



Rooster Tails Fishing Club

of Northern California, Inc.

October 2023 Rooster Tails Newsletter

Message from the Board of Directors

Greetings Rooster Tails!

As the summer turns into fall we look forward to cooler days for the fishing.

This month's speaker will be Shaun Rainsbarger of [Shaun's Guide Service](#). Shaun will discuss fishing Donner Lake. See below for more information on Shaun.

We look forward to seeing you on the 20th at the Elks Lodge! Your support keeps the club going and we hope you enjoy our monthly breakfasts and opportunities to share fishing experiences. Feel free to speak with any board member with your comments, suggestions for future events. Remember, doors to the Elk's Lodge open at 7am, Breakfast begins at 8 and our speaker begins at 9. Fishing reports, Monthly Raffle and fellowship continue after the speaker.

CLUB UPDATES

- 2023 Jackpot Contest is getting close to the end. You can still sign up at the meeting. Remember, you must have your application in two weeks before any submission.
- A For Sale table will be set up in the back for members to sell off unwanted fishing gear.
- Rooster Tails Board of Directors Meeting - October 16, 2pm, at Lyons Real Estate office (near Mel's Dinner in Auburn). Free pizza provided.
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting - October 20
- Rooster Tails Turkey Turney - November 9 (see below for details)
- Rooster Tails Board of Directors Meeting - November 13
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting - November 17
- Rooster Tails Rockfish/Crab Combo Trip - November 20

October 20th Speaker

Shaun Rainsbarger — Shaun's Guide Service

Shaun Rainsbarger started fishing over 40 years ago with his grandfather who was also a guide. Helping out as a deck hand on granpa's boat set Shaun on his path to become a fishing guide.

With over 40 years of fishing experience, [Shaun Guide Service](#) offers personal guided trips for up to 6 people. The Lakes he works on are Donner Lake, Stampede, Boca, Lake Tahoe (winter time), Bullard's Bar (for Kokanee), Collings Lake (for Trout), Thermalito Afterbay (for Steelhead) and the Sacramento River (for King Salmon, when we can).

Shaun will be discussing techniques he uses on Donner Lake. Join us for breakfast, fellowship and Shaun's talk on how to catch monster Macks at Donner.

Will Fish Tackle Report

by Craig Newton



10/12/2023

Cooler nights and shorter days of early fall are starting to cool the waters of your favorite lake. That means that the fall trout fishing will be upon us soon. As the Brown Trout start to move up into the creeks to spawn it can be a great time to catch and release a trophy. The inshore rockfish closure has limited the opportunities for saltwater fish tacos. Stripers are still cooperating in the Delta and some are being found north of Sacramento. Pyramid Lake is the big draw so far this fall with many cutthroats over 10 lbs and a few over 15 lbs being landed.

BULLARDS BAR: Kokanee fishing for this year's fish is over. Some anglers have shallowed up their presentations and are catching 8-10#, 2 year old Kokanee. There are plenty of Kokanee in Bullards so this should not adversely impact Kokanee fishing next year.

FOLSOM LAKE: Action for small kings is warming up. Kings are averaging 13" so they are definitely next year's fish. Some decent rainbows are being caught as well. Rainbows up to 16" were taken last week. Folsom should continue to improve as fall weather settles in.

FRENCH MEADOWS/HELL HOLE: Access to both of these lakes is still through Georgetown via Wentworth Springs and 11 Pines Rd. Hell Hole has dropped below the paved ramp. If you are going to try Hell Hole for fall trout, make sure you have two vehicles on the trip to assist with the launching in case things get sloppy. French Meadows has been dropping but launching is easier there in low water. Fall trout can be excellent at the Meadow.

OROVILLE LAKE: This year's king salmon plants are starting to school up and take trolled offerings. Fish are similar in size to the Folsom kings, 13" or so. Please consider releasing these fish to grow into the keepers we should see next spring and summer.

SIERRA LAKES: Trout fishing will continue to improve as the weather cools. Many of the upper elevation lakes begin to pull docks and prepare for winter so make a call before you make the drive to your favorite lake. The main ramp at Union Valley is closed as they do some new construction in the area. The ramp at the dam is still open though.

DELTA: Striper fishing has been good for trollers over the last few weeks. Make sure you pay attention to the tides as the bite is very keyed into the top and bottom of the tides. Deep and shallow divers are both working well in all colors as long as they are chartreuse.

PYRAMID LAKE: The October 1st opener saw high winds and difficult conditions on the lake. For those who did brave the weather, the fishing was good. The high winds stirred up the lake and resulted in an algae bloom that made things a little tough the last few weeks. Fish are still being caught below the muck but it is best to look for cleaner water when possible. Many fish over 10lbs have been caught in the first two weeks of the season with a report of a 31 pounder being landed. J-plugs like Lyman's and GVF Draggins have been very productive. Some fish have fallen to spoons and apexes as well. Jiggers are finding success with tube baits and P-Line Lazer minnows. If the weather looks good it is worth a trip up to Pyramid to give the big cutthroats a try.



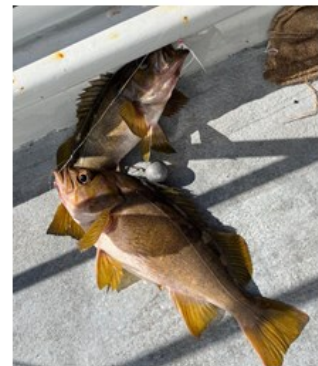
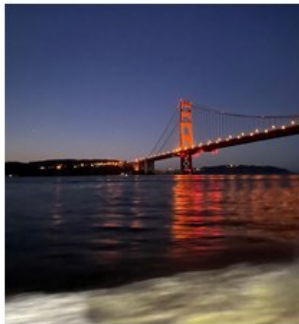
Rock/Lingcod Trip A Success

On October 4, members of the Rooster Tails Club left Fishemeryville for the Farallon Islands in search of limits and found them! Fishing in the new 300' depth provided plenty of large rockfish for the boat as well as the opportunity to strengthen the arm muscles!

Departing the marina around 5:45 the boat headed out to near the Farallon Islands. After the near two hours boat ride, lines were dropped down to the 50 fathom, three hundred foot, depth and the fun began. Searching for the new schools of fish kept the action hot.

No lings were caught but Ron Jones took the big fish prize for Rockfish.

Hope to see you on the next trip.



Rooster Tails Turkey Turney Collins Lake Thursday, November 9, 2023

Rooster Tails Fishing Club Turkey Turney at Collins Lake is set for **Thursday, November 9th**. This no entry fee event has a long history as a club event. Members can fish for Trout and win gift certificates for a Thanksgiving Turkey. Members and their guests are invited to participate. Nine grocery store gift certificates will be given away at the event to anglers with the heaviest bag of Trout. One \$ 100 prize will be given out for the largest trout by weight. **Pre-Registration is required.**

The Event hosts are Yvette Meador, Bruce Hansen and Shawn Conlan. Members and their guests can sign up at the October breakfast meeting or text Yvette at 530-305-7949. Contestants can begin fishing at the first safe light on the morning of November 9th.

The weigh in will be above the main launch ramp in the parking lot and will start at 1pm and end at 2pm sharp. Each contestant can weigh up to 5 trout during the weigh in period. Gift certificates for 9 turkeys will be awarded to the top 9 anglers by total weight. \$100 will be awarded largest fish by weight.

Information about **Collins** lake can be found at www.collinslake.com. According to Jennifer at Collins Lake they will start planting trout in October and continue until Thanksgiving, depending on water temperatures and weather conditions.

Hope to see you on the lake November 9th.

Yvette, Bruce and Shawn.

Rockcod/Crab Trip — November 20, 2023

The Rooster Tails Club has booked a crab/rockcod combo for 11/20/23. We will be on the New Huck Fin out of Fishemeryville with 22 spots available at \$210 each person. Rod rentals and tackle packs are additional.

More details to follow.

Member's Fishing Reports

Susan Cole Reports:

Bob and I just returned from a 2 week fishing trip. We spent a week at Lake Almanor, then moved over to Eagle Lake, near Susanville, for another week. Trolling at Almanor was not productive, so we went to our favorite "spring" fishing spot. The water coming from the springs in the lake is colder, and the trout like to hang out there when the lake has warmed up. We anchored in the spring area, fished with powerbait, and caught several nice trout in the 3 pound range everyday.

Once we got to Eagle Lake, trolling with lures, it was "fish on"! We trolled with orange Baby Simons, white with spots Needle Fish, and burgundy/gold Thomas Bouyants at 1.8-2.2mph. The most productive lure was the orange Baby Simon. We caught limits of 2 fish per person, with 2-3 people fishing, all fish in the 3-5.5# range. We were typically fishing in 45' deep water, down riggers between 25'-35'. Best places to catch fish is where the pelicans and grebes are. That's where the baitballs are and where the trout hang out. You will also catch chubs but we just release them. The baitballs that the trout feed on are baby chubs.

Member's Fishing Reports

Eagle Lake trout are specific to Eagle Lake, which is slightly alkaline. The meat is pink-red, and delicious. My favorite way to cook them is to sprinkle fillets with Italian seasoning and garlic. Add butter to fry pan and fry skin side down until edges are turning white. Flip over, add white wine and lemon juice, cook until barely done. Put on plate, cover with foil, add more butter to pan, cook on high, stirring until wine has cooked down to a “saucy” thickness. Pour over fish and enjoy!

Merrill Campground is at the south end of the lake, with over 100 beautiful campsites. The lower sites, closer to the lake, are cheaper because they only have water. As you move up to different loops you can add electric, and the third loop include sewer hookups for campers. It is a couple of miles drive to the Gallatin marina/boat ramp. Launching is free. There is store that is well stocked with fishing/boating supplies and a few food items. You can anchor your boat offshore at the campground or drive to boat ramp everyday. There is a nice fish cleaning station near the store.

Happy Fishing!

Shawn Conlan has made a couple of trips to Folsom Lake recently. Launching out of Rattlesnake Bar, which may be closed by the time you read this, Shawn trolled in 30-40 feet of water at 2.7 MPH with lead core line. Lots of bass were caught but no trout or salmon. The bass were hitting silver Speedy Shiners and a big lipped casting plug.

Tips on Reel Maintenance

(The following articles were found in the "[Take Me Fishing](#)" Blog)

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE On HOW TO OIL A FISHING REEL

ALYCIA DOWNS (7/17/2018)

Gear maintenance is critical if you want your fishing reels to work properly and last for a long time. While learning “how to oil fishing reel” isn’t most people’s idea of fun at first, once you learn how to clean and oil your reels, you can repeat the process quickly and easily. Here is a quick step-by-step guide for how to oil fishing reel, specifically, a spinning reel.

Avoid using soaps or degreasers as they may damage the reel or leave residue. The best oil for fishing reels is formulated specifically for reel care. Reel cleaning kits are available at most outdoor retailers or you can gather these items yourself:

- Your spinning reel
- Reel oil (be sure to research the best oil for fishing reels)
- Reel cleaning solvent
- Clean terry cloth rags
- Paper towels
- Cotton swabs
- Light bristle brush

DIRECTIONS:

1. **Prepare Your Workspace:** Set up your workspace in a well-lit area. Lay a clean cloth on a steady, even surface over which you can work on your reel.

Tips on Reel Maintenance

2. **Clean and Oil the Bail:** Open the bail, apply cleaning solvent to the bail connection points and line roller. Lightly scrub with bristle brush and wipe dry, and apply a few drops of reel oil to the bail connection points. Open and close the bail several times to work in the oil.
3. **Clean and Oil the Spool:** Unscrew and remove drag knob, then remove the spool from the reel body, and apply cleaning solvent to drag knob, insides of the spool and exposed areas. Wipe to remove dirt, debris, or excess oil. Use cotton swabs to remove grime from crevices, and apply a few drops of reel oil to main shaft and gears. To reassemble, place the spool back on the reel body and reattach drag knob.
4. **Oil the Bearings in Reel Body:** Remove the screw cap on the reel body. Unscrew the reel handle and remove, and use a cotton swab to wipe down the bearings and remove dirt or old lubricant. Apply one drop of reel oil to each bearing and to joints on handle, reassemble handle and screw cap.
5. **Oil the Reel Body:** Once finished, wipe down the entire reel lightly with reel oil. This will add a layer of protection and help bead off water during use.

Keeping your gear clean is an important step on how to fish, and for quick maintenance, you don't need to clean the reel every time. Oil your reel every couple of uses and deep clean occasionally. Use gentle water pressure when rinsing reels after use to help extend their life.

FISHING GEAR MAINTENANCE:

CLEAN AND DRY YOUR REELS AND LINES

KIRK DEETER (10/20/2011)

A lot of us are starting to pack up some of our fishing gear for the winter (just don't stow all of it; there's still good fishing to be had). One of the most important things you can do is clean your reels and lines.

The key to longevity for any reel—baitcasters, spinning reels, even fly reels—is to make sure the lines on them are completely dry before you store them, or store them with no line at all. It doesn't matter if it's braid line, monofilament, fluorocarbon, or fly line with nylon backing. Those lines inevitably pick up grit and corrosive elements when they get wet (saltwater, freshwater... even tap water). If you don't clean and dry those lines, you risk damaging your reel.

So take some time and unspool the line from your reel. Leave that line in a warm place for a day or so, to ensure that it is completely dried out. To keep it from tangling, you can wrap it loosely around a coat hanger (indent the corners of the hanger so the line catches), or keep loose coils in a bucket or box. You don't want to leave the line in direct sunlight.

This is also a great time to check the integrity of the line. If you notice too many abrasions, now is the time to get a new line spooled up, so you are ready to hit the water in the spring. With the line off the reel, you want to give that reel a gentle cleaning. Rinse it in mild soapy water, and use a soft toothbrush or chamois cloth to wipe away any visible grit and grime. Then make sure the reel itself is completely dry before you put the line back on.

Why do we do this in the fall? Because the sooner we get the "gunk" off the reel and line (that we picked up fishing all summer), the better. And it's always good to keep any fishing gear stored in optimal, ready-to-fish condition. You want to do the maintenance when you aren't itching to get on the water, so when the opportunity does present itself—even if that's not until next spring—you're good to go.

Nor Cal Guide and Sportsman Association Annual Dinner



[Annual Fundraising Dinner Nov. 4, 2023 - NCGASA](#)

2023 Jackpot Contest Closes November 30th

Rooster Tail Members-only in good standing with paid dues and a signed liability waiver form on file may enter the Club's Annual Jackpot Fishing Contest by paying an entry fee of \$20.00 to the Contest Chairman or Club Treasurer. The payment must be made 2 weeks in advance of your entry and any time between the starting and ending contest dates.

No fish-entry will be accepted without a two-week prior entry fee payment. The official contest competition is from January 1 through **November 30** of each calendar year. After the January breakfast meeting, only fish caught within the official contest term qualify for the contest.

Contest cash prizes and recognition certificates will be awarded at a Rooster Tails Fishing Club's monthly meeting. Jackpot entrants that do not have a winning Jackpot Contest fish entry will have a chance to win a proportionate cash prize based on a random drawing 'for-one-that-got-away' at the meeting. Potential random contest winners must be present at the event to receive their prize.

Pick up an entry form at the breakfast meeting or download a copy from the [Rooster Tails Fishing Club Website](#).

Something To Think About

[Fishing and its health benefits:](#)

[The more men go fishing, the better their mental health, study finds](#)
[Researchers say angling can be considered a relaxing 'mindfulness activity'](#)

(follow the link to see the video)

Rooster Tails BOD Needs Your Feedback

Rooster Tails Board of Directors currently consists of 8 members including Mike Walker, Yvette Meador, Steve Burgess, Dave Stallions, Bruce Hansen , Gregor Roschitsch, John Warren and Shawn Conlan. As we move through this year and prepare for the next we will need some new blood and new ideas to keep the club interesting and plan next years meetings and events. Also, some of us travel and it would help out to have some backup for the breakfast meetings.

The Board meets on the Monday before the breakfast meeting, 2pm at the Lyons Real Estate office, 1900 Grass Valley Highway, Suite 100. This months meeting is on Monday August 14th. If you would like to join us as a guest the meeting normally takes about an hour. We will have pizza at the meeting. hope to see you Monday.

Rooster Tails BOD Needs Your Feedback

From "The Fisherman's Guide to Life - Nine Timeless Principles Based on the Lessons of Fishing" by Criswell Freeman.

"The angling fever is a very real disease and can only be cured by the application of cold water and fresh untainted air"

Theodore Gordon

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