UTES later I found the perfect cure for my toxic bloodstream: a long stretch of beach populated by a handful of local fishermen flinging handlines and hauling gilled rugby balls from the surf.

I eagerly rigged a cigar-sized pencil popper and waded in. The water was cool in the early morning light, and I splashed a bit over my glassy eyes. I paused when I reached waist-high waves, blinked at the receding thump playing hide-and-seek with my skull, and heaved the lure skyward.

I don't know what it is about that first cast into new water, but the excitement is coupled with an added layer of anticipation. Maybe it's the hope that somehow this is where all the big fish vacation. Or maybe it's a hardening back to simpler times when beginner's luck worked its charms, when you caught all those fish without knowing you couldn't.

Whatever it is, it worked on this morning. I watched that huge lure—the one the sales clerk back in Long Beach swore would catch anything south of Baja—splash heavily on the surface. And then, remarkably, almost unrealistically, a second, even larger splash followed. My four-piece surf rod flopped forward and the big spinning reel spun at cartoon speed. I think I might have whooped. My head
HOT BITES

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

This is the time of the year for southern Californians to get on the water, and certainly the best time to go fishing! After an amazing late spring season at Catalina for big white sea bass, it is time to move offshore and target albacore, bluefin and yellowfin tuna, yellowtail, and hopefully dorado. In June we saw unusually flat offshore weather that we hope will continue. The great bite was slow to materialize, which is the way this season has been. Many anglers, including myself get very impatient for the summer season to kick into gear. With the fuel costs, sport boats and private boats are reluctant to venture offshore to hunt tuna. This also creates a dilemma as if there is no one looking, it will take longer for the fish to be found! With today’s economy, we simply need to make some adjustments to compensate for the high cost of fuel. If you are a private boater, bring another friend to help share the costs. If you enjoy going on the sport boats, try and extend the length of the trip to maximize your catch. If you have never been on a long range trip—especially a 5 day in the summer, this would be a great time to try it- I am sure after that you will be hooked!

Traveling to destination resorts has also become more expensive due to more expensive airline tickets. We are fortunate that the price of fuel in Mexico has yet to increase thanks to the government subsidies. Even with the higher cost of the airline ticket, traveling to such great baja destinations as the Palmas de Cortez or Rancho Leonero remains a good value.

If you are in the market for a new truck, or even thinking about it- this summer and fall will be the best opportunity ever to get the deal of a lifetime on a Ford truck. For obvious reasons, they have big inventories that must be sold. Expect big incentives from Ford coming soon. Now is also a great time to buy a boat- for the same reason, big inventories that must be sold. Boat dealers are making phenomenal deals! Do your part if you can to stimulate the economy and get that new Ford truck or boat that you have always dreamed of—now is the time!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Make a Wish Tuna Challenge
September 5-8, 2008
www.tunachallenge.org

3rd Annual Contender/Yamaha Avalon Billfish Classic
100% Release Marlin Tournament
September 7-9, 2008
www.catalinaclassic.com

10th Annual Rivera Zane Grey Invitational
September 14-17, 2008
www.catalinaclassic.com

16th annual Mikelson Yachts Catalina Classic
Marlin Tournament
September 21-23, 2008
www.catalinaclassic.com

14th Annual Let’s Talk Hookup/Palmas de Cortez Fall Spectacular
October 15-19, 2008
www.vanwommerresorts.com

PANAMA ADVENTURE

By Tom Ball

Several years ago I had an opportunity to fish the offshore islands and offshore banks of Panama. I remember vividly the excitement of the anglers when we fished the inshore species: Pargo, Cabrilla, Roosterfish, Cubera Snapper and many more! Big exotic fish boiling up around the boat turning the water red with color as species I had had a brief exposure to, I was intrigued with excitement. Then, when Pete said: “Cassman, how do you do it, all this for such a low cost?” That clinched it for me!

Panama is a great fishing bargain! Wonderful people, easy transportation, no exchange of money, and great fishing in a tropical setting. What more can you ask for! The trip begins with a five hour bus ride in a near luxury tour bus. Every inch of the five hours is a new experience as you leave Panama City and travel up Panama, over the Panama Canal and up to the exclusive Villa Marina resort near the Costa Rica border on the Pacific side. We had this wonderful ocean and beachfront hotel with its wonderful staff all to our own group of 16 people. Talk about a great private getaway, this was luxury living! We were catered to by the second with impeccable service. Our pangas picked us up every morning and took us off rocks, islands and beaches where we pulled up a constant variety of fish. Every cast was something new. We selected something unique every day for the hotel chef to cook up with dinner and were treated to new flavors and tastes. My favorite was a Snook that Pete Gray caught in a nearby lagoon. Wow what a sweet treat!

Richard “Cassman” Casteneda and Pete Gray fished the boiler rocks with surface poppers off the coast of Pedasi, Panama

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A DOZEN YEARS OF FISHING AND FUN

By Bob Blum

June 8-10, 2008 marked the 12th annual Let’s Talk Hook-up East Cape spring tournament held at Rancho Leonero, Baja California. The tournament was originally a two day affair but has been modified in the last two years into a best two out of three days. The low score is thrown out. A team can be “skunked” on one day and still be in the running.

Teams consist of 2-4 people fishing from a panga or a cruiser. Scoring was based on 50 points for a released marlin, 30 points for a released sailfish, and 25 points for a released roosterfish if it weighed over 20 lbs. Edible fish are scored at one point per pound except wahoo, which were two points per pound.

Pete and Rick have tried to keep the rules simple. Some tournaments have rules that run to several pages.

This year we were blessed with three days of calm seas, light winds, and moderate temperatures. None of the 18 teams went fishless on more than one day, and most teams scored on all three days.

After day one Team Nos Otros Nosotros Chupamos caught four marlin and a small dorado good for 210 points and a big lead. They were followed by Team Whiskey Tango and Team Malolo. Anthony Peterson with a 47 lb. dorado took the daily jackpot of $360. In addition to the team tournament, we had a daily jackpot of $10 per person. During the three days of the tournament a 42.5 lb. wahoo. Remember wahoo are worth two points per pound. Shana Walker with a 49.7 lb. dorado, the biggest of the tournament, took the daily jackpot of $350.

On day three many of the teams that were out contention elected to fish in-shore. A large variety of fish were caught including roosterfish (mostly small), pargo (several species), pompano, amberjack, cazones, and sea bass. Some teams scored on all three days.

Sometridge and Anthony Peterson took the 9/11 Fishing the WOG Les Callos Tune Tournament. Whether you are in the tournament or want tips on fishing the Cape Region for big tuna, this is a seminar for you.

Bob Blum with a 16 lb. barred pargo caught on 10 lb. test. There is no record for a barred pargo, so anyone who wants can submit one.
By Pete Gray

Fishing is always an adventure. It doesn’t matter if you are on a½ day to the local kelp beds or flying to an exotic destination, every day spent on the water is always memorable for me. There are many special destinations I enjoy, and one at the top of the list is Alaska. The diversity of our 49th state is awesome, there are literally hundreds of different destinations and types of fishing. I have been fortunate enough to have gone to Alaska over a dozen times, and every trip is special and brings the desire to return. Having just completed our 11th annual trip to Kingfisher Charters in Sitka, Alaska is certainly no exception. I can’t wait to return.

Weather plays a big part of fishing in the ocean in Alaska. I have seen everything from poring rain and 30 knot winds to sunny blue skies and no wind. This year we were fortunate that the latter was the case for our group of 36 anglers that joined us at Kingfisher Charters June 15 to 19. We have several of our regulars- Harold from Rialto, Gary from Lawndale and his son Mark, Ken from Long Beach, Steve from San Diego, Ken from Chula Vista and others. We also had many first timers including the world famous smoke salmon expert Gus from Burbank and his wife. Many of these first timers were able to realize great weather, good fishing and the amazing Kingfisher hospitality. Owner Seth Bone and his staff run the amazing Kingfisher hospitality. It doesn’t matter if you are on a½ day to the local kelp beds or flying to an exotic destination, every day spent on the water is always memorable for me. There are many special destinations I enjoy, and one at the top of the list is Alaska. The diversity of our 49th state is awesome, there are literally hundreds of different destinations and types of fishing. I have been fortunate enough to have gone to Alaska over a dozen times, and every trip is special and brings the desire to return. Having just completed our 11th annual trip to Kingfisher Charters in Sitka, Alaska is certainly no exception. I can’t wait to return.

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The trans- fer to the boat, the boats and captains are the best in Sitka, the food is amazing and the lodge is absolutely beautiful. This year I must say the food was probably the best I have ever had- the quality and flavors were fantastic. From giant New York steaks, fresh salmon, a king crab feast- the food is delicious. When you go to Kingfisher, you can choose to stay in town at the hotel and eat at the local restaurants or lodge, which some do, but my choice is to stay at the lodge itself. First- after 10 hours on the water to come back to a comfortable room and fantastic living room shared by first- timers including the world famous smoke salmon expert Gus from Burbank and his wife. Many of these first timers were able to realize great weather, good fishing and the amazing Kingfisher hospitality. Owner Seth Bone and his staff run the most efficient and highest quality operation I have ever been to. This was my 9th trip to Kingfisher, and it is still as good or better than the first time. What I love about Kingfisher is it is a lot like going on a quality long range boat- once you are there, you don’t need to worry about anything but eat, sleep and fish as the Kingfisher staff takes care of everything else. Like the ad says on Let’s Talk Hook-up, from the moment you arrive, everything is taken care of. The transfers to the boat, the boats and captains are the best in Sitka, the food is amazing and the lodge is absolutely beautiful. This year I must say the food was probably the best I have ever had- the quality and flavors were fantastic. From giant New York steaks, fresh salmon, a king crab feast- the food is delicious. When you go to Kingfisher, you can choose to stay in town at the hotel and eat at the local restaurants or lodge, which some do, but my choice is to stay at the lodge itself. First- after 10 hours on the water to come back to a comfortable room and fantastic living room shared by usually 6 others with incredible vistas of Sitka Sound and snow capped Mount Edgecomb, great appetizers, and steps away from a gourmet meal in the large dining area sure beats coming back to a small hotel room and having to search for a crowded restaurant in town.

I could go on and on about how great the lodge is, but I know you want to know everything about the fishing. Though this year was slower than any previous ones I have been on, I still brought home over 75 pounds of filets- not bad! Speaking of filets, Kingfisher has their own processors that filet, vacuum pack, freeze and box your fishing all included in the price. This is hundreds of dollars of processing- all included! Of course the entire west coast is about a month behind schedule with water temperatures and conditions, and that could account in part for some of the slower fishing. The Alaska fish and game also predicted a smaller return on king salmon, we are probably the primary factor on why they were not as abundant as previous years. Except for one of our three days we actually had to work at getting our limit. In previous years, it took as short as 15 minutes, but this year one day it took us 3 hours, the next two hours and the third 45 minutes! The quality of our kings was fantastic- averaging 25 pounds, with our largest on our boat caught by Jeff Young- a beautiful 30 pound fish. The king salmon run prediction for 2009 is supposed to be huge, so this “slower” fishing was considered a cycle. Each day after we had our limits of kings we would anchor for halibut fishing. Our captain Heath

Gary White flashes a big smile with this 140 lb. halibut and says “the fish still like me”
immediately cleared, and I think I whooped again.

Line poured from the reel like smoke from a fire. I sluggishly moved through the surf working the drag and hoping to stop the run before I ran out of line. I don’t remember getting in over my head, but a swell that could have swallowed Shaq lifted me from my feet, and caused a mad retreat toward the beach.

As I clumsily back-paddled, the locals watched with amusement, hauling fish after fish with their heavy hand lines. It seems a school of lunkers had circled through just as I’d cast my lure. Beginner’s luck. I’ll take it anytime.

It took another ten minutes to get my quarry into the shallows, and after timing the waves to get the fish safely above the high waterline, I stared into the bovine eyes of a huge jack crevelle. Not the best table fish, but a definite brute of inshore angling. I’d caught them before in Baja, and each time I’d been amazed at the tenacity of these powerful fish.

I unhooked this savior of the hangover, offered it to the locals for sharing their sea, and lobbed my lure back to the waves. I stayed for another hour and caught jacks on almost every cast. It was a surf fisherman’s Shangri-La.

And if it wasn’t for that gnawing desire to break even, I might have stayed all day.

Please email Shaun your fishing story at incredibl fishingstories.com.

The author and his daughter with one of the many big jacks caught that day.
Growing up in Montana, there was plenty of opportunity to fly fish or drop a line in the lazy river that bordered my hometown, but after hooking myself in the neck with a barbed, worm-baited hook, I swore off fishing. I was able to keep the lure at bay for nearly 20 years, including the first 6 years after moving to Southern California. Then, one fateful night in Avalon changed that forever.

My initial return to fishing was spent over the side of the 38 foot Uni-flight that my girlfriend and I had been invited onboard to target whatever was to be had that early morning on the south end of the island. Despite my plea's to stay out even after chumming the water, we were promptly dropped off on the green pier with phone numbers exchanged, a curious yearning to get back out on the water and amazingly a suddenly calm stomach.

The months that followed produced a summer of every-other-weekend Ensenada runs that began as soon as we could leave work Friday nights and ended crawling over the border on the following Monday mornings with coolers full of tuna, cod or dorado. It wasn't the fun we had before heading out, nor the thrill of being totally dependent on our Captain, or even the hook-ups that at times were 5, 6 or 7 lines at once that clinched the deal for me. It was eating sashimi on the deck that made me a fisher-lady for life. That was 7 years ago and the yearning only gets stronger with each trip out. Any chance I get to fish, I leap at it, often missing days of work, spending money I shouldn't, and 9 times out of 10 getting sick at least once during the trip.

The Ensenada trips went on for about 5 years; the same girlfriend and I were lucky enough to be invited onboard to target whatever was to be had that early morning on the south end of the island. Despite my plea's to stay out even after chumming the water, we were promptly dropped off on the green pier with phone numbers exchanged, a curious yearning to get back out on the water and amazingly a suddenly calm stomach.

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The Ensenada trips went on for about 5 years; the same girlfriend and I were lucky enough to be invited along time and time again. Probably because the more we fished, the more we produced -consistently. We would

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**MY FRIEND MR. P**

By Reilly Marin

As my dad and I drove over the Coronado Bridge, I looked down at the water taking in the beauty of a glassy San Diego Bay. We parked the car at Tidelands Park and dragged my kayak out of the bed of the truck. The unusually warm air seeped into my multiple sweatshirts, and I had realized that I had worn too much clothing for a mid-February morning. My dad and I huddled the heavy kayak down to the beach, and I sprinted back to the truck to grab my rods, tackle, lifejacket, and anything else I brought to have a nice day out on the water. Everything had to be rigged up and ready to go. Finally the rest of the fleet arrived. My eighth grade math teacher Mr. P and his two buddies Rich and Dave. I felt extremely antsy waiting on the beach for these men to unload their kayaks, so I went up to help them. We all talked to each other, catching up on the latest fishing accomplishments and wondering what we would catch today. My dad drove off and we prepared for our trip. But this day was unlike any ordinary fishing trip. It wasn’t the weather or the amount of fish, but the fact that Mr. P would start chemotherapy that coming Friday. He had been recently diagnosed with cancer near his lungs. This trip wasn’t just to fish, but it was a final opportunity for Mr. P to have fun before he began his grueling chemotherapy.

We finally rigged up all our gear, and we walked our kayaks into the beautiful water. Before I hopped onboard, I peeled off another layer of clothing in the quickly warming morning. I set back a hard plastic lure and slow trolled it near the boats, awaiting a quick hookup. We continued paddling out into the open bay, and found ourselves being ripped northward by a strong current.

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**INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST FEATURE:**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR ARTICLES FROM YOUTH AND LADIES FOR OUR NEWSLETTERS.**

**IT CAN BE A FUN STORY ABOUT A FAVORITE FISHING ADVENTURE, A STORY ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU LOVE TO FISH, OR ANY STORY RELATED TO FISHING. IF YOU HAVE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOS, THAT IS GREAT TOO.**

**THE STORY SHOULD BE 500 TO 1000 WORDS.**

**SO, IF YOU ARE 16 OR UNDER OR A LADY ANGLER AND WANT TO PARTICIPATE- E-MAIL YOUR STORIES TO WEBMASTER TOM AT TBALL@WEST.NET**

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**THIS CHICK CAN FISH**

By Erin Damm

Growing up in Montana, there was plenty of opportunity to fly fish or drop a line in the lazy river that bordered my hometown, but after hooking myself in the neck with a barbed, worm-baited hook, I swore off fishing. I was able to keep the lure at bay for nearly 20 years, including the first 6 years after moving to Southern California. Then, one fateful night in Avalon changed that forever.

My initial return to fishing was spent over the side of the 38 foot Uni-flight that my girlfriend and I had been invited onboard to target whatever was to be had that early morning on the south end of the island. Despite my plea's to stay out even after chumming the water, we were promptly dropped off on the green pier with phone numbers exchanged, a curious yearning to get back out on the water and amazingly a suddenly calm stomach.

The months that followed produced a summer of every-other-weekend Ensenada runs that began as soon as we could leave work Friday nights and ended crawling over the border on the following Monday mornings with coolers full of tuna, cod or dorado. It wasn’t the fun we had before heading out, nor the thrill of being totally dependent on our Captain, or even the hook-ups that at times were 5, 6 or 7 lines at once that clinched the deal for me. It was eating sashimi on the deck that made me a fisher-lady for life. That was 7 years ago and the yearning only gets stronger with each trip out. Any chance I get to fish, I leap at it, often missing days of work, spending money I shouldn’t, and 9 times out of 10 getting sick at least once during the trip.

The Ensenada trips went on for about 5 years; the same girlfriend and I were lucky enough to be invited along time and time again. Probably because the more we fished, the more we produced -consistently. We would

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See **Friend**, Page 10

See **CHICK**, Page 7
Continued from Page 3

**FUN -- THEY HAD A TRIPLE HOOK-UP**

brilla, and sierra. One notable catch was a 16 lb. sierra by Tom Giorgi and won the tournament and a trip back to the Rancho next year.  

Second place went to the early leader, Team Nos Otros of Christine Dunn, David Dunn, and Chris Kugel. They won gift certificates to Fisherman’s Landing in San Diego. Third place went to Team Malolo of Jim and Judy Kanouse who prob-

that just missed the IGFA all-tackle world record of 18 lbs. The manager Gary Barnes-Webb said that they are seeing a lot of big sierra. So, the world record may be out there.

However, the big story belonged to Team Albondajas composed of Ken Carpenter, Josh, and Stephanie Ruiz, and Jerry Gerule. On the last day they had a five marlin and two dorado day. At one time they had a triple hook-up on marlin and landed all three. Team Albondajas has fished in the tournament for three years. The first year they caught nothing. The second year they caught a little, but this year they went the only wahoo, had a quintuple marlin day, and then they got the only wahoo, had a quintuple marlin day, and won the tournament and a trip back to the Rancho next year.

Karen Overly of Port St. Lucie, FL shows a 15 lb. roosterfish assisted by Capt. Martin

**CHICK -- FISHER-LADY FOR LIFE**

pick up on tricks by watching and asking... the guys kept their tricks close to the vest until we badgered the answers out of them. Even then we only got half the story. But we learned how to bait our own lines early on, and what line would be good for what fish we were going after. After a few trips, we had our favorite cedar plug or purple teaser that we demanded to be put out on certain lines in the trolling pattern.

We would get online and find out water temps from Terrafin, or get the latest catch report from 976Tuna, and just baffle the guys when we would show up knowing what was going on.

It didn’t take long for the “bigger, better” syndrome to be coursing through our veins and soon enough we were down in Cabo for the Bisbee tournaments to mingle with the captains, mates and anglers who landed the elusive Marlin. Of course, we were invited onto many boats, which was exciting to see all the action that went into catching those monsters. The dream is still to catch a grander of our own.

We’ve tried our luck in Costa Rica and I’ve chartered in Thailand—both trips failed to produce Marlin but did produce a nice 150 pound Sailfish and twenty-some Yellow-tail, respectfully.

Two years ago, “our” Captain’s boat moved to La Paz, which turned out to be a little slice of heaven; Tuna and Rock Cod in Ensenada was getting pretty monotonous even with the occasional Blue-fin or Dorado that would show up. The “bigger, better” syndrome is relieved in Baja and anyone who’s fished there knows it’s unlike any place else. Marlin hunting has become second nature and we have spent our jobs when we are looking, have one spotted or better yet have one on the line. The Wahoo that put up an excellent fight are a close second in this girls favorites’ list. Don’t tell my girl friend who is a die-hard Marlin girl, but my favorite really is Dorado. I love skimming by any floating object and seeing that flash of color zip by as it zeros in on the bait we have trolling behind the boat. And the fight they put up is amazing!

The only thing better than landing a fish—no matter what it is, is eating it. And the only thing better than eating a fish I’ve caught myself, is knowing I’ve impressed fishermen with the arsenal of fish tales I can throw down over ceviche and Anejo Pintajo’s.

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**EXCEL**

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ably had the best three days of fishing. They also got gift certificates. Nos Otros also got the prize for the most marlin releases with seven. Steve Giorgi with a 44.5 lb. dorado took the daily jackpot of $320.

All the winning teams had at least one woman angler. Hmm, probably just a coincidence.

You may have heard the ad for Rancho Leonero where John Ireland says, “When you come to the Ranch, you are coming to my home.” Well, this year John backed up the statement when he invited all 50 or so tournament participants and their families to his house for cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and the awards ceremony. John arranged for vans to shuttle everyone the mile or so from the Ranch to the home that he shares with his wife, Jennifer.

The house sits on top of a hill a few hundred yards from the water’s edge. It looks like a house that would be featured in Sunset Magazine with spectacular views of the surrounding desert, mountains, and especially the Sea of Cortez. As it was a balmy evening, the awards ceremony was held outside around the infinity pool. This was a wonderful finish to a great tournament. Next years tournament will be June 13-17. We are already signed up.

Call: (800) 646-2252 or (760) 438-2905

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Mike Overly strains to lift Karen Overly’s 43 lb. dorado

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**EXPERIENCE**

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For information contact:

Tom Ball

phone: 541-285-8381
e-mail: tball@west.net

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**To Catch The Latest Line On Fishing, Tune In...**

**Saturday and Sunday**

7AM - 9AM

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**Upcoming guests:**

**JULY**

7/5 - GUNDY GUNDERSON AND DAN OSTROSKY
7/6 - CHUGY SEPULVEDA
7/12 - DOUG KERN
7/13 - GREG STOTESBURY
7/19 - BARRY BRIGHTENBURG AND CAPT RON BAKER
7/20 - LIVE FROM THE DORADO SHOOTOUT
7/26 - CAPT TIM EKSTROM
7/27 - MARK LAMPSON AND JOHN HASLETT

**AUGUST**

8/2 - DAN HERNANDEZ
8/3 - STEVE LASLEY AND PETE GROESBECK
8/9 - ROD HALPERN
8/10 - BOB FLETCHER AND STEVE CROOKE
8/16 - CAPT BILL CAVANAUGH
8/17 - TBD
8/23 - JUSTIN POE
8/24 - DEL MARSH AND JACK NILSEN
8/30 - BOB HOOSE
8/31 - KEN AND MARTY MORRIS

**SEPTEMBER**

9/6 - CAPT FRANK LOPRESTE
9/7 - TBD
9/13 - ROBBY GANT
9/14 - ART TAYLOR AND DICK URANGA
9/20 - JIM SALAZAR
9/21 - LIVE FROM THE CATALINA CLASSIC
modern day life.

We have all heard the Long Range summer stories of the “big ones” at Cedros but what was wintertime fishing going to provide? After a bumpy, weaving through town, short ride in the back of a rusty bed of an old pick-up truck (part of the adventure Adrian said) planned. Yet, this is an experience that evolves like good cooking and becomes a delectable fishing adventure that will rank at the top of your experiences. For example, the tiller of the outboard permanently departed from our remote fishing location late in the day. Our pangero smiled, and with not an ounce to the commercial harbor, we climb over splintered well worn piers, down rusty ladders, into commercial pangas. These pangas are used in the commercial abalone and lobster fishing trade daily and become our “yacht” for the day. It was windy, cold and simply, the best fishing adventure you may ever experience. The yellowtail seemed absent the two days we were there and we chose not to push our adventurous luck by forcing the pangero to brave the headwinds (although he would have) to reach the prime yellowtail areas so we opted to fish the kelp beds called sargasso by our skipper. We had the most outrageous and spectacular winter calico fishing one could imagine. We let the wind drift us over the kelp beds and you could cast or simply drop a swim bait into a square foot hole in the kelp and pull in an uncountable number of trophy calico in the 4 to 5 pound average size range. This was calico fishing at its best!

When you embark on this trip, prepare your self for a real adventure. Everything is organized and of worry, lashed an old oar to the side of the engine, and we returned to the harbor where nobody even noticed the boat being steered by an 8 foot oar in the air. “Part of the adventure” says Adrian!

If you enjoy unique opportunities to live and fish in a manner where few have gone before, try this trip to Cedros Island with Tom Greene. Let Adrian and the wonderful Cedros people win you over with true hospitality, great fishing and “It’s all part of the adventure”.

Contact Tom Greene at 619-772-7570 or visit Cedros Adventures at http://www.cedrosadventures.com/
outgoing tide. Although this made paddling very difficult, this current sparked the fishing. I quickly caught a very fat Spotted Bass. Mr. P landed a couple of bass, and another fish which he could not identify. My bait found another Spotty, this one a couple inches smaller than the first. By this time the temperature had really climbed, so Mr. P and I were only wearing T-shirts, bathing suits, and our lifejackets. We had also drifted very far from Tidelands, and we wanted to get back to Rich and Dave who were fishing under the bridge. I told Mr. P that I would catch up with him in a second. I had to make one last cast. I thrust the 3 inch grub out as far as I could and let it settle on the bottom. It suddenly was inhaled by something, but then just weight. I reeled it up smoothly and saw a red blur down in the deep. “Oh no!” I thought. I knew what this fish was, and I really didn’t want to deal with it. I got my pliers ready as I lifted the fat Sculpin out of the water but made sure he stayed away from me. The last thing I wanted to happen was to get stung, in a quick moving current, with nobody around. I shook and shook, but the hook would not come out. He was nervous but ready to take them on. He was extremely optimistic and was convinced that he would quickly recover from his cancer. As we drove off, I felt extremely glad that I was able to participate in Mr. P’s last fishing trip before his chemotherapy.

Fortunately, Mr. P’s optimism has paid off. He has been recovering greatly. He is still undergoing chemotherapy treatments but is feeling much better. He even went fishing again with Rich, and they hooked something big that towed them around for forty minutes! I am so fortunate to have such a great friend in Mr. P. Being able to participate in such a meaningful fishing trip was a blessing and experience I’ll never forget.

PANAMA -- WHAT A SWEET TREAT!

Continued from Page 2

After 4 days of boiler rock fishin fun, it was time to head back to Panama City and a day of fishing in the Panama Canal and Lake Gatun. This is truly won of the most sensory fishing experiences one may ever encounter. Fishing in the middle of the canal with the container ships lumbering by with the sounds of the rain forest with all its inhabitants overhead and all around is something one never forgets. The peacock bass are great fun, but the environment is simply intoxicating. One wants to pinch oneself to see that you are really not dreaming.

We often hear the expression “The trip of a lifetime”. It often refers to the size or quantity of fish caught. You may not catch huge fish on this trip, but you will catch huge memories of many unique fish and expose your senses to memory overload. As Pete said, “I would go back in a heartbeat” I think that says it all!

ALASKA -- A 140 LB. MONSTER

Continued from Page 4

had a spot that was the best action I have ever seen. When your bait or jig hit the bottom at 200 feet- you had a bite. Though they were small fish- 15-30 pounds, it was a lot of fun. We limited on halibut each day, in fact one day we caught over 80 fish- throwing back the smallest. There were several big halibut over 100 pounds caught in our group, and Gary White caught one of them, a 140 pound monster.

If you want to fish for salmon and halibut in the ocean in Alaska- it doesn’t get any better than Kingfisher Charters in Sitka. It is an easy 2 hour flight from Seattle, the operation is as close to perfection as it gets, it’s a bargain by Alaska standards, and the fishing is world class. If you have never been to Alaska- you need to go. If you been to other destinations and looking for something better- you need to go. Our 12th annual Kingfisher Charter’s trip is June 21-25, 2009 and you are invited to join Rock Cod Rick and myself on a great Alaskan adventure. You will need to make your reservations early, as the trip always sells out early. Call Kingfisher Charters at 800-727-6136 or check their web site at www.kingfishercharters.com

On the web the Let’s Talk Hook-Up “Links Page” is loaded with links to informative pages including:

Berkley Fishing Products
Rancho Leonero
Turner’s Outdoorsman
Fisherman’s Landing
Shimano
Shogun
Blue Water Tours
San Diego Sportfishing Council
Ford Motor Company
Bob Baker Auto Group
Kingfisher Charters
Qualifier 105
Dana Wharf Sportfishing
Cass Tours
Royal Star
Fisher Premier’s Landing Tackle
Sportfishing Association of California (SAC)
Playa del Sol, Palmas de Cortez, Punta Colorada
H & M Landing
Seaforth Sportfishing
Vessel Assist/Boat US
Yamaha USA
Dana Landing
Polaris Supreme
Searcher Sportfishing
Fish Trap Lures
Terrafin Sea Temperatures
Go Boating America
Pacific Edge Tackle
AA Marine

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 parent’s or guardian’s written permission before we can publish them.
SHIMANO & LET’S TALK HOOK-UP ON-THE-WATER SEMINARS

We Feature:

- Top Name Instructors
- Tackle provided by Shimano, Mustad, Berkley, FishTrap, Eagle Claw, and more...
- Tailored towards novice and experienced anglers
- Every angler receives a tackle package gift
- Shimano rod and reel give-away on every trip
- All trips limited load
- Barry Brightenburg as instruction coordinator
- Dana Landing Market staff as seminar coordinators

SEMINARS FEATURE SOME OF THESE PRODUCTS...

Sunday, May 18 – Fish Trap Lures and San Clemente Island aboard the “FREEDOM”
Join Fish Trap Lure’s Barry Brightenburg on a special trip to improve your skills fishing swim baits. San Clemente Island is known for its incredible bass fishing, a perfect spot to hone your lure skills. This is also a good time for yellowtail and white sea bass. Departs 22nd Street Landing at 9:00 Saturday May 17. $130 per person.

Wednesday, June 18 – Friday, June 20—1 ½ day trip on the “ISLANDER”
Built originally as the RED ROOSTER II, the 88’ ISLANDER played a critical role in developing today’s long range fleet. The ISLANDER features stateroom accommodations, huge bait capacity, RSW systems to store your catch, as well as the most modern fish finding equipment. Captain Shane Slaughter and John Conniff bring their experience and enthusiasm to the helm as new owners of the boat. All food included on this limited load trip. Departs 10pm 6/18 and returns approx. 8am on 6/20. $340 plus Mexican Permits.

Saturday, July 12 through Monday, July 14—A 1 ½ day trip on the “SEARCHER”
Captain Art Taylor and his seasoned professional crew will give you extra time on the fishing rounds plus have plenty of time to travel to the “big ones”. Stateroom accommodations and all food is included! Departs 6pm 7/12, returns 7am 7/14. $350 plus Mexican Permits and possible fuel surcharge.

Wed, August 6—Sat, Aug. 9—a 3-day Mini Long Range Trip on the “Searcher”
The 95’ SEARCHER features stateroom accommodations, large galley, huge bait capacity, and plenty of fishing room. All meals included! This prime trip at a super price includes all the extras. $875 plus Mexican permits and fuel surcharge. 1pm departure 8/6 and 8am return 8/9.

Fri, Aug 22—Mon, Aug. 25—3 day trip on the “LEGEND”
Join Captain Shaun Trowbridge on one of Southern California’s most popular boats. The “LEGEND” has gained the reputation as one of the most productive offshore operations. Add with the free and easy parking at Seaforth Sportfishing and this trip is a real winner. All food included. $715 plus Mexican Permits and fuel surcharge. 9pm departure 8/22 and returns 5pm 8/25.

Sun, Sept 28—A ¾ day Coastal Kid’s trip from Seaforth Sportfishing
This fun ¾ day kid’s trip aboard the “San Diego” from Seaforth Sportfishing is one of our most popular. Hurry and book early, as they fill fast. 6:30am departure and 4pm return. Adults $85 and kids 15 and under $65 plus Mexican permits and possible fuel surcharge.

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
4 Day Trip Aboard the Polaris Supreme
Tues, Aug 19 through Sat, Aug 23, 2008
Join Rock Cod Rick Masa aboard the luxurious and spacious Polaris Supreme for a prime time 4 day big tuna trip. This year’s trip takes place September 2-5 along with some world class sportfishing destinations for marlin, sailfish, yellowfin tuna, wahoo, dorado,.roosterfish, cubera snapper and amberjacks. This is a very special trip as each day will include a substantial discount for purchasing multiple days. The 4 days and 5 nights fishing package is $2770.00 per person double occupancy includes the first night stay at the beautiful Carlini Hotel in San Jose, round trip airfare from San Jose to Puerto Jimenez, 4 nights lodging at Crocodile Bay Lodge, all meals, local alcoholic drinks and soft drinks, 3 days fishing with two anglers per boat, all fishing tackle, fishing licenses and all ground transfers. We are also offering a quad package for $2470.00 per person which will include all of the above using two double rooms and fishing for 3 days with 4 anglers.

As a member, you receive a club card good for one year entitling you to all of these one-time discounts as well as a one year subscription (3 issues) to our newsletter delivered to you!

Attested to by 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 omissions or any of the above trips. All participants agree to hold Let’s Talk Hook-up, Inc. harmless of all legal claims.

5 Day Trip Aboard The Searcher
Fri, Sep 5 through Wed, Sep 10, 2008
Join Capt. Timmy Rothenbry and his crew for a five day 5 day trip. This is the time when such hot spots like Guadalupe Island and Cedros Island go off, and in the past has been great for offshore fishing to complete the trip. This trip includes all food and is value priced at just $1395 plus permits and possible fuel surcharge. The trip is limited to only 25 anglers. Call Searcher Sportfishing 619-226-2403 or www.searchersportfishing.com

6 Day Long Range Adventure Aboard the Excel
Thurs, Sep 18 through Sun, Sept 24, 2008
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 Captains Justin Fleck and his expert crew will take you to the finest fishing available for tuna, wahoo, yellowtail, and more. This trip flies fast, so don’t wait to book your spot! $1995 plus permits and fuel surcharge. Call 619-223-7452 or www.excelexportfishing.com

14th Annual Let’s Talk Hook-up/Hotel Palmas de Cortez Fall Fishing Spectacular
Wed, Oct 15 through Sun, Oct 19, 2008
Special fishing packages available:
Standard nonsmokind cruiser
Deluxe suite with super cruiser
Condo with super cruiser
Super panga packages
All packages include 5 day/night accommodations, 3 meals per day, 2 days of fishing, entry into the fun tournament with great prizes and surprises, hotel tax, hotel gratuity, plus welcome cocktail. Packages do not include airfare or transfers.
Call today! 777-777-TUNA

10 Day Trip Aboard the Shogun
Sun, Nov 16 through Wed, Nov 20, 2008
Join Rock Cod Rick Masa aboard the luxurious and spacious Shogun for a prime time big tuna trip. For the past few years this has been the peak of the season for the giant yellowfin tuna. This popular trip will fill quickly, so be sure to book early. Limited to 22 anglers $2740 plus permits and fuel surcharge. Call 619-226-8030 or check out www.shogunexportfishing.com

Crocodile Bay Lodge, Costa Rica
With Let’s Talk Hook Up and Cass Tours
Sun, May 3 to Fri, May 8, 2009
Join Pete Gray & Lolly Gray of Let’s Talk Hook Up and Richard and Mary Castaneda of Cass Tours on this fabulous Costa Rican fishing vacation May 3 to 8, 2009. This is sure to be a trip of fun and adventure, set along with some world class sportfishing destinations for marlin, sailfish, yellow fin tuna, wahoo, dorado, roosterfish, cubera snapper and amberjacks. This is a very special trip as each day will include a substantial discount for purchasing multiple days. The 6 days and 5 nights fishing package is $2770.00 per person double occupancy includes the first night stay at the beautiful Carlini Hotel in San Jose, round trip airfare from San Jose to Puerto Jimenez, 4 nights lodging at Crocodile Bay Lodge, all meals, local alcoholic drinks and soft drinks, 3 days fishing with two anglers per boat, all fishing tackle, fishing licenses and all ground transfers. We are also offering a quad package for $2470.00 per person which will include all of the above using two double rooms and fishing for 3 days with 4 anglers.

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FISHING TRIPS, RESORTS, FISHING TACKLE AND BOAT SUPPLIES

CROCODILE BAY LODGE
1202 RANCHO LEONERO RD., PALMAS DE CORTEZ, PUNTA COBRA, BAJA EAST CAPE RESORTS
10% OFF TACKLE
10% OFF 1/2, 3/4, OR FULL DAY TRIP
10% OFF ANY LONG RANGE TRIP
EXCLUDING FISHING LICENSES, SALE ITEMS, AND SELECTIONS RODS & REELS.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
DANA LANDING MARKET & FUEL DOCK
419 N. NEWPORT BLVD., NEWPORT BEACH (714) 642-6662
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EXCLUDING FISHING LICENSES, SALE ITEMS, AND SELECTIONS RODS & REELS.

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1224 SCOTT ST., SAN DIEGO  (619) 224-1336
5044 EDINGER AVE., HUNTINGTON BEACH  (714) 840-4262
10% OFF FAIR GAME TUNA

EXCLUDING FISHING LICENSES, SALE ITEMS, AND SELECTIONS RODS & REELS.

LONG BEACH
Orange(714) 538-9300
10% OFF TACKLE

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SAN DIEGO
PACIFIC EDGE BAIT & TACKLE
2838 Garrison St San Diego (619)221-8500
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EXCLUDING FISHING LICENSES, SALE ITEMS, AND SELECTIONS RODS & REELS.

ANGEL’S CENTER
10% OFF BAIT, TACKLE, AND FISHING TRIPS
10% OFF PACKAGES
10% OFF FISHING LICENSES, SALE ITEMS, AND SELECTIONS RODS & REELS.

PACIFIC EDGE BAIT & TACKLE
SEATED AND ACCOMMODATIONS (DIRECT BOOKINGS)

PUNTFISHING ADVENTURES AND ANGLING CENTER
10% OFF TACKLE

EXCLUDING FISHING LICENSES, SALE ITEMS, AND SELECTIONS RODS & REELS.

BAJA FLY FISHING
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10% OFF FLY FISHING FOR BALSAS, ORANGE COUNTY, AND SAN DIEGO
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1220 ROSECRANS ST. #955
10% OFF 3/4 DAY TRIPS

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CASS TOURS  800-593-6510  www.casstours.com
Contact Crocodile Bay Lodge @ (701) 733-1115 www.crocodilebay.com or Cass Tours 909-530-6133 www.cass tours.com

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