

OCEANSIDE SENIOR ANGLERS  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 4, 2018

**President:** Gerry Graf called the meeting to order. Sergeant at Arms, Ed Dennis led the membership in the flag salute.

**Secretary:** Meeting minutes of March had no corrections.

**Treasurer:** Mike Forward reported the Fred Hall Show donations were \$175 and raffle tickets sold were \$2,134. Last month's raffle, donations and picnic receipts amounted to \$2,800 which brings the Raffle Account to \$14,222. General Account with expenditures and cash in our end of month balance is \$32,143 plus \$1,900 in outstanding checks. The year to date income versus expenses leaves a \$630 deficit which is normal; the idea is to break even on this account. Mike said the OSA account books are open to any member for viewing.

**Program Director:** Hal Reeser reported the Fred Hall Show was a success; we raised \$2309. OSA signed up 34 new members at the FHS and those folks got a discounted membership for \$20. Hal thanked the 40 club members that signed up to support our booth. There were 9 teams with 5 per. Team leaders were Len Howell, Ron Casapulla, Russ Davis, Peter Rohrich, Fred Kaczmarek, Hank Maybrey, Larry Cusack and Ken Harrison who lead 2 teams. A special thanks to Ken Harrison for his extra efforts. Hal's objectives were met, which were; have fun, raise funds for OSA and acquire new members. A special thanks to Jim Mauritz and Dave Miller for obtaining the FHS door prizes. The prizes offered: 1-1/2 day fishing trip, for one, on the Oceanside 95, a Diawa rod and reel combo, a 1/2 day Helgren's trip for two and one 1/2 day trip on the Chubasco.

FHS Raffle prizes drawing took place with the following winners in the order the tickets were drawn:

- David Powell won the Diawa rod and reel combo.
- Brian Woolley declined his prize and offered it to an alternate.
- Dean and wife Sharon Patsko selected the Helgren's 1/2 day trip for two.
- Tony Blandres chose the Helgren's 1-1/2 day trip.

Alternates:

- Elan Lackey's contact number was incorrect, ironically it was Raven Cornell's next inline
- Raven Cornell won the Chubasco 1/2 day trip

Hal Reeser said the Oceanside 95 was damaged in engine refitting so Captain Rick Slavkin will be unable to come. In lieu of Captain Rick, Hal shared a story of his younger years calling it "night diving for lobster at the Anacapa Islands".

Hal began his story with living in Sacramento in the sixties, his wife taught school at an Air Force Base and he was an engineer at Aerojet General. He joined a scuba club called the Aquajets. The club traveled to Bodega Bay and Fort Bragg, CA to dive for abalone and spear fishing. Thick wet suits were worn for the 47°F water. They used long paddle boards to get to their dive locations. They scuba dove for halibut in the Bodega Bay channel. Because the channel was about 14 feet deep they had to stay very close to the bottom to avoid the boat traffic. One time he felt a sharp sting on his shoulder only to realize it was a large fish hook. The fisherman above him tried 3 times to haul in his big fish. No matter how hard he tried, his big fish, Hal, got away.

One of the Aquajet dive trips was to the Anacapa Islands to catch lobster. The Aquajets chartered a boat in Oxnard and were dropped off on Anacapa Island and would be picked up in 3 days. One of their dives was a night dive of which Hal had no experience. He didn't have a dive light so he made one with WWII surplus batteries, a 6-volt motorcycle light and mercury switch. When the light was pointed down it would activate.

Hal said they set up camp and scouted the area on the first day. Water visibility was excellent and we speared fish, saw crabs, but saw no lobster. It was decided to do a night dive for lobster. This was Hal's first ocean night dive. With their gear loaded on paddle boards they set out for the dive. Getting to the selected area, Hal made his first descent into the abyss. He found two vertical walls and dove down using his dive light. He saw a variety of fish but no lobster, but continued on his course and came to the "mother lode". Lobsters were everywhere. He caught one and all the others scattered. He floated up from the bottom, stuffing the lobster into a bag and he bumped his head. He reached up and felt the roof of a sea cave and his light only work pointing down. He said, "I suddenly lost interest in lobster diving and started looking for a way out". The cavern was very large and saw 4 different tunnels in the cavern. He thinks, "I'm by myself, under water, with limited air supply, a homemade light (it only works pointing down) and I see 4 exits and I don't remember which way I came in." He chose what he thought was a one exit, but became a wall. Fear was pushing confidence away when he felt current surge and swam out of that cave. Getting on his paddle board he shook for awhile, probably thanking his "maker". All the divers returned to camp with their lobsters and Hal shared his story with the mother lode and they decided to return to that cave the next day. This time it was daylight "buddy" diving. We used our anchor lines to mark our way enabling us to retrace our path. Once entering the cave Hal realized where he exited the night before wasn't the same way he went in. After the dive they returned to camp cooked their fish and lobster and the next day returned to the mainland.

**Social Director:** Ken Harrison substituted for Greg Thompson. Ken asked Jeff Routsong to speak about his picnic. Jeff stated his BBQ picnic is May 17<sup>th</sup> and encouraged all to signup. Ken reported last month's lunch at Grandma's Hilltop Hideaway Café was a success. Bo Bolender won the lunch certificate for that luncheon. Ken explained to the new members how the raffle for the lunch certificates works. He invited all new members to join today's after meeting lunch. Today's luncheon will be at Swami's Café in Oceanside. Ken announced OSA will be participating in the June 30<sup>th</sup> Oceanside Freedom Day Parade and hopefully we'll be close to the parade front.

**Membership Director:** Lee Wood has stepped down for personal reasons. Larry Knight, a new club member, took the position and introduced himself. He told new members to see him for club directory and membership cards. Directory email correction; Peter Kastorf's email should read [peterkastorf@gmail.com](mailto:peterkastorf@gmail.com).

Ed Dennis and club members congratulated Lee Wood on his 23 years of OSA membership. Lee's OSA resume' reads, Joined in 1995, Head Charter Master in 1997, President in 1998, Social Director from 2000 to 2012, President in 2013 and Membership Director 2014 to 2018.

**President's Remarks:** President Graf invited Bo Bolender to the podium to speak. Bo spoke about AB2787 and if that Bill is passed it will ban all lead used in fishing products, namely sinkers. Members can go to the OSA website and read the Bill in its entirety. In that Bill it also limits the size of the weights. Bo wrote a letter and sent it to the State Assembly in behalf of the club. The letter states that OSA feels this is an overreach in authority to take away our fishing rights and by limiting weight size. As members of the fishing community when fishing deep water we have to use 3 pound weights. Passing of this legislation would result in using multiple weights to fish deep water. Bo said he has not received any response to that letter. In meantime The California Fishing League has contacted him. On the front page of the OSA website there is a link to his letter and within the letter is a link to an online petition. He encouraged all members to sign the petition.

Wayne Kotow of CCA stated this Assembly Bill is very important and should be defeated. Many organizations like the IGFA and similar groups plus manufacturers are against the Bill. Wayne said we are in a campaign in three voting districts encouraging fight against this legislation.

Art Logan spoke on fishing line recycling. He emphasized saving all fishing line including the "tags" cut off from tying hooks. The tags pollute and some are ingested by fish. On every charter there is a collection bag for fishing line. OSA has been very successful in recycling line; recently we shipped over 21 pounds of fishing line to Berkley for recycling. The club thus far has collected and shipped an estimated 155 miles of line. Ed Dennis reminded members this a good time to strip old mono and fluoro off your reels and recycle it.

Kris Thorsten has returned from a long absence and was greeted with applause. Kris spoke briefly and apologetically about his time away. He wrote a book "Bridges Crossed and Yet to Come". His book of poetry is categorized with Military first. If you have ever "served", that section will bring back memories. He read a couple of his poems and some heartfelt. Kris is selling his autographed book for \$10 a copy. If you missed buying it at the meeting you can purchase it online from Amazon Books. It was wonderful to see the "Leatherneck" back....Oorah!

**Head Charter Master:** Jim Mauritz mentioned his last month's Irish picnic had 59 attendees and 10 of those were Marines. Jim thanked all who supported the picnic.

Jim reported on the club's first charter with Helgren's. Thirty went on the Electra for a half day of fishing. Amber, office manager, and the boat invited us on board with doughnuts and coffee. A good time was had by all. There were some tangled lines including one that Deek Takacs had before getting on the boat. This trip was scheduled for inshore, but due to cold water we went to deeper water for ground fish. Peter Rohrich won the jackpot with a three pound Bocaccio and was presented his jackpot pin. On this trip Jolene, the cook, and Lisa Marlen signed up as new OSA members.

Jim gave the charter signup report on charters that need anglers. Anyone seeking charter info can go to the OSA website, click on Fish'n News and get all the info. The 3-1/2 day June trip to San Nicolas Island was full, but two cannot go and we need replacements. Jim announced all charters through August are open to friends and family and reminded members about the youth trip on August 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Pacific Star got their license renewed and went to court, but did not get authorization to charter. Subsequently the Pac Star has been sold to MC Global, Inc with no name change. The schedule that OSA had established with Pac Star and the fees will be honored by the new owner. When Pacific Star initially got the violation judgment against them we cancelled our trips. Amber Duff of Helgren's then arranged charters to fill that void. Now that the Pacific Star is under new ownership we are able to keep the original charter schedule with them. The September 16<sup>th</sup> trip originally with Pac Star is re-scheduled as a 2- 1/2 day with Helgren's on Oceanside 95.

Jim was contacted by the Sgt Major, who gets the Marines for our trips, regarding an on-base open house. The OSA and families are invited to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Air Support Squadron on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Location on base is Area 32 and the event is free and runs from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (0900 to 1400, OORAH!). Jim handed out a limited supply of event flyers. Lunch is available for \$5 along with other mementos for sale. All sales at this event benefit the Marine Corps Ball. The Marines will show their part in tactical support operations.

To gain base access go to [www.mccscp.com/baseaccess](http://www.mccscp.com/baseaccess) and read instructions. The form contained must be received 7 days prior to visit.

Questioned was asked regarding tackle rental. All landings have rental gear. Jim has rod/reels to loan, but with a mandatory donation to the Anglers 4 Military program. The club itself doesn't have any gear to loan. Supposedly the club did have gear at one time, but it's nonexistent now.

**OSA Charity Foundation:** Gerry Graf spoke on the club vote on becoming a 501 (c) 3 charity which will be called OSA Charity Foundation. It will have its own BOD and will be the fund raising arm for the club. Presently we have donations being held for us and will be received when we get our 501 (c) 3 designation. Gerry mentioned Phenix Rods, Cousins Rods and Bob Porter's family as some of those donors. The IRS process takes two to four weeks using the short form. Larry Cusack stated currently we are a 501 (c) 7 and will remain as such, but ultimately will also have a (c) 3 designation. We are required to have a separate BOD which we have established. Nominations will be accepted, but have to be made one month in advance of a BOD election. The BOD will have 5 members with Jeff Routsong as President, Mike Forward as Treasurer, Ken Harrison for Scouts, Fred Kaczmarek for Kids and Jim Mauritz for Military. Gerry recapped saying the (c) 3 BOD's Treasurer is also the Treasurer of the (c) 7 and other members are those who chair current programs. Those individuals are at the pleasure of the charity President. The President of the charity is elected by the club (OSA). To formalize this BOD we will have a club vote at the May meeting.

**Anglers 4 Kids:** Fred Kaczmarek has a signup sheet for all those club members wanting to help on the five kid's trips on the Sea Star. There will be 3 July trips on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and the two August trips on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Generally a trip consists of 40 persons, 30 are kids, ages 6 to 15 with 8 to 10 supervisors plus boat crew. Trips start at 8:00 AM and returns about 3:00 PM. John Dewitt and Fred put the grouping together and will be contacting the participating commanders.

**Angler 4 Military:** Jim Mauritz said everything is on schedule. Jim addressed the new members saying there are side trips these are none OSA scheduled fishing trips. These are created by club members that go to various places like Alaska.

**Angler 4 Scouts:** Ken Harrison mentioned members have asked about surf fishing and anyone interested in that contact Hank Maybrey who has done a lot of it.

Ken wanted to thank all those members who participated in the Fred Hall Show that ultimately supported the Scouts to stand up. Ken gave credit to Hal Reeser for the FHS goals which were, have fun, engaged our members and community, got new memberships and lastly we had a raffle. People passing by the booth were asked they would like a packet of hooks to "hook" them in to help our program and to become an OSA member. At the FHS we engaged the fishing community and handed out Tootsie Rolls to kids. At the FHS my team really pumped up the Scouts and Bill Vogel was the greatest salesman at that.

The Scout fishing equipment needs some new reels and the best buy for durability is the Penn Battle 5000. They're expensive so will be buying 10 of those this year and refurbishing the rest. In time the other reels will be replaced. The fishing representative for both Girl and Boy Scouts will be at the May meeting to receive all the tackle from OSA.

**Sunshine Report:** Genie Hansen gave a report, but because of the personal nature they are not included in the minutes. The club minutes are online and subject to non member viewing.

**Old Business:** Gerry Graf referenced club clothing saying he had received a business card from a local vendor that may work with the club and will contact them. Gerry has ordered 16 hats from Queensboro and they are expected to arrive by the May meeting.

**Dip Stick:** Gerry Graf explained the why and how of the dip stick to the new members. George Ruble nominated Deek Takacs for tangled lines on the recent Electra 1/2 day trip.

**Raffle and Lunch Drawing:** Genie Hansen was the lunch drawing winner and received a \$20 gift certificate for lunch at Swami's in Oceanside. Raffle followed the lunch drawing.

President Graf adjourned the meeting.

Michael McIntire, Secretary