



VOL 24 ISSUE 11

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

HEAD HOOKER'S MESSAGE

PAUL WELLS



Hi guys,

We held an outdoor meeting this month at the American River Education Center in Folsom. I felt it went very well and we discussed some current business, insurance and

dues and the future of our club. It was decided that the officers will remain the same for 2021. Also, we will not be publishing a new Membership Roster for 2021 since there have been few changes this year due to Covid19.

It was decided that we will have meetings at the Elk's Lodge, at least for now. The Elk's Lodge is up for sale so we don't know how long it will be available. We do need to keep looking for another venue so we are prepared when it sells.

We are going to have a regular breakfast meeting on Friday, November 13 at 8 am. We will notify the callers to make their calls. There will be 4 people per table which will allow 6 ft distancing. Masks are required except when eating. Breakfast will be served to the table, no buffet.

John Bergman had a heart attack a couple of weeks ago and had by-pass surgery. I have tried to get a hold of him but have been unsuccessful. Hopefully, his recovery is going well.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

Paul

FISHING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

BOB SCHMIDT

It was nice to have a person to person meeting last month and it was good to see and talk to everyone. My sincere condolences to the Willett family and friends and especially his father **Paul** on the loss of his son **Steve Willett**. **Steve** and I have worked on many of the same construction projects over the years. We didn't really know each other until I joined the Jolly Hookers. I enjoyed his friendship and I know I will miss him. As for the rest of you guys I hope you are all still doing OK.

I don't have much to talk about in the way of fishing this month. My month of October is always filled with projects before winter sets in. Preparation for the Duck Season takes up most of my time. Sort through hundreds of decoys, trips to the duck club to put decoys out, set up the blinds and move the trailer into place. Duck hunting is much like fishing. Weather conditions can make all the difference in your outcome.

Duck season opening day was on Saturday Oct. 24. The duck club I belong to has 10 3-man blinds. Blinds 1 thru 8 are spaced out over a mile-long row of rice fields. They took over 162 ducks in 3 ½ hours, an average 6.3 ducks per hunter. Blinds 9 and 10 didn't fair so well. Blinds 9 and 10 are in adjacent fields to the South separated by only a drainage ditch and a dirt road. I was in blind 10 with 2 other hunters and we there twiddling our thumbs waiting for our turn to shoot. It sounded

like a war zone with hundreds and hundreds of shots going off across the ditch from us. Our blind shoot 8 times and took down 4 ducks. What a little weather change can do. Sunday started out much the same as Saturday but with one big exception. There was a light breeze from the north at shooting time and by 8:00 it was blowing over 20 mph. From 8:00 on it was the best day of hunting I've had in a long time. We shot 21 ducks and filled our 3 limits by 9:30. The other blinds to the North of us this time were out there twiddling their thumbs.



VIEW FROM THE DUCK BLIND

Like fishing to be successful you have to put in your time. It also helps to have Mother Nature on your side. You'll always have some bad days mixed in with the successful ones. I much rather be out there enjoying the outdoors than doing nothing indoors. Weather is always a factor and it can change a bad day into a good day at any time. I think the weather is the major part why the salmon fishing on the river has been so poor this year. There has been no rain this fall and its way to warm for this time of year. From now to the end of January I watch the weather closely for any changes. For duck hunting I look for big changes in weather like wind, rain and the cold. Those are the days I want to be out there hunting. The wind is like a mixing bowl. The rain adds to it and cold brings the birds in from the North. For fishing I like the small changes in weather before or after a small storm.

A Hatchery Update: I was there on Thursday 10/29 and the screens are down and water is now flowing down the existing ladder. The gate to the ladder will be opened within the next few days letting the fish in. Work is continuing on the East side of the Hazel Ave Bridge in the basin area. The shut off date of Oct 15 was extended because of the nice weather we are having.

There are a lot of fish in front of the dam right now. For more than 20 years I have started my twice weekly bike rides from the hatchery parking lot, then up and over the bridge, past the dam to Beal's Point or into Folsom. Looking down into the basin it's the most fish I've ever seen in front of the dam. I have been out on the Sacramento River 4 times fishing for salmon with no fish. I have seen only a few fish taken this whole season. I might give it one more try before I head to the delta for Stripers in late November.

Everyone always asks me this question when I come back from duck hunting! **"How many ducks did you catch today?"** My response is always the same. **"None."** I don't catch ducks but I did shoot this many!

Good Luck Fishing and be Safe

FISHING REPORTS

IDAHO FISHING TRIP

By: Bill Kishi

Got tired of being cooped up at home, so **Mustafa Abdu** and I decided to visit past Head Hooker **Jim Bush** at Coeur d' Alene Idaho. We fished at beautiful Lake Pend Oreille which is about 25 miles north of Coeur d' Alene. The scenic trip was reminiscent of the many trips we all have enjoyed over the years with the Jolly Hookers. The changing of colors around the lush green trees surrounding crystal clear waters is unbelievable.

We planned 3 days of fishing. The first day was perfect, the second was windy (good for snagging seagulls), and the last day we had storm warning alerts so with no snow tires, we left a 7-inch snow storm.

On the perfect day we limited on legal trophy Kamloops Rainbow trout. The largest was a 35 plus inch, 18- pound beauty with three others measuring 34, 32 and 30 inches. They all took over 30 minutes to coax to the boat. The regular size keeper was 16 inches long. All fish were caught on flies at depth of 21 feet.



BILL KISHI



FORMER HEAD HOOKER JIM BUSH



BE SURE TO VOTE NOVEMBER 3RD



**Jolly Hooker Fishing Club
Gene Pearson
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2020 Steering Committee

<u>Head Hooker</u>	Paul Wells
<u>Asst. Head Hooker</u>	John Bergman
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<u>Secretary</u>	Gene Pearson
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