



**VOL 25 ISSUE 1**

**NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 2021**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### HEAD HOOKER'S MESSAGE

**PAUL WELLS**



Hi Guys,

I hope all of you are doing well and that you had a Merry Christmas!

We will have our next **Zoom Meeting on Saturday January 9th at 9 am** and will continue to hold Zoom meetings on the

Second Saturday of the month until we can meet in person. If anyone has an Agenda item, please let me know. I hope all of you will join us for the meeting. Although, it is a virtual meeting, it is still good to see and hear from everyone.

Fishing has been slow on most lakes. We have been fishing a little bit at Lake Comanche. Although, the fish have been hard to come by so far, we have not been skunked. There has been one fish caught that was over 2 pounds each trip.

Wishing everyone a Safe and a Happy New Year! Looking forward to resuming our in-person meetings in 2021!

Stay Safe!!

### FISHING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**BOB SCHMIDT**

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and still doing OK. Let's hope 2021 will be a much better year than the last one. Let's look ahead and think positive about this new year and maybe we'll be able to get back our more normal activities. I did much the same thing for Christmas as I did for Thanksgiving staying away from friends and family. Debbie and I spent a Christmas Eve watching "Back to the Future 1 & 2" on TV. Christmas day I loaded the truck and the ATV for 3 days of duck hunting. I was able to make it to the duck blind in time for a good afternoon shoot. There is now a good amount of new ducks and geese in the valley but hunting has still been slow for this time of year, mainly due to the nice weather we had in December. With only the month of January left to hunt for ducks I'll be hunting 2 to 3 days a week. Then it's another long 9 month wait till the next season.

I got out and fished 2 lakes in one day on December 1. I started with New Melones where I caught plenty of small planter trout. I trolled from the boat ramp to the bridge and back for about 2 ½ hours. The fish were in the top 15 feet and not in any particular spot. Speedy Shiners in dark colors worked the best. I then fished New Hogan for a few hours on the way home with no luck, **big fat zero**. Marked a lot of nice big size fish at 40 to 80 feet down but no takers. This was the first time I've been skunked on this lake and it was also the first time I fished New Hogan in December. Launching was free with my National Senior Pass. Right now I have Stripers on my mind. I had such great success last

March Striper fishing in the Delta I can't wait for this year's spring run.

Today (12/29/20) I fished Berryessa and ran into **Rene** and **Criste** out on the lake in the early morning. They went straight to the North end by the bridge while I fished by the ranch house area. I caught up with them about 10:30 above the bridge. It was a slow morning of fishing for everyone as I counted over 26 boats above the bridge. I headed back home at 12:30 with nothing but a few bass. Before I left the area I checked with **Rene** and **Criste** and they had 1 fish. I called **Rene** at 4:00 when I got home and they were still on the lake fishing. They were just short on 2 limits each of Kings and Rainbows rolling shad and running hoochies. It was an afternoon bite.

There was not much interest at our last December Zoom Meeting about doing a fishing day in January so we didn't plan any. We can try again at our next Zoom meeting. Pardee opener this year is on Friday Feb. 12 so maybe we can do a boat get together on the lake on Tuesday Feb. 16.

Good Luck Fishing and be Safe  
Bob Schmidt

## TREASURERS REPORT

**BEN LASALA**

We are suspending our insurance policies until further notice...our current policies are effective through January 2021.

The only expense we need to deal with currently is our monthly bank charge, which is \$16 per month.

We are postponing our annual member ship fee requirement of \$35, until such time that we are able to conduct monthly meetings, derbies, and the need to reinstate our insurance.

Lastly, a reminder, please look for a place where we can hold meetings...the Elks' Lodge is for sale. We may have to hold our meeting at a different time???

	<b>Treasurer's Report By Ben LaSala January 2021</b>
<b>Starting Balance</b>	<b>\$1,606</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Breakfast	
Non-eaters	
Hat Sales	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Breakfast	
Raffle Prizes	
Derby Pot	
Guest Breakfasts	
Monthly Bank Fee	16
Insurance	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$1,590</b>

## SWIMBAITS AND BIG STRIPED BASS FISHING IN THE DELTA (A seminar by Alan Fong 12 Dec. 2013)

**Notes by: Virgil Loken**

The best striper fishing in the delta is when the water temperatures are between 48 and 52 degrees.

Lately big water temperature changes have caused fish inactivity for over a week before the fish acclimated to the lower temperatures. Study the habits of stripers, what they like and where they go. Big stripers (25 to 40+lbs) are loners and like to go shallow. They do not school and wander off by themselves. Big striper fishing is best in water from one and a half to seven feet deep.

Big fish only eat once and maybe not every day. It takes big bait to catch them.

**Gear:** G Loomis SWBR955C Swim bait 8-ft, 15-30 lb. 2-6 oz. bait rod. Calcutta 400's reel with 30# quality monofilament line tied directly to the swim bait lure, no swivel. Alan's favorite swim bait color is white or bone.

**Tides:** Glide baits work best from one hour before high tide until one hour after high tide. Tide tables are not

accurate now because of the lack of water. Expect tides to be between one to 1-1/2 hrs. late until water flows return. High tide in the morning is a big plus. Higher tides work best for big stripers.

**Lures:** The lure should always suspend itself in a nose down position, never nose up.

If you want to catch big stripers you have to use big bait. The smallest swim/Glide bait I use is 8 1/2 inches. The price for large swimbaits varies from \$80.00 to \$169.00 for the best lure.

Lures are floaters, slow sinkers or fast sinkers. Make sure that the lure sets right in the water.

Adding small amounts of weight to the forward hook area (wrap or core wt.) might be necessary to attain the desired suspended position. A slightly offset front core weight can create a more realistic descending bait glide to the resting position when you sweep your rod to the side where the slightly offset weight is on the inside of the turn. On pauses, lures should suspend themselves in water nose low.

**Technique:** After cast there will be a ka-plunk, which attracts fish, stop, then slowly sweep rod to one side, the lure will make a slow descending nose low turn and then suspend itself slightly below the surface. Stop, while the line slowly coils. Need to wait and let the line coil. Just remember if you try this technique, reel slow, stop, leave it then sweep lure and leave it. Big bait stripers approach the lure from behind, bite it to kill it and then swallow the lure head first. Don't yank on the first rod action. Wait for the fish to swallow and run. If you are moving and casting always cast ahead of the boat so that you can reel in slower; never behind the beam, or your lure will be retrieved too fast. If there is current bring line in against current. Position boat to retrieve your lure from the deeper water to the shallows when possible.

**Location:** I fish Sherman, Liberty, and Franks Tract but don't recommend it unless you check out promising flat areas at low tide first. That will expose the hazards to avoid at high tide. Bait fish go into shallow water because it is safer. At Rio Vista look for shallow flat areas. Envision farm land with water flowing over it.

Jason Kinonok showed Alan his first glide bait. Jason manufactures his own large swim baits and will have 10 big striper swimbaits available at Fishermans Warehouse soon. If you desire to try this technique call Alan, cost \$80.00. If you try this large lure method,

remember that you are not looking for striper schools only that lone big one, consequently you will get a lot fewer take downs, but bigger fish. Perhaps 3 bites in a 6 to 8 hr day.

**Alan's Words of wisdom:** If you always fish with the same person, don't expect to learn something new.

Editor's note: the costs associated with large swim baits in this article have lowered substantially since this article was first written. Check with Alan Fong at the Fisherman's Warehouse in Sacramento.

## *IN MEMORIAM*



*Steve Willett – 10/16/2020*



*Bill Alsop – 8/30/2020*



**Jolly Hooker Fishing Club**  
**Gene Pearson**  
**3536 Rolph Way**  
**El Dorado Hills, CA 95762**

## **2020 Steering Committee**

<b><u>Head Hooker</u></b>	<b>Paul Wells</b>
<b><u>Asst. Head Hooker</u></b>	<b>John Bergman</b>
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>	<b>Ben LaSala</b>
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	<b>Gene Pearson</b>
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<b><u>Fishing Chairman</u></b>	<b>Bob Schmidt</b>
<b><u>NDO Chairman</u></b>	<b>Walt Summers</b>