

OCEANSIDE SENIOR ANGLERS
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

August 7, 2018

President: Gerry Graf called the meeting to order and led the membership in the flag salute.

Secretary: Meeting minutes of July had no corrections.

Guest Speaker: Program Director Hal Reeser introduced Ph.D. Chugey Sepulveda, a degreed marine biologist. Chugey is the Research Director at the Pflieger Institute of Environmental Research (PIER) in the Oceanside Harbor which is linked to the Sea Center. PIER was established in 1996 and Chugey's affiliation has been since 2004. He is a So-Cal born fisherman and a research scientist with his focused primarily on pelagic fish ecology and fisheries biology. His research vessel is a 46' custom built Newton with a 500-mile range. Chugey and his group study the fishery by fishing, tagging and studying the various fish environments. His organization works with Pacific Fisheries Management Council and Fish and Wildlife Commission on multiple species. If the fish are within 3 miles of the coast, it is a state resource and those fish are; i.e.; bonito, yellowtail, sheepshead, halibut, calico bass. Beyond 3 miles fish like swordfish, tunas, ground fish, sharks and other migratory fish are a federal resource.

Chugey gave 'the why' of the 28-inch size limit of a white seabass. That size is calculated to be one year after sexual maturity and that data was ascertained in 1919, but we're learning that WSB maturity is closer to 34-inches. We are studying fishery designs such as drift gill nets in conjunction with the 'feds'. Gill nets catch a lot of nontarget species, such as mammals and turtles. We are actively developing new gear types to save those species. About 60 to 70 % of our research is done with state and federal grant money and we have a parent foundation that also helps. Our group is pro-fishing and pro-sustainable fishing. Mistakes were made in some fish data and our job to identify problems that exist. Our findings are given to the governmental bodies for them to scope, create logical rules and regulations for better fishery management.

We're working with the Oceanside Sea Center to build an outreach program and expand the floating classroom. We plan for a large aquarium featuring only fish caught on a half day trip for a teaching tool. One of our tasks is to identify funding sources and to build up the floating classroom program with a focus on kids ages 7 to 10.

Chugey spoke on the swordfish status. In 2004 swordfish tagging started with the intent to optimize the harpoon fishery. However, data showed they only bask at the surface between 8 to 10% of the time and some years didn't even surface. Experimentation with deep setting gear to catch swordfish was done to better the commercial method of summer months harvest. After the testing, this information was presented to the 'council'. They in turn test it under exempt status and proof the technique. We currently import about 90% of the swordfish consumed.

Fred Kaczmarek shared the importance of Anglers 4 Kids program along with PIER could better serve the kids in our area. The program gives kids joy in learning and teaching the skill of fishing for some who have never held a fishing pole. Chugey jokingly said "I also want them to know where 'fish sticks' come from".

Chugey took questions from the floor.

Warm ocean temps are up and recently the Oceanside Harbor was 79.9°F. The warm water is a circulation problem along with the lack of an upwelling which brings nutrients. It also has an adverse effect on the local fish species which prefer cooler water. Kelp will die off as a result of warm water and low nutrients.

Guest Speaker continued: Chugey addressed long lining and drift gill nets. There is no long lining in the California Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Worldwide swordfish are typically caught with shallow step long lines. These lines have by-catch and are non-discriminate and only catch 10 to 20% of the targeted swordfish. We've experimented with our deep-set long lines and with our gear 95% target is caught with 5% by-catch which was released alive. A typical long line is 50 miles long and has up to 1,500 hooks. Drift gill nets are effective, but have issues, the typical gill net is one mile long. Long lining is superseding gill nets because of manageability and cost. A typical swordfish gill net one mile long can cost as much as \$35,000 and not many are manufactured.

Bluefin tuna have been plentiful in our waters with some over 200 pounds. These fish are not sexually mature and do not breed here. Once they are mature they leave and go to the spawning grounds in the Sea of Japan. One reason bluefin are still here is the biomass off Baja is moving up our coast bringing these very large fish. Science is looking at the bluefin numbers and state their numbers are depressed. All countries are supposed to be reducing their bluefin catch in order to sustain the specie. Chugey believes the key place to reduce bluefin mortality is where they spawn.

Treasurer: Mike Forward reported the club received \$210 from the raffle, \$159 from picnics and a \$150 donation from the Boy Scouts. OSA has spent about \$7,000 on kid's trips and still have \$2,170. Bottom line we have \$14,000 in the Raffle Account. Mike praised Steve Hjelt for donating all the food at his June picnic. The General Account received \$600 in dues and \$399 charter income, which is very unusual. Expenses were nominal, \$250 for Harbor Days leaving net income for the month at \$306. Ending cash bank balance is \$40,600, of that \$40,000 are trip deposits. With all this activity the General Account stands at \$3,800.

Harbor Days update: Chairman Bill Colburn passed out the shift schedule and stated we need members for Saturday and Sunday shifts. Anyone interested please sign up and support the club. Harbor Days is September 15th and 16th. The Saturday hours are 8:45 AM to 6 PM and Sunday is 8:45 AM to 5 PM. Raffle drawing will be on Sunday featuring the following prizes; a ¾-day trip for 2, a ½-day trip for 2 and a whale watch trip for 2, all provided by Helgren's. Any person signing up for OSA membership will be given free membership for the balance of 2018. Bill mentioned ways to bring attention to OSA. We could have members holding poles with hookless lures, have fishing tackle on display, brochures, a banner and hand out business cards. Raffle tickets are 8 tickets for \$5 and \$1 for one ticket.

Social Director: Greg Thompson gave a glowing report on last month's luncheon was at That Boy Good restaurant. Today's after meeting luncheon will be at the Harbor House Café. Picnic news update; Greg thanked Steve and Cheryl Hjelt for donating all the food for their June picnic, kudos to Ron and Loretta Casapulla's successful July picnic. Appreciation was given to Felicia Scimo, Lee Wood, Ken Harrison for their devoted picnic help. Also, thanks to Dave and Julie Miller for storing picnic gear at their home and to Evert (Frenchy) La Barge being a tremendous help. Don't forget Jeff Routsong's pork BBQ on August 23rd for \$5 a head. Jim Mauritz will be hosting the first Bob Porter Memorial Fish Fry Picnic on September 20th, the cost is \$6.

Membership Director: Larry Knight reported that we have 4 new members, they are Ralph Ellis, Dion Robertson, Richard Reed and Doug Copeland. New members please see Diane Dawson for club name tags.

President's Remarks: Gerry Graf announced that fishing tackle and clothing on sale today. Anyone wishing to sell items at any meeting coordinate it with Gerry to prevent too many people selling at one time. Selling at the meetings has only one requirement, that you give 10% of your sales to the club which helps in support of the club's charitable programs. Lee Wood has the military coins for sale at \$50 each and the challenge coins for \$10 each. All coin sale proceeds go to club programs like the Anglers 4 Military.

Nominating Committee: Hal Reeser and John De Witt are the committee. Today we are to select the nomination for Head Charter Master. Per club rules the election of the HCM will take place at the September meeting. After the election the new HCM, per rules, takes over immediately. The other OSA officer's nominations will occur at the next meeting, with the election held in November. John De Witt gave a little background on the BOD and quoted from the OSA By-laws. BOD shall consist of 5 officers which are the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Head Charter Master. Also 3 appointed Directors which are; Program Functions, Social Activities and Membership. The officers will be elected at the November meeting and installed at the December meeting. One exception, the Head Charter Master which is elected at the September meeting and assumes the HCM responsibility immediately. At today's meeting we are seeking nominations for HCM. Jim Mauritz has expressed the desire to continue as HCM for 2019. John asked for nominations from the floor and none were heard. If no other nominations occur then Jim will be our HCM. Any candidate for HCM should be a person who will accept the position. Contact John De Witt or Hal Reeser before the September meeting for any additional candidates.

Head Charter Master: Jim Mauritz reviewed the July trips and gave reports on the following; July 2-4 trip was offshore on the Relentless, with Jim Mauritz as CM. Jack pot winner was Jim Mauritz for a 19-1/2 lb. yellowtail. July 17 trip was ¾ day inshore on the Sea Trek with Deek Takas as CM. Jack pot winner was Jerry Porter for a 3.4 lb. barracuda. July 23-25 trip was offshore on the Jig Strike, with Tim Johnson as CM. Jack pot winner was Bill Rudolph for a 17 lb. yellowtail. July 31 trip was offshore on the Sea Trek, with John De Witt as CM. Jack pot winner was Keith Russell for a 3 lb. 2 oz. calico bass. August 4-5 was offshore on the Voyager with Chris Bentley as CM. Jack pot winner was Greg Thompson for a 23 lb. yellowtail. Jim made a personal comment about the August trip saying, he's never seen so many dorado and yellowtail in one place, the water was teeming with them. For absolute details on all chartered trips go to osanglers.org, click on Fishing News, find the charter, go to CM column and click the **red CM**.

Jim Mauritz called the following members forward for their jack pot pins, Larry Cusack, Randy Brown, Lynn Howell, Jim Mauritz, Bill Rudolph, Keith Russell and Greg Thompson. Jerry Porter is one of the oldest OSA members and this was his very first jack pot pin, congrats Jerry. Peter Rohrich was presented a plaque for catching a club class one record of a 15 lb. sheepshead which Pete caught on the June rock cod trip on the Chief.

Jim announced the charters that need signups. Jim explained all these trips are negotiated beforehand for the best cost and we must fill these trips without cancellations. If we cancel a trip then next time that boat may not want to deal with us. So, don't be hesitant, sign up. We need anglers on the following trips; Aug 27-30 needs 3, Sep 5-7 needs 7, Sep 11 needs 12, Sep 24 needs 11, Sep 26-27 need 1. The October trips on the 3rd needs 14 and on Oct 14-18 needs 9.

Jim spoke on the problem of some anglers signing up for trips and not paying on time or cancelling. This is hard on the club and Charter Masters, so if you are not sure don't sign up. Members, the OSA Handbook Rule #3 states; "After signing up, anglers have 7 days to pay in full. Failure to do so may result in being canceled off the trip." Members remember, it is not the responsibility of the Charter Master to replace a cancelling angler, it is the angler that must find a replacement or lose their investment.

OSA Foundation Report: Jeff Routsong stated we have confirmation from IRS that we are a fully qualified 501 C3 organization. Which means that past and present member donations qualify for a charitable tax write off. But the club coins and support angler and scout programs.

Anglers 4 Kids: Fred Kaczmarek stated 4 kid's have been completed with the 5th coming up on August 14th with the Pro Kids. On the July 31st trip a 12-year-old kid caught a black seabass weighing an estimated 100 lbs., which was released. On the August 6th Boys and Girls Club trip a 45 lb. thresher shark was caught and will be on the BBQ tomorrow. Fred was encouraged by Chugey Sepulveda by expressing joining forces on kid's trips. Fred gave a special thanks to those members who have helped in the Anglers 4 Kids program. They were; Ken Harrison, Tim Johnson, John de Witt, Manny Ontiveros, Tom Connors, Mike Black, Jim Coker and of course Fred for his efforts.

Anglers 4 Military: Jim Mauritz report the first trip is on July 26th. Originally, we were slated for 24 military but only 16 showed up. Helgren's upgraded us from the Electra to the Oceanside 95. Nine volunteers and 16 military went fishing. Jim gave special thanks to the following volunteers; Peter Rohrich, Don Bomar, Russ Davis and Kelly Kissinger, who also supplied the pastries. A change has been made on these trips, now all volunteers pay all their trip expenses. However, all the expenses incurred by the military participants were paid for. The military were having so much fun fishing Jim talked the skipper into a little rock coddling. The second-place jack pot winner of that trip was a Warrant Officer and gave his \$40 prize back to the program. Jim also loans personal rod/reels for a donation and collected \$20. Also, Jeff bought a challenge coin for \$10. This money will be given to the Treasurer. Jim noted the passing of Forest Wright and receiving fishing donated from his estate which is to be used on Angler 4 Military trips.

Anglers 4 Scouts: Ken Harrison stated that 6,300 boys and girls Scouts participated this year in various camps. We donated fishing rods and reels plus \$600 in other supplies. The Scouts have had 7 weeks of fun and use on the equipment that we've supplied.

Dip Stick: No new candidates.

Raffle and Lunch Drawing: Jerry Hughes was the lunch drawing winner and received a gift certificate to Harbor House Cafe in Oceanside. Raffle followed the lunch drawing.

President Gerry Graf adjourned the meeting.

Michael McIntire, Secretary