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**Shrimp Boats Anchored At Cholla**

CHOLLA CHATTER  
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 CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.  
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Call Letters

2182	.....	Safety & Calling
2555	.....	Boat to Shore
2738	.....	Intership
2838	.....	Intership

**Citizens Band Radios**

Monitor Channel	.....	22
Conversation	.....	16
Conversation	.....	11
Conversation	.....	9
Conversation	.....	5

**COVER CREDIT**

The front cover this month was done by Dennis Bos, the 13 year old son of Bob and Sisie Bos, of the Tucson Chapter. You will see many more, of his drawings, in the future. Thanks for letting us use them.

**Cholla Bay Sportsmans Club**

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1972 membership fee is \$10.00 for principal member and \$2.00 for spouse and each sponsored child.

# Editors Report

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

AHOY THERE! Guess who's back as Editor, like a bent anchor? I'm happy that our new Council Chairman has asked me to serve again. It's a heck of a lot of work, but most enjoyable too. Feel my efforts, in the past, have been appreciated by most of our members. So, full speed ahead with the '72 Chatters. Keep those newsnotes and stories coming in.

Betty Capen



By Mel Jarvis

## Pleasure Travel For The Barkers

After 4 months in the east, we are preparing for a three or four month trip, in to Mexico. We plan to cross the Gulf, at Topalabompo and go to LaPaz. Since we have made the Baja trip many times, both driving all the way from San Felipe and by boat, we have made many friends and are looking forward to seeing them again.

We will visit our good friends, Phil and Peg Carlson, on the Tropic of Canserat Rancho de La Abrendancia and on to Las Frallist and the Cape. Then back to Bahia Da La Concepcion and points in between, back to La Paz and cross to the mainland and to Cholla, where we hope to see our many friends in April or May.

Pete and Iva Barker

As this is the first Spark and Sutter of the year and I have a sore arm, some bug or something had lunch on me. I'm going to make this short. As we go into the new year, I hope that each Cholla Skipper takes the time to understand his boat and power plant, that he carries some spare parts and finds out how to use them and a small tool kit, to get himself and crew back to the beach if necessary. Following is a list of the basic parts that can be installed at sea with simple tools to get you in.

Parts Kit ...  
water pump belt  
points .. condenser  
fuel pump  
coil  
extra fuel filter  
alternater fuse (if used)  
spark plug (2)  
distributor cap and rotor (if desired)  
parts may be added as to engine  
make and horse power and own  
personal desire

Good fishing, Mel



## SNORKELING IN CHOLLA BAY

Sometimes I feel like a lone sea wolf, when snorkeling around Cholla Bay and Pelican Point. I say "wolf" because the Mexicans call the sea lion a sea wolf or, in Spanish, un lobo. How I enjoy exploring the underwater life! But I wonder where all the other explorers and would-be ecologists are. They are missing so much so close at hand and so much that is interesting.

Cholla Bay and its esteros and beaches are a huge nursery. Tons and tons of food for life in the sea are produced here. The big schools of anchovies that look like a black reef are only one example. If you wish to explore with me, stop in at my cabin and go with me. My cabin is on the waterfront and is about halfway between Natch's and Oscar Newmans. You'll need swim suit, fins, mask and snorkel. If you are very buoyant, you will profit by wearing a pound of two of lead, around your waist. We may not surface dive more than 3 or 5 feet and if you are properly weighted, you can stay down effortlessly, thus conserving your energy and also avoid making excess movements, which might frighten the sea life.

Let's go! I like to start at about half tide and swim and float with the incoming water up the channel to the yacht basin.

Since it is easier to swim than walk in several feet of water, let's get down in the water. There are some fish, such as gobies, in 2 or 3 inches of water.

We've already disturbed a little

round stingray. He can't sting us when he isn't being held down. So we are perfectly safe. And here is a lone sand bass. This one is about 6 or 7" long. Sand bass is more proper than rock bass because he lives on the sandy bottom. His eye is so colorful! It has an iridescent green center and a bright orange ring. Otherwise he resembles many of the rock basses. He is in a depression in the mud and doesn't seem to want to move. As long as we have had such a good look at him, let's not disturb him by going any closer.

Well! Behind our flippers are 4 or 5 juvenile jacks -- probably pampanos. I wonder how long they have been following us. They aren't more than one or two inches long. I've seen them hovering under Hector's boat, Oscar's float, flating weed or under the physalia. As we turn and swim toward them for a better look, they swim away. Let's fool them. Let's keep our head ends toward them, keep our flippers at the surface and gently propel ourselves backward with our arms. Now these little silver-white fish follow within a foot or so of your mask. I like their tall dorsal fin with a black tip. It looks like a sail. This gets a little boring, after a while, so let's swim on.

Here is the outline of a stingray in the mud and he's not one of those small round ones, that waders step on near shore. He must be four feet from nose to tail. Just his eyes protrude from the

continued on page 3

# Snorkeling In Cholla Bay

bottom. A sand bass seems interested in what he is doing. The stingray is nervous at our approach and suddenly takes off in a cloud of mud. The sand bass darts toward the depression and gobbles a particle of something white that was displaced from the stingray. It must have been a piece of clam flesh from the meal of the ray. Have you ever wondered what makes all the round depressions in the mud of Cholla Bay? They are made by the rays in search for clams. The Mexican's call them manta almejas -- or clam ray. This longtailed diamond stingray, we just saw, grows to be 10' long and is found only in this Gulf.

Now we have reached the channel. Let's float with the moving water. The water is about 3' deep. There goes a blue crab. I like his scientific name -- *Polynectes pugilis*. He's headed for the estero. And there is a tiny bull's eye puffer. He's not more than an inch and a half long. We usually see these on the muddy stretch between here and the shore. And there is a three inch trigger fish!

Here in the channel the bottom is free of mud. There are many broken shells. Don't you love the reddish orange on the hurse muscle shells? Here is a sand collar that held the eggs of the moon shell. The sand dollars here are broken, because they have been washed in from farther out in the Bay.

Now the water is about 5 feet deep. Whoops! There are two longtailed diamond stingrays travelling together. They must be 5 or 6 feet long. It's pleasing to

watch the waving wing - like motion of their fins.

Now we are close to the yacht basin. There goes a school of pompano. They've travelled the shallow water along the sandy beaches and are now at the head of the Bay waiting for the tide to go out. If we had been lucky, we might have seen the big, silvery Pacific mackerel, up here in the estero.

Well, lets head for the cabin. Shoot! There's a pod of porpoises. They seldom come this close, where you can get a good underwater view of them.

If you have enjoyed this trip, please remember what I say, "Look and Enjoy, but don't Destroy."

Nonie McKibben

---

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and back from Cholla Bay.

Paul Colorich - Jack Cameron  
Club Members



The Council Chairman for 1972 is Bob Morris, of the Tucson Chapter. Everyone is looking forward to an active year, under his leadership. Officers elected to serve with him are: Chris Tatum, Vice Chairman; Mary Fran Taylor, Secretary; Bob Rumsey, Treasurer.

Committee Chairmen are as follows:

Search & Rescue  
Radio  
Cholla Chatter  
Const. & By - laws  
Derby  
Club Properties  
Bldg. Projects

Mel Jarvis  
Chris Tatum  
Betty Capen  
Chapter Presidents  
Doug Cashion  
Chris Tatum  
Bob Morris

Big Ten & Christmas Party Chairmen to be named later.) Business carried out during meeting on Jan. 14th.

-Radio: money allocated for VHF radio system in Radio Shack.

-Derby: Friday and Saturday May 19th & 20th.

-Bldg: Tentative plans to build a permanent building, for our annual Derby. (permanent installation of stoves and etc.)

-Const. & By - laws: Both Tucson and Phoenix Chapters have presented suggestions for changes in same. Committee meeting to be held before next Council meeting.

-Added the office of Vice Chairman for year 1972.

-Council meetings to be held every other month, in year 1972. The second Friday night, in the months of March, May, July, September and November.

## How To Fill Out Your New Membership Card

NOMBRE NAME  
 DIRECCION ADDRESS  
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 SEXO SEX EDAD AGE  
 ESTADO CIVIL SINGLE OR MARRIED  
 PROFESION Y OCUPACION ACTUAL OCCUPATION  
 LUGAR DE NACIMIENTO CITY + STATE OF BIRTH  
 NACIONALIDAD ACTUAL NATIONALITY

# Patty Says Thanks

On behalf of little 5 year old Patricia Bellerez, her parents and families of Cholla Bay, we would like to "Thank" Dr. Phil Lahr and the Staff of the Phoenix Baptist Hospital and especially Mr Blaine Lair, Administrator, for the excellent care that Patty received in January.

Patty, daughter of Hector and Graciela Bellerez (from the ice house), was burned real bad with hot grease, on her head and hands, in December. After 3 weeks, her hands had healed but she had a very bad infection on her head. The Doctors said that they could not take care of it, in Rocky Point.

We called ahead and talked to Art Cox, in Phoenix, who in turn called Dr. Lahr and explained what had happened. By the time we arrived in Phoenix, everything had been arranged for. Dr. Lahr had called Mr. Blaine Lair, at the Phoenix Baptist Hospital and explained that he had a little girl, burned badly, coming in from Mexico. Mr. Lair arranged a private room for Patty, new toys, pajamas and most exciting of all, a remote control TV. This was all done with "No Charge". Which also included her medical care

and etc. The Hospital couldn't have done anymore to help this little girl.

Within a few days, she left to go to Dr. Lahr's home, where I might say she was treated royally. She is home now and sounds like a magpie, telling of the big City of Phoenix, the Hospital and all the things she did with the Lahr family.

Words cannot express our appreciation.

## from The Presidents Desk

I received many good comments from our members that attended our January meeting, about the excellent program. Mr. Harold Beaver presented a talk show, consisting of colored slides, of his tour of the country of Mexico, including many old Indian ruins. The photography was superb and the talk very informative.

This program is indicative of the entertainment planned for the coming year. My hope is for larger turnouts at our meetings and more participation by the

continued on page 6

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Bob Rumsey, Member



I always look forward to starting into a new year at Cholla with all kinds of plans of boating and more fishing than we did last year. And if you ask Deb or me, we would have to say that to do better this year will be easy. Last year just wasn't our year for

Continued from page 5

## President's Report

membership. Bring a friend and attend the next meeting.

Good news for trailer owners at the Bay. The importation and duty question, pertaining to trailers at Cholla Bay, has been resolved by the Mexican Government. Contact Sr. Garcia, customs official at Rocky Point, for all pertinent information.

Let me again extend an invitation to each and every member of the Phoenix Chapter to attend the monthly general meeting. This is your Chapter and its prime function is for your benefit and pleasure. Many good thoughts are forever lost because of lack of participation. I welcome all suggestions and ideas and believe more and better goals can be accomplished if more members "become involved". Let's all work together with more fellowship and make this a banner year.

Dick Allyn

running and playing or relaxing, but look out this year.

Now for Search and Rescue and those that go down to the sea in small boats to fish the reefs off Cholla. Only "HE" can foresee the coming events, and Search and Rescue will be ready if needed.

Our radio operator has done a fine job this past year in taking care of her Cholla Fleet, and seeing that each one is back on his trailer. Search and Rescue had to be called in only a few times when the situation got too rough to handle by those on hand. Search and Rescue is also gratified for the ever increasing use of the buddy system, and every week end it proves its worth. Even the skeptics will have to admit this is the best insurance there is, to always go out with a t least one other boat. As we start into the new year, we are going to see more new members come into the club and also non - members coming down to the Bay and their first try at the big blue. It is the hope of search Search and Rescue that the first timers and new members take the time to ask a few questions about our fishing hole, to ask is to learn, is the name of the game.

This year we will be introduced to the new UHF radio system, as our radio chairman has the go ahead on it and I'm sure he's as anxious to see it in and working as we all are. This year as always we will be trying to improve our signal system and homeing lights for you boys that like coming in after dark.

Following is some of the aims Search and Rescue would like to accomplish as soon as possible.

1. Each boat fishing out of Cholla have a name and that name painted on its trailer also.
2. Each boat fill out an

Continued on page 7



## Search And Rescue

equipment list and file with our radio operator if they haven't already done this or update their card if necessary.

3. Each boat have the necessary safety equipment aboard and know how to use it.

4. Our Cholla skippers have the necessary knowledge of what to do if they have to spend the night at sea. I know that some of Search and Rescues hopes of accomplishing these things will have to be fulfilled by the skippers own willingness for knowledge of the sea. But it is our hope he will take the time to do a little thinking about it and have a system worked out with the crew that is fishing with him and has them checked out on his equipment and the type of boat he has and what to do if ...

Remember if you have a

question anyone of the Search and Rescue team will find the answer for you one way or another and don't forget there are any number of old timers in the club that can answer just about any question asked about Cholla.

Safe boating and good fishing.  
Mel ...

17th ANNUAL

FISHING DERBY

FRIDAY and SATURDAY

MAY 19th & 20th

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# Mackerel Sharks

Among the biggest, fastest and most dangerous sharks of all are two outstanding game species which can just possibly be fished in the Gulf of California. Both are mackerel sharks and the species to be seen in the gulf are the mako and the great white (tornina).

Reports of mackerel sharks are accumulating as more fishermen spend increasing time at sea in our waters. One large shark, an 8' 10" mako, must have surprised two fishermen and their wives by leaping into their Cholla Bay boat on an afternoon in February, 1968, apparently pursuing a just-caught fish. More recently, in May of 1970, Sea World of San Diego, fishing for specimens to populate their new shark tank, caught another 8' mako just 10 miles off San Felipe. According to Dave Powell, curator of fishes, they also caught great white sharks, 7 and 10 feet in length, on a visit the previous year. Great whites have now been captured during winter months from both San Felipe and Mazatlan.

Hooking into either of these sharks gets you one of the best fighters in the bunch. The mako's leaps are famous and the great white is known for sheer pulling power and tenacity. You'll be in good company, too, for both these fish are recognized by the International Game Fish Association and are pursued worldwide. Zane Grey caught many makos in his long fishing career and Ernest Hemingway, another intrepid fishing genius and sometime author, held the world record mako for a number

continued on page 10  
PAGE EIGHT

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## TUCSON SCUTTLEBUTT



Nonie Mckibben

As a smaller number of fish is caught, the larger number of sailboats on the water. Let's hope that the increasing number at Cholla Bay doesn't mean that fishing is less lucrative. I love to sail, but I love to fish too.

LIKE A WOMAN, THE RIGGING COSTS MORE THAN THE HULL.

WE RUN A TIGHT SHIP HERE! HOWEVER SOME OF US HAVE BEEN GETTING TIGHT TOO OFTEN!!!

In this day of ecological interest, you may be wondering what you can do to help preserve nature at Cholla Bay, maybe these few questions would help:

**-DO YOU EVER USE DETERGENT IN SALT WATER?**

**-DO YOU TAKE CARE TO PREVENT SPILLAGE OF GAS AND OIL IN SALT WATER?**

**-DO YOU RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO KEEP THE SMALLER CLAMS AND RETURN THEM TO THE GRAVEL?**

**-DO YOU BUILD YOUR SEA WALL TOO FAR OUT ON THE BEACH AND TOO STRAIGHT?**

Notice how the long stretches of straight sea walls increase the speed of the water flowing past.

This greater speed of water carries away the sand. A rib or point of rocks running at right angles in the beach retain the sand.

**-DO YOU REFRAIN FROM MAKING NEW SCARS ON THE LANDSCAPE WITH YOUR BEACHBUGGY OR BIKE?** These

Continued on page ten

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# Tucson Scuttlebutt

Continued from page nine

scars start erosion.

**-DO YOU EVER SHOOT AN OSPREY OR ANY OTHER KIND OF SEA BIRD?**

**-WOULD YOU APPROVE OF "FILL" IN THE ESTEROS FOR BUILDING PURPOSES?**

Esteros and beaches contribute greatly to the nutrients of the bay. Norway has a new law stating that new buildings may not be built within 100 meters (300 feet) of the water.

**-DOES YOUR CESSPOOL DRAIN ONTO THE BEACH?**

**-IS YOUR GENERATOR SITUATED TO MAKE THE LEAST AMOUNT OF NOISE POSSIBLE?**

**-IS YOUR CABIN NIGHT LIGHT ANNOYING YOUR NEIGHBORS?**

**-DO YOU KEEP YOUR CHILD FROM RUNNING HIS MOTOR BIKE BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH IN THE CABIN AREAS? OR ON THE BEACH FRONTS?**

**-WHEN YOU EXPLORE THE GROUND BETWEEN TIDES, DO YOU RETURN THE ROCKS TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITIONS, AFTER YOU HAVE TURNED THEM, TO LOOK BENEATH?**

Last but not least you and your children and your friends can learn to know the sea life of the area - shells, fish, invertebrates and plants. Awareness of our surroundings helps in preserving them.

**SAVE WATER. SHOWER WITH A FRIEND**

**IN THIS LOVELY BAY OF SUN AND FUN, WE NEVER FLUSH FOR NUMBER ONE.**

PAGE TEN

continued from page 8 **Sharks**

of years. It seems incredible that the all tackle record went to a rank amateur, a young New Zealander on his first fishing trip, who landed 1000 pounds of fighting mako in a few minutes.

Any shark with a flattened, keeled tail on which both lobes of the fin are nearly equal in length is probably a mackerel shark. The high dorsal is another feature to look for. These large sharks can be positively identified with a tooth -- one of the more distinctive features of their anatomy. With a

continued on page 12

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-Forest and Joy Cooley were made proud grandparents on Jan. 19th. The gloating parents are Tom and Connie and understand that she's a doll.

-The Stapely's are building a new cabin and really looking forward to it being finished.

-Wes Douglas is recovering from "open heart" surgery in St. Luke's Hospital. Hurry and get well.

-The Jarvis's have started their new 'XCasa', but starting with their boat house, naturally.

-Come on "Vezetti's, it's not too cold at the Bay now, just use a little spirit.

-Many cabins have been broken into lately and we are confident that Brown's patrolmen will put a stop to this.

-Why cook on Saturday night, ladies? They serve excellent food in Cholla AND Rocky Point. Their fresh deep fried shrimp is something else. HmHm Good!

-Nice to meet so many of the Tucson's Officers and wives, at the Council meeting.

-Talking of Tucson, can hardly wait to help the Derby Chairman, Doug Cashion. You can bet your last hook, the Derby will be a success, especially if he wears his hot pants.

-The Urban's of Phoenix have donated a large freezer to the Orphanage in Sonoyta, also took beds down. Anybody have any

extra food to stock it? Jim Urban, Bob Morris, Hal McKenzie and Mel Jarvis can tell you how to get there.


-What fisherman lost his pinto filets to a dog? Had them lying on his sandbuggy seat in plastic bags and the big brown Mexican dog just got up there, took them in the bag and all and run like a streak. Sorry about that, Dick.

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Continued from page ten

# Mackerel Sharks

photo of you and your catch and - or a tooth, everyone will be more inclined to believe your story. Ichthyologists especially would like to know more about the occurrence and habits of both of these fishes.

Although giant fish are unusual, it seems as likely that record fish can be taken in the gulf as anywhere. The 1968 Cholla Bay mako was only 8 pounds off the world record for 20 pound test line.

If you do occasionally break out the gear for shark, dig out the 20 or 30 pound test line. These are the weights where present records seem most likely to be broken. A 245 pound mako on 20 pound test or one 325 pound on 30 pound test would capture the world title. If you're ready for a really big fish, stick to 30 pound test line and hope for a strike by a great white shark - be prepared, though, if a record fish takes your bait, it will be 13 feet long and weigh over 1050 pounds!

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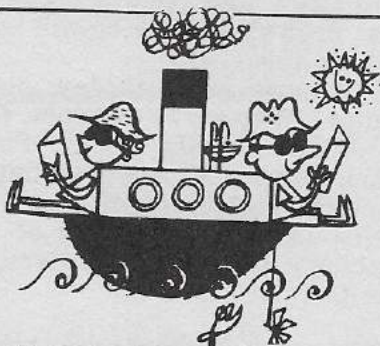
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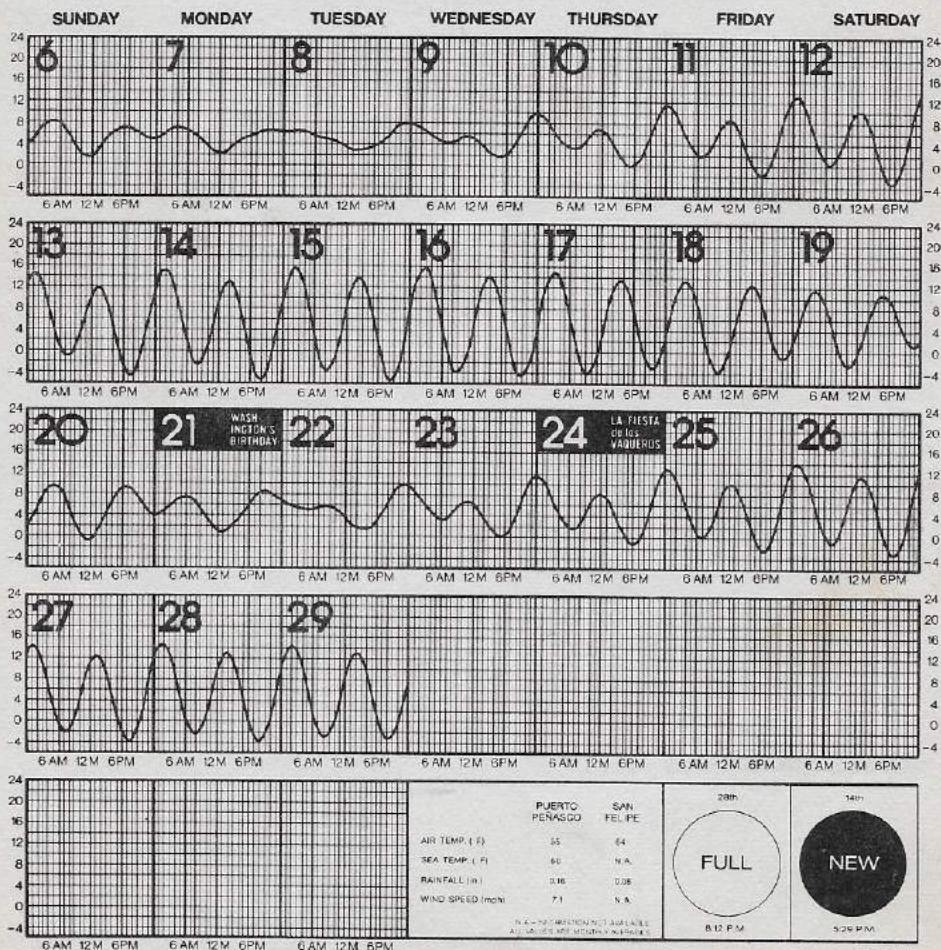
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