

**LET'S TALK
HOOK UP**
SPRING 2010



Tune in to *Let's Talk Hook-Up* every Saturday and Sunday 7am to 9am on **XX Sports Radio 1090 AM**

GOOD TIMES AND BIG FISH

By Garry Sato

The pace of living today is so rushed and frantic it's easy to forget how powerful the ritual can be of coming together and fishing with friends. To be able to spend time at the rail, on deck, in the galley, sharing stories, laughter and food and drink is one of life's gifts to be treasured. As the years go by, it seems that it's the small moments and pleasures we come to appreciate most which for anglers, it's the shared primal/tribal ritual pleasure of fishing.

I had the good fortune of being invited to go on the Bart Rider/Accurate



Captain Randy Toussant hoists Mike McAdam's 264 pound yellowfin tuna over the rail. This was one of three over 200 pounds Mike had on his first long range trip targeting big fish.

Reels charter in December—a 10-day, limited load (13 anglers) ride down fly back trip. Having fished with most all the fellow anglers in the past, it was like a homecoming of sorts. Bart's concept was to have a charter with all friends who loved to play music, party, laugh, share food and drink, and have the chance to catch big tuna for 10 days away from the burdens and pressures of everyday living.

We fished what I was told was the "Angus Bank", in the area known as the southern banks off the tip of Cabo. Expertly, the skippers Randy T. and Tim E. were able to pick the perfect spot to anchor up on the very first drop on

the first day from which we never moved to find fish for the entire seven days we were there. Once the anchor went down, the fish just started coming up around the boat, a slow pick for beautiful quality fish from 180-300 plus pounds for seven days. In past years, we would spend hours and days chasing porpoise schools hoping to find tuna under them if the weather allowed. Everyone commented on how the fishing on anchor reminded one of the days fishing at the Revillas from years past.

The weather was truly magnificent; one cannot have any more perfect weather and conditions as we had for fishing—cobalt blue water, clear blue skies, wispy clouds, bright sun, a slight easy breeze, certainly conditions for shorts, T-shirts, sunscreen and icy cold beers with Bart's music playing on deck and no certain agenda but to wake up each morning basking in the sun, enjoying

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THE EAST CAPE ESCAPE

By Pete Gray

It was over 18 years ago when a man named John Ireland called me and asked to meet for lunch to discuss advertising his fishing resort, Rancho Leonero, in this place called "the East Cape". Up to that point, I had heard about this remote fishing village 60 miles north of Cabo San Luca but never had the opportunity to visit it. That meeting with John helped introduce me and thousands of our listeners to this wonderful destination. We started weekly live fishing reports from the area and sponsored trips. The East Cape grew in popularity and be-



Carlos and Drew from team No Bananas show off a couple of nice tuna caught during the Rancho Leonero spring tournament.

came one of my favorite destinations. Things have changed so much in the East Cape over the last two decades but fortunately the most important things still remain the same.

In 2010, it will be the 16th year Let's Talk Hook-up has been sponsoring trips to the East Cape and I can't wait to go back. This year, we have two great trips on which you are invited to join us. The first is our 14th annual spring tournament at Rancho Leonero. Our host, John Ireland, always "pulls out all the stops" to make sure our listeners have a great time. This year, the dates are June 5-9, and both Rock Cod Rick and myself will be joining in the fun. We

will even be broadcasting live from Rancho Leonero on Sunday, June 6. The format of the tournament is all about fun. You can choose to fish two or three days, and your best two days will count to the point total.

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HOT BITES



PETE GRAY & RICK MAXA
Hosts of *Let's Talk Hook-Up*

What a challenging year we have had! The economy has been tough for all business including the fishing industry. Add to that, the need to fight for our right to go fishing, and it certainly has been "bumpy seas". As the economic outlook brightens and prospects loom for a strong El Nino, we look forward to a great 2010.

Boat deals have never been better. The opportunity is fantastic to book a trip at the finest fishing lodges and long-range boats. You can almost choose the prime date and boat you want and go—unlike previous years when you needed to book a year in advance. Take advantage of this rare opportunity and go fishing! We hope you can join us this year on one of our many sponsored trips. Visit our trips page at www.hookup1090.com or the back page of this newsletter.

We are grateful for a lot of hard work from amazing people. We are actually making progress on keeping our prime fishing grounds open. There is still a lot to come so continue to send your letters and support to www.keepamericafishing.org. With your help, we will win the battle.

Thanks to you, our listeners, *Let's Talk Hook-Up* experienced the best listener base in its 18-year history. Our audience grew due to many factors. First, XX1090AM still pumps out a fantastic signal, and we are proud to be on the best all-sports station in the West. In addition, our listenership on the Internet grew immensely. Also, there is now an app for the iPhone. You can listen live anywhere you have cell service plus the archive section of our web site. Opportunities to listen to the program are virtually unlimited.

A huge thank you to our support staff, sponsors that make the show possible and you, our listeners. Thanks to you, *Let's Talk Hook-Up* continues to grow and will be even bigger as we start a great 2010 fishing season.

LET'S TALK HOOK-UP AND CASS TOURS PRESENT THE ULTIMATE PANAMA FISHING ADVENTURE PESCA, PANAMA MAY 14-21, 2010

Join Pete Gray and Richard Castaneda to one of Panama's premier fishing destinations where not only the quantity but also quality size of the fish will amaze you. On this trip, you will have the opportunity to fish Coiba Island, Montosa Island, Jicaron Island, Ladrones Island, Contreras Island and, of course, the one and only world-famous Hannibal Bank known for its big marlin and tuna.

The lodge was built on top of motorized barge. It is self contained with spacious air-conditioned quarters, lounge and, of course, a fully-stocked "Tiki Bar". The beauty and the advantage of a floating lodge is that it can move you to close proximity of the fishing grounds, making for shorter runs and longer fishing days on a daily basis.

The lodge is based out of the Pedregal Marina on the Pacific near the city of David, Panama which is near the Costa Rica border and an hour flight from

Panama City. The offshore waters provide some world-class fishing for black marlin, blue marlin, sailfish, monster yellow fin tuna, dorado, wahoo and inshore for huge cubera snapper, giant roosterfish, snook and a variety of other fish.

The lodge's fleet consists of 27-foot Ocean Master center console boats powered by twin 140hp four-stroke Suzuki outboards that cruise at 30mph. The boats include a live bait tank and outriggers, and are great fishing platforms. The tackle onboard consists of Shimano, Accurate and Avet conventional and spinning reels matched with All Star and Shimano rods along with a variety of quality terminal tackle so there's no need to bring anything with you if you wish. Those of you who like to fish from kayaks, the lodge has them on board for you to use at no charge.

The price tag of the trip is \$3,495.00 per person and is based on three anglers per boat. Included

in the price are first and last night in Panama City in a five-star hotel, all ground transfers, five nights at the lodge, six days of fishing, all meals, soft drinks, water and beer, and fishing tackle. Not included is airfare to Panama, in-country airfare, and tips for guides and staff. A \$1,000.00 deposit will guarantee your spot as we limit this trip to 15 persons. For further information or reservation, call Cass Tours at 800-593-6510, Mon./Fri., 9:30am-5pm or e-mail at casstours@sbcglobal.net, Attention: Cass.



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Fred Hall Fishing Tackle and Boat Show
March 3-7, 2010
Long Beach Convention Center
www.fredhall.com

Fred Hall Fishing Tackle and Boat Show
March 24-28, 2010
Del Mar Fairgrounds
www.fredhall.com

Day at the Docks
Sunday April 18, 2010
San Diego Sportfishing Landings
www.sportfishing.org

AFTCO Parking Lot Sale
Saturday May 1, 2010
AFTCO Mfg. in Irvine
www.aftco.com

BEACH PERCH ON THE GRUB

By Gundy Gunderson

nicely along the beach.

A late winter front dumped steady rain and the corresponding swell had pounded the beaches pretty good for the past several days. But the swell was coming down, the beaches were cleaning up from storm runoff and high pressure was moving in. The forecast called for several mild days. With a quick consultation of a tide chart, the plans were made for an excursion down to the beach in search of a bantam scrappy yet very willing adversary, the barred surf perch.



In perch fishing, some surf is a good thing. With excellent vision, perch can be very picky in clear, surfless water. Additionally, perch are much more active in turbulent water because the turbulent water stirs, uncovers and reveals important food

sources for the perch.

I started out with my standard terminal tackle, a Carolina rigged MoJo grub. I began with a 1/2-ounce egg sinker but with the surf up a bit, I went to 3/4-ounce (a small but crucial adjustment as it kept my bait in the bite zone).

I had my heavier perch rig, a Shimano set-up consisting of a 1500 series Symetre spinning reel spooled with six pound on an old faithful 7'6" V-Series VSA76F Rod. This longer rod is excellent in surf and can handle a 3/4-ounce sinker. At the same time, it is very sensitive to the tap of a perch bite.

I started with a root beer with red flake MoJo grub on a size 6 baitholder and never needed to change colors. On the second cast, the rod doubled over with the first perch of the day and for the next three hours, the little bantamweights were just slam-

ming these little Carolina rigged grubs. the California coast, the barred surf perch can provide some fast action on light tackle for the opportunistic angler. Although these aggressive surf line feeders will eat a variety of live and cut baits, my favorite way to take them is using small artificial grubs.

Barred surf perch are most often found in the turbulent water of the breakers. The wave action on the beach dislodges food and small prey drawing the perch into the shallow water to feed. With keen eyesight, the perch can spot these meals through the sand, air bubbles and foam kicked up by the breaking wave. The fish instinctively strike whatever moves in this feeding zone. For this reason, a small grub with its whirling tail action can be deadly on these aggressive predators.

Looking at the tide chart, I observed that the new moon had arrived two nights earlier and the water was moving. The morning was marked by a nice tide swing. At 4:19, the tide was at .09 and at 10:18 it was to reach 5.1. The particular beach I was fishing had always seemed to bite better on the top of the tides so I figured to hit the beach at about 8 am. This would give me two hours before the high, and since the downswing was also strong, maybe a couple of hours after.

The morning was crisp and bright. A slight offshore chilled the air. The water was clean and the surf was now manageable. With the good tide and ample surf, the water was coursing

the California coast, the barred surf perch can provide some fast action on light tackle for the opportunistic angler. Although these aggressive surf line feeders will eat a variety of live and cut baits, my favorite way to take them is using small artificial grubs.

With the tide up, the fish had occupied the trench with a steady current moving from left to right. A cast to the left beyond the trench and a steady sand scraping retrieve through the trench proved irresistible to the aggressive perch. Few casts went without some sort of strike. Timing a cast on the back of a breaking wave kept me in the zone a little longer.

The perch school and are prone to move around. So once an area dried up, I would move and cast to another promising stretch. This is important when surf fishing. Fish will move and orient differently depending on tide and its interaction with the structure on the beach.

As for this day, the bite ended about an hour after the high. The beach had drained out rapidly and the fish pulled out into deeper water. But with several big pie tin perch and dozens of midsizers, it was an excellent day of fishing.

In the doldrums of winter, when fishing ebbs to its slowest point on

Terminal Tackle

The grub is best fished on a Carolina rig. In light surf, use a 1/4-ounce sinker; in mid to heavy surf, use a 1/2-ounce or 3/4-ounce sinker. With the sinker on the main line, use a bead, a swivel and 18 inches of leader. I like mono leader because it



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GOOD TIMES -- HAVE AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF CATCHING A 200-300LB+ TUNA.

Continued from Page 1



Rob McAdam proudly displays his super cow that weighed in at 364 pounds.

the camaraderie of fishing with friends and just having fun. I have never been on a trip where at any time for seven days was it possible to pin on a bait and go to the rail and have an excellent chance of catching a 200-300 lb.-plus tuna.

Since we had only 13 anglers at the rail for the trip, there was obviously plenty of room to maneuver and opportunities to experiment with just about any setup you could think of without creating much havoc. The conditions made it fun to fish—the fly-lined sardine worked well because the current was good most of the time, the kite and balloons had their moments during the day and we were all in amazement as we never thought the chunk would be working in that area. Rob McAdams' biggest super cow of the trip, 356lbs, was caught on a chunk. One funny experience from having so much room on deck, Tommy N. at one time had a kite going on the upper deck, a balloon flying in the bow and was fly lining a bait at the stern with a beer in hand when clickers started going off. It was hilarious watching him try to figure out what to do next but he never spilled that beer!

Having a limited load pre-

sented the opportunity for the skippers and crew to be able to fish and share time at the rail with the party. I think it was a welcome respite for the crew to be able to just fish for a few moments during the day aside from their regular long duties on the boat. It was good to see them relax and take some enjoyment from the moment and renew that bond once again with their own line in hand instead of getting out some tangle or gaffing someone else's fish.

Because the sea conditions were so calm and the bite was a slow pick, a lot of guys started switching over to a short top shot with crimped fluorocarbon/spectra connections. It was a great opportunity to test out my new production run of brass crimps as well as my new 120 lb. .054"-sized crimp for the newer fluorocarbons. With everyone catching cows for seven days, it was a great test to see how the connections held up. I was able to determine the strengths and limits to the new brass production and size adjustments for my connection crimping system.

In quizzing the anglers about their preference for using the crimped connection, the most repeated reasons were speed, ease, the lack of a lot of tools, low profile, durability and ability to cast and present live baits in a natural manner. Once one determined the correct-sized crimp to line and the proper hole to use in the tool, there was nothing else to know.

All anglers on this trip were accomplished anglers, all with many years of experience and big tuna to their credit. We were all fortunate to have Kevin Leong and Stas Valonakes on this trip as Accurate reps as

well as regulars on this charter. Their experience and wealth of knowledge about fishing for big tuna as well as the reels were unmatched. Fishing with these guys just makes you want to be better. Watching them casting sardines and fighting tuna on the rail is to me a graduate course in tuna fishing. I must give credit to both of these gentlemen for their help and advice over the years in helping me perfect the Sato crimping connection system as it is today. What was truly great about fishing with these two was how open and willing they were to share and give advice from their bank of knowledge as well being great drinking buddies.

One of the long-talked about and finally-realized parts of this charter for me was the wine and food tasting on board. I had never been on a charter before where all the participants were wine and food aficionados. Wow, the chefs in the galley continuously turned out meals that were on par with any five-star restaurants on land. I have been on this boat many times and have had many great meals on board but this time all the stops were gone. Jeff and Drew truly showed off their skills and talents. The ingredients that were on hand were off the charts—live crab, dry pack scallops, foie gras, live lobsters, fresh shrimp, chanterelle, morel and shitake mushrooms, and more. And the wine everyone brought on board to share each evening was truly spectacular.

You can even imagine seeing these bottles on a "fishing boat"—truly spectacular.

I tip my hat to Bart Rider & Accurate for their commitment and vision in putting this very special charter together, and to the skippers and crew of the Royal Star for their hard work and efforts in making this truly a trip to remember.

Excuse my indulgence but the good news is that the bar has been reset, and the bad news is that it may be quite awhile before I partake in a trip as memorable in every way as this one. I shall truly hold the memories close and dear for the rest of my life of the good times I had with fellow anglers and crew. I know each angler has his favorite boat, crew, voyage and experiences. This was mine. Living the dream, life is good.

The final count for this trip of 13 anglers ended up at: 33 yellowfin tuna over 200lbs., four over 300lbs., and a handful between 150-190lbs.

Garry Sato created the preferred connection system for monofilament and fluorocarbon to spectra called the Sato Crimp Kit. Garry's nickname is Garry "Big Fish" Sato for the number of cow tuna he has been able to catch on the long-range boats. You can get more information at www.satocrimpandwinder.com.



Dr. Andy Cooperman uses the rail as his friend to pull on a cow tuna aboard the Royal Star.

SEVEN DAYS OF FUN AND GREAT FISHING WITH FRANK



There are several captains that have earned a reputation for greatness in the San Diego long-range fleet. One who is right at the top of the list is Captain Frank LoPreste. Add in Frank's hand-picked crew aboard one of the finest sportfishing boats in the world, the Royal Polaris, and it is certainly a winning combination. Put all these elements together with a mid-September trip, and if there were guarantees in fishing for great weather and wide-open action, this would be close.

You are invited to join Captain Frank LoPreste and Pete Gray for a seven-day trip-of-a-lifetime aboard the Royal Polaris on September 11-18. The trip leaves and returns on a Saturday so you will only miss one week of work. Since the trip is a limited load of 30 passengers, you will have

plenty of room to fish and enjoy yourself aboard this 116-foot vessel. With a seven-day trip in September, the opportunities are endless—Guadalupe Island, Cedros Island, the ridge and maybe even Alijos Rocks are possible destinations. Having the time to go to where the fish are that time of the year is key, and with the speed of the Royal Polaris, Captain Frank can take you there. There will also be some great giveaways from *Let's Talk Hook-Up* and the Royal Polaris including a *Let's Talk Hook-Up* t-shirt for everyone.

Space is very limited and this trip fills quickly so book your spot by calling the Royal Polaris office at 619-226-8030 or visit www.royalpolaris.com.



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FROM SCALLOPS TO SQUID

By Scott Leysath, The Sporting Chef

My, how time flies when you're cooking giant squid. This year, 2010, marks my eight-year anniversary with the Fred Hall Shows and the *Let's Talk Hook-Up* gang. Along the way, there have been some notable moments from a stream of water running through my tent in Del Mar to well-meaning show goers bringing me aromatic fish that were, well, unlikely to make it to the Sporting Chef Café stage. Fortunately, the bumps along the way have been overshadowed by the great times I've enjoyed at the show throughout the better part of the past decade.

Prior to the Fred Hall Shows, I had never had the pleasure, or perhaps challenge describes it better, of cooking giant Humboldt squid. While I do have a better grip on how to make big squid taste good, I'm still not nuts about cleaning them. Better for me is the freshest fish in the universe that I've received from Point Loma Seafood, Chesapeake Fish Company and Catalina Offshore Products. While the guests of The Sporting Chef Café routinely dine on yellowtail, dorado, white sea bass, grouper, cabrilla and fresh Mexican shrimp, my personal favorite is the jumbo fresh sea scallops from Catalina Offshore Products. Now really, where else can you take a break from the myriad of booths, speakers and demonstrations, and listen to some great music and chow down on just-cooked fish, shellfish and wild game? Oh sure, and then there's the rabbit-rattlesnake sausage.

If you're new to the Sporting Chef Café, here's how it works. Gary Shiebler, whose been hanging around the Fred Hall stages for a few years himself, entertains guests with his signature songs about fishing, kicking back and enjoying life's more pleasurable moments. Then it's short-attention span cooking where I cook and you eat. It's a great relationship. The mood is fun and casual—ask questions, offer advice, share your own recipes. The door's wide open.

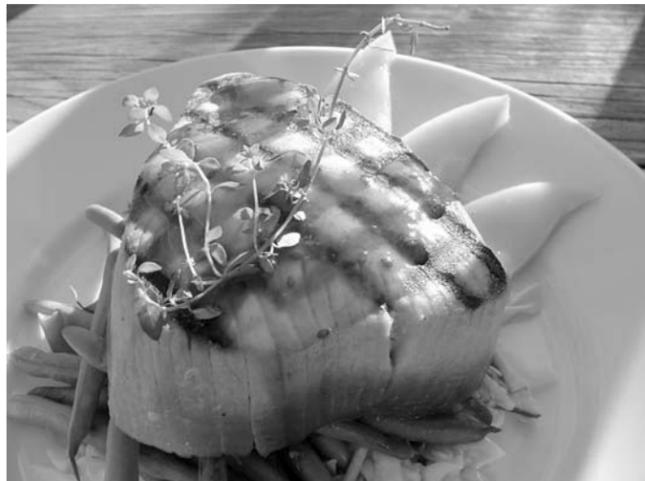
Over the years, there have been a few recipes that seemed to stick better than some of the others with the *Let's Talk Hook-Up* friends. I've listed two of them below. Perhaps you'll get a taste at the 2010 Fred Hall Shows.

Tuna with Lime, Honey and Ginger Glaze

4 servings

- 4 6 – 8 ounce tuna steaks, dark part removed
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup lime juice (preferably freshly squeezed)
- 1 tablespoon fresh ginger root, peeled and minced
- 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoon minced fresh ginger root
- 3 tablespoons honey

Combine olive oil with remaining ingredients. Brush half of the mixture over fish and refrigerate fish for 1 – 2 hours. Grill, broil or pan-sear with high heat until lightly browned on the outside and still medium-rare on the inside. Baste with remaining glaze just before removing from grill.



Tuna with Lime, Honey and Ginger Glaze (left)

Southwestern Fish Cakes (right)



Southwestern Fish Cakes

4 servings

There are two things to remember when making fish cakes. First, they have to be just moist enough to hold together but not so moist that they fall apart when cooked. Second, you can't mess with them when they're in the pan or they'll break apart. OK, one other thing—you have to make certain that your fish is dry before you add it to the mixture. Wrap the fish with a few pieces of paper towels and gently squeeze to wick out any moisture. Then do it again until the paper towels are dry. That will keep the dreaded "fish juices" from water logging your cakes which will also make them fall apart once they start cooking.

If you're looking to impress your friends, butterfly a large shrimp, dust it with flour and build your fish cakes around the shrimp, leaving the tail sticking out for effect. It looks and tastes great.

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup onion, finely diced
- 1/4 cup red bell pepper, finely diced
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- 4 cups fish fillets, flaked and pressed dry with paper towels
- 1 tablespoon red pepper flakes
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 3 tablespoons Japanese breadcrumbs (or any breadcrumbs)
- 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Lemon Pepper
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 egg whites, beaten
- oil for frying

Heat butter in a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion and bell pepper, and sauté for 4 – 5 minutes. Make sure that fish has been patted dry thoroughly with paper towels. In a large bowl, add cilantro, fish, pepper flakes, garlic and cooled onion/pepper from pan. Sprinkle flour, breadcrumbs and lemon pepper over while tossing, making sure to coat fish evenly. Fold in mayonnaise and egg whites. Take some of the mixture and form into a ball, about 3 inches in diameter. If it holds together, you're in business. If it's too dry and flaky, add some more breadcrumbs. It should be moist but not soggy. Form mixture into 8 equal-sized patties.

How's The Weather?

Tips on Using the Internet for a Smooth Voyage

By Pete Gray

Not long ago, we would hope for smooth seas when we ventured out on a fishing trip. With today's technology, forecasting the weather on the ocean has become so predictable in Southern California that you can, with some reasonable amount of assurance, know what type of ocean into which you are going to be headed. Of course, no computer weather model is perfect but what I am going to share are the web sites and tools I use before I head out on my boat.

Before we get into how to do the best job of being an amateur weather predictor, you must understand that our weather can change dramatically as the days go on. What was forecast for Thursday on Tuesday may change on Wednesday. Use these web sites as a general guide but you shouldn't necessarily cancel your trip unless everything is pointing to hazardous seas. You should always make your own decisions and take heed when they are forecasting small craft warnings. We are fortunate to have so many great days on the ocean that it certainly can make your trip more fun to go when the ocean is not rough. Of course, if your schedule is not flexible, sometimes you just have to go as long as it is safe for you and your passengers.

One of the men I have the utmost respect for when it comes

to operating a boat is Captain Steve Lasley. Steve has spent many hours behind the wheel of a boat both as a commercial fisherman and a professional captain. Steve is also a wizard when it comes to electronics. I have been fortunate to spend a few hours in the wheelhouse with Steve and able to pick his brain when it comes to how he forecasts the ocean weather conditions.

One of the primary tools Steve uses is BuoyWeather.com. I have been using this site for about a year, and find it to be extremely accurate. You can get the wind and swell forecast free for two days or subscribe for \$79.95 a year and get a full seven-day forecast as well as some other tools. I even used it recently on a family trip to Belize to forecast the wind and choose the days to go diving and fishing. I found it very accurate for this purpose. By knowing the general forecast seven days out then watching it change every day, you can get pretty close to how your ocean condition will be.

Other sites that I find very useful are:

- www.FishWeather.com which gives the same data as IWindSurf.com. The guys in the East Cape find these sites to be very accurate in predicting the wind.
- The NOAA weather sites, including www.ndbc.noaa.gov/maps/Southwest.shtml, which

will give you the various weather buoys off our coast. I watch the Tanner Banks Buoy and San Clemente Basin Buoy.

- Another interesting site to watch is the Southern California wind analysis:

<http://www.weather-flow.com/navair/analysis.html> though I have found this site to deliver old data occasionally.

I am fortunate to have on my Davis Cortez 22 the latest electronics from Lowrance including the new HDS High Def System with integrated Sirius Satellite weather. This is amazing electronics that will give you up-to-the-minute weather, long range forecasts and even sea surface temperature overlaid on your chart plotter which I find extremely helpful to find exact locations of the temperature breaks.

My best suggestion is to become a web weather watcher. If you are going fishing or not, look at the weather and forecasts from your desk and figure out what the good days and bad days look like. Compare your forecast with the actual wind and swell for that day and see how accurate it is.

Utilizing these tools will help you to know what you are headed for and when it may be best to stay home. No forecast is 100%, and you should always go when you can as long as it is safe. After all, the best way always to become a better captain of your own boat and a better angler is time spent on the water.



Leo Shadd shows off his 38-pound kelp paddy yellowtail on a nice weather day offshore. Using the web to pick your days offshore can help you have pleasant weather like this on the water.



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2010 SHIMANO FISHING TOUR PLUS LIVE LET'S TALK HOOK-UP BROADCASTS

Join in the fun of the Shimano fishing tour. The tour will visit six Southern California tackle stores and will feature seminars and other great events. The concept behind the Shimano Fishing Tour is to inform, excite, educate and get the anglers involved with the Shimano fishing experience. *Let's Talk Hook-Up* will broadcast live at two of the events, The Longfin on Saturday June 26, and Fisherman's Landing Tackle on Saturday, October 16. The star of The Hunt For Big Fish, Larry Dahlberg, will be live at selected locations. You will have the opportunity to meet and talk to Larry and hit him up for some of his fishing secrets. Michael Fowlkes of *Inside Sportfishing* will also be at selected locations to discuss his great program. You will have a chance to win a 10-day trip on the Royal Polaris and be a part of the filming of *Inside Sportfishing* aboard the boat. There will be hourly raffle prizes, daily grand prize drawings, Shimano Butterfly and Lucanus seminars, Power Pro splicing classes, G-Loomis seminars, and more. You can bring by your Shimano reel for a free repair on selected products. Here are the dates and locations of the event:



Fishing Fools - May 1-2
17822 Chatsworth St.
Granada Hills, CA 91344

Saveon Tackle - June 4-5
9917 Orr and Day Rd.
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

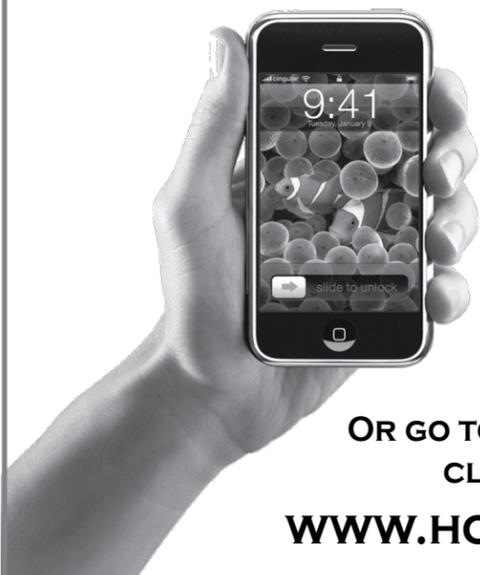
The Longfin - June 25-26
2730 E. Chapman Ave.
Orange, CA 92869

Anglers Choice- July 24-25
1910 Rosecrans St.
San Diego, CA 92106

Fisherman's Landing - October 16-17
2838 Garrison St.
San Diego, CA 92106

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- 3/15 - DAN OSTROSKY FROM YAMAHA OUTBOARDS
- 3/20 - JUSTIN POE FROM SHIMANO
- 3/21 - BART HALL AND MIKE LUM FROM THE FRED HALL SHOW
- 3/27 - CHUCKY VANWORMER AND EDDIE DALMAU FROM VANWORMER RESORTS
- 3/28 - DUANE LAMBETH FROM DOVE ISLAND LODGE

APRIL

- 4/3 - DOUG AND DAVID NILSEN AND BEN SECREST FROM ACCURATE
- 4/4 - CONWAY BOWMAN FROM BOWMAN BLUE WATER
- 4/10 - BOB FLETCHER AND KEN FRNAKE FROM SAC
- 4/11 - MARC MILLS FROM SHIMANO
- 4/17 - CAPTAIN JACK WEBSTER- COMMERCIAL ALBACORE FISHERMAN
- 4/18 - MARTY GOLDEN AND CRAIG HEBERER FROM NOAA
- 4/24 - GREG STOTESBURY FROM AFTCO
- 4/25 - GUNDY GUNDERSON- SURF FISHING EXPERT

ESCAPE -- GREAT TIME IN PARADISE

Continued from Page 1

We award points per pound for gamefish, and released billfish and roosterfish also earn points. The grand prize is a trip for two to come back and defend your title at Rancho Leonero the following year. The tournament is free to enter and all you need to do is book a room and a boat and let the great people at the Rancho Leonero booking office know that you want to be part of the fun tournament and you are in. Call 800-334-2252 or visit www.rancholeonero.com.

Our second annual tournament in the East Cape is one of our most popular because of the destination and time of the year. It is also our longest-running tournament, the 16th annual Palmas de Cortez Fall Spectacular on October 13-19. The first part of October in the East Cape is considered by many to be "prime time" for fishing. The air temperatures cool down and the water stays warm so you have the chance to catch marlin, sailfish, tuna, dorado, wahoo and just about anything else that swims in that area. Typically, the yellowfin tuna fishing can be fantastic. The VanWormer family welcomes us to their fabulous resort with great parties with free beer and lots of fun. The winner of this

free tournament will receive a trip for two back to Palmas de Cortez to defend his or her title. I will be joining in the fun and my friends Mark and John will be tournament directors. Chucky and Bobby VanWormer will be there to host this fun event. If you want to catch fish and have a great time in paradise and make some new friends, join us for this tournament. It is free to enter, and all you need to do is book your room and boat with VanWormer Resorts 877-77 WAHOO or visit www.vanwormerresorts.com and say you want to be part of the Let's Talk Hook-up tournament. I will see you there!



Mark Weir with a beautiful tuna caught during the Palmas de Cortez Fall Spectacular.

LET'S TALK HOOK-UP AND FORD TEAM UP FOR REMOTE BROADCASTS

We are proud to once again host our popular *Let's Talk Hook-Up!* San Diego County Ford dealers remote broadcasts at 11 of the Ford dealerships. Last year, these events drew a great crowd, and we anticipate making the events bigger and better than ever.

See **REMOTE**, Page 11



33
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kengrodyford.com

EL CAJON FORD
1595 E. MAIN STREET
EL CAJON
(619) 579-8888
elcajonford.com

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6066 MIRAMAR ROAD
SAN DIEGO
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miramartrkctr.com

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1424 ENCINITAS BLVD
ENCINITAS
800-670-3673
encinitasford.com

MOSSY FORD
4570 MISSION BAY DRIVE
SAN DIEGO
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mossyford.com

FULLER FORD
560 AUTO PARK DRIVE
CHULA VISTA
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thinkfuller.com

NORTH COUNTY FORD
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VISTA
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north-county-ford.com

HOMER HELLER FORD
1717 AUTO PARK WAY S.
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BUILT FOR SAN DIEGO



PERCH -- INVEST IN A GOOD TIDE BOOK

Continued from Page 3

is quick to replace from the main line. If you prefer flourocarbon, it also works well. Under most conditions, a two-inch grub, a #6 baitholder hook tied to six-pound test is ideal. When big perch are present, go to a three-inch grub on a #4 baitholder on six-pound or eight-pound test.

For consistently good action, choose a quality grub. I like the MoJo grubs or the Berkley Gulp Swimming Mulletts. As for grub colors, I like browns and reds. Standby colors are motor oil, root beer, camo, salt and pepper, red with red flake or clear with red flake. Fluky colors are pink, black or white.

Light Tackle

Although surf fishing is more commonly associated with long rods, heavy line and big sinkers, Grub fishing for surfperch is a light tackle endeavor. Most of the targeted quarry are found in the more turbulent areas of the surf zone which is essentially where the surf breaks. The majority of perch will feed actively in the wake of a pounding wave or in the "trench" formed by the surf. Food and prey are dislodged by surf and the fish are quick to take advantage. Long casts with heavy sinkers are not necessary.

Light rods and small spinning reels are more than adequate in getting your bait to the fish. In addition, light tackle makes for excellent sport when tangling with perch that can push the three and four pound mark. An occasional halibut on the grub will also test your light tackle skills.

I prefer a seven- to eight-foot light action rod and a small spinning reel loaded with six-pound test. The longer rod is useful in keeping the rod tip high allowing you to work your grub more effectively in the surf zone. A light action is sensitive to the perch's light take and forgiving in heavy surf or surge once a fish is hooked. The spinning reel should have a smooth drag and fresh line. Because of the caustic nature of the surf environment, I use Shimano gear in the salt. Nothing holds up as well. Six-pound test is light enough to get consistently bit by the keen-eyed perch yet provides good strength in landing tough fish in a hostile environment.

Tides

One of the first investments

a surf fisherman should make is in a good tide log. Tide is one of the major forces influencing tidal and inshore waters. The entire inshore aquatic food chain from minute organisms to top-notch predators responds to opportunities created by the massive movement of water during these periods of strong tide. Predator fish behavior is dictated by tidal movement because baitfish and other prey are also active during tidal movement and will expose themselves to predation. In bays and estuaries, fish behavior is influenced primarily by tide but in the surf zone, tide works in combination with surf and physical beach characteristics to shape conditions. In either case, if you are fishing inshore waters, the feeding behavior of fish is closely linked to tide.

Invest in a good tide book or log. The best logs give a graphic representation of the tide movements. Like a biorhythm chart, the line will move above and below



the mean tide line. This allows the reader to conceptualize the high and low tide periods and the range of tide movement in-between. Strong and subtle tides are easily discernible. Additionally, catches and time of catches can be logged into the book offering valuable insight into the feeding patterns, trends or tendencies of surf zone fish.

Finally, look for the subtle beach structure that holds feeding perch. Trenches, holes, depressions, scattered stones, river inlets, jetties and points are all good perch habitat. Put some time in and fish these structures thoroughly with the grub during different tidal periods. With time in, you'll find biting fish.

*Gundy Gunderson is an outdoor writer who contributes to The Let's Talk Hook-Up Radio Show. Some of the information for this article was excerpted from Gundy's upcoming book **Light Tackle Surf Fishing in Southern California**.*

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On the web the *Let's Talk Hook-Up* "Links Page" is loaded with links to informative pages including:

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Aftco Manufacturing	Punta Colorada
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Baja Fish Gear	Polaris Supreme
Blue Water Tackle	Power Pro Fishing Line
Bob Baker Auto Group	Rancho Leonero
Calstar Fishing Rods	Rapala Lures
Cass Tours	Red Rooster III
Dana Landing	Royal Polaris
Dana Wharf Sportfishing	Royal Star Shimano
Davis Boats	Sato's Custom Tackle
Defiance Boats	San Diego County Ford Dealers
Dove Island Lodge	San Diego Fly Shop
Excel Sportfishing	San Diego Sportfishing Council
Fast Lane Kayak Center	SCMA Boat Shows
Fish Market Restaurant	Sea Witch Marine
Fisherman's Landing	Seaforth Sportfishing
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Fred Hall Fishing Show	Shogun
Gamakatsu Hooks	Sportfishing Association of
H & M Landing	California (SAC)
Islander Sportfishing	TerraFin Sea Temperatures
Independence Sportfishing	Vessel Assist/Boat US
Indian Sportfishing	Western Outdoor News
Kingfisher Charters	Williamson Lures
Lowrance Electronics	Yamaha USA
Pacific Edge Tackle	United Anglers of Southern
Pacific Yacht Towers	California

You can sign up for our e-mail list for the latest in fishing information and news, or check the show archive page to catch shows you may have missed. You can also view past issues of the *Let's Talk Hook-Up* newsletter.

Send us your favorite fishing photo or story by mail or e-mail and it might end up as a featured item on our website or in the *Let's Talk Hook-Up* newsletter.



Important note to those who submit photos:

All photos, once submitted, become the property of *Let's Talk Hook-Up*, Inc. and may be reprinted and/or used on at the discretion of *Let's Talk Hook-Up*. All photos of minors need their parents' or guardian's written permission before we can publish them.

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- ✿ Limited load trips
- ✿ Dana Landing staff as instruction and seminar coordinators



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2010 Seminar Schedule

Trip 1

Thursday, June 17 to Saturday, June 19

Shimano/ Let's Talk Hook-up Kayak Seminar Aboard the Islander

Join us for this special day-and-a-half kayak trip aboard the Islander. On this trip, you will have the opportunity to fish San Clemente Island on kayaks! The Islander will act as a mother ship and take you to the hottest fishing on the island. This trip is designed for novice or experienced kayakers. If you do not have a kayak, one will be provided to you free of charge by Fast Lane Kayak Center. These models will be state-of-the-art Hobie Mirage Drive Kayaks, yours to use on the trip along with expert instruction by Jared Lane. Trip departs Thursday 6/17 at 9pm from Fisherman's Landing in San Diego and returns about 6am on 6/19. Trip is limited to 22 passengers and includes all your food. \$295 per person. To book, call Dana Landing at 619-226-2929.

Trip 2

Tuesday, July 6 through Thursday, July 8

A 1 ½-day trip on the Searcher

Join us for one of our most popular Shimano/Let's Talk Hook-up seminars aboard the 95-foot searcher from Fisherman's Landing. This trip has been timed to take place during the heart of the San Diego tuna season. Shimano will provide rods and reels for you to use, and you can bring your own tackle, too. Trip is limited to 30 and includes food and great giveaways, and always sells out quickly. \$375 per person plus Mexican permit. Call Dana Landing at 619-226-2929.

Trip 3

Thursday, July 8 through Saturday, July 10

A 1-½ day trip on the Searcher

Join us for one of our most popular Shimano/Let's Talk Hook-up seminars aboard the 95-foot searcher from Fisherman's Landing. This trip has been timed to take place during the heart of the San Diego tuna season. Shimano will provide rods and reels for you to use, and you can bring your own tackle, too. Trip is limited to 30 and includes food and great giveaways, and always sells out quickly. \$375 per person plus Mexican permit. Call Dana Landing at 619-226-2929.

Trip 4

Saturday, August 7 to Tuesday, August 10

Shimano/Let's Talk Hook-up Three-day Seminar aboard the Searcher

Nothing could be finer than a three-day in August! This mini-long range trip aboard the 95-foot Searcher from Fisherman's Landing is great prime time summer tuna fishing for beginners or experienced anglers. Includes the use of Shimano tackle, all meals, great giveaways and instruction for those who need it. Trip departs at 1pm on 8/7 and returns at 8am on 8/10. \$895 plus Mexican permit. Call Dana Landing at 619-226-2929.

**FOR INFORMATION, AVAILABILITY,
OR RESERVATIONS CALL
DANA LANDING 619.226.2929**

Club Card discount does not apply on seminars. 80% refund 30 days prior to trip. No refunds after that. Advertised rates reflect cash discount - Visa/Mastercard accepted with 3% surcharge. 50% deposit required at time of reservation. Prices are all per person and do not include fishing license or Mexican Permits when required, food or beverages unless noted otherwise. Fuel surcharge may apply on any and all trips.

REMOTE

Continued from Page 9

The Shimano casting contest will take center stage along with Pete and Rick's live radio show. Those in attendance will have a chance to cast the amazing Shimano Trinidad DC reels and Shimano Tallus rods for great prizes like Shimano rods and reels, Maui Jim sunglasses and more. The casting contest is free for all in attendance, and we will even have a kid's division for those 16 and under.

The dates of the remote broadcasts are set for the following Saturdays: April 10, May 8, May 29, June 12, July 3, July 24, August 14, August 28, September 4, September 25 and October 23. The locations will be announced at a later date.

Last year, all the San Diego County Ford dealers that hosted the events gave our listeners the opportunity to take a test drive and some even offered special pricing. We anticipate the Ford dealers will again show our listeners the same great hospitality this year.

Stay tuned for more information on these fun and exciting remote broadcasts and be sure to practice for the casting contest!

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Pesca Panama Fishing Adventure with Cass Tours
Friday, May 14 to Friday, May 21, 2010

Join Pete Gray and Richard Castaneda to one of Panama's premier fishing destinations where not only the quantity but the quality of the fish will amaze you. On this trip, you will have the opportunity to fish Coiba Island, Montosa Island, Jicaron Island, Ladrones Island, Contreras Island and, of course, the one and only world-famous Hannibal Bank known for its big marlin and tuna. The lodge was built on top of a motorized barge and it is self contained with spacious air-conditioned quarters, lounge and, of course, a fully-stocked "Tiki Bar". The fishing fleet consists of 27' Ocean Master center console boats powered by twin outboards. The trip costs \$3,495.00 per person and is based on three anglers per boat. Included in the price are first and last night in Panama City in a five-star hotel, all ground transfers, five nights at the lodge, six days of fishing, all meals, soft drinks, water, beer and fishing tackle. Not included are airfare to Panama, in-country airfare and tips for guides and staff. Limited to 15 persons. Call Cass Tours at 800-593-6510. www.casstours.com

14th Annual Rancho Leonero Spring Tournament
Saturday, June 5 to Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Join Rock Cod Rick Maxa on this great Panama adventure. Trip includes four nights at one of the best times of the year in the East Cape for great weather and superb fishing. Join Pete Gray and Rick Maxa on this fun tournament that always sells out. Most return year after year to enjoy the fun, fishing and camaraderie. You have the option to fish two or three days, keeping your best two days for the tournament. Package includes four night of lodging, two or three days of fishing, all meals and tournament entry. For more information, call Rancho Leonero at 800-334-2252. www.rancholeonero.com

13th Annual Kingfisher Lodge – Sitka, Alaska Trip
Sunday, June 20 to Thursday, June 24, 2010

One of the best times of the year in the East Cape for great weather and superb fishing. The end of June is the peak of the legendary king salmon run in Sitka. It is also a great time to target big halibut. After many years, we were able to get the most coveted dates at Kingfisher Lodge for our trip. This package includes three days of fully-guided fishing (10-hour, full-day charters on heated cabin sport fishing boats - maximum four people per boat), four nights of lodging either at Kingfisher's own luxury lodge or in-town hotel, all meals, fish cleaning and processing, all fishing licenses, transfers and more. For more information, contact Kingfisher Charters at 800-727-6136. www.kingfishercharters.com

1st Annual Dove Island Lodge in Sitka, Alaska - Dove Island Derby

Thursday, August 5 to Monday, August 9, 2010

Join Pete Gray and his wife Lolly on an incredible Alaskan adventure. Dove Island is just a mile from downtown Sitka, Alaska. You will live on a private island equipped with everything you need including 35-foot full walk-around boats for fishing the famous Sitka salmon, giant Alaskan halibut and spectacular rock fish. Dove Island also has its own float plane at the lodge to take you on a remote Alaskan adventure—all from Dove Island's own dock—to catch salmon, trout and even steelhead in rivers that are so remote they rarely see visitors. We will conduct a Dove Island Derby where the angler catching the largest salmon and the largest halibut in the group will draw between them for a free return trip to Dove Island Lodge to defend his or her title the following year! Our trip includes four nights of luxury lodging at Dove Island in one of the suites or cabins with private hot tubs, five-star dining at the lodge, two days of saltwater fishing and one day fly out fishing on Dove Island's float plane. Trip cost is \$2,995 which represents a \$750 dollar savings over the regular price. The trip is limited to just 14 anglers. Plus airfare to Sitka and fishing license. Call Dove Island Lodge at 888-318-FISH (3474) or check the web site at www.doveislandlodge.com

1st Annual Royal Polaris Seven-day Trip

Saturday, September 11 to Saturday, September 18, 2010

Join Captain Frank LoPreste and Pete Gray on this prime time seven-day adventure. September is usually the best weather and fishing from San Diego to Alijos Rocks. With the speed of the Royal Polaris, a seven-day trip gives you endless possibilities—Wahoo on the ridge and the rocks; big tuna at Guadalupe; and dorado, tuna yellowtail and wahoo offshore. With the legend Captain LoPreste at the helm, you can be assured of being at the best spot during this great weather and fishing time of year. The trip is also limited to a load of 30 passengers maximum so there will be plenty of space at the rail. \$2,395 plus permits. Call LoPreste/Dunn Sportfishing at 619-226-8030 or visit www.royalpolaris.com to grab your spot before they it's gone!

10th Annual Excel 6 Day Trip

Thursday, September 23 to Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Six days of prime time fishing aboard the largest and most luxurious sportfishing boat in the world. This six day adventure opens up many possible destinations, and you can be sure Captain Justin Fleck and his expert crew will take you to the finest fishing available for tuna, wahoo, yellowtail, and more. This trip fills fast, so don't wait to book your spot! \$1990 plus permits. Call 619.223.7493 or www.excelportfishing.com

16th Annual Let's Talk Hook-Up! Hotel Palmas de Cortez Fall Fishing Spectacular

Wednesday, October 13 to Sunday, October 17, 2010

This is *Let's Talk Hook-Up's* longest-running and most popular trip, and arguably the best time of the year for fishing, weather and fun on the east cape of Baja. This is the time of year when you can catch virtually anything that swims in the Sea of Cortez including huge blue marlin, giant yellowfin tuna, wahoo, roosterfish, sailfish and more. We put together a fun tournament with free entry and fabulous prizes. The tournament is all about having fun competition and making new friends. Packages include cruiser or super panga fishing and free entry into the tournament. Four nights of lodging with all meals included and two or three days of fishing. Call VanWormer Resorts at 877-777-TUNA. www.vanwormerresorts.com

11th Annual Royal Star 10-day Big Fish Extravaganza
Saturday, November 27 to Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Join Rock Cod Rick and Captain Tim Ekstrom for this peak of the big tuna season on the lower banks. These late November/early December trips have proven over and over to be the prime time to target giant yellowfin tuna on the lower banks off Cabo San Lucas. Every time you put your bait in the water, you could have a chance to hook a fish of a lifetime. If you have always wanted to catch tuna over 100, 200, maybe even 300 pounds, this is your trip! The Royal Star is known to always be in the action, and the quality of the food, the crew and the boat is unsurpassed. This trip sells out early so book now at 619-224-4764 or visit www.royalstarsportfishing.com

A note to trip participants: All trips are booked directly with travel agents, resort, or boat. *Let's Talk Hook-Up, Inc.* is not legally responsible for any occurrence on any and all of the above trips. All participants agree to hold *Let's Talk Hook-Up, Inc.* harmless of all legal claims.

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Original Let's Talk Hook-Up T-Shirts:

_____ White T-Shirt - M L XL XXL (circle) \$15.00 each _____
 _____ Ash T-Shirt - M L XL XXL (circle) \$15.00 each _____

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Let's Talk Hook-Up Club Card Update

As a member, you receive a club card good for one-year entitling you to all of these one-time discounts!

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