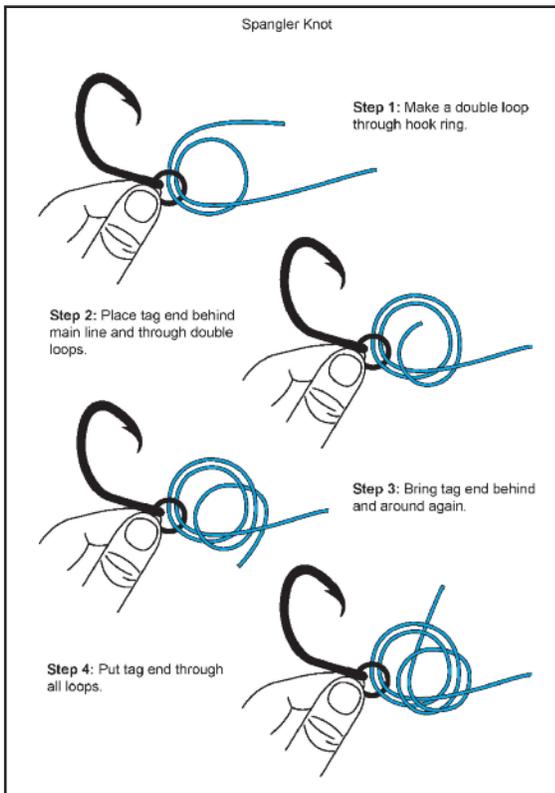
There are six basic applications for which you should

master a knot or connection. Below I list the 6 knots I use and the application for which I use it. From time to time, the editor will publish one segment of the series. I will provide a diagram and specific instructions for each of these knots. If you are impatient there are tons of references and videos on line, but beware I have modified, improved and tested a couple of these to increase strength and reliability.

Knots and Applications:

1. Spangler - For tying mono or fluoro to a hook or jig
2. Seaguar or Surgeon - For connecting fluoro leader to your mono main line
3. "Improved" Double Albright - For connecting fluoro or mono to solid or hollow braid
4. Double Blood - For connecting Solid Braid to Solid or Hollow Braid
5. In-Line Splice - For connecting two hollow braids, same or different # test
6. Dropper Loop - For bottom fishing for yellowtail, white seabass and grouper

This month we start out with the Spangler Knot for attaching a hook or jig to your mono or fluoro.



Fly Fishing Fun

By Sophia Huynh

With most of our regular fishing options closed for the season, I decided to continue my journey in to the world of fly fishing. Our friend Brett, Kevin and I signed up for a 4-hour class with Guy Jean in Kernville. His shop is called Kern River Fly Shop; it is located by the bridge and has a beautiful trout painted on the side of the building. So on Thursday we left the Valley at 7am, made great time and had lunch before we went to the shop.

We pulled up as Guy was walking out so we introduced ourselves and we followed him to the bridge and watch some anglers do their thing.

It was time to start our class so Guy took us to his classroom and handed each of us an intro to fly fishing packet! I'm already excited; I didn't have to worry about remembering everything. It was all there. I even added my own notes because I'm a dork! Guy explained it all to us. From the types of rods and reels, types of line/leader/tippets, all the many many many types of flies and what they are supposed to mimic. He showed us samples of the bugs in their different life stages (which was also in the packet) and explained the significance of the stages in relation to fly selection. Kevin and Brett geeked out on the bug part and had so

many questions for him. I was trying to remember all the types and what they look like.

After our 1-hour class, Guy handed out waders and boots! We were off to the river to learn casting. He taught us the roll cast, how to get more line out, how to dry our flies, left and right casting and more things that I honestly cannot remember. I know once I do it again I'll remember but it was a lot. My arm was so sore from the few hours of practice. It's completely different from salt-water fishing. Brett picked everything quickly and since he doesn't fish; he had the advantage of a clean slate. Kevin and I had to tell ourselves to forget everything we know! It was a lot of fun and you can't beat the scenery! If you have a hankering for learning, I highly recommend him. He was thorough, friendly and passionate about fishing! We had an easy drive home after a quick dinner. It really showed us how close Kernville is and how accessible it is for short trips and opening up a whole world of possibilities.

The next day I left for a girls weekend to Mammoth for



Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club Foundation & AmazonSmile

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

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Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization – **Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club Foundation** – to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.



a friend's birthday. They were all going snowboarding so I booked 2 half days of fishing with Doug of Sierra Drifters. On Saturday Allison, my friend Jon and I met Doug in Bishop so we could drift the lower Owens. We got loaded in the boat all ready to go and Allison didn't have her 2020 fishing license. So the three of us got back in the truck and went to Regan's bought her license and new hats! It was pretty warm and sunny compared to up the hill and none of us thought to bring a hat. We returned to the river loaded up again and started our adventure. Jon has fly fished before and went with Kevin and me last year when we fished Crowley Lake with Doug. Allison had never fly fished before but she picked it up pretty quickly.

Drift fishing is completely different than what we did on Crowley. Here only 2 anglers could cast off the bow of the boat (which is maybe 15ft long). The set up was a fly; I can't remember what it was, and the indicator. This was much more interactive since we were casting down stream and working the fly back to boat. Jon got bit and landed a beautiful fish. He was the hot stick with many bites but didn't land any more. Allison got bit after Doug switched out the fly to one that mimicked an egg. She landed a wild brown trout. We rotated anglers throughout they day and worked the fly. Back to drifting, this part of the river is so windy. As the crow flies we covered about a mile but following the river it took 4 hours. Doug would set us up by dropping the anchor and explain where to cast. It was a lot of fun and so beautiful. I hadn't gotten a bite but was practicing all the things I learned from Guy 2 days before. Don't get me wrong, I wanted to land a fish too but I was there to practice. As we neared the end of our drift and I still didn't have a bite it was my turn to be in the bow. Well what do you know...after 2 casts I get a bite and land a brown trout! No one got skunked and we all had a fun time! We met Doug's wife, son and puppy!! They are all super nice and were actually going to drift further down to scope out the area. We headed back to Mammoth with smiles on our faces!

Sunday was the opposite of Saturday. I would be meeting Doug to wade the upper Owens River. So I knew I had to dress warm since it started snowing when I woke up. It was straight up cold, cloudy and rainy. At one point in the day it was slushy rain and for 30 mins it was sunny and warm. I was prepared with thermals, 2 pairs of socks, snow pants, sweat-shirt, down jacket, hat and beanie. Doug provided me with waders that had the boots connected. They were key in staying warm. My feet were warm and dry, which allowed me to keep fishing. We started fishing and he would explain how to cast and where to cast based on where on the river we were standing. It was much more difficult since we were going across the

current and were trying to have the fly drift naturally and at the same speed as the water flow. Oh did I mention it was cold and windy? There were so many things I was trying to remember, learn, and not do that when I actually got bit I forgot which way to set the hook and ended up losing the first one. I had to remind myself I was there to learn not just land fish. If I wanted the photo or to say what I caught I would have Doug hook all my fish. I was there to learn so that means missing the next 5 bites maybe more until I connected and had a solid hook set. Which did happen! This fish was awesome. The fight is so different than salt water since I had to follow him along the riverbank up and over stuff. There is no horsing them in on light line, just patience, finesse and technique which Doug helped me with the last 2 things. He was a great coach, guiding me how to angle the rod, remind me to let go of the reel, telling when to step over stuff so I wouldn't trip and getting the fish out from under the river bank. That was a new experience; the fish went under the bank and was stuck. So Doug took the rod and went in the middle of the river to try and change the angle/pressure etc so the fish would swim out. Which he did and I crossed the river to continue the fight and land him! It was a beautiful male rainbow trout! I almost cried ha ha. Almost but it was too cold. We took a couple of pictures and let him go. We had maybe another 45 min left in the day and I kept practicing but the wind and cold was not in our favor. So we called it a day. Its always nice to land one for all the effort you put in and I am so proud of that fish! Especially when people were telling me there were no fish or fishing in the wintertime. They are there it just takes more effort since they aren't feeding as aggressively as other times of the year. I personally enjoyed it since there were less people around and the view was spectacular! If you have sometime and want to go, I will absolutely go with you!





Donald Goldsobel's

CALLING ALL COOKS

ULTIMATE OVEN BAKED CRUSTED CRISPY FISH

There are lots of recipes to bake fish with a crumb coating, but I think this recipe is better than any I have tried before. The mixture of Panko crumbs and Italian Seasoned Bread Crumbs makes it extra crispy. The addition of grated Parmesan cheese makes it really flavorful. If you like an herb flavor, try a pinch of herb du Provence.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound fish fillets
- 1/2 cup Italian Seasoned Bread Crumbs (Progresso)
- 1/2 cup Panko bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese (Trader Joe's)
- 1/4 cup egg white or egg substitute or a whole beaten egg with a teaspoon of water

Equipment:

- Flat plate
- Shallow bowl
- Sheet Pan with a rack

Pre-heat oven set on roast to 425 Degrees
 Measure and blend the dry ingredients on the flat plate
 Put egg in the shallow bowl
 Press and coat fillets with the crumb mixture, dip in egg and roll fillet in crumbs again.
 Lay the filets on the rack (oiled or non-stick spray) and place in the upper third of the oven and leave in until a thermometer inserted in the center of the fillet reaches 130 degrees...usually when the crust gets good and brown. Time varies with the oven and the thickness of the fillets, but usually between 10 and 14 minutes. Using a metal spatula, remove from rack and serve with your favorite sauce. I like tartar sauce or Major Grey chutney for a sweet taste. Spicy? Try Asian chili sauce- hot and sweet.

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 3166 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd.
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 Tom Trainer

CALENDAR

Board Meeting

February 17, 2020

Social Hour: 6:00pm Meeting: 7:00pm
Lulu's

16900 Roscoe Blvd. • Van Nuys, CA 91406



NO Dinner Meeting



FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Annual Awards Banquet

Braemar Country Club

Call Mike Hartt for additional info • 818-416-1885



APRIL 17, 2020

Lou Berke Catfish Derby

HANSEN DAM

Call Steve Simon for additional info • 818-469-7651



APRIL 25, 2020

Annual Family Event

GRUNION RUN with CABRILLO MUSEUM

Contact Ted Feit for additional information



JULY 13, 2020

Earl Warren's Memorial Kids' Trip

22nd Street Landing • San Pedro

Call Richard Stone for more info • 804-501-6669



JULY 22, 2020

King of the Calicos Tournament

Contact Steve Simon or Joel Steinman for more information



AUGUST 3, 2020

Marine Mentors' Trip

Betty-O, Marna Del Rey

Contact Joel Steinman or Joseph M for more information



VETERANS' TRIPS

March 18, May 13, September 23,

November 18

Call Steve Simon for additional info • 818-469-7651

You Should'a Seen the One That Got Away!

By Larry Brown

Our friends and family think we anglers are a bunch of liars, exaggerators. They laugh and roll their eyes when we talk about the one that got away. They ask us the question so obvious to them, "why do you never talk about the little one that got away?" The answer so obvious to us is, "because they usually don't and who cares if they do!" Big fish get away for so many reasons; they out smart us, break our tackle, break our bodies and break our will. They are tough, they are smart, they are cagey and most likely it ain't their first rodeo. I know this applies to many species, but this brief will be limited to big tuna - cows and super cows.

Many of these fish are lost because of angler error. Under angler error I include:

- Using too small of reel
- Using too light of rod
- Using too small of hook
- Using too heavy or too light of drag during specific episodes of the fight
- Not putting enough pressure on the fish
- Getting into an avoidable tangle or suffering an avoidable saw off
- Using too light of line
- Failed knots or connections

But some fish are just too tough, too mean and nasty to catch. Just dragging a dead 200 plus pound object through the water is actually very difficult. Add a big tail, a bad ass attitude and a strong will to survive to the equation and landing a 200# plus tuna is even more challenging. Also, just like people, all tuna are different. Remember that 140 pound mean SOB in junior high school who could kick your ass and that 200 pound gentle giant that couldn't fight worth beans? Tuna are the same way. I've landed woosy

200 pound fish in 10 minutes and been embarrassed after taking 45 minutes to battle a mean 150 pound tuna to submission.

Whenever we are on long range trips the stories about the giants landed and the giants lost are told by anglers relishing their successes or anguishing over their losses. I'll share a few of mine and a few of my buddies' stories about the "ones that got away."

Personal Losses

At the Hurricane Bank my sardine was inhaled by a giant very near the boat, which is normally a good thing as you have most of your line on your reel and you know your exact drag, which is always set with a full spool. I was using all the right gear, a 30W Avet and a Phenix PHDX3H rod with 100# braid and 100# fluoro. The bastard took off and kept gaining speed against a 33# drag setting. After 30 seconds we knew this was a monster and after another 15 seconds the captain was screaming for the backup rig, as my line was melting off the reel. The backup rig was attached to my lugs and we were nano seconds from launching my rod and reel over board when the unthinkable happened. He was gone. We didn't know if he pulled the hook, broke the line, broke the hook and with 700 yards of line in the water it took a lot of winding to find out. I recovered all but 5 feet of my fluoro top shot which told the captain the exact cause of the loss. He took me sharply over the reef that was 300 ft deep and 600 yards away. He knew what he was doing; he knew the structure; it wasn't his first escape. I don't think a 50 size reel, 4X rod and 130 pound spectra and fluoro would have helped, but when I am fishing in cow town the heavier gear is now my default.

Another time I thought I had beaten a very mean fish after what seemed like an hour of a heavy weight prize fight match. He was about 60 feet deep and it was a classic standoff with each of us taking and giving up inches but getting nowhere. I finally felt I broke his sprit and had him coming up one turn at a time; 50, 40, 30 20, 15, 15, 15, 15 feet, just inches out of gaff range. My drag was in full, my left fingers were grabbing the spool, not yielding an inch. I finally got another foot and the first gaff went in. The fish exploded, the crew member was almost pulled over the rail, another gaff went in but the fish twisted and the deck hands had to let go to avoid breaking their arms between the twisting gaffs. I immediately went to free spool and the fish screams off another 100 ft of line as I slowly reengage the drag – text book. But the line breaks and the fish escapes. The cause may have been abrasion from the gaffs or from the fishes teeth or fins, but the score was one more victory (assuming and hoping he lived) to the better adversary.

Another bastard I fought for 1.5 hours pulled the hook one foot away from the gaff. They estimated him at just under 300#s. I was using all the right gear; a 50 class reel loaded with 130# line, a heavy rod and a 6/0 Owner super mutu hook. Shit just happens with big fish. A smaller fish or maybe a weaker fish would have lost that battle in 20 minutes or less. Pulling hooks seems to be an experience shared by many anglers and is really only angler error if you are using a size 3/0 or 4/0 hook on cow tuna to entice a bite, as the likelihood of a smaller hook holding is lower than a nice beefy 5/0 or 6/0 hook. Not that time.

2 for 8 on the Intrepid

A few years ago I was on a 15 day trip when a school of giant tuna swam through and 8 of us hooked up all at the exact same time. Several were lost in the first few minutes. A couple of the fish probably never knew they were even hooked up. Only two of those monsters were landed. Mine was the first to be welcomed aboard, followed by Greg Stump's fish about a half hour later. My buddy Miles Callison lost a super cow right next to the boat following a 2 hour battle. He was using all the right (HEAVY) gear. The captain said it was easily 300#s.

Steve Abel (of Abel Reels and Steve Abel Quality Gear fame) was the last man standing that day. Steve battled his devil fish for 4 hours before he lost it. Steve's giant melted 600 yards of spectra off the reel and just pouted on the surface that distance from the boat. The give and take was in that 500 to 600 yard range where Steve gained 100 yards and the devil took it back. This back and forth lasted 4 hours until the fish broke the line and Abel's heart. The final tally from that school of giants was 2 for 8. You shoulda seen the ones that got away!

2 Days at the Lower Banks

We never expect cow fishing on a November 10 day trip but last year the variety we did expect didn't want to play so Captain Sam Moore steered the Intrepid to the Lower Banks based on a little intel, a good hunch and maybe a bit of desperation. Most of the anglers were not experienced cow wranglers and didn't have the gear. The crew quickly assembled two cow outfits for every ill equipped angler and conducted detailed "how to and what not to do seminars." Individuals were coached and mentored by crew and the more experienced anglers. A lot to absorb and then execute when attacked by monsters. As soon as we arrived HELL BROKE LOOSE.

Huge tuna responded to our very generous chum circle. Over 3/4 of the fish we hooked that first day were lost, for all the reasons fish are lost. Only when we started landing some we realized they were all over 200#s. A school of straight cows. That night we licked our wounds, made sure our gear was perfect for round 2 and reviewed the lessons from the seminar and actual on the job training and humbling from round 1. Our success ratio that

next day was about 50%, which was excellent considering straight cows and our experience factor. Our overall tally: 20 big tuna, of which 19 were over 200#s and 5 of those were over 300#s. 17 anglers scored a personal best and 9 anglers landed none. I got my fist super cow and three other biggies. One guy lost 4 big fish. Another guy lost two in a row after 2 hour battles and refused to go home empty handed. He remained positive and stayed at the rail doing everything right. His 3rd hookup was the lucky charm, his first and personal best cow tuna. This is the essence of big tuna fishing. And of course, you shoulda seen the ones that got away!

Small fish just don't get away as often as big fish. Fifty pound tuna can't put the same stress on the gear or the angler that a 200# fish does. Plus, who cares if we lose a fifty pound tuna on a cow trip; the same is true for other types of fishing. When we are on a 2-5 day trip targeting 30 - 50 pound fish we use gear appropriate to that target species. We're more apt to lose the unexpected 100 pounder we hook than the 10 pounder we hook. And we're guaranteed to talk and moan ONLY about the big ones that got away.

Health and Happiness

Linda Simon is our contact for "Health and Happiness" - please contact Linda either by phone (818-980-7470) or email (simonmurphy08@sbcglobal.net) for any information about our club members/family - i.e., happy or sad news; health issues; graduation or congratulations, etc.

Veterans' BBQ

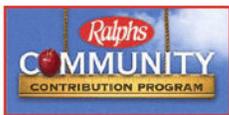
On January 22, 2020 Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club members - Steve Simon, Paul Varenchik, Joe Mahfet, Andy Mac Donald, Mike Godfrey, Ron Glider, Dave Morgan, and Larry Brown -- and new member Billy Vaughn - helped us put on the First Veterans Fish Taco luncheon. The fish used for this event was caught by the vets from the previous four trips we did in 2019. In addition to the fish, Paul



Varenchik - Calabasas Catering - provided Carne Asada, chicken, and pulled pork for the tacos, BBQ ribs, tortillas, salsa, guacamole, chips, drinks and fresh fruit. The funds for this event came out of the Veterans Fishing Program. We served over 200 vets and staff from the Veterans Administration Wilshire facility.



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.

CHARTERS 2020

DATE	DESTINATION	AVAILABILITY	CONTACT
May 21- May 22	Pacific Dawn Overnight Overnight trip targeting white seabass, yellowtail, ling cod, and rockfish Dock Location - Ventura Harbor Sportfishing, Ventura, CA	OPEN Cost: \$295 (meals & gratuity included) Limit - 17 anglers	Contact Keith (818) 783-6028 ext 324 keith@shergelb.com
May 23- May 27	Apollo 4-Day Puerto Vallarta, Fly Down/Back Targeting Giant tuna and inshore snapper around Puerto Vallarta's Tres Maria's Islands. 3 full days of fishing Dock Location - Marino Nuevo Vallarta Dock B (Muelle B)	SOLD OUT Cost: \$1,550 (meals & gratuity included) Limit - 10 anglers	Contact Alice @ Phenix Rods (562) 924-5400 alice@phenixrods.com
Jun 20- Jun 27	Royal Star - 7-Day 10am departure, The very best Father's Day celebration. Special gifts for all fathers/kids together on trip. Leaves and returns on a Saturday - NO rush hour traffic stress. Best deal of the year! Dock Location: Royal Star Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	SOLD OUT Cost: \$2,125 Limit - 24 anglers	Contact Tracy 619-224-4764 rs@royalstarsportfishing.com
Jun 28- Jul 3	Intrepid - 5-Day Prime time offshore fishing for yellowfin and bluefin tuna. Leaves on a Sunday - NO rush hour stress! Dock Location: Intrepid Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	OPEN Cost: \$2,795 Limit - 22 anglers, limited load	Contact Steve 619-224-4088 steve@fishintrepid.com
Jul 26- Aug 3	Intrepid - 8-Day Prime time offshore fishing for yellowfin and bluefin tuna. Leaves on a Sunday - NO rush hour stress! Dock Location: Intrepid Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	OPEN Cost: \$4,495 Limit - 22 anglers, limited load	Contact Steve 619-224-4088 www.fishintrepid.com
Aug 1- Aug 3	Pacific Dawn, 2-Day Offshore Charter Targeting yellowfin tuna, bluefin tuna, yellowtail dorado, etc. Dock Location: Fisherman's Landing, San Diego, CA	OPEN Cost: \$835 (meals & gratuity included) Limit - 17 anglers	Contact Mark Manculich 818-613-6575 mmanculich@socal.rr.com
Aug 15- Aug 21	Red Rooster III - 6-Day Charter Perfect timing to fish offshore Baja for yellowfin tuna and bluefin tuna. Leaves on Saturday - no rush hour stress! Dock Location: Lee Palm Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	SOLD OUT Cost: \$3,130 Limit - 25 anglers	Contact Maria 619-224-3857 office@redrooster3.com
Sep 1- Sep 6	Red Rooster III - 5-Day Charter NEW CLUB CHARTER Great time of the year to fish for yellowfin tuna, bluefin tuna, yellowtail and dorado. Guadalupe Island is an option! Dock Location: Lee Palm Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	SOLD OUT Cost: \$2,525 Limit - 25 anglers, limited load	Contact Maria 619-224-3857 office@redrooster3.com
Oct 3- Oct 10	Royal Star - 7-Day Great Fall fishing with a great group of anglers. Guadalupe Island is an option. Leaves and returns on a Saturday - NO rush hour traffic stress. Best deal of the year! Dock Location: Royal Star Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	SOLD OUT Cost: \$3,595 Limit - 20 anglers, limited load	Contact Tracy 619-224-4764 rs@royalstarsportfishing.com

CHARTERS 2020 CON'T

DATE	DESTINATION	AVAILABILITY	CONTACT
Oct 31- Nov 10	Intrepid - 10-Day Perfect variety trip to destinations such as The Ridge and Alijos Rocks for tuna, wahoo, dorado, yellowtail and grouper. Saturday departure! Dock Location: Intrepid Sportfishing, San Diego, CA	SOLD OUT Cost: \$4,960 Limit - 22 anglers, limited load	Contact Steve 619-224-4088 steve@fishintrepid.com
* Always call for the standby list on sold out trips 310-435-8365			
NOTE: LARRC members signing up for club charters are obligated to pay full fare in the event they cannot make the trip. The club will attempt to fill your space and you may try to do the same in a timely manner. There may be surcharges this year based on fuel price increases. Bunks are assigned by the charter master in order received. So book early! If you have any special needs please make the charter master aware of them at the time of booking. Contact Andrew Ratzky - Aratzky@att.net LARRC Club Charters in BLUE Larry Brown Shared Charters in GREEN			

2019 FISHING RECORDS/HALL OF FAME

Rob Baldwin - 30lb Halibut on 8lb test

Earl Warren - 77lb Rooster on 30lb test

Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club Foundation

Tribute Opportunity

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

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

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

5826 Ostrom Avenue, Encino, CA 91316

818-987-2645 • 818-345-6104 Fax • tammy2508@socal.rr.com



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