

Poggie Club Newsletter

September 2019

Published Monthly Issue 8

P. O. Box 492
Bremerton, WA 98337

Poggie Club Officers

Chief Poggie: Norm Reinhardt 360 871-4216
Vice President: Troy Hatler 360 792-2628
Secretary: Nick Blickhan 360 731-3659
Treasurer: Louie Morton 360 689-0118
Game Warden: Randy Fox 360 519 9941

Poggie Club Board Members

Patrick Perry	360 850 8000 Elected until 2021
Art Bruner	360 598-5776 Appointed
Ray Frederick	360 692-2287 Elected until 2022
Oscar Hyman	360 394-3892 Elected until 2020
Ron Kirkland	360 373-2088 Elected until 2021
Bill Mars	360 692-3668 Elected until 2022
Jay Sager	360 6893360 Elected until 2022
Andrew Wright	360-801 3721 Appointed

Editor: Ron Kirkland 360 373 2088 rgseahorse@aol.com

General Meeting: September meeting will be at 6:30 PM September 11th at the Sheridan Center 680 Lebo Blvd, East Bremerton. Guest speaker Conservation Youth and Derby Tails with Pizza.

BOARD Meeting: The Board meets 7PM Tuesday September 17th, at the Windermere Real Estate Office, 9939 Mickelberry Rd. in Silverdale.

Summer Auction: Glen Jurgens thanks who actively made donations and helped make Summer Picnic Auction another successful event. In particular the following: Nick Blickhan, Randy and Karen Fox, Larry Matthiessen, Ron Flerx, Rodger and Karla Benson, Art Bruner, Norm Reinhardt, Dave McCrary, Oscar Hyman, Bob Overly, Ray Frederick, Joh Morton, Robert Monroe, Jerry Kabelac, Jay Sager, Ron Shuts, Louie Morton, Patrick Perry.



Salmon Derby: Was August 3rd. Gross income \$2675.00 Fish Ladder 25 Kings, 6 Silvers and 4 Pinks. Troy Hatler's third place fish among those lesser morsels.



Andrew's
Second Place
Fish
But wait
There is more to this
Story

The rest of the story of Andrew's Fish

By Poggie Andrew Wright

In telling this story I put our win at risk... You see that fish that I weighed in at the Bremerton Marina on August 3rd of 2019 was not caught by me. The shimmering sixteen pounder was actually reeled in by my grandpa, Ron "Gumpa" Flolo. But before you go stripping us of our title I need to explain. Sure, I netted the thing and brought him over the gunwale, but Gumpa battled that beast as it dove multiple times. It was his fish on his rod in his boat.

This story can be long, but I'll try to make it short. We were fishing the northside of the Southworth ferry dock, our normal fishing grounds. The water was choppy despite the beautiful blue skies. We had seen three or four large fish caught by others around us, so we knew the fish were in the area. Being a social angler, I hollered at whoever caught a fish, "You guys in the derby!?" Their responses were typically, "What derby!?" Followed by muttering on their boats and likely tears. We had spotted other Poggies fishing near us, but more on that in a moment.

There was one two pound coho in our cooler when Gumpa's reel began to make that lovely singing noise. You know the one, it's the sound we all dream of as we bob around our favorite spot, imagining that strike that brings home a cash prize. As I set the hook, I told him, "It's on your rod!" "Should I kill the motor?"

He asked. But he knew the answer, this was a big fish and it was pulling line out like an episode of Wicked Tuna. After passing off the rod and pulling up the downriggers, I grabbed the iPad for video evidence in the off chance that we lost it. In a series of short clips you can see the rod bending over in a perfect parabola, the line being pulled under the boat, our knees shaking, and the reel screaming.

After what felt like forever, I tossed the iPad on the chair and started reaching for the net. We knew it must be close. The line counter on the reel read 20 ft. This was my time to shine. The fish was now within feet of the boat, so, with the shaft of the net in one hand and the slack of the net in the other, I dipped the net down into the water and scooped up a real beauty. After checking for a spare fin, sharing a few high fives and hugs, we weighed it using a luggage scale that we always keep on board. It read 17 pounds. Around the same weight of the fish that won us the 2011 derby. We were ecstatic! However that feeling didn't last....

You see, we decided to drop the downriggers again and try for a second big fish. It was 11:30 am and we had plenty of time to bust butt to the weigh station with the 225 Evinrude. With knees still shaking and the excitement of it all still pumping through our veins, we were on the fish again! Except this time, we caught a wave from a large pleasure craft that was hauling past, at the same time we were turning left at the end of our circle. The portside downrigger began to let line out and the motor stopped. It took only a few seconds to realize what happened. We had run over our steel downrigger cable and the motor was seized. Fishing was done. Now, our ecstasy was dismay. We had a spare motor but no way in the world to get to Bremerton from Southworth in just two hours, with a 3 hp air cooled motor.

Now, only moments after catching what could be a derby winning fish, we didn't have a way to have it officially weighed! Checking the rules, we knew the fish had to be brought in by boat but there were no specifications that the fish had to be brought in, in the boat that it was caught in. I got on my phone and called around, we had seen Poggie Randy, and Poggie Nick B. in our area so I called both. They were already in Bremerton. But after explaining the situation to Nick, he talked to his captain, Jim, and they agreed to come get the fish, and me.

Around thirty minutes later a 16-foot ski boat with three angels pulled alongside us. During this time, I had tried to cut away at the cable around the prop. I was able to hand pull the 8lbs downrigger weight in with about 80 feet of steel cable. But a section of cable had gone behind the propeller into the lower end housing, so we were stuck with the backup motor. Nick looked it over, we talked about pulling the prop off, but being in 30 feet of water we decided it was best for me to get in their boat, and for Gumpa to continue putting to Manchester, at 1.2 mph. He would pull the prop later. I handed over the cooler to Nick with the fish tail poking out and said, "Now don't you leave without me!" And I still believe the thought went through that man's mind. But being the great person he is, I was allowed onboard.

In Jim's boat now, we got to the Bremerton dock around 1:40 pm with time to weigh in. I was aware that the heaviest fish at that time was over 17 pounds so I knew we would be close. Everyone at the dock congratulated me and asked me where I caught it, what I used, and what depth we were at. The guilt was deep. The smile was forced. Because I knew Gumpa was the one that should be answering these questions. I knew these answers, but I knew who fought that fish. And that guy was sitting at the back of his boat, sitting next to a screaming weed eater outboard, steering into the wind, going 1 mile an hour back to the dock, with a seized propeller on his main engine.

Knowing the outcome, I'll answer those questions for you all now. The fish weighed 16.2 pounds, good enough for second place and \$750 from my old employer, Kitsap Credit Union. The lure was a cookies and cream coyote. The downrigger depth was 90 feet in 140 feet of water, and we were trolling south on the northside of the ferry, as the tide was still ebbing. I tell you all this so that you can go out and catch your own story. Hopefully with a positive outcome like ours.

We took second place and Gumpa was able to make it to the dock with less than two ounces of fuel left. I met him there after Nick drove me, and the fish, around from Oyster bay to Manchester. It was great reunion as we were both able to share our harrowing journeys with each other. Gumpa pulled the prop off the next day and started the Evinrude. It ran great! So we brought my nephew out the next weekend taking long slow turns at the end of each circle.

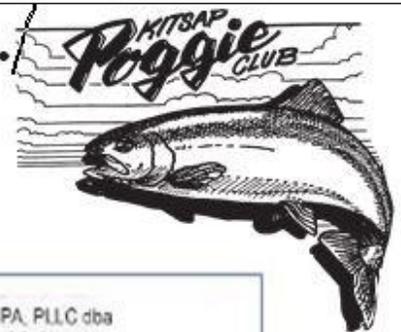
Thank you for letting me share that this was Gumpa's fish. It was his reeling that should be awarded. He let it run when it wanted to run, and he reeled when he needed to reel. A debt of gratitude is owed to fellow Poggie's Nick and Jim, as that fish never would have been weighed without their help. Don't get me wrong, I liked seeing my name on the check, but it truly took a school of poggies for this story to come together.

Annual Baja Trip: The 2019 Poggie Baja Trip: The dates for the 201 Baja trip are October 14-19. Look at your calendars and see if you can get in on some warm weather and trophy fishing!! We will again be going to Palapas Ventana in southern Baja on the Sea of Cortez. The flyer was attached to the last email, so check that out or you can contact Poggie Troy or Poggie Sheli at Aqua Tech Marine Services for more info (360-792-2628). The trip will include 4 days of fishing and all your food and lodging for a discounted Poggie price. For non-fisherman, the price is significantly Sreturn Poggies itching for another taste of Baja happiness!! Let's go to Baja!!!

Membership Contest: We will raise the bar again because 17 in 17 as well as 18 in 18 were successful new member recruiting programs. For 2019 we will look for 19 in 19 to produce a qualifying 19 new members to create a minimum \$100 prize pot. In addition to recruiting 2019 will feature recognition awards for areas of volunteerism by club members. **Thirty three new members to date.**

Chico inlet garbage and doggy bag duty: September/ October Ron Shuts. November/ December Art Bruner. Time to make a new list for 2020.

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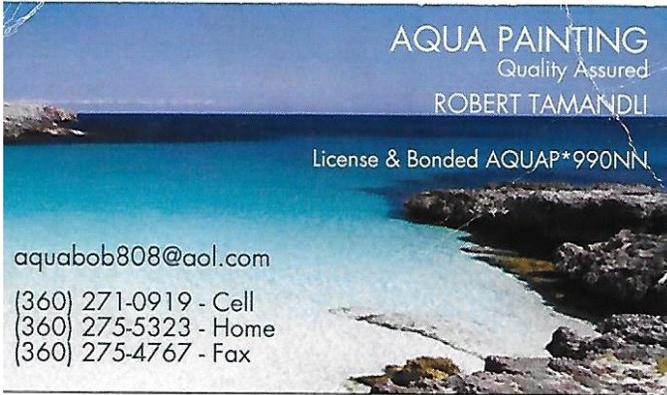


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July	TBA	Camp Easter Seals
JULY 10		No Meeting - Summer break
July 16	Tue	Board Meeting
Aug	TBA	Summer Salmon Derby (tentative Aug 10)
Aug	TBA	Camp Easter Seals
Aug-Sept		Salmon spawning work parties Gorst/Grover's : must be pre-approved/pre-scheduled Contact Norm for scheduling
AUG 14		No Meeting - Summer break
Aug 20	Tue	Board Meeting
Sept 11		General Meeting - Speakers are the kids we send to camp
Sept 18	Tue	Board Meeting
Sept-Nov		Salmon work parties Grover Creek : must be pre-approved/pre-scheduled Contact Norm for scheduling
Oct 9	Wed	General Meeting
Oct 15	Tue	Board Meeting
Nov TBA		Salmon Festival - usually first week in Nov
Nov 13	Wed	General Meeting
Nov 19	Tue	Board Meeting
Nov	TBD	Salmon in The Classroom egg delivery
Dec TBA		Gorst work party to prepare ponds for chinook fry
Dec TBA		Christmas Party - NOTE: replaces general meeting
Dec 18	Tue	Board Meeting