



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

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Yellow-Bellied Sea Snake Caught During Derby

CHOLLA CHATTER
Official Publication of the
CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.
P. O. Box 7171, Phoenix, Arizona 85011

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1969 Derby Chairman Thanks All Concerned

I wish to thank each and everyone for the help I received with the Derby.

I guess we had the biggest turnout ever.

The weather was good and lots of fish were caught and donated to the fish fry. There were lots of prizes, trophies and lots of tickets sold.

I would also like to thank the Mexican people for their help and cooperation. They did a nice job on the ramp, furnished cold storage for vegetables and furnished water for cooking and wetting the ground around the cooking area.

Let's not forget the merchants who donated the prizes. Let's show our appreciation by patronizing their place of business.

Again, Thanks For All The Help.

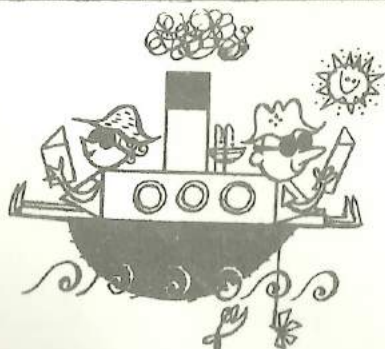
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-Wayne Wood

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Cholla Fish Derby 1969 Prize Winners

Grouper

F. 1. Sharon Klassen*	50 lb
F. 2. Owenbee & Underdown*	42 lb
S. 1. Nacho Bia	49 lb 8 oz
S. 2. Dean Fisher	49 lb 6 oz

Pinto

F. 1. Dick Allen*	18 1/2 lb
F. 2. Al Scott	16 lb
S. 1. Howard Ducher	15 1/2 lb
S. 2. Tony Boyd	15 lb

Red Snapper

F. 1. Mr. Rydell	11 3/4 lb
F. 2. Ralph Arbogast	11 lb
S. 1. John Pizer	11 lb 11 oz

Pampano

F. 1. Gene Henry	10 oz
F. 2. Gene Henry	9 oz
S. 1. Gene Henry	10 oz

Mackerel

F. 1. Bill Patson	5 1/2 lb
F. 2. Pat Ross	4 lb 12 oz
S. 1. Bill Sanderson	2 lb 15 oz
S. 2. Vern Wolfley	2 lb 4 oz

Rock Bass

F. 1. Vern Wolfley	16 oz
F. 2. Zimmerman	12 oz
S. 1. Bob Rausch	9 oz
S. 2. Jock Cook III	8 oz

Sea Trout

F. 1. Gene Henry	2 lb 5 oz
F. 2. Lehner	1 lb 1 oz

S. 1. Gene Henry*	3 lb 4 oz
S. 2. Gene Henry	2 lb 2 oz

Pargo

F. 1. Underdown	19 lb
F. 2. Frank Zimmerman	17 lb
S. 1. Nacho Bia	18 lb
S. 2. Arden Martin	15 lb 8 oz

Cochi

F. 1. Reidell	7 lb 7 oz
F. 2. Tim Dermot	6 lb 15 oz
S. 1. Roy Griffin	6 lb 13 oz
S. 2. Tony Chute	5 lb 4 oz

Dolphin

F. 1. Peg Allison*	1 lb 12 oz
S. 1. Donna Frazier	4 lb 2 oz

Shells--Beach

F. 1. Jim Woods	crabs
S. 1. Virginia Ludwig*	shell collection
S. 2. Leonard Pinnix	Melongena

Shells--Diving

F. 1. Bob Morris*	Pen shell
F. 2. Gene Smith	Basket
	Starfish

Oddball Fish

F. 1. Jim Bryant	Stone Fish
F. 2. Jerry Slosser	Needle fish
F. 3. John Cook III	?
S. 1. Dick Lehner	Midshipman fish
S. 2. Bob Graff	Parrot fish
S. 3. Jim Woods	Goobies

Most Unusual "Fish"

Doug Brand	Sea Snake
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*Trophy or plaque given also.

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Please advise the Editor of any donors that have been omitted and he will list them in next month's Chatter.

**** MAIL CALL ****

Your mail can be picked up at the Cholla Bay Radio Station. Address it as follows:

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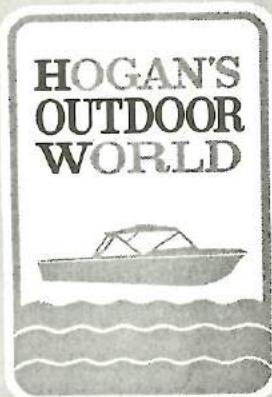
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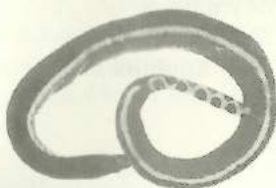
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Sea Snake Wins "Most Unusual" Prize



On the first day of the Fish Derby John and Doug Brand were fishing off Sandy Beach when they saw what they first thought was an eel swimming in the water. Doug scooped it up with a hand net and discovered that he had a very active snake. It just looked like it should be poisonous so John headed for the Cholla Bay landing and Doug held the snake down in a basket with the net hoop.

I met them at the landing and gingerly transferred the snake from the net to a bag with the aid of a pair of husky pliers. I took the snake to the Choya Bay Oceanographic Station where Mrs. Burch identified it as a Yellow-bellied Sea Snake, Pelamis platurus.

Doug was given a Polaroid camera as a prize for the Most Unusual "Fish" donated to the Oceanographic Station during the Derby.

Sea snakes are closely related to cobras and are very poisonous. They rarely bite humans, however, unless they are molested. They are completely marine and, in fact, are virtually helpless on land. Their tails are flattened and they are excellent swimmers, catching and eating fish and eels.

Sea snakes breathe air and have flaps with which to close their nostrils when submerged. They also differ from their land cousins in that the tongue is very short, and only the extremities of its two extremities are exerted through small notches near the front of the mouth.

The scales do not overlap as they do on land snakes and the scales are the same on the upper and lower surfaces of the animal. The skin is changed piecemeal, instead of entire; the casting taking place at frequent intervals.

Sea snakes inhabit the region from the coasts of southern Asia south-eastward to Australia and the Pacific Islands. Although often met in the sea far from land, they are essentially inhabitants of large ocean bays, coastal waters, and the vicinity of islands. This is shown by the fact that, although some fifty species inhabit the Asiatic-Australian region, only one, the Yellow-bellied Sea Snake, has succeeded in crossing the ocean and reaching the western shores of Mexico and Central and South America.

No one knows when this species reached the New World or how long it took to get there. According to Clifford Pope in Snakes Alive, however, the crossing was probably a very gradual one and judging by the rather wide distribution of the species along the coasts of North and South America, took place many thousands of years ago.

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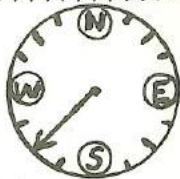
720 EAST VAN BUREN
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By Mel Jarvis

Now that summer is doing its thing all we can do is try and stay cool. For the first time in a long time, we spent the 4th of July at home and not at the Bay. Not only was it too hot but we had the "Debbie J" at home to add some things to her. When we bought her, we were in such a hurry to get her in the water so never got all the goodies on her that we wanted. I had a busman's holiday, I spent

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the three holidays working on our boat.

Now back to what I started to say in the first place, it's hot and if your boat could talk it would say the same thing. Not everyone has a boat house to put the old girl into at the Bay, but there are other things one can do to make it easier on her. Like covering the seat and instruments from the sun. If you have windshield wipers take the blades off and put them inside out of the sun.

If you have an outboard and use the 6 gallon tank, never leave the cap on tight with boat in storage, heat will build up pressure and cause the tank to bleed over. If you leave the cap loose the pressure can't build. On the old pressure type tanks never leave the cap tight when you're not using the tank; it can build up pressure that will blow the fuel line off and become a fountain. Some of the boys have the older motors that use this type of tank for kickers. If you have it stored in or around the engine compartment, you should check to be sure the cap is loose and not building up pressure. This could be a fire hazard.

Speaking of kickers when was the last time you had yours running?



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2 1/4" x 4 1/4"	18.00	15.00
1/2 Page	30.00	25.00
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Are you sure it will start and run if the time comes when you need it? Just the other day an old friend was telling me how he took care of his small outboard kicker. For over a year he faithfully carried his kicker with him and each time he came in he would put it away in the cabin. Then came the day that he had to use it. When he pulled on the starter rope he couldn't crank it over so the engine was frozen up.

In that whole year he had never started it once. The salt had done a good job on it. If you carry a small kicker on your boat, the best thing you can do is run it every chance you get. If you run it every time you go out it wouldn't be too often.

Don't forget to check the lower unit, pull the prop off and clean the shaft, put a little grease on it. When you check the lower unit, if you have taken out the screw with the phillips head, you have taken out the wrong screw. Sorry. If you do remove the phillips head screw do not try to run the engine until you have had it checked. This screw holds the shifting fork and damage could result if the fork is out of place...

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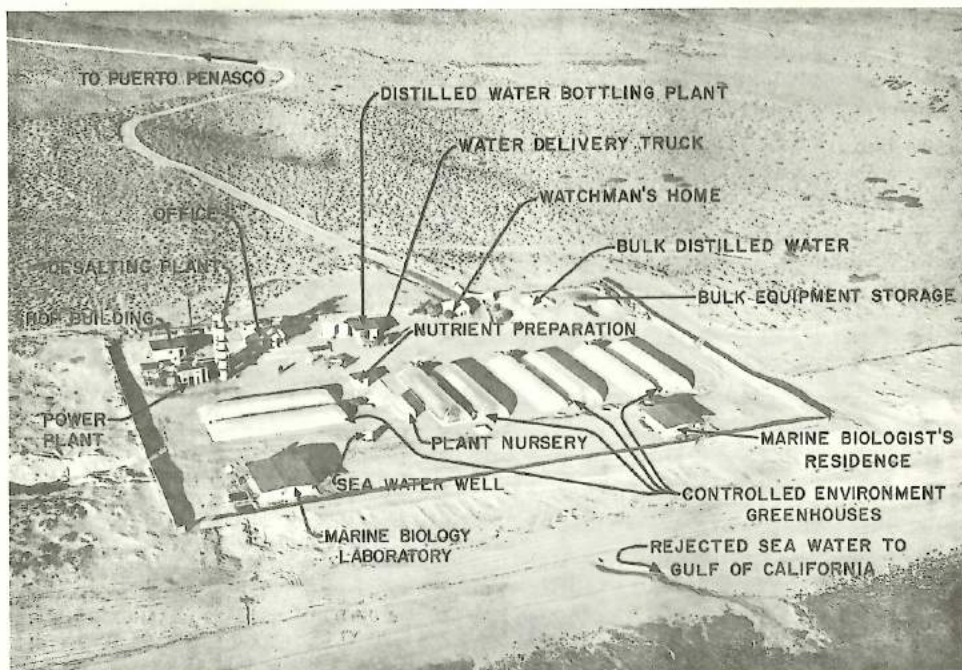
GULF STATION



"must stop" on your way down and
back from Cholla Bay.

Paul Colorich — Jack Cameron
Club Members

Research Program at Puerto Peñasco Providing Pure Water



The research team of the Environmental Research Laboratory, a research facility of the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the University of Arizona, Tucson, is developing techniques to provide coastal desert areas with electrical power, pure water, and fresh vegetables. As a result of an international cooperative program between the University of Sonora, in Hermosillo, and the U of A, in Tucson, a pilot power-water-food facility has been constructed in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico. Using a system developed by the members of the team, the facility requires diesel fuel, seawater, and nutrients for raw materials to produce power, water, and food.

The power is generated by a Caterpillar engine generator. Pure water is produced by a humidification-type desalting plant designed and built by the staff members of the Environmental Research Laboratory. It uses the waste heat from the diesel-electric generator to add the heat necessary for the desalting process. Fresh vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, egg plant, squash, lettuce, and peppers are grown directly in the beach sand in a protective environment provided by air-inflated plastic enclosures. Because these enclosures are sealed off from the harsh desert environment by a plastic film, the humidity rises to give a tropical environment conducive to

lush growth. Under these conditions, the water requirement of the plants is greatly reduced below that required for open field agriculture. In fact, the water transpired by the plants often condenses on the plastic film, and it can be captured and re-used on the plants. The temperature within the growth enclosures is regulated by the circulation of air through a continuous spray of seawater in a heat exchanger.

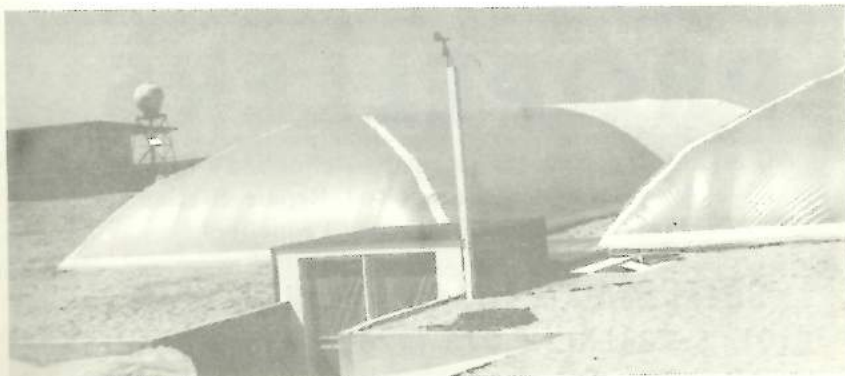
With the successful development of the Puerto Penasco pilot facility, researchers are now confident that larger power-water-food facilities will soon be installed in coastal desert locations around the world. In fact, the Environmental Research Laboratory has just received a grant from the Government of Abu Dhabi, a country located 500 miles southeast of Kuwait on the coast of the Arabian Peninsula, to build a power-water-food facility in that country. This facility will be approximately ten times the size of the Puerto Penasco facility. Like most coastal desert locations, Abu Dhabi has an inadequate supply of fresh vegetables. The only fresh vegetables sold in Abu Dhabi now are flown in from Lebanon and sold for \$ 1.50

per pound. When the power-water-food facility in Abu Dhabi is completed and fresh vegetables are produced, the cost will be reduced by an order of magnitude. Members of the Environmental Research Laboratory staff will move to Abu Dhabi to direct this facility and to train the local Abu Dhabians to operate it. The goal is to achieve complete local direction and operation by the end of 1971.

From: Newsletter of Arizona Academy of Science, March, 1969.



Strawberries in the desert



TUCSON SCUTTLEBUTT



ARTHUR SCHWARZ

Sorry a physical upset prevented my attendance at the Derby this year. I understand it was quite an affair and was enjoyed by all.

ADVICE TO THE OLDER MEMBERS OF THE CLUB. GET PLENTY OF SLEEP AND EXERCISE DAILY *KEEP IN SHAPE* SO YOU CAN DIE HEALTHY.

The following Tucson business men donated prizes to the Derby. When you are in need of their services or products, patronize them. They helped us, we help them.

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THE POOR IMITATE THE RICH AND GET POORER AND THE RICH IMITATE THE POOR AND GET RICHER.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will inspect your boat free of charge the first and third Wednesday of each month at the El Con Shopping Center from 7 to 9 p. m. They give you the results of the test but keep no copy for themselves. It's strictly on the basis of a personal favor to you.



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if living, otherwise to my estate.

Signed at _____ State of _____

This _____ day of _____

19 _____

Witness

Applicant

Along the Waterfront

By Homer Smith

The shipyards in Peñasco have fewer boats under construction than there were a year ago. The Montijo yard has three commercial fishing vessels nearing completion. Cabaralles has one, plus two 52 foot diesel yachts (both from the same basic plans): one for the San Diego Naval Architect, De Fever; the other for retired Phoenix industrialist, Ted Burgen, who, we are all grieved to hear is seriously ill at Stanford Medical Center in San Francisco.

Peñasco is favorably situated for the building of commercial as well as pleasure craft. Much of the lumber as well as propulsion engines, winches, propellers, etc., must be imported, largely from the USA (transported by sea food trucks as a back haul from San Diego and San Pedro). The masts, rigging, tanks, and the fitting are made here from materials produced in Mexico. The frames, stem, deadwood, etc., are of mesquite which grows...and... is cut locally...along the Sonoita River. Boats for owners as far south as Manzanita have been built here. It is a growing industry which promises to add much to future economy of the area.

Cholla Bay is unique in that it is



Shrimp Boats On The Ways

the only place (I know of) where there is a dependable "highboy-type" boat launching service; from your boat-house door to deep water... on your own trailer, of course. This method has evolved due to the extreme range of the spring tides. It is not available to trailer boatmen in the Bay of Fundy, Cook Inlet, Peurto Gallegos, Frobisher Bay, nor St. Malo Inlet in the Bay of Biscay... and needless to say is it even a potentiality in the Tisientang Estuary of the China Sea, or the Gulf of Penjinsk; all of these having tides of greater range than the Gulf of California.

This, of course was not always so: Back during the Tertiary Period

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(and for ages afterward) the Colorado River was busy carving out the Grand Canyon; and building the Imperial Valley, and the land bridge that is now the head of the gulf. Until then the Gulf extended far north of Indio, California and was an oscillating basin with a tidal range twice that of Minas Basin at the head of the Bay of Fundy... the world's highest! The high-water marks on the rocks to the westward of the Salton Sea are still discernable.

Early in the 1950's, Phoenix boat-builder Seth Smith (he and Mrs. Smith just celebrated their Golden Anniversary) and Phoenix printer, Bill Hammer developed (on different plans) self propelled trailers that would take their boats out and float them off in deep water... which, at times is one-half mile across the tide flats.

The first "highboy type" launcher was introduced by Tucson lawyer, Gaynor Stover which he named "Giraffe Milker". This was Friday, October 12, 1956. (How do I know? Well, Gaynor has kept a diary of events at Cholla in his cabin since 1952). There immediately followed an epidemic of launcher building. Soon, however, an enterprising Mexican started the service for a fee; and it was not long until the pes-caderos sensed that for the modest charge (\$3 USCY in and out) they could not even maintain one, to say nothing of the investment and the inconvenience. Now there is no less than four Mexicans in the business, some of them with two machines.

**Tell 'em you saw it
in the CHATTER**



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In Memorium

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Paul and Grace Metha who were killed in an accident on the way to the Cholla Bay Fish Derby.

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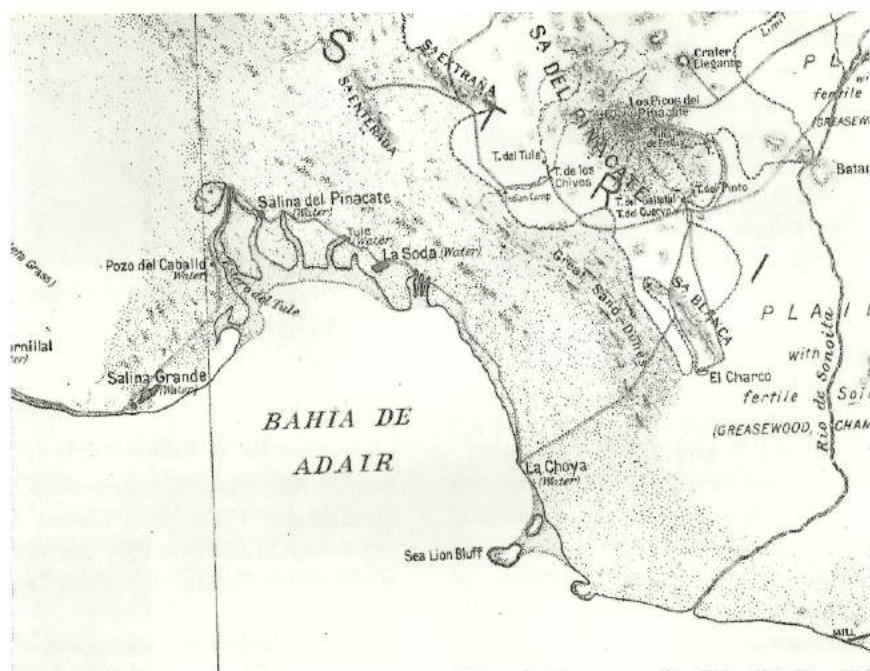
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First Recorded Visit to Choya by an American—February 1910



We started eastward in a chilly northern wind of varying force, which made the atmosphere opaque with sand and salitre, darkening the horizon and hiding even Pinacate from view. As we travelled over an apparently indefinite number of sloughs all covered with a thin layer of salitre, clouds of this stuff would sometimes whirl along and envelop us as in white smoke. It was a relief to arrive again at the beach which lay

before us in a straightline eastward. After a few miles' travel we reached an old indian camping place, La Choya, a translation of the Indian name of the same meaning and derived from the clusters of the formidable spiny cacti which is found nearby among the low sandy ridges...

A small low sand dune separated our camp by a hundred yards from the beach. There is little pasture here, and there was nothing from

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CHRIS TATUM TELEPHONE 624-2892

which to make a camp fire except driftwood. Several ocotillos made their familiar appearance on top of the low sand ridges, and near our camp were a few quaviri bushes; some very small chamiso, evidently another species, and some dusky sosa bushes completed the list of conspicuous vegetation here.

There was no doubt about the spot where water was to be found. A large hold had been excavated on the little plain on which we made camp and heaps of earth mixed with thousands of sea shells had been thrown up, but it must have been some time ago, for there was no water in sight except at the bottom of a deep burrow which had been made at one side by the coyotes. We soon uncovered water, however, but it was strongly brakish.

Four or five miles farther east on the beach two hills loomed up on the horizon and at that distance appeared as two islands, perhaps a mile long each, situated close to the beach. The nearer may be connected with the mainland and is probably a rocky promontory, at least at low water. Sand dunes could plainly be discerned there, and this was where the sand Papagoes used to kill sea lions (in Spanish, Lobos). The other may be accessible from this one at low tide.

From here I turned inland toward the so-called Blanca, which is south east of Pinacate, making for a point midway between its southern extension and a row of three large sand dunes that rose at some distance in front of us...

From: New Trails in Mexico by Carl Lumholtz Charles Scribner's Sons, 1912, p. 276-278.

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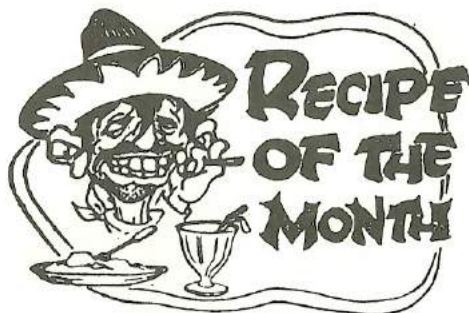
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- 1 teaspoon salt
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- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon pepper
- 2 pkgs. (10 oz. each) frozen
chopped spinach
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. fillets
- flour
- parsley
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup dry white wine
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup tomato puree

Bring 3 cups water to boiling. Combine remaining cold water, corn meal and 1 teaspoon salt; stir into boiling water. Cook until thickened, stirring often. Cover; cook over low heat 10 minutes longer. Remove from heat and stir in butter, cheese and pepper. Stir until butter and cheese are melted. Meanwhile, cook spinach according to package directions; season with oregano, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt and lemon juice. Dust whitening fillets with flour, saute in butter or vegetable oil until golden brown. Spread the corn meal mixture (polenta) on the bottom of an oval serving dish, top with spinach. Arrange fillets on spinach. Sprinkle with chopped parsley. Add wine and tomato puree to pan juices; blend well. Pour over fish. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

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