



April 2024 Rooster Tails Newsletter

Message from the Board of Directors

Spring is definitely in the air. After a few days of warm sunny weather, winter made a reappearance. Looks like unsettled weather is on the menu for the next couple of weeks. Be that as it may, people are getting out on the water and putting fish in the box. Read the reports below.

Membership renewal began in March and are due by April 15th. You can pick up a membership application and release of liability form at our meetings or you can download the forms from the [Rooster Tails Fishing Club](#) website in the Become a Member section.

Our speaker this month is **Denis Peirce** of [Trollingflies.com](#). Denis has been in the fly fishing industry since 1993. He will share techniques for using flies in our regional lakes.

CLUB UPDATES

- 2024 Jackpot Contest continues. All those participating must be a member in good standing, have a liability form on file, and have paid the Jackpot entry fee. You can download a form from the [Rooster Tails](#) website or pick one up at the next meeting.
- Rooster Tails Board of Directors Meeting - April 15, 2pm, at Lyons Real Estate office (near Mel's Dinner in Auburn). Free pizza provided.
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting - April 19 - Auburn Elks Lodge. Doors open at 7am, breakfast served at 8am, Speaker at 9am.
- Rooster Tails Board of Directors Meeting - May 13, 2pm, at Lyons Real Estate office (near Mel's Dinner in Auburn). Free pizza provided.
- Rooster Tails Monthly Breakfast Meeting, May 17 - Auburn Elks Lodge
- Rooster Tails Bay Halibut & Striper Trip - April 22 (Sold out!)



APRIL SPEAKER — Denis Pierce

I have been in the fly fishing industry as a sales rep, manufacturer, fly distributor since 1993. My interest in trolling flies began when I met Jay Fair in the 1990's. When the "Wiggle Fin Action Disc" came on the market in 2002 I knew it was a game changer for trolling flies. Since then I have been fishing with and producing trolling flies. I do most of my trolling in Northern California freshwater lakes. For the last decade I have been making annual trips to the Puget Sound to fish for salmon in saltwater. My salmon flies are catching kings and cohos from Alaska to Monterey Bay CA. If you would like to skip the bait mess, and the heavy tackle needed for flashers, please try an Action Disc with a trolling fly. I think you will enjoy it.

Denis Peirce

You can check out Denis' website [here](#).

KOKANEEMART.COM FISHING REPORT by Craig Newton



04/05/2024

Well spring sprung for a few days, but winter weather has returned. Hopefully with the snow on the dogwoods we are done with it. Waking up to 6" of snow while packing up to fish the Kokaneepower Bullards Bar Derby did not bode well. Next week we will see a return of spring with high 70s weather bringing back spring like fishing opportunities.

STRIPER: Take your pick, Delta or valley rivers, both are producing. The minnow bite on the Feather has been producing and trollers on the west bank of the Sacramento in the Delta are having a great time when the weather permits. It's only going to get better from here on out. It is time to go out and get you some.

LANDLOCK KINGS: To everyone's delight, both Folsom and Oroville are producing decent Landlock Kings right now. A few 4 to 5 pounders have come out of Folsom and a smaller but respectable grade of Kings is coming out of Oroville. Go big with 8" flashers and smaller anchovies or go small with 4" glow dodgers and anchovy tipped pearl hoochies to get your bites. Depths are all over the place this time of year so

trust your sonar and target fish on bait.

TROUT: All the put and take lakes are fishing reasonably well for planter rainbows. Think Collins, Pardee, Amador, and Camanche for the top spots. Water levels and temperatures are perfect right now for trolling fast or slow. Fast troll Speedy Shiners and/or F7 to F9 Rapalas or slow down and troll naked grubs in pearl and firetiger to get those large stockers to go. I always try to fit in a day at one of these lakes to get a nice limit of trout for the smoker. Don't forget the boat inspections at some of these lakes.

HALIBUT: The SF Bay is starting to produce limit style halibut fishing. Nothing like fresh halibut for a great meal. Try trolling frozen bait behind a flasher for this early season bite. Rig is similar to a river flasher cutplug setup with a 4.5" hoochie over a frozen herring in place of the cut plug.

BLUEFIN TUNA: There are already signs of life around the Farallon Islands for BFT. Same as last year, fast troll long lined Nomad MadMacs through foamers. Make sure you are not under gunned, these are not your north coast albacore. A 30 size lever drag loaded with 100 lb spectra and 100' of 150 lb mono on a 60 -100

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trolling rod is the minimum setup for these beasts. I don't know how many stories I heard last year about anglers getting bit and immediately spooled. If you are trying to check BFT off your bucket list, bring the big sticks.

KOKANEE: The season to start Kokanee fishing is upon us. Lower elevation lake are available to us now and have been producing. I am partial to Bullards Bar this time of years as it is fairly accessible, and the Kokanee are plentiful. New Melones has already produced some quality fish so if you haven't tried it, give it a shot. There are beautiful rainbows there as well. Early indications is that Berryessa might be making a come back with quality trout there as well. With the recent

while before we can get to our upper elevation Kokanee spots. Time to plan your next Kokanee trip with lot's of options open to explore .



DOWNRIGGER & TROLLING MOTOR REPAIR REFERRAL

Rick Hengl, 916-218-9569, works on downriggers and trolling's motors. Rick has a lot of older parts in his shop. I recently had him refurbish 2 older Cannon Mag 20's and a Minn Kota trolling motor that was working on and off and took a while to get the problem solved. Rick was originally referred to me by Fishermans Warehouse and ended up doing a great job on both. Shawn Conlan.

CALIFORNIA BOATER SAFETY CARD

Do you need the boater Boater Card? As of January 1, 2023, all boaters 50 years of age or younger will be required to carry the Boater Card. All boaters regardless of age will be required to obtain the card by 2025. Follow this link to <https://www.boat-ed.com/california/> to get certified online.



15X MORE SALMON RETURNED TO BATTLE CREEK WHEN TRUCKED AND RELEASED AT BUTTE CITY

from the NorCal Guide & Sportsman Association

Golden State Salmon Association's three-year pilot study with the US Fish and Wildlife Service saw about 200,000 Coleman Hatchery fish, 100 percent clipped and tagged, released at several downstream sites starting in the spring of 2019. The study's trucked fish release locations were strategically selected to ensure 1) enough upstream distance to prevent trucked fish from imprinting on Sacramento mainstem water tainted by large tributaries such as the Feather or American Rivers; and 2) sites were far enough downstream to significantly reduce predation.



Results:

- 15x more fish returned to Battle Creek when trucked and released at Butte City Bridge
- 6x more of the trucked salmon were caught in the ocean when released at Butte City Bridge
- 2x as many fish released at Butte City Bridge during the critically dry spring of 2022 returned to Battle Creek as jacks this year.

Thanks to everyone involved: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Golden State Salmon Association team, the [Nor-Cal Guides & Sportsmen's Association](#), UC Davis, and the Bureau of Reclamation who came together on this project.

ROOSTER TAILS BAY HALIBUT & STRIPER TRIP MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024

SOLD OUT!

The Rooster Tails Fishing Club chartered trip on the New Huck Finn out of Emeryville April 22, 2024 is sold out! Thank you to all those who have signed up. We look forward to seeing you on the water! Contact Mike Walker 530-320-1750 with any questions.

ROOSTER TAILS FISHING CLUB BIO

The exact origins of our club are a little murky with no written records, but rather a collection of stories that have been handed down from one club member to another. As we understand it, the original Rooster Tails Fishing Club was loosely founded by a retired military officer by the name of Leroy Hyde that lived in Auburn, California. In the early 1950's, Leroy, and a handful of his retired friends, fished most days and regularly invited other anglers to join them.

As their circle of Auburn fishing friends gradually grew, Leroy's military-mind organized them into what ultimately became a fishing club. Their primary goal was to have fun fishing, traveling, and sharing fishing secrets. Leroy's club consisted of a couple dozen good old boys acting like 'roosters' that barred women from being members. The original club members have long since passed away, but their legacy of being devoted to fishing and their club name has survived and carried-on, still known as the Rooster Tails Fishing Club.

The Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Incorporated, is a modern large organization that welcomes both men and women anglers with novice to expert fishing abilities. Our membership fishes mostly North Central California fresh waters as well as the Delta and adjoining ocean. The goal of the Rooster Tails is to provide members and guests with fishing related information in a fun, informal, and entertaining fashion. We achieve this goal through regular monthly third Friday breakfast meetings with expert fishing related guest speakers. Besides fishing, our members share in many fun activities including club fishing tournaments, Ocean Fishing trips, and Monthly breakfast meetings with a fishing related speaker. Member's fun and camaraderie has created many life-long friendships that have enhanced each individual's fishing experience.

These individuals have made a special investment in the Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc. They are designated as Charter Members. We thank them for their vision and support.

Mel Arnot	Mike Bashore	Suzi Bailey
John Bergman	John Biley	Steve Burgess
John Chihorek	Dan Crutchfield	Dale Daneman
Roy Enos	John Fee	Richard Garcia
Tom Hyde	Ivan Ichtors	Fred Jones
Ron Jones	Jerry Lampkin	Bill Langtry
Judy Miller	Tug Miller	Steven Minnick
Nelson Money	Rick Moura	Bob Oles
Mike Peckham	Michael Pendleton	Jim Petruk
Joyce Petruk	Mike Smithline	Art Stonebraker
Laurie Sweeney	Larry Thomas	Dennis Williams
Russ Wilson	Gene Wise	Bill Zander

The Board of Directors would like to offer a special thanks to Peter Zittere for his generous support during Covid.

ROOSTER TAILS CLUB BREAKFAST UPDATE

As we previously informed you, the club has received a new contract from the Elks Lodge for our breakfast meetings with an increase from \$19/person to \$21/person for breakfast. The Rooster Tails Board decided to cover the \$2.00 increase for the first three months of 2024 to make this adjustment easier on our members. However, the Board has decided to increase the cost of Breakfast to \$20 per person effective the April 19th meeting with the Board covering the remaining \$1 increase. The Board will continue to review this and announce any new decision.

In an effort to help us estimate the number of attendees for the April meeting, we are asking you to RSVP if you plan on attending. No obligations are expected, this will help us with the bill at the club.

Will we see you at breakfast?

LOCATION — Auburn Elks Lodge

DATE AND TIME — 04/19/24 7:00am - 04/19/24 10:00am US/Eastern

Monthly Breakfast Meeting with Denis Peirce Of Arctic Fox Trolling Flies.

I'll Be There!

Maybe

I Can't Make It

ROOSTER TAILS FISHING CLUB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES — DUE APRIL 15TH, 2024

Thank you to those that have renewed your memberships. As a reminder, for those planning to renew, membership renewals are due by April 15. You can either mail your form and release of liability to RTFC P.O. Box 7741 Auburn, CA 95604 or bring to the breakfast meeting on April 19th. Forms are available on the [club website](#).

You can pick up a membership application and release of liability form at our meetings or you can download the forms from the [Rooster Tails Fishing Club](#) website in the Become a Member section.

MEMBER FISHING REPORTS

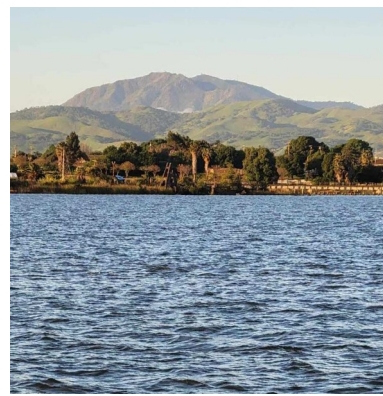
Jerry Lampkin was out on Folsom Lake on the 26th of March. He and his crew brought 10 kings and 5 rainbows to the boat. All were found at the south/north confluence 30-50ft deep. The 8" white Pro Troll Flasher matched with the Christine Special Brad's Cut Plug caught the kings while the rainbows came on Rapalas.



Randy Bergquist was back on Bullard's Bar Friday, March 29, and caught 16 Kokes. Randy found them all up the river arm from the surface to 80' of water. He and his buddies used micro hoochies, R-pexs and various bugs.



Randy was out again on April 3, this time on the San Joaquin River in the Antioch area. Twenty stripers were brought to the boat but only four were keepers in the 19" range. Drifting live minnows in 15 to 29' of water was the most successful effort.



Most other members are sitting out the weather for now. Keep us posted on what you're doing, fishing wise, by sending a message to info@roostertailsfishingclub.org

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS MONDAY

APRIL 15th , 2 PM

Rooster Tails Board of Directors currently consists of 8 members including Mike Walker, Steve Burgess, Dave Stallions, Bruce Hansen, Gregor Roschitsch, John Warren, Gregg Motta and Shawn Conlan. The next Board meeting is on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 2pm at the Lyons Real Estate office, 1900 Grass Valley Highway, Suite 100. If you would like to join us as a guest at the meeting just drop in. The meetings normally take about an hour. We will have pizza at the meeting!

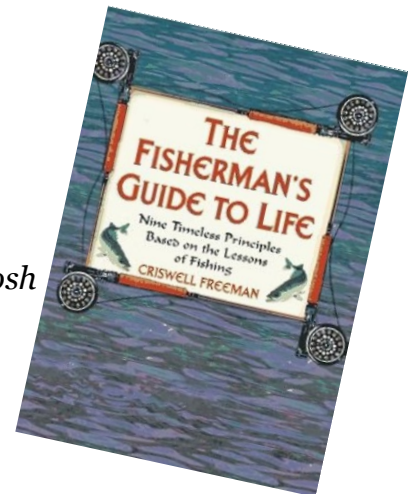
We also would be interested in hearing your feedback about our meetings, newsletter, and fishing reports. We strive to make this club as inclusive and responsive as we possibly can so, please let us know your thoughts by sending an email to info@roostertailsfishingclub.org

Rooster Tails Monthly Quote

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

"Experience usually is what you get when you don't get what you want, but if there were no such thing as optimism, there wouldn't be any such thing as fishing."

Michael McIntosh



Rooster Tails Fishing Club Inc

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