

OCEANSIDE SENIOR ANGLERS
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 1, 2018

Vice President: Ken Harrison called the meeting to order. Sergeant at Arms, Ed Dennis led the membership in the flag salute.

Secretary: Meeting minutes of April had no corrections.

Guest Speaker: Hal Reeser introduced Ken Franke, President of Sportfishing Assoc. of California. Hal gave a brief summary of Ken Franke's credentials and that Ken interfaces with many sportfishing entities. Ken briefly touched on his childhood fishing and growing up in San Diego. His grandfather was a lighthouse keeper at Pt. Loma. Today he is forecasting what regulations may change and what is the future of fishing. Ken assumed responsibility of SAC about 10 years ago. SAC grown from San Diego to Santa Barbara and encompasses 15 harbors. SAC is non-profit that promotes marine recreation and gets involved with regulatory aspects at state and federal agencies, Congress, Senate and the Mexican Senate.

Ken spoke on how the "descender" got its start and the applied research it went through, a device OSA uses today. SAC approached the Pacific Management Council, which consists of California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho, with the descender tests. The PMC makes recommendations to NOAA on our coastal regulations. The success of the descender along with the Cow Cod comeback depth limitations have been changed. Our depth limit was 300 feet and increased to 360 feet and in June it's expected depth will increase to 450 feet. In the Cow Cod conservation area, we have explored with a ROV (remotely operated vehicle), to prove where Cow Cod live and don't live. SAC's job is not to speculate, but to be scientific and this resulted in hiring a fulltime scientist. Our office spends a lot of time identifying the "gaps", it's in those gaps that SAC hires boat crews to collect data. Hopefully next year, with a depth increase, we'll be allowed to fish the 9, 14 and 60-mile banks. SAC is working with NOAA mapping the Cow Cod areas and to establish the Rockfish Conservation Area. Two years ago, bottom fish was jeopardized because the Fish and Wildlife had a tremendous backlog in recording "catch". Instead of recording data they created an algorithm to ascertain the fish count and their formula figures were exaggerated and inaccurate. Today the fleet electronically sends fish species and counts from the boat to the F&W data base.

Ken touched on Bluefin Tuna fishing. Four years ago, the Tuna Commission stated the recreational fishermen are over fishing the tuna to the tune of 985 tons. SAC challenged that number and asked the Commission how they ascertained the tonnage. They took measurements from Bluefin caught on a long-range boat and used that to compute the tonnage, which was in conflict with the size of locally caught tuna. For 3 years the SAC scientist has been working with 12 boats measuring Bluefin and reporting that info to us. This information was presented to NOAA and the Commission resulting in the ability to fish Bluefin all year.

Ken spoke on Mexico, politics, the upcoming national elections and how that may affect our fishing down south. Ken, in days past, found Mexican officials they didn't fully understand the financial impact that our fishing has on their economy. He also discovered local communities didn't get the benefit of the fees, the federal government got it. SAC started a campaign at local levels creating opportunities through radio shows and etc. to pump blood back into the localities. There is pending legislation called Western Hemisphere Initiative, if approved will negate the need of passport. The only requirement will be a photo ID or a birth certificate, this for closed loop trips, but you're still required to have a FMM visa. This Initiative was presented and promoted as a "cash cow" to Mexico and would bring more stateside trips and revenue to Mexico. Last week SAC was visited by the Secretary of Fisheries of Baja Sur. SAC helped them establish a "link" where an individual can go online and buy their fishing license from the state government, hence giving the revenue to that state.

Guest Speaker continued: SAC will be making the same offer of arrangement with Baja Norte. Ken opened for questions and topics covered were albacore, other species, the bio-spheres established by Mexico. Hopefully fishing areas closed will be opened in the future. Question, does F&W require the use of descenders, currently there is no requirement. Mexican fishing licenses can be purchased online through web site: California Sportfishing.org.

Program Director: Hal Reeser and Fred Hall Show follow up. David Powell, the winner of the Diawa rod/reel has yet to pick up his prize. The Patsko's certificate for the Helgren's ½-day trip for two was mailed. Tony Belandres came to the meeting and picked up his certificate for the Helgren's 1-1/2-day trip. Raven Cornell's certificate for the Chubasco ½-day trip was mailed. Hal reminded the membership the Oceanside Harbor Days is scheduled for mid-September and a chairman is needed. Hal stated he would like a new member take charge of this event. Anyone interested please contact Hal.

Social Director: Greg Thompson reported the lunch at Swami's Café was a hit. This month's after meeting luncheon will be at Mary's Family Restaurant. Greg mentioned he received favorable comments about the Christmas Banquet being held at the El Camino Country Club. Greg reminded the members of Jeff Routsong's BBQ chicken picnic on May 17th.

Membership Director: Ken Harrison gave out a thank you to Lee Wood for the years he served as Membership Director and thanked Larry Knight for taking over the task. Larry introduced new members, who were Evert La Barge, Cheryl Brandstrom, Ralph Konzal, Bill Colburn and James Alvarez. Larry asked for any vendors or suppliers please stand so the new members could know who to contact for possible future needs. Unfortunately, none were at this meeting. Larry told the new members to see him for a membership card and other club info. Larry announced his new email address which is: senioranglers@gmail.com

Bill Vogel shared his "Bill Vogel Challenge" in which every year he donates \$100 to benefit the kids, military and Scouts. The thrust of this is to challenge fellow members to contribute or match his gift. Bill also has more of his fishing harnesses for sale. He also has an 8 day and 7 nights fishing trip to La Paz in July. The cost is \$1,150, if anyone is interested please contact Bill.

Treasurer: Mike Forward reported taxes for a non-profit are due May 15th and the club's taxes were filed in April. Mike has reimbursement checks for those members affected by the April 16th trip cancellation. The Raffle Account stands at \$14,500 and spending of these funds will begin this summer. The General Account received an additional \$26 for the month yielding a balance of \$40,900 and with coming expenditures that will decrease in days to come.

President's Remarks: Vice President Ken Harrison apologized to the club for not having the club clothing available, it will be here at the June meeting. What is for sale is the OSA sample clothing that will be sold at extreme discounts. The BOD is currently looking at an "E" store where you can purchase club clothing on line. We continue looking for a local vendor to put designs on shirt backs, pocket logo and embroider work. Ken and attending members thanked Eric Fahr, our P.R. person, for getting notable club publicity into the media. The Union Tribune North County section had a photo of the OSA members that participated in last year's Oceanside parade plus club information. Eric also sends out club info regarding our guest speakers to about 10 outdoor fishing media outlets.

The club is participating in the Oceanside 4th July Parade. We need members to be part of this fun and memorable event. We will have various props like an inflated bat ray, shark and other items. Once we get our parade position from the Downtown Association the club will be notified and signups will start in June.

Kris Thorsten has a published book for sale of his poetic writings that are quite inspiring. For all you ex G.I.s you will especially enjoy the military section. Kris is in the club directory.

Ken asked Lynn Howell to give the Eastern Sierra trout report. Lynn stated trout season opening day is the last Saturday of April. Lynn gave a quick background on his childhood trout experiences. Lynn's trip was to Lake Crowley, located about 30 miles north of Bishop and 15 miles south of Mammoth Lakes, California. Crowley is a windswept high desert lake with barren surroundings, but an excellent place to fish. Various species of fish can be caught in Crowley but the primary target is Rainbow and Brown trout. Crowley has "dry" camping and nearest lodging would be Mammoth. Ken Harrison at the same time frame was fishing Silver Lake, one of four in the June Lake Loop. Ken's weather experience wasn't as nice as Lynn's. Where Lynn had superb weather, Ken had horrible wind and had to double sinker size to get his line off the beach. Ken did catch a 3.1-pound trout on a night crawler which made up for the wind.

Head Charter Master: Jim Mauritz said the April 16th trip on the Relentless had to be cancelled because of extreme weather. Trip refunds are available for those members affected. June 3-1/2 day trip has one opening and Jim thanked the members who have donated to have a Marine be on that trip. Marshall Goddard's trip was a half day and was changed to a ¾-day is now filled. There is a consideration to change the remaining half day trips to ¾-day. We need help in filling 2 July 1-1/2 day trips. There are reports that Bluefin and Yellowtail are being caught, so now is the time to sign up for these trips. Jim reminded members signing up early on trip gives a better choice of a bunk. One thing to remember, when you've signed onto a trip and you want cancel you must find a replacement because there are no refunds if you cancel. Jim went through the list of charters that need anglers to sign up. The charter list is updated every two weeks and this information is on the OSA web site. On all trips the Charter Master has descenders which are to be used to return undersized fish. The members on charters are encouraged to use the setup. Jim reminded members to keep your membership card with you when shopping at the various tackle shops that honor OSA with a 10% discount. Jim has a stern request and that is, if you are soliciting for donations for one of "your" charities please do not say OSA co-sponsors your charity. Members who do that jeopardize relationships that this club has established. Ken Harrison mentioned two shops that give OSA a 10% discount, they are Pacific Coast Bait & Tackle and Angler's Tackle. Those store locations are found in the OSA directory.

501(c) 3 Update: Our new charity has reached a point where we need formalize the BOD with a vote. As a club we have voted to move our Raffle Account, fund raising account and our community service expenditures into the OSA Charity Foundation. The 501(c) 3 committee has selected the following; Jeff Routsong as President, Mike Forward as Treasurer, Jim Mauritz for military, Fred Kaczmarek for kids and Ken Harrison for Scouts. Ken then asked the attending membership for a motion to approve the first charity BOD. The motion was made and seconded and all those in favor of the vote say aye and the ayes have it. The bylaws were written about a year back and need revision. After that then OSA will "e-file" our application, which takes a few of weeks. After filing we can use 501(c) 3 pending for donations while we wait for final approval.

Anglers 4 Kids: Fred Kaczmarek has received a check for \$5,000 from Fish & Wildlife. F&W has been very supportive of our kid's program. Question asked, where does the money come from? The money comes from the violations of the F&W regulations. Fred is finishing up the 5 scheduled trips and next month he will have information for those who are participating.

John DeWitt commented that when we give a presentation to the F&W, Fred gives the primary talk. I've been going with Fred for the last 5 or 6 years and in the last 2 years we've put our resources together. John's emphasis is diversity, girls and boys and we're the only club that promotes it. This is not to say we don't have competition for funding, but F&W applauds our program.

John thanked Ed Dennis for donating tackle over the years and Jerry Auerbach bringing in a lot of tackle today. John promoted the wearing of PFD when fishing in small crafts. He related to a capsizing incident which he had. Jerry brought in a new, never seen water, auto-inflating PFD valued at \$150 to \$200 for \$75. It was auctioned and Lynn Howell purchased it.

Ken Harrison addressed No Tackle Left Behind stating all tackle is welcomed, however bring only serviceable items or items that need little repair. John refurbishes and sells the articles with all the profit benefiting the community services programs.

Angler 4 Military: Jim Mauritz said We're on track for the 3 military trips, July, August and September. Two of the trips are co-sponsored by the Rotary Club. We will be receiving the first check from representative Ron Parker soon. Jim announce all the charters through the end of August are open to friends and family. When OSA gets their 501 (v) 3 designation Jim plans to bring back the remaining military commemorative coins and offer them for sale.

Angler 4 Scouts: Ken Harrison stated all rods and reels have been rehabilitated by Ed Dennis and ready for use. These 25 rod/reels get a lot of punishment with approximately 2,800 Scouts using them in a salt and sand environment on Fiesta Island. Ken made contact with Jeff Williamson of Pure Fishing, Berkley and Wayne Kotow of CCA and between those men the club will try a get a deal on needed reels. Ken will be putting an email out this month requesting volunteers to take the fishing equipment to the Scout camp on Fiesta Island on Memorial Day weekend. Those club members will be giving information to the Scout counselors and setting up tackle. Ideally 3 to 4 volunteers is needed for this task.

Conservation: Bo Bolender spoke on the lead ban topic, AB2787 which affects all who fish. Bo summarized AB2787 as being poorly written and obviously not by a fisherman. We've rallied, over 6,000 individuals followed the link on our web site and we had 25 or 30 large organizations, including ours, that wrote responses to the State. As a result, AB2787 was totally rewritten. There's a lot of science behind these Bills and AB2787 certainly falls into that realm. Funding source of this Bill is not clear. A study is directed and is to be submitted on or before March 2019 (assumed) to the Governor in consultation with the Dept of Toxic Substance Control, State Water Resource Board and other entities on the use of lead fishing tackle. The study will include lead impact on wildlife, rivers, lakes, streams and potential drinking water sources. F&W may enter into contracts to conduct this study. Translated means the F&W could hire a bio-diversity group not favorable to ocean fishing. Hopefully common sense will prevail when ocean fishing is addressed. Bo emphatically stated, most assuredly there will be changes to the contents of your tackle box in 2020. Hal Reeser commented that Oregon and Washington are ahead with the lead issue. Bo responded in kind saying some states have passed laws regarding lead and scientifically lead is not good for the environment. Bo will research what states have handled the lead situation.

Bo said his next topic will be the toxic waste dump called the Tijuana River. Bo will research it and get the club behind the cause. Bo mentioned we, club, used to fish that area, but you wouldn't now.

Wayne Kotow of CCA, CA stated the city of San Diego, Port of San Diego, cities of Chula Vista and Imperial Beach have filed a law suit against the International Boundary and Water Commission. This pending lawsuit addresses the Tijuana River and polluting sewage. Wayne stated he pushed the law suit to F&W Commission because it involved the MPA at the TJ River. He also noted not a single environmental group raised any protest against the sewage problem and stated this is total hypocrisy. This item is on the F&W agenda and Wayne has put the environmental groups on notice.

Dip Stick: Deek Takacs nominated Greg Thompson. Greg received this illustrious award for going to the wrong dock when it should have been Helgren's dock for the Electra 1/2-day trip.

Raffle and Lunch Drawing: Jerry Auerbach was the lunch drawing winner and received a gift certificate for a meal which is good for breakfast, lunch or dinner at Mary's Restaurant in Oceanside. Raffle followed the lunch drawing.

Vice President Ken Harrison adjourned the meeting.
Michael McIntire, Secretary