



April 2023 Rooster Tails Newsletter

Message from the Board of Directors

Greetings Rooster Tails!

We finally are seeing more clear skies than gray ones. Clear weather should pretty much be the normal for the next couple of weeks at least. While conditions on most waters are murky, things are clearing up and folks are hitting the waters with success.

This month's speaker will be Call Kellogg of [Fish Hunt Shoot Productions](#). Cal has been fishing Collins Lake and will share with us his techniques for landing Rainbow and Lightening Trout.

We continue to plan for more outings for the club this year and continue to request your feedback. See the article below for details.

We look forward to seeing you on the 21st at the Elks Lodge! As always, doors to the Elks Lodge open at 7am, Breakfast begins at 8 and the speaker begins at 9. Fishing reports, Monthly Raffle and fellowship continue after the speaker.

CLUB UPDATES

- 2023 Jackpot Contest is open. You can sign up at the meeting.
- 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 April 17
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting April 21
- Rooster Tails Board of Directors Meeting May 15
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting May 19
- Live Bait Halibut and Striper Trip out of Emeryville April 27 (see below)
- Rooster Tails Kokanee Tournament at Stampede June 12 (more info below)

April Speaker: Cal Kellogg Hunt Fish Shoot Productions

Our speaker for this month's breakfast is Call Kellogg, the long time owner and managing editor of the Fish Sniffer Magazine. These days Cal is a full time trout guide during the cool months, tackle manufacturer, video creator and professional prospector. Cal will be talking about Trout Fishing Strategies and answering questions...You can see Cal's library of 2000 plus fishing videos on YouTube at [Fish Hunt Shoot Productions!](#)

You can find Cal on his Facebook page and his website, [Fish Hunt Shoot Productions.](#)

Rooster Tails Members Only Stampede Kokanee Fishing Tournament June 14th Camping June 12-15

Please note that the Dates for this event have changed.

**Rooster Tails Fishing Club Members Only Stampede Kokanee Fishing Tournament
Wednesday June 14th, 2023 and Stampede Camping Monday June 12th 2023 through
Thursday June 15th (Checkout Day)**

The Rooster Tails Fishing club is planning this year's members only Stampede Kokanee fishing Tournament (June 14th) and group camping trip (June 12th - 15th). The club has reserved the Prospector group campsite for club members at the Emigrant Group campground starting on Monday June 12th through Thursday June 15th, 2023 (checkout day). The Prospector group campsite has room for 15 vehicles and 50 guests and is the 1st group site on the right as you enter the campground. The site has water and bathrooms with no showers. Members can review information about the site at www.Recreation.gov, [Emigrant Group Campground](#), [Prospector Group](#) site. Members do not need to participate in the group camping to sign up for the tournament.

Members who would like to sign-up for one of the 15 vehicle sites within the Prospector group site can sign up at the April 21st Breakfast meeting or contact Shawn Conlan at 831-320-3671. The fee will be \$ 40 per vehicle for all three nights. Paid to Rooster Tails Fishing Club by check only. As of April 9th we have 7 signups for the group camping site.

The Club will host a Kokanee Salmon Fishing Tournament on Wednesday June 14th, 2023. A separate tournament signup sheet will be available at the April 21st breakfast meeting. Sign-up fee will be \$ 20 for the tournament. With 100% of the tournament fees being awarded to the top four fishermen with the most weight. 40% first place, 30% second place, 20% third place and 10% fourth place. Members who have signed up for the tournament can start fishing at first safe light on June 14th.

The weigh in will start at 1 pm sharp at the launch ramp parking lot and end at 2 pm sharp. Members cannot fish with a guide for the tournament. As of April 9th, 14 members have signed up for the tournament.

Contact Shawn Conlan, club Treasurer, to sign up at (831) 320-3671 or sconlan@aol.com or for more information. You can also sign up at the breakfast meeting.

April 27 Halibut/Striper Bay Trip Sold Out!



The boat is full with 20 people going. If you are booked & need a rod rental or a tackle pack please call Fishemeryville and they will have it on the boat for you the morning of 4/27/23. Their number is 510--652-3403.

Just heard we had one spot open up - if interested give Mike Walker a call at 530-320-1750. \$165/person is the rate. The boat leaves the dock at 6am and you should plan to arrive by 5:30am. If you can carpool with 3 people the commuter lane on the way home requires 3/vehicle.

On April 2, 2023 the boat had a half day trip with 11 fishermen and they caught 22 halibut + 1 striped bass .

Fishing Report

04/11/23

Note from the editor:

As most you may know, Craig Newton of Will Fish Tackle underwent recent reparative surgery and is recuperating at home. We wish him continuing healing and look forward to him returning to the airwaves.

In the meantime, here is our latest report on what is going on in our neighborhood.

Overall conditions are improving. Water is clearing and temperatures are increasing. You still need to be careful of debris in water but right now things are looking up.

Folsom Lake - The lake is clearing up with water clarity to 5' or so. Water temp is around 58°. The south fork is producing trout on hoochies behind dodgers and speedy shiners. Rattlesnake Bar launch ramp is open and water is clearer in the area.

Lake Berryessa - Water is clearing up with 5-6' of visibility. Clumps of debris and grass dot the lake challenging anglers. Fish are marked in the 70' depths and the water temperature is around 54°. Bass fishermen are doing better than those hunting trout, kokanee and kings. The bass are in shallow waters. Watch out for obstacles on the water.

Lake Comanche - Big Nate's Guide Service, (916)860-9180, reports conditions of the lake are changing fast!! In 4 days the lake dropped over 6ft, and water temperature went from 53° to 63° in the morning and 68° at the end of the day!! Fish are scattered more now than they have been all year and at depths from 10ft to 35ft. "Threw the entire kitchen sink at them with no presentation or speed really standing out."

Delta - Ron Retzlaff has been fishing the delta with pretty good results. This past weekend Ron

fished the Bass Derby and had four keepers and one shaker on Day 1. Fish were small but active. Day 2 resulted in eight keepers on the San Joaquin. They fished near Eddos down to the Antioch Bridges. The WestBank produced 25 keepers on Tuesday of this week with one that was 15-16#, which was released. Four of the several 7 pounders caught were put in the box. The water is clear with some grass floating along. Yo-Zuris and RatLTraps were the ticket on the shallow troll. Ron launched out of Brannan Island which is in full swing.

Feather River - Eric Leland of Rivers Edge Guide Service has been doing well drifting minnows on the bottom. Limits are achieved most days. The Feather has been in better shape than the Sacramento .

2023 Jackpot Contest

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 the Rooster Tails Fishing Club's Annual Jackpot Contest Awards Ceremony. 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 ceremony. 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](#). Or contact Dave Stallions the Jackpot contest chairman at 530-320-1790 for more information.

When You Need a Little More Assistance

(Article by Marc Davis from Salmon Trout Steelheader Website. To read the entire article follow the link [here](#).)

The biblical three score and ten years is well in my rear-view mirror and I'm a disabled vet with mobility issues to boot. When they find the boat with my body aboard, I'd like it to be draped over a freshly landed 30-pound springer and with a smile on my face. To delay that event for myself and others I'd like to share with you some things I've seen and developed. As with many of us there are lots of parts that don't function as well as they used to but to some of my buddies I'm known as "the kid." This is because I can still drive without glasses and row a drift boat, putting me ahead of at least a few of them.

To facilitate driving and operation of fishing related equipment I've incorporated some devices into my truck and boats that may assist others who have a little trouble getting around. Some of these will also expand the capabilities of a drift boat. [\(Continue reading here.\)](#)

How To Land More Kokanee After Hook-Ups

By Danny Coyne

(Taken from [Mac Attack Ezine](#) on the [Mac's Lures Website](#))

If you've ever gone kokanee fishing, you'll know that these feisty fish can put up quite the aerobic scrap for their size. They say if you land one kokanee for every three fish you hook, then you are doing well. So, what is it that causes so many of these fish to get away? Here's a few techniques on how to effectively land more kokanee this spring.

How to set the hook when catching kokanee

As many anglers know, kokanee have soft cartilage around the mouth area and this is mainly due to the intense speed in which they grow. This is why many anglers use Mack's Lure Trolling Snubbers to help the fish from ripping the hook out of its mouth. One of the biggest pitfalls to avoid is setting the hook aggressively. Rather than a quick hook set like when fishing for other species, the best way to set the hook on a kokanee is with a slow and smooth forward motion. This will tighten the line and set the hook without ripping it out of the kokanee's mouth.

After hooking a kokanee, slow your speed down

If you think you've hooked a large kokanee and the fish is fighting aggressively, then it's worth it to slow the boat down for less resistance and wrenching against the fish. Even turning the boat slightly inwards towards the side that the fish is on will help you from losing that kokanee.

Best reeling practices when catching kokanee

No matter how experienced of an angler you are, there are times we all get excited when a fish is on the line, especially when the fish is a big one! Many anglers tend to think that since the fish is big, they're going to lose it and this is when most mistakes are made. When reeling in a kokanee a slow and steady retrieve is the key. If you feel the fish start to fight, slow your retrieve rate down just enough to keep tension on the fish.

Don't force the fish in. Once the kokanee has stopped shaking and rolling then speed up your retrieve again. It's better to have the kokanee exert its energy further out in the open water rather than close to the boat when you are trying to net it.

We've all heard the old saying "keep the tip up!" But for kokanee fishing this is the last thing you want to do. Bury the rod tip near the water or even into the water to keep the fish sub-surface. The last thing you want is the kokanee to jump and break the surface. "Block its shot," as some say. Most kokanee are lost when the dodger or flasher breaks the surface and the fish can freely head shake or roll.

The downrigger clip is crucial to catching kokanee

It really comes down to personal preference for how to set the downrigger clip tension. Some anglers like the fish to be able to unclip the line from the downrigger and some don't. When it comes to kokanee fishing, slack line is not your friend. The majority of the time, a kokanee will not strike a lure hard enough to pick up all the slack line when the line becomes unclipped. Set the line into the clip with enough tension that when a kokanee strikes the lure, the rod tip will bounce but you still have to unclip it. Reel down tightly to the clip, picking up all the slack, then with one smooth sweep, unclip the line from the downrigger and quickly reel to pick up any slack between the rod tip and the fish. Once you feel the fish, a slow and steady retrieve wins the race.

By applying these simple tactics while kokanee fishing, it will help decrease the amount of fish that are lost during the fight and will make you a better kokanee angler.

For more tips and tricks from Danny Coyne, visit BCFishn.com

Trout Fishing Event For Kids With Disabilities or Special Needs

[Collins-Lake-Event](#)

Sat Apr 22nd 8:00am - 2:00pm

Collins Lake, 7530 Collins Lake Rd, Browns Valley, CA 95918, USA

Trout fishing event for kids with disabilities or special needs.

Call Dave or Ann Baker for more information, to register or volunteer for this event

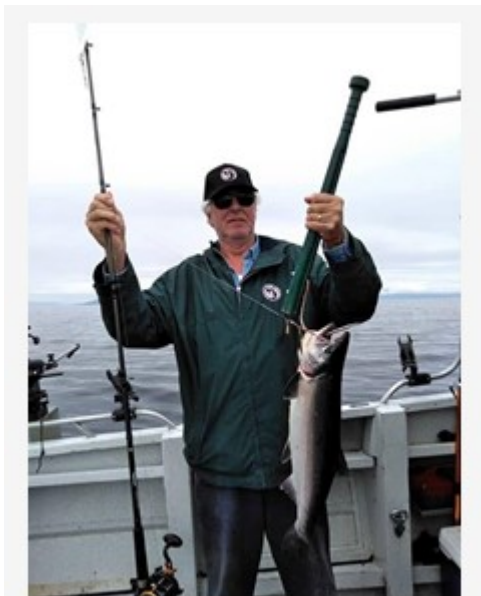
Purple Hearts Anglers Brannan Island Spring Striper Event - Cancelled

The April 29th Brannan Island event has been cancelled. Please contact the group for details at darren@purpleheartanglers.org

The August 26th Crab Feast has also been cancelled/postponed. If you have purchased tickets please contact the group for details at darren@purpleheartanglers.org

We will be at Stampede in Truckee CA. on June 10, 2023. If you are one of the 22 participants that had signed up for this event through Randy, please contact Darren at darren@purpleheartanglers.org. In his passing I do not have the list of signups or contacts. Thank you

Note: You can learn more about Purple Heart Anglers on their Facebook Page



Randy Houston - RIP

"On behalf of the Board of Directors for Purple Heart Anglers, it is with a heavy heart that we announce that Randy Houston, the Founder and President of PHA passed away unexpectedly yesterday. Saying Randy will be missed is an understatement."

(Posted on Facebook April 4th, 2023)

We know many Rooster Tails support this organization that takes Vets hunting and fishing and we wanted to share this sad news. Our heart goes out to Randy's family, the organization and all the Vets Randy touched with this group.

Rooster Tails Dues Renewal

2023-2024 Renewal dues for the Rooster Tails Fishing Club are due on April 15, 2023. Individual dues are \$50 and Family Dues are \$60. Family membership includes spouse/partner and up to 3 immediate family members, 18 yrs or older. Additional information about the dues can be found on the Membership Renewal Form and Liability Release at the Club's web site www.roostertailsfishingclub.org under the [Become A Member](#) tab.

Existing members can renew their dues by updating the membership form and signing the 2023 Liability Release and mailing the forms and a check to Rooster Tails Fishing Club, P.O. Box 7441, Auburn, Ca 95604 or bringing a check to the April 21st breakfast meeting at the Elks Lodge. We will have copies of the Membership Form and Liability Release at the front counter.

If you are a new member and you joined up after January 1 st 2023 you are covered for this year's dues. If you have questions about the membership dues contact Yvette Meador , Membership Chairperson, at 530-305-7949 or meadory53@gmail.com.

As a reminder, members can access the Members Only section of our website with the Username: Member, Password: LongLines.

Thank You for your continued support of the Rooster Tails Fishing Club .

Rooster Tails BOD Needs Your Feedback

Each year the Board of Directors plans and organizes events the club members enjoy. We are seeking your input as we develop the calendar for 2023. You can see above some of the outings we have so far but we would like to hear from members regarding other events.

We will have sign up sheets in the back of the room to gather your ideas or you can send them to info@roostertailsfishingclub.org. Or grab any of the directors at the breakfast meeting and let us know your thoughts.

We continue to update the [Rooster Tails Fishing Club website](#) and hope you will visit soon. There you can find membership lists, archived club newsletters, a membership form, Jackpot Fishing Tournament Entry Form, and the **Active Buddy List**. We continue to work on making it a useful website for members. We encourage your [feedback](#).

The **Active Buddy List** is in the Members Only section of our Website. There you can let everyone know what type of fishing you prefer, whether or not you have a boat, do you prefer salt or fresh water fishing, etc.

Check it out and add your name to the list. Sign up sheets will be at each Breakfast Meeting or you can send us a note at info@roostertailsfishingclub.org

Rooster Tails Monthly Quote

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

"One thing becomes clearer as one gets older and one's fishing experience increases, and that is the paramount importance of one's fishing companions."

John Ashley— Cooper