

**VOL 25 ISSUE 4**

**NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2021**

### HEAD HOOKER'S MESSAGE

**PAUL WELLS**



Hi Guys,

Well, we knew it was going to happen but now it has. The Elk's Lodge has sold. That makes finding a place to hold our meetings much more urgent. Let me know if you have any ideas for a new meeting place.

We are going to have a meeting outdoors at the **Veteran's park in Rancho Cordova** which is located at 4535 Excelsior Rd , (1 1/2 miles south of Douglas Blvd. corner of Excelsior and Castleton Circle). The easiest way is to go to Douglas and Sunrise, turn west on Douglas and go to the end, turn left (south) on Excelsior Rd. Don't confuse this park with Mather Golf Course or Mather lake.

The park has close parking, covered tables but no restroom.

The meeting will be Friday, April 9 at 9 am. Coffee and donuts will be available.

It sounds like most of the guys have gotten the Covid vaccine so hopefully we will have a good turnout.

It is really good to see everybody, so hope to see you there!

### FISHING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**BOB SCHMIDT**

Where are all the stripers? I have been out is the Delta 3 times in March on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>. All 3 times I lunched at Brandon Island and fished from 3 Mile Slough to the San Joaquin, Antioch Bridge, channels going into and out of Sherman Lake, Broad Slough, West Bank and back to the boat launch. I call it the big loop.

It's very interesting going into and through Sherman Lake, lots of wildlife and waterfowl. There are several above-water duck blinds and the water is very shallow 4-6 feet deep. It makes a good shortcut from the Antioch Bridge to the Sacramento River West Bank without going around though Broad Slough.

The first time out was the best of the three. It was very windy 10 to 15 mph and I left my coffee, breakfast and lunch at home. Nothing to eat or drink except for an old stale Cliff Bar in the glove box. There was no time to eat it anyway. It took everything to control the boat and land fish. I took home 2 nice 6 and 8 pound stripers and let several others go.



was put on hold for few minutes for the mechanic to come on. While I waited I was standing there looking and thinking what a piece of great engineering it took to put this motor together. What a magnificent motor looking at all the wiring, hoses and things. Then it happend! It was right in front of me. Here's a hose that goes nowhere. A vacuum hose had slipped off its fitting, I pushed it back onto its fitting and BINGO problem solved. The mechanic answered the phone and I told him Thank You for putting me on hold because I found my problem. I now have some well-greased cables and bunch of saved money in my pocket.

Good Luck Fishing and be Safe out there  
Bob Schmidt

The second day out it was weather perfect, no wind and not a ripple on the water. But I had a major problem with my main motor once I got to the Antioch Bridge. Could not get the RPM's below 4000 and couldn't put it in gear. To get around I used the kicker for trolling and to get back. No good size fish to be found just a few 16" to 19" inchers. The reports I got at the ramp were also poor. Day 3 main motor working once again. At the launch that morning there were at least 10 to 12 guide boats going out. Things looked promising for we all went to the same location to start and in a few hours you couldn't find one guide boat. First thing in the morning I lost a nice one at the boat and that was it for the day. Once again poor reports at the ramp. Only fish taken were small. I'm not giving up and will be going out again soon. The water was almost 99% grass free and you can troll long distances and never hook any grass.

Being put on hold made my day. My main motor's RPMs were hitting 4000 in neutral when I was out on the river and I had no way of slowing it down. I thought I had a simple linkage problem and the cable system was not pulling the linkage back into the proper position. When I got home I pulled apart the throttle lever assembly and greased the cables and checked for any problems. Everything looked good and cable and linkage where functioning with no apparent problems. Started it up again and RPMs where still the same. Time to call for help. Called a few shops and was told it would be June before they could look at it and thought it was also a simple linkage problem. The third shop I called I

## BIG FISH STORY March 2020

By Ben LaSala

I am sure that many of you can relate to the experience that I had on a recent fishing trip. This particular encounter took place at Lake Amador, which has extremely low water levels currently. There have been some huge trout caught there this year, and while our Roster shows that Alex Alexander caught our club record trout of 9.15 pounds coming from Lake Camanche, I am almost certain that that fish came from Lake Amador. Can anyone verify that?

My wife, **Charlene**, and I were discussing our next fishing outing. I am lucky enough to be able to get her to go with me sometimes...as long as I am nice to her. The previous week we had tried Pardee with little or no success. **John Frantz** and **Mike Devore** were there, as well as **Paul Wells** and **Steve Nelson**, and **John Kinslow** and his brother. I think John caught two rainbows and a kokanee, Steve Nelson caught a couple of rainbows, and John and his brother caught a few. Charlene and I managed to catch a small rainbow. All were caught from 0-20' feet deep. Overall, the fishing was sketchy at best.

In previous outings, **Ron Madsen** has caught some fish with an interesting set up using Jay Fair flies with one color of lead core and floating fly line. John Frantz and Paul Wells will use side planners at this time of the year.

It seems as though the fish that may be present are all in the top of the water column. When your boat approaches them, they veer off to the side, and if you are fortunate, they “bite” on your presentation. **Robbie Dunham**, Koke-Machine, who guides at Pardee, Amador and Camanche was there the day we fished Pardee. John Kinslow talked to him at the cleaning station, and Robbie told him that the water was still a little too cold.

So, with this background, Charlene and I decided to go back to Amador, where we had some success a few weeks ago. We started out using medium sized speedy shiners. Orange and copper seem to work there. Amador is a small lake, and now it is even smaller because of the low water conditions. When we had to turn around because of the shallow water, some guy pulled his boat right across our bow...I was not happy with his actions. A little later, another guy coming straight at us would not turn away. I almost ended up on the shore. Again, I was not happy. At this point, Charlene said that I was in a bad mood, and she was right. Of course, the fishing was not great. After a couple of hours, we saw only one fish caught by a fellow in a kayak.

I have heard that **Hil Felton**, who was our club’s “Fisherman of the Year” for some 6 years, has said that if nothing happens after 10-15 minutes you need to change something. Change your speed, change your depth, change your location, change your presentation. There is another saying that I have heard...the definition of insanity is trying the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result. This saying is usually attributed to Albert Einstein, which I did not know. While I am a pretty relaxed (lazy) fisherman, on this occasion I changed what I was pulling behind my lead core line from a speedy shiner to a Scatter Rap.

Sometime later, while I was turning the boat in the area where the first guy cut me off, my lead core rod started bouncing. My first thought was that I snagged. I picked up the rod and gave it a jerk. The next thing I know, I felt a tug followed by a fish jumping out of the water some 160’ behind the boat. It felt like a big fish. I was finally able to convince Charlene to take the rod, after she had first refused. I checked the drag, and she started to reel. The fish made several runs as I coached her to take it easy. When we finally saw the fish, I was amazed at the size. It was a largemouth bass. At this

point, Charlene said that she was getting tired, and she wanted me to take over. After netting the fish and taking a few pictures, we released her. I did not weigh or measure the fish as I wanted to get it back into the water, but it was the largest black bass that I have ever caught. It was definitely larger than some of the “big” bass that we have caught at Clear Lake.



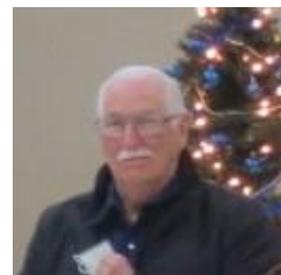
Maybe that is what keeps us coming back, you never know what you are going to catch.

## **MEMBER NEWS**

### **RON MADSEN**

Past Head Hooker **Ralph Schureimen** just turned 93. He got a new pace maker this year. He told the doctor he wants a battery that lasts at least 10 years.

Way to go Ralph!





**Jolly Hooker Fishing Club  
Gene Pearson  
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## **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>