



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

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APRIL 1979

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1979 DERBY RULES

1. Each contestant participating in the derby must have a valid derby ticket and a valid Mexican fishing license before starting to fish. All boats must have a valid boat permit and must fill out a launch slip prior to entering the water. Fish must be caught with hook and line.

2. Classes of fish eligible for prizes:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| a. Grouper | i. Pargo |
| b. Pinto | j. Skipjack |
| c. Black Sea Bass | k. Flounder |
| d. Sea Trout | l. Cochi |
| e. Pampano | m. Sardinero |
| f. Mackerel | n. Leatherfish |
| g. Dolphin | o. Sailfish (see note) |
| h. Red Snapper | |

3. Judging and prizes:

a. Judging of fish for prizes shall be done by judges appointed by the derby chairman, with equal representation from each chapter.

b. Fish will be judged according to weight (except sailfish - see note).

c. There will be a grand prize winner for men, women, and juniors 15 years of age or under. Fish taking a grand prize trophy will not be eligible for any other cash prizes; additional prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place, adult class; and first, second and third place, junior class, in each category of fish (except sailfish - see note).

d. Prizes will consist of cash and trophies.

e. NOTE:

(1) In the interest of sportsmanship and to prevent unnecessary waste, the following special rules apply to sailfish:

(2) Awards will be presented for the first sailfish registered only, regardless of weight, for each division, men, women and juniors 15 years or under. Sailfish will not be eligible for grand prize trophy.

(3) In addition a special "Sportsmans Trophy" will be awarded to the person catching and releasing the most sailfish. The sailfish must be brought to the boat and released at the leader. This must be witnessed and verified by at least two (2) persons. Since this is an honor system type of judgement, we trust everybody will act in the best interest of true sportsmanship.

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4. Registration and weighing of catches: The scales will be open for weighing from 10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. each day of the derby, except Sunday, September 2, scales will close promptly at 5:00 P.M. Derby days are as follows - May 26, 27 and 28; June 16 and 17; July 21 and 22; September 1 and 2.

5. Derby tickets:

a. A derby ticket entitles the purchaser to fish all nine days of the derby may be purchased prior to or during the derby for the sum of \$10.00 per adult or \$5.00 per junior. Daily derby tickets may be purchased on the day you wish to fish only for the sum of \$2.50 per adult or \$1.50 per junior.

b. In either case, a valid derby ticket must be in your possession before you start to fish.

6. Jackpot tickets: Jackpot tickets will be sold prior to and during the derby and will be available to anyone wishing to purchase them. It is not necessary to participate in the derby in order to buy a jackpot ticket. Cash will be awarded to winning jackpot ticket holders. Winning tickets will be drawn at the Awards Ceremony. Several drawings will be made, depending on the size of the pot. Winners need not be present.


7. Fish fry and awards:

a. Our annual fish fry will begin at 6:00 P.M. on the last day of the derby, September 2, 1979.

b. The awards ceremony and jackpot drawings will immediately follow the fish fry.

c. Our fish fry and awards ceremony is for all to enjoy!! Everybody is welcome!

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C. B. S. C. General Meeting
Tucson Chapter

by Carol Scott

Hello to all!!!! This is my first attempt at reporting so please bear with a novice while she attempts to tell you members those things that will be of interest to you.

We had a lovely meeting and pot luck. Thirty-six people were present and enjoyed delicious chicken, salads, beans and a meat dish with gravy. We were pleased to have as our guests, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Don and Verlene Barber from Phoenix. We all sang Happy Birthday to Ken Kasten, who was celebrating his 7th birthday and we were glad to see Gail Kasten again.

Pete Peterson, our Council Chairman, reported that Mayor Castillo of Rocky Point has asked for donations of small shade trees to be used in a new park being built next to the baseball park. If you have any small trees, they may be taken to Mayor Castillo's home and he will see that they are taken care of. Pete, also, told us that Betty Munro is now monitoring CB Channel 9 for EMERGENCY CALLS ONLY. If you are unable to get through on Channel 3 with an emergency call, you might try Channel 9.

Pete Scott, this year's Fishing Derby Chairman, said he would have the derby and jackpot tickets at the next meeting. Everything is going according to schedule and he is expecting a very successful derby and hopes all will participate and have a good time.

Dennis and Sarah Holenkamp are still taking donations to the children at the Sonoita Orphanage. Anything in the way of clothes and school supplies that you may have will be put to good use.

Shirley Reid, with Ship Stores, has the De Grazia magnets and a new shipment of large T-shirts along with the other sizes. She is getting a bent back carrying that big box of stuff so if you have a need for any of these things, see Shirley at the meetings and help to lighten her load.

It appears that Mary Brown has found a new Cholla Bay in her kitchen due to a flood from a broken pipe. We don't know if the fishing is any good or not but it's sure convenient. Hope the mess is all cleaned up, Mary, and happy cooking!!

Our Search and Rescue co-chairman, Bob Courtright, advised us that it is unwise to back up over ones anchor lines. He has first hand knowledge that qualified rope braiders are hard to find.

Our thanks to Joanie Dernberger for the candle with shells and the wrinkled creeping charlie (that's its name) plant that she donated to be

raffled toward this years Christmas party. Ken Kasten won the candle and, wouldn't you know, Gene Reid, retired Director of Parks and Recreation and long time plant person, won the plant.

Door prizes were won by Annie Faulkenbery, Shirley Reid. Gail Kasten, Verlene Barber, Aileen Courtright and Pete Peterson.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting!

OLD TICK

By: Marie MacGill

In our neighbor at Choya Bay is an old hen.
I think she is supposed to be white, but the sun and sand has turned her tan, so shes not a very pretty sight.

Early one morning at the break of day I saw her chasing a dog from our plance halfway to the bay and back again.

She chased him under the bushes and over the vushes, and under the cars and over the porches. Finally from exhaustion he fell down and stretched out in the dand. This old chick jumped straddle of his baak and began to scratch, claw, dig and peck. I said to myself what could there be that would cause her to be so devilish mean. I stood there with my jaw hanging down wondering what this was all about. The longer I watched the more amazed I became, as this old dame kept scratching away. In the meantime the old hound seemed to be enjoying every minute of it. I said to myself I've seen it all. I tried to feed her some bread crumbs but the dogs beat her to them.

I hope that this old hen will settle down and build a nest by Easter. You see this old hen is a chicken and I named her Old Tick. She is the frst chicken that I ever saw that likes to feed on the ticks, on the hound dogs, and of course they don't mind being deticked.

I've wonderered when I'll get the news that this story was turned in reverse and the dogs decided to detick the chicken, head, feathers and all. If you don't believe me come and see for yourself.

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C. B. S. C. PHOENIX
CHAPTER -- GENERAL MEETING

By: Marie MacGill

I think we all enjoyed being at the meeting of March 14th. It is always so to see old friends and exchange a bit of gossip. I think it makes us feel good.

We enjoyed having our guest Rae Hoyt with us. Thanks for coming Rae.

There were about sixty people in attendance, but we are hoping there will be more at the April Meeting. The following people were there: Irish Hoit, Lydia Panek, Tom and Fran Johnson, Glen and Doris Davis, Bill and Mary Louise Hoffman, Bob and Velma Fulton, Gayle and Jim Salvetsberg and daughter Pam, Dick Harmon, Chuck and Betty Woodward, Frank and Phyllis Abram, Hilda and Jack Ebert, Dave and Teresa Conner, Ken and Mary Francis DeHoff, Wimpy and Jane Jaskowiak, Paul and Joan Vanover, Lou and Mary Parker, Joe and Roma Blunk, Harold and Betty Painter, Trudy Murphy, Don and Carloe Pound, Chris and Vivian Winegardner, Joseph Savora, Jerry and Bea Wolnoski, Ralph and Marion Barlow, Bill and Betty Waggoner, Larry Bridges, Mark and Alene Miller, W.L. Williams, Lew Beard, Elnora Westfall, Dondo and Verleen Barber, Jerry Nunn, George Rodgers, Bill MacGill and yours truly, and also Mr. Stewart. Please forgive if I missed some of you.

Ray and Shirley Hemphill showed us some home movies of happenings at Choya Bay. They were of the fishermen and their boats going out, and then when they were coming back in with their catch. Especially interesting were the sand buggy races bouncing around over the bushes and sand mounds. Also enjoyed the pictures of the party last year with the old black witch filled with goodies for the children of Choya Bay and etc. Thanks Ray and Shirley. Glen Davis was rather saddened over losing his fishing pole and reel with the 450 test line to a monster of fish on about the 3rd of March. He and Art Moore were fishing on the reefs and really had a battle with what they think was a big black bass that simply took the pole down under and away. The two of them together couldn't hold it.

On the week of Feb. 14th Bob and Velma Fulton took their Velma's brother Clyde Jones and his wife Lee to the bay for some fishing and had an enjoyable time. This 15th day of March they are going back with Oman and Deon Pascal and granddaughter Carrie and her friend to try their luck again for a whole week.

The weekend of March 10th Norm Davis and Ralph Barlow on Ralph's boat THE RAMBLER brought in a sixty six pound grouper.

Mary Parker, Thanks for filling in as secretary for Von Gottbreht who was unable to attend. You did a good job Mary.

President, Dave Conner was disgusted with his boat on March 10th; infact he didn't like it at all. When he put it in the water it wouldn't start, then he took the tack wire off and it started, but the drive shaft wouldn't go down, so he brought it back on shore and parked it at his place. When he arose the next morning and stepped inside the cabin he stepped into water almost to his knees, so he spent forty five minutes or more draining it, and took it home back to Phoenix. Better Luck next time Dave.

It was reported that Emma Kemp had been in the hospital, but was back home and doing fine. Also reported that Ruben Ortiz of the Cantina, wife Lillian had been in the hospital for surgery and was back home doing fine. You gals hurry and get going again.

Ray Hemphill reported that he is now engaged to wife Shirley. She gave him an engagement ring, a beautiful sparkler. Of course their 25th wedding anniversary isn't until Saturday March 17th, but Shirely never could keep a secret from Ray, so he's showing it off. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ! RAY & SHIRLEY.

Jem Westfall was under the weather with ear trouble and couldn't attend the meeting. His wife Elnora held down Ship's Store alone. We missed you Jim. Please get well soon.

President, Dave Conner said they took the name board before the Council members and are hoping to hear on it soon. Ask Dave Conner about the sale of the Derby tickets, I might not tell you exactly right, but I think there is a good deal on them. It was reported that only trophies and money will be given for prizes this year.

Wimpy Jaskowiak reported that at the end of February we have only 895 members, and suggest that we all try to get a new member. Just think how that would bring the membership up. PLEASE and THANKS.

Also Dave Conner reported that some of the council members are meeting with the Mexican officials in Puerto Penasco to see if we can have some police protection for the Bay to perhaps stop the burglaries.

Bill MacGill reported that the new power lines from Caborca are coming right along. Looks like they are about a mile out of town, so perhaps some day we will have electricity at the Bay.

We were pleased to have Tom and Fran Johnson (Dr. Johnson) with us at the meeting. They have been members about four years, but haven't attended very often. Thanks so much for coming, and hurry back.

Wish you could have all seen the beautiful roses Velma Fulton made for the Christmas raffle that netted \$31.00. They were knitted of angora and in a beautiful glass vase. Chris Wayne Gardner that came all the way from Illinois won them. We all thank you Velma. Jimmie Nunn won as door prize one of the purple hats that Betty Woodward made for Ship's Store. Paul Vanover also won one for wife, C.J. Pound won a tee shirt for his wife Carole. That took care of the door prizes. Chuck said he would ask his wife Betty Woodward to make a red hat for me at the Ship' Store price, as I'm never lucky enough to win one.

Since the press is waiting for the latest on the meeting I'll say so long until we meet next month: Please come and join in on the fun.

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PENASCO PRATTLE - By Maya

The big event in Penasco this month was the visit of Dr. Samuel Ocana Garcia and his lovely wife Alvita on Feb. 20th. Dr. Ocana is the new gubernatorial candidate for the state of Sonora, and his visit was looked forward to eagerly by the population of Penasco. Among the many problems, that happen, when a small town outgrows its babyshoes, like Rocky Point is doing right now, Dr. Ocana also promised to look into the complaints of Choya Bay, such as Police Protection, road maintenance etc., and generally to promote results in the near future.

Since spring is definitely in the air, and the fishing is picking up, we see more and more boats pulling into the bay every weekend. Nothing seems more disgusting, than to plan a peaceful weekend fishing, and have something go wrong with your boat the first day. But, take heart, Penasco now has a new boat repair business which, hopefully, will take care of your problems in no time. Comercial Maritima del Norte, on the avenida Madero no.77, take s care of all fibergalss repairs on boats or trailers, work on commercial as well as sports fishing boats, and are the local representative for Johnson outboard motors. The gentleman in charge, Sr. Alfonso Amillano L., may look familiar to you. That's because he has been working for the Banco De Comercio for many years. To find this new and valuable business, turn right one street east of the butane place (Coming from Choya) Comercial Maritima Del Norte is located about one block behind the laundromat on the east side of the street.

And talking about the laundromat, Sr. Alejandro Portugal informs us, that he will open a dry cleaning service, adjacent to the laundromat. No more need to haul your drapes and blankets back to the states. Progress is coming to Penasco!

Sr. Portugal, by the way, in also the representative of Seguros Bancomer S.A., an insurance company backed by the Banco de Comercio Baja California. Their insurance rates for homes, businesses and automobiles are very, very reasonable, and there is a very definite advantage to having a company representative right here in town, should any harm befall your cabin or vehicle.

And after you have dropped your boat off to be fixed, and talked to your insurance representative, and find yourself with a free afternoon on your hands, how about stopping for a shrimp cocktail at the "friendly dolphin" Hector Munros brother Renee (another one) fixes seafood that is out of this world.

Not only the good old standbys like shrimp cocktails and delicious fried fish and shrimp, but also some marvelous mexican specialties, like campechanas, a cocktail made out of everything that swims and crawls under water, turtle stew, ceviche and caldo largo, a very tasty seafood soup. The "friendly dolphin" or "delfin amigalbe" is right in the same neighborhood, about a block and a half north of the laundromat, across from the ice plant.

And to get some exercise, after you have stuffed yourself with all that good seafood, how about a walk to the new park, next to the municipal building? It is really growing in leaps and bounds, and all the flowers in bloom will give a feast to your eyes as well.

Even though many of us may feel rather nostalgic, remembering Pto. Penasco as it was many years ago, all the new expansion and progress are very exciting and new businesses and services are springing up every day. We sincerely hope that all of our american friends become a permanent part of the growth of Rocky Point, and take advantage of the services and opportunities our town has to offer.

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NEWS FROM THE LAUNCHING RAMP

BY

Betty Munro

Finally we are getting in some good fish. Earle McDermid and his wife, Janet, launched their Pandango and Earle caught a 47 lb grouper. "Same thing happened the trip before," quipped Earle such luck.

Norman Lavalley, Shirley Hopka and Joan Yerex jumped aboard the Water Way To Go and headed out to the happy fishing grounds. Champion Joan caught 16 shark, which they love to eat, Norman got a pinto and Shirley ... well. Shirley just doesn't want to talk about it.

Walt Shanahan let his buddy Tony Kenny and guide Nackito take his ME TOO out. Tony caught a nice grouper and a couple pinto. Walt knows now he should have gone fishing with them.

Charles Willmer and friends caught a beaut but were deprived of an audience. They got their Blue Fish to port just before dusk and the crowd had left the beach when they threw off a 70 lb grouper. When I asked the group who caught it they all piped in, "WE DID" so I guess it was group cooperation.

That Gene McFarland group did it again.. this time they brought in a 9 ft. 100 lb thresher shark. Most of us here had just witnessed a showing of Jaws II at the Penasco movie house and then to have Gene bring a real one in made the movie all the more real. Glad that baby is on shore.. one less 'Jaws' in the water.

Slim and EmmaLou Kemp are showing off their new "Emma Lou". Its a 25 ft. Albin.. made in Sweden. They really gave it a good try out..first weekend here and they used it for Search and Rescue. Al Mangino and Jack Machmer had coil problems with their Party Time and were forced to spend a night on the sea. Next day when the Emma Lou found them they replaced the coil and headed back to Choya but things weren't that simple for Party Time.. she ran out of gas. This time Slim couldn't help because the new Emma Lou is a diesel. So.. the Emma Lou took them in tow and brought them in. Pretty good for a maiden voyage.

Ray and Bill Sanderson to-1 the Vagabond to Bird Island. They had a beautiful day on the water even though it was a little choppy for the return trip. Adeline and Mary spent the day in Choya rather than make the trip. Some one has to stay on shore and wish these fishermen back.

Reading Bill Valentines article last month I had to agree with him that the pinto is almost a rare catch any more. Last year so few were brought in. This year looks better though. Almost every weekend four or five have been caught. Bill and Bee Flager caught a couple nice ones while fishing aboard their Bill-Bee. Bill had to confess..Bee caught both of them. Anyhow there's hope.

Understand the father of George Rodgers and Roma Blunk celebrates his 90th birthday March 21st. Roma says her father still bowls and plays golf and out does the whole family. That's a lot of Birthdays to have under ones belt..so a very happy 90th to you, Sr. Rodgers.

Our very special Phil Hunziker has his 70th creeping up on him this month, also you can bet his Choya friends are getting ready to celebrate it with him.

I know one of our social reporters will write about the anniversary party the Grubers had at the bay but I would like to say it sure was nice to celebrate their first wedding anniversary with Skip and Vera.. All the best wishes and blessings for many, many more.

John and Evelyn have hung up the Texaco gas pumps and have retired to Choya Bay. Now they can really enjoy their new oceanside home to the fullest. Their Texaco buld station was located in snowy Pintop, Arizona and as John said,"I'm not ever going to pick up another shovel of snow again". It seems they had an extra snowy winter and now the miles and miles of sand and sunshine really look great to them.

The John Hoskins from Las Cruces New Mexico are spending some time here. John is recuperating from kidney surgery and looking great. Gladys is busy as a bee getting new Mexican tile laid in their cabin and getting ready to show it off to the gals as she is hostess for the bingo game this week.

The Odles from Payson have the Choya Bay Bug. First a boat and now a new cabin. They first bought the old Debbie J and now they have bought Mel and Debbie's cabin. Most of us have at one time or another been to Mel and Debbie's place so we know the Odle's ended up with one beautiful spot. Mel promises not to forget us and will return in their new motor home. Mel got the racing bug and wants to follow them for awhile. We will certainly miss them because they have been a big part of us for so long a time. We wish them luck and happiness with their new found fun and hope the Odles find happiness here.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - PHOENIX CHAPTER

Our first meeting, with your new officers aboard, had a good turnout with a lot of audience participation that created a very enjoyable evening. We have a greeting committee to encourage new members and visitors to attend and hope to present an interesting entertainment program each month. Remember, this is your Chapter - attend the monthly meetings to stay informed on club activities, interests and concerns. Above all, your new board needs your input, your concerns, your constructive criticism and even a pat on the back once in awhile. The word this year is UNITY - let's work for it.

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By Bill Valentine

No matter how skillful an angler you happen to be, you'll find that its pretty hard to catch a fish if he isn't there. I've sadly watched the waters adjacent to Cholla Bay gradually become depleted throughout the passing years, as heavier and heavier pressure was brought to bear by both the sport and commercial fishermen. The resident (as opposed to migratory) fish, such as the pinto and grouper, are becoming harder and harder to find simply because dang near all of their hiding places have been discovered by far ranging Cholla Bay fishermen and consequently, have ended up as filets. Another thing helping to cut into the grouper and pinto population, is, of all things, the duck-toothed triggerfish. A few anglers keep cotchis for the table, but the majority of these pesky baitstealers are contemptuously tossed back overboard as they are caught to go on back to the bottom, while every pinto or grouper boated is automatically eliminated as a resident of the particular reef he's taken from. It doesn't take much brainwork to see what soon happens to that reef. The poor non-triggerfish are soon up to their fin-pits with these super aggressive scavengers, which undoubtedly feed on the vulnerable fry and eggs of the few pinto and grouper and before long, nothing but cotchis are left. There are two bright spots in the Cholla Bay picture, however. One is the fact that pinto do not necessarily need the huge boulders and sheer cliffs for their homes, like the grouper seem to prefer, but instead, can survive quite nicely on a rock strewn bottom-- which, incidently, aren't that noticeable on the average depth finder. What I'm saying is, that there is still a lot of good pinto cover that has not been worked over like the more apparent reefs (14-18-22-24 mile, for instance). Another bright spot for the Cholla Bay fishermen, is the fact that quite a few migratory fish like to visit the area but wouldn't want to live there. Bottom dwellers, such as the powerful giant black seabass, tough fighting sardinerero, and Colorado red snapper, as well as pargo, will annually slip into the reef grazing areas for a 3 to 6 month stay, giving the Cholla angler all of the line stretching sport he can handle. Likewise, super gamefish, like the California white seabass, yellowfin corvina, Pacific sailfish, skipjack and dolphin migrate into the upper gulf regions furnishing the absolute ultimate sport available for a dedicated light tackle fisherman. So, sportsfans, obviously the secret to success, is to just be at the right place at the right time. Then, with even my kind of luck, you'll wobble onto a couple a keepers.

WHEN THE WIND BLEW

In the early 50's the hardy inhabitants of Cholla Bay would finally get to Penasco late Friday night. We crossed the railroad tracks at the Playa Hermosa crossing and then "Deadeyed" toward Cholla. The road was two tire track, which if the wind had been blowing, had a tendency to completely get lost. There were a few pull-outs where cars could pass. Now more than likely on the trip into the Bay you came to a friend stuck in the sand. Together you would get both vehicles going, and if your luck held one or other of you would only get stuck a couple more time before you finally reached Cholla. More often, however, you caught up with another fisherman stuck. Now this made easy going because now you had three groups to play "you push me and I'll push you".

Get togethers were held on Bill Hammer's porch. They were held when the same winds we experience now kept us on shore. During one particularly incliment week-end. The "Porch Group" became very determined to improve conditions at Cholla Bay for the benefit of all who enjoyed the place.

Bill Blair came up with the necessary parts, Paul Schoonover and Al Scott working working nights, built the "Push me - Pull you" as you see it in the snap shot.

A few trips later after working the Push me -Pull you" we had created a highway where only occassionally would you need a friend to get you out of the sand.

One of the next projects proposed was to build a Rock Wall down by the boat landing. This retained the sand so that you could get your boat from the present Ice House to the landing. We launched in those days without the benefit of the Launcher Boys. That wall is now almost obliverated, but it still keeps the road passable for all the traffic that has used it for over twenty years.

About this time the Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club was formed, acting as RamRod was Al Scott. News from the bay needed to be distributed so the "Chatter" was published. These early meetings had the same determination to improve conditions at Cholla Bay for the benefit of all who came to enjoy a weekend of relaxation. Most of the club members expected to work on some club project if the wind blew. By working together for the benefit of all a comrade ship was formed that is established in no other way.

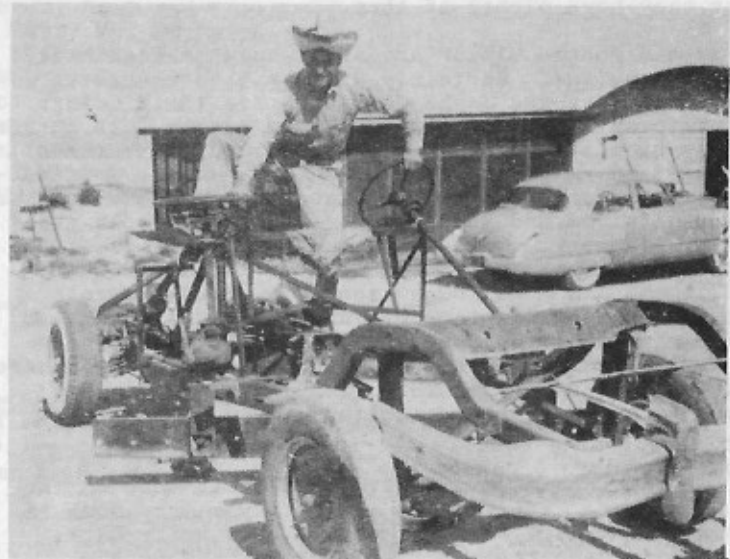
The road was built. The sea wall was in place. The ramp was improved. We had a radio and radio room, Search and Rescue Committee and one hell of a good organization "The Cholla Bay Sportsmen Club".

I do not mean to infer that since those early days of the club we haven't had many dedicated, hard working individuals guiding our club to it's present status. But from one who has never attended a meeting other than the first few on Bill Hammers porch. I see an organization that, to me, has deviated from it's original position and purpose.

Perhaps it is time for our club, with the help of the council and all members, to get "unstuck" from the sand it has become bogged in. And make a determined effort to improve conditions for the benefit of all.

Lets get the attitude of "YOU PUSH ME AND I'LL PULL YOU" active in the C.B.S.C. active again.

Phil Hunziker



HAPPENINGS AT PELICAN POINT

IN CHOLLA BAY

By: Marie MacGill

The other evening we were treated to a beautiful sight, as the twinkling lights on the seaward bound shrimpers were pushed along by the chug! chug! of their diesels that echoed over the quiet waves. This indeed was a beautiful sight.

I have never seen more beautiful weather at the Bay than what they have had there the past few days of around March 10th: was sad to leave it all behind and return home.

Everyone seemed to be busy doing things to beautify their place and meeting friends. John and Jene Caronto were busy doing odd jobs around their cottage on Pelican Point. Ray and Shirley Haenfler were so busy that I didn't even get to say hello to them. All and Claudette Owens with daughter Laura and her friend Couttney Flynn were down and took their boat NO NAME out to the reefs and caught some mackrel. Then they were busy doing things on their house. And of course Bob and Thelma Lounsbury were there. They went fishing with the Owens. Was so nice having them down this time. They are most always busy putting their talents to work. And believe you me they have plenty of them.

Ed and Bonnie Gibson are still busy making their cottage beautiful. Certainly will be nice when its finished. Wimpy and Jayne Jaskowiak are still doing things to beautify their place. I can hardly wait to see how very nice its going to be. I noticed the workmen were still busy on Vern and Betty Groves casa. Construction is going on all over the place. Stopped by and had a visit with Joe and Roma Blunk. Joe still looks great after his surgery. Saw Audrey Panek and friends at the bay this past week end of the 10th of March. Jim Westfall and Jim McCullough stopped by Betty Munro's place to drop the Chatters off and we got to say hello to them when we stopped by. Dave and Theresa Conners were down with their family. Vi Schmerfeld is back home at the bay after her recovery from surgery. Don and Verlene Barber were there tooling around in their new van.

Mel and Debbie Jarvis have sold their home on the bay. I am sure that we will all miss you very much if you don't come back with us Mel. Please hurry back. Mr. Bob Odle made the purchase from Mel and Debbie. Welcome with us Mr. Odle!

As I mentioned in the March issue of the Chatter, I found out that the little cripple boy's name that Perry and May Ooten gave the wheel chair to was Jesus Flores Amezcua. From what I have heard the wheel chair brought much joy to this little fella and his family and friends, in fact great tears of joy. Wonder how you could thank anyone enough for so gracious a gift?

Many of our friends and neighbors at the bay have and are still being kept away, as the flu bug is still flitting around. Eleanor Westfall couldn't go this past weekend because of it.

As Betty Munro would say, a little sea gull told me that Phil Hunziker is having a birthday some time during the month of March. HAPPY BIRTHDAY PHIL!

Skip and Vera Gruber celebrated their first wedding anniversary Saturday March 10th at their place in Choya Bay, and what a party it was. Champagne punch and lots of goodies including tamales and beans were served. The music for dancing was by Mexican Marieches that was superb. Their guests included Skip's father Mr. John Gruber, his aunt Virginia and husband Mike Acosta, Vera's daughter Snookie and her husband Todd Roberts and their children Renee and Daniella, also Butch and Ethel Heldt, Don and Cora Burwell, Robert Hudson, Merle E. Sirheim, Jeanne Anderson, Maxine Staley, Phill and Jane Hunziker Phil Stetez, Paul and Elizabeth Raffett, George and Olive Bleuel, Marty and Ed Perlmutter, Pauline Murphy, Virgie Burris, Thelma Brown, John and Grace Pirma, Beverly Knaak, Audrey Panek for George and Lydia Panek that was unable to attend, and her friend Richard Nelson and his two friends that I failed to obtain their names, Vi Schmerfeld, Hector and Betty Munro, Yours truly and Bill MacGill. SKIP AND VERA, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR KIND HOSPITALITY!

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THE SEA GULLS

by: Mary Fran Taylor

In Cholla there are five species of gulls we could be seeing. Three species are predominate--the Western Gull, the Herring Gull, and the California Gull. The other two that could be occasional visitors are the Ring-Billed Gull and the Heerman's Gull.

The gulls are long winged birds of superb flight. The bills are slightly hooked, and the tails square-tipped or rounded. They seldom dive as do the terns--and they swim as the terns seldom do. They are omnivorous.

As with the pelicans the color of the gull denotes age and not sex. The first year birds in all species are mottled dark brown. They then shade into lighter coloring the second year and adult coloring the third year.

The Western Gull is the most easily recognized. His back and wings are dark slate colored. His head and tail are white. He is the darkest of the gulls south of Alaska except for the smaller Heerman's. (The tail of the Heerman's is dark and tipped with white.) He is common along outer beaches--seldom seen inland. His legs are flish, or yellow colored. His length 21", and width 55".

The Herring Gull as an adult can be identified from other species by his larger size, heavier build, and pink legs. His back and wings are light grey, the wings tipped in black. The primaries and secondaries of the wing are edged in white. The first year Herring is identified by an all dark bill. The Herring is primarily a scavenger, but can break mollusks by dropping them. His length 20", width 55".

The California is marked almost identical to the Herring. He is smaller and has green legs. The bill of the first year bird is pinkish with a dark tip. The bill of the adult has a small red spot as well as a black one on the lower mandible. Length 17", Width 52".

The Ring-Billed Gull is easily distinguished by a black ring on the yellow bill. He has greenish-yellow legs. Length 16", width 49". He is the common gull inland. The immature bird is told from the Herring and the California by the narrow black tail band.

The Heerman's Gull is rare inland and common on the West Coast. He is the darkest of the gulls and the only species that is uniformly dark below. The bill is red, the tail is black. The immature is recognizable by the narrow white terminal band and the blackish underparts.

Now that we are all sufficiently confused see if you can recognize one or two species.

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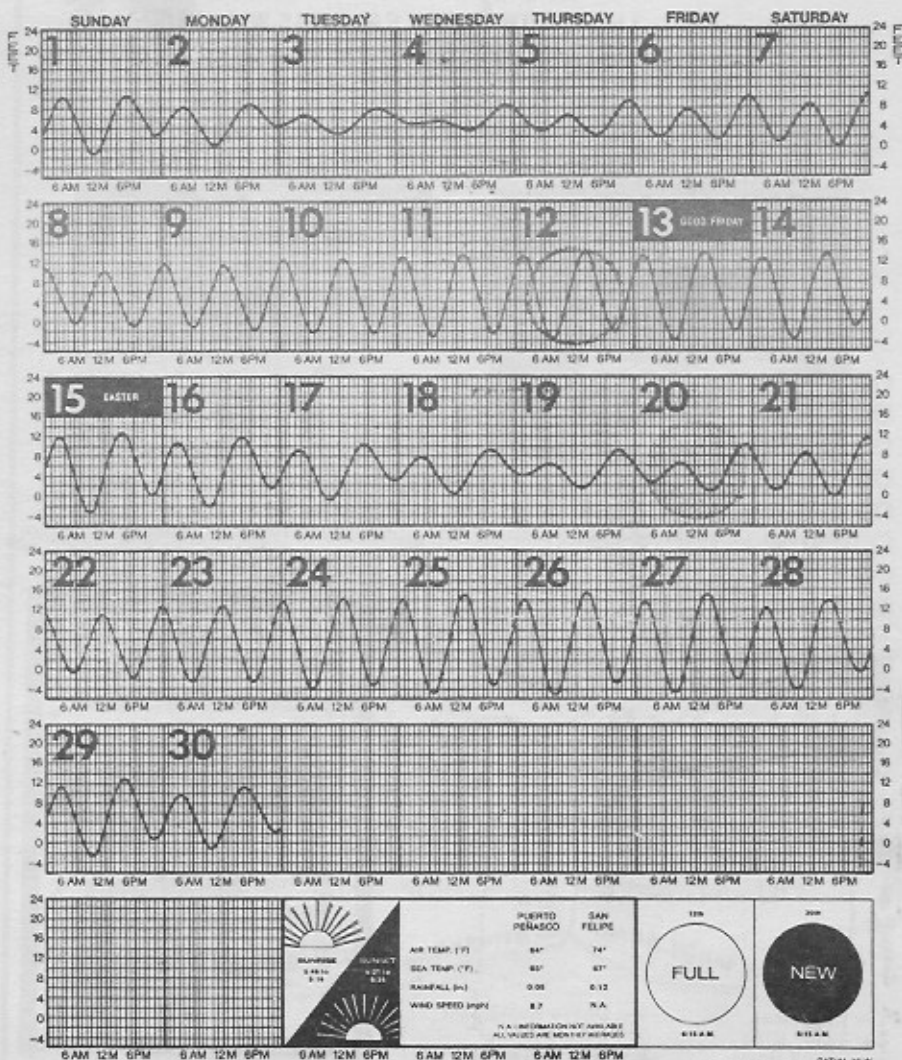
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