



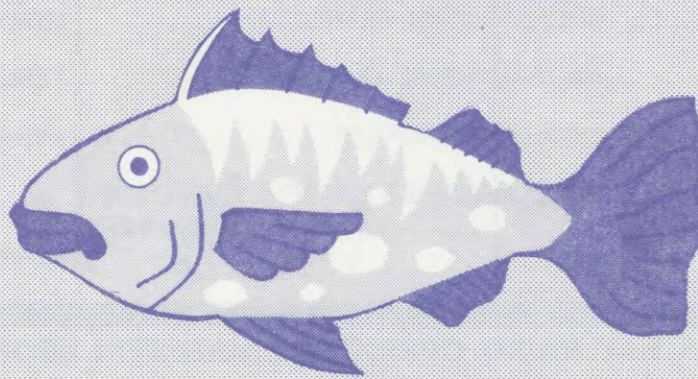
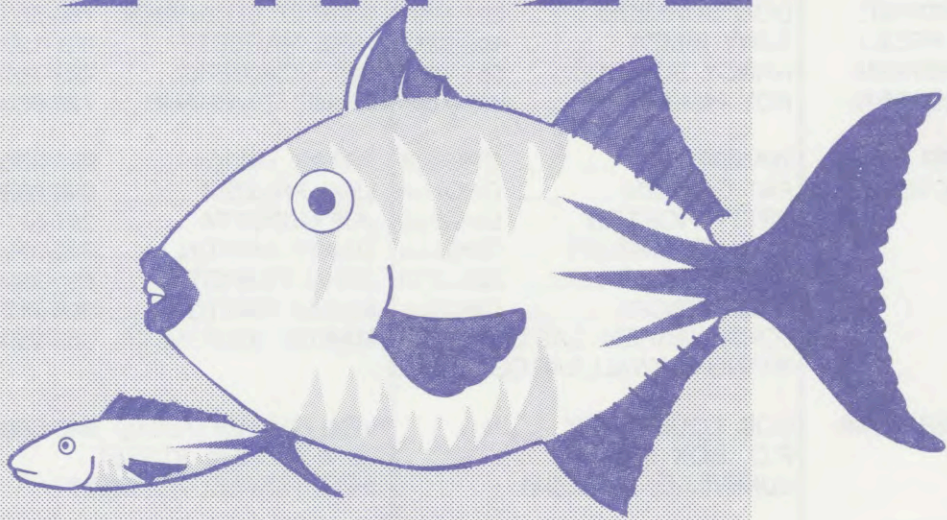
Volume 37, No. 4

April, 1994

**39<sup>th</sup>  
Annual**

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**CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB**



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- 1994 -

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EDITORS: DAVE & KELLEY ADAMS 345-0623  
 6824 S. HARDY TEMPE, AZ 85283

PRINTER: TECHNIPRINT

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## '94 Calendar of Events

### APRIL

- 2 Off-road trip to Pinacates
- 3 Easter Sunday
- 12 Tucson Chapter Meeting
- 12 Cholla Chapter Meeting
- 13 Phoenix Chapter Meeting
- 18 Chatter articles due to Editor
- 29, 30 Fishing Derby (1st Phase)

### MAY

- 1 Derby continues
- 8 Mother's Day
- 10 Tucson Chapter Meeting
- 10 Cholla Chapter Meeting
- 11 Phoenix Chapter Meeting
- 18 Chatter articles due to Editor
- 27 - 30 Fishing Derby (2nd Phase)
- 29 Steak Dinner (Fry Shack)

### JUNE

- 8 Phoenix Chapter Meeting
- 10,11 Fishing Derby (Last Phase)
- 11 Fish Fry & Award Ceremony
- 14 Tucson Chapter Meeting
- 14 Cholla Chapter Meeting
- 18 Chatter articles due to Editor
- 19 Father's Day

## EDITORS CORNER

Well, I think we did it this month, you should have received this prior to April 1st. The Chatter seems to be growing in size, but in order to do so, we need advertisers! Please, next time your in a business that offers a service or product that you think other Club Members should know about - Ask them to Advertise, it's that easy!

It's Derby Time again, and I know that Derby Chairman Chuck Blair could use your help. Sue Kudis is going to run the Fish Fry again, and people are always need for that, so please volunteer.

The cover of this Chatter will be the new Derby T-shirt design for this year. It is full of color, like the posters. So look for them to arrive some time in April, and be sure to buy some, your Club needs your support.

We didn't receive any pictures for our "Catch of the Day" Photo Page. -----Please, send us your photo, we will return it. It doesn't have to be the biggest fish in the Sea, it could be the smallest, but people like to see pictures, so it might as well be yours!

## Don't Miss Your Meetings!

### TUCSON

2nd Tuesday of each month  
Dinner: 6:30 • Meeting: 7:30 pm  
Las Margaritas  
3602 E. Grant Road

### PHOENIX

2nd Wednesday of each month  
Dinner: 6:30 • Meeting: 7:30 pm  
Arizona American Italian Club  
7509 North 12th Street  
(MEETING IS IN SMALL ROOM TO THE RIGHT OF BAR)

### CHOLLA

2nd Tuesday of each month



*Look Who Has  
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The "FUN" OF IT !!!*

#### **CHOLLA CHAPTER WELCOMES:**

CRAIG & DEE BOWER  
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#### **PHOENIX CHAPTER WELCOMES:**

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## CRAFTY NEWS

*By Nancy Schmidli*

The Crafters of Cholla Bay have been busy in January & February, making mostly wind twirls and some 'tea cup messages using plastic canvas. Jane Beidler has been painting coasters on bottles using her special artistic talent!! We took March "off" to work individually as many of us are in and out of the Bay, but we'll start up again in April. We would urge any of you out there to make "Your Things". Often we get suggestions, but we don't know how to make them. Anyone with an idea or know how, if you will make the crafts, we will be glad to purchase the material for you. Also, if Phoenix, & Tucson Chapters would like to form a 'Craft Group' that would be great!!! For information see Nancy Schmidli, Pat Goodin or Shirley Peterson in Cholla. Also, call Nancy Schmidli in Phoenix 561-1851, I'm in and out so leave a message. We will try to get some pictures of our 'stuff' in the next Chatter. We are really in need of some 'special' items to raffle off.

*Happy crafting, & hope to see you in the Bay.*

## Important Notice

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## COUNCIL BRIEFS

The March Council meeting was held on the 10th in Casa Grande.

Secretary & Treasurers reports were read and Committee reports were given. The Derby is off to a good start, but lots of help will be needed, please volunteer if possible. The Derby posters were distributed and Derby Jackpot prize tickets are in the mail. The Chatter reports that it is doing okay, but advertisers are needed. Please have articles, notices or ads into the Chatter Editors *PRIOR* to the 18th deadline. Chapters gave their reports, and it sounds like everyone will be busy in the months to come. The Tucson Chapter is hosting this years Steak Dinner, to be held Sunday, May 29th at the Fry Shack. Cholla Chapter is still working on crafts and encourages the other Chapters to do the same. The Cholla Chapter is planning a Fall Fiesta in October - details are still being worked out. Phoenix Chapter is looking for someone to help put together this years August Campout. An off road trip to the Pinacates is planned for April 2nd, see notice for details. A trip to El Gulfo in October is also being worked on.

Last report from the Chapter Presidents & Council Chairman are that negotiations have begun regarding the purchase of the Fry Shack property and Radio Shack concession from the Federal Zone. More details as they become available.

This looks to be another busy year for the CBSC, so help out in any way that you can and please attend your Chapter meetings.

# Happy Easter!



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## TUCSON CHITTER CHATTER

By Teresa Wilson

Tucson CBSC March meeting was chaired by Vice President Jerry Kitchens. Bill Drake was having to attend to family matters, as his father was in the hospital. The Clubs' members wish you and your family best regards and prayers.

The attending members enjoyed the usual good food and chit chat. Meeting was brought to order as the usual reports were made. Thanks to Bob Rothrock for our speaker, Tom McGarvin, a geologist. A timely subject for our times of earthquakes. Tom showed an aerial view of California and Baja California, views from space, pictures of rocks - which are affected by the earthquakes. Information which left you in awe of what has happened to the Earth and what may happen in the future. In a few million years Baja Calif. will break away and may become an island for the mainland, and who knows - Las Vegas may be beach front. One of the realities is that when we hear little rumbles and rattling of the windows, it may be a small tremor north of Cholla. Don't worry it is safe to invest in your cabin. Ha - anyway we would like to thank Tom of the Arizona Geological Survey.

Winners of the raffle: Shirley Reid, Irene Drake, Sylvia Kitchen, Glenn Hotchkiss, Marion Hotchkiss.

It has been suggested to print in the Chatter as to when Spring Break is. Agreed - Next year, as it will be over by the time you read this. Do I understand that there will not be anymore overnight camping on Sandy Beach next year?

Be on alert for the signs of the "Esperanza", home for children in Rocky Point, it is three miles in off of main road (East side).

Folks, I have to cut this short because of my procrastination - the deadline is upon me.

All I can close with -- Cholla was great during Spring Break. Lots of controlled people of all ages, busy week, but not the masses. Weather was cloudy, slight rain in areas. Job well done Peñasco Officers.

Respectfully, Tere

### A-B-C Academy

A-B-C Academy, located in Puerto Peñasco, is owned and operated by Profra. Elizabeth Schmerfeld. They offer courses in English, Business, Bookkeeping, Secretarial and Computers.

The Academy is in desperate need of computers and a copier. If you can donate items to the Academy, please contact Elizabeth at 011-526-38-3-32-77.

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# CHITTER CHATTER

## From the Phoenix Chapter

Our March 8th meeting was called to order by President Martin Sturhahn at 7:45 pm. Everyone introduced themselves, we had visitors from Cedar Falls, Iowa - Wayne & Joan Tangman. Russ & Beth Eis are giving our slide presentation this evening.

The trip to the Harquahala Mountains was great. No problems, Mike Hagerty will have more about the trip in the Chatter. We enjoyed it!

We will have another Steak Dinner this year. It will be hosted by the Tucson Chapter and will be held on Sunday, May 29th (Memorial weekend). The cost is only \$7.50 for a COMPLETE STEAK DINNER!! There is a limited amount of tickets, so buy yours now.

There is an off road trip to the Pinacates and Elegante Crater, April 2nd is the big day (Easter weekend). The trip will be lead by Ginnie Tucker, who is very knowledgeable of the area. This will be a 98 mile round trip, bring your own food and drinks. See notice in this Chatter for further information. Sounds like this will be fun.

Dick Gardner told us about a trip that the AZ Roamers will be taking to Desemboque on April 9th. Contact Dick Gardner if you're interested.

The August Campout is coming!!! We need help to get this event going, please volunteer. Doug and Shirley Conklin will be out motor-homing in Northern California, and are sorry that they won't be here to help. Maybe next year.

The Fishing Derby Jackpot Tickets are in the mail. This Club needs your support, so please purchase these tickets yourself or sell them to friends and family. Lots of prizes have been donated so far, so there will be lots of chances to win! If you would like more tickets, please call the Derby Chairman.

Russ & Beth Eis in 1978 sailed a 26' Chrysler Sailboat from San Diego to Hawaii - on the way back "Hilo" had a broken rudder, and with bad weather coming, they called the Coast Guard. They were picked up by an English Freighter and taken to L.A. (This only took 3 days). Well, onto tonight's presentation.

They took a trip around Vancouver Island, B.C. They started at Oak Harbor on the 600 mile trip. They made a slide show complete with narration and music. It was great!

The trip started with a Champagne send off party, then it was off to the water. Beautiful sunsets, fishing spots, safe harbors, great Salmon fishing and more as they went along. Showers (when available) were \$2.50 a person, but after 4 days of spit baths they would have been glad to pay anything. The Seas on a calm day were a beautiful blue and clear water. They buried a time capsule in a crevice at Sea Otter Cove in the Pacific Rim National Park. They did such a great job on the slide presentation, it made you want to go there yourself.

I can't explain how beautiful the trip was and those who missed this program, really missed a great one. Russ showed us some of his handywork that he does while sailing ... he does beautiful wood carvings of Sharks, Seahorses, and many other sea creatures. His carvings are to scale and can't be described with words alone, you have to see them to appreciate all the work & detail that goes into each one. We thank Russ & Beth for sharing their slides with us. *Thanks!!!*

Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves this evening. I was glad to be able to take notes for Marie, as she wasn't feeling well, hope she's doing better now. Doug & I hope to come again soon.

*Yours truly - "Watermelon Baby"*

PS: Our sympathy to "Frenchy" on the loss of his wife, Tish.

PSS: Russ Eis won the Christmas Raffle: A bottle - Have fun you two!



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# PHOENIX CHAPTER APRIL MEETING

## ***TITLE INSURANCE IN MEXICO***

Guest Speaker, Vickie Goergen is Vice President, International Marketing for Stewart Title

Vickie has just returned from Mexico City with the Urban Land Institute Conference. She is also on the Arizona-Mexico Commission on NAFTA.

*Topics she will address:*

**Mexican & American Partnerships or Interests  
Corporations and/or Organizations holding Title in Mexico  
As well as Individual Holdings**

We would like some feedback as to other topics you would like to discuss. Please leave questions and/or suggestions on Pat Scalberg's answering Machine (602) 843-7969. Please do so as soon as possible so that Vickie can do adequate research to answer your questions.

Stewart Title issues Title Insurance on both Ownership and Leasehold Interests in Mexico.

*Hope to see you at this informative meeting!*

## →→→ SPECIAL NOTICES ←←←

The CBSC would like to extend our sympathy to Mike "Frenchy" Basta and family, Mike's wife Tish passed away in February. Our thoughts are with you. Tish will be missed by all those who knew her.

Lois Sanderson Goldsmith died in Hawaii where she and her husband Mert had made their home for the past several years. Lois was Editor of the Cholla Chatter in the 60's.

Non-denominational worship services are held at 9:00 am each Sunday at Chickee Subs. Please attend, we would love to have you.

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**  
Sunday April 3, 1994 • 8:00 am

On the beach in front of Playa Elegante. Everyone is to bring your own beach chair.

### STEAK DINNER TICKETS

A limited number of tickets are now being sold for the Steak Dinner on Sunday May 29th. Contact your Chapter for tickets, there are a limited amount, so purchase yours soon!

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<b>Free Drink</b>	with this Ad & purchase of 12" Sub <small>Limit: 2 per customer</small>



# MARINE MART de San Carlos

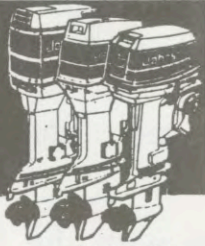


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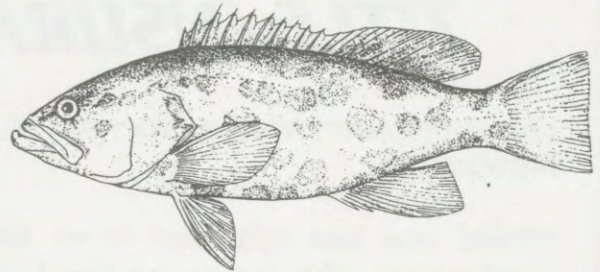
10 HP / Rope Start	\$1225.00
25 HP / Rope Start	\$1625.00
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## FISH ID NORTHERN SEA OF CORTEZ

Compiled by Steve Rothbard



### GULF GROUPE (BAYA)

This sea bass (Cabrilla) is the most common large Grouper in the upper and central Gulf. The fish pictured here is a large juvenile. This Grouper can grow to about 5 feet and weigh up to about 200 lbs.

In the summer these fish usually are found at depths below 100 ft. But in late fall, they move to shallower reefs (15 to 50 ft.). Moving back to deeper water in early summer.

They prefer rocking bottoms and especially caves and crevices. They are voracious predators and strong fighters when hooked.

We have new items  
that aren't listed here  
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or attend the Phoenix Meetings

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Decal, large	1.00
Club Patch	2.00
Key Chain	1.25 & 2.50
Bumper Sticker	Free
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License Plate	5.00
License Plate Frame	3.00
	or 2/5.00
Eye Glass Chums	5.00
*Sweatshirt	10.00

*Big Tops, white only	27.00
*Coach Jacket	27.00
*Drawstring Jacket	27.00
*Sail Cloth Jacket	20.00
*T-shirt	6.00
*T-shirt w/ pocket	7.00
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Can Crusher	8.00
Koozie Kup	4.00



1994 Lg. Tide Calendar	10.00
1994 Sm. Tide Calendar	4.00
Shrimp Cleaner	2.00
**Grid Chart	.50
**Compass Chart	1.50
Penasco / Cholla Map	5.00
Can Wrap	2.00
Radio Antenna	26.00
Hat Tack	2.50
Club Stick Pin	2.50
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# SEA TROUT

## Surf Fishing About To Take Off

By Steve Rothbard

As I'm writing this, tomorrow will be the first day of spring. Daily temperatures here in central Arizona have reached the mid 80's. All indications point to an early migration of fish to their spawning grounds, in the Colorado River Delta area of the Northern Gulf.

1 I am constantly asked about fishing from the shore in the Peñasco/Cholla area, and about what kind of fish can be caught. First I must say that due to the rapidly changing access to the beaches, due to booming construction of hotels and subdivisions, it is hard to give specific areas to go. Historically and sandy stretch of beach you can get to from El Gulfo to Kino at this time of year (mid March to mid May) should yield some good fish. The fish are migratory and move up and down to beaches following the bait fish that they feed on. Look for bird activity and bait boils and cast to the edges of these for best results.

The fish most sought after are the group called "Sea Trout". There are 4 fish in this group. One is the shortfin Corvina which migrates along the shore and prefers sandy bottoms with patches of stones scattered about. Another is the Orange Mouth Corvina, larger than the shortfin, and even better tasting. This one is only found in the upper Gulf and in the same waters as the shortfin however the two schools don't mix. The other two fish are the juvenile version of the White Sea Bass and young Totoaba. These are also similar to the shortfin.

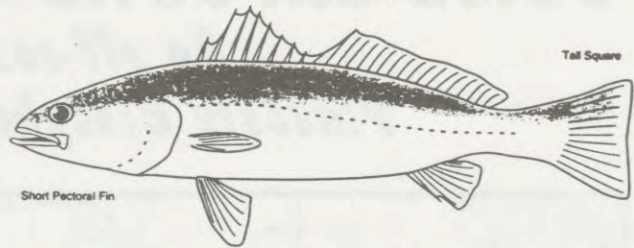
All of these fish are attracted to fast moving shiny spoons, minnow like plugs, also live, dead or cut bait. They have extremely soft mouths, so must be played with a very light drag to avoid pulling the hook out. They also go for open water and not the rocks, like reef fish - so you must be patient and wait until the fish tires before you beach him.

I'm looking forward to the Spring runs of these great game fish. A good 8 foot or better limber spinning outfit with 10# - 12# line will do the trick, so get out there and have some fun.

If the sea is too rough to launch your boat or you suffer from Mal-de-Mar, you can still have lots of good action from the beach.

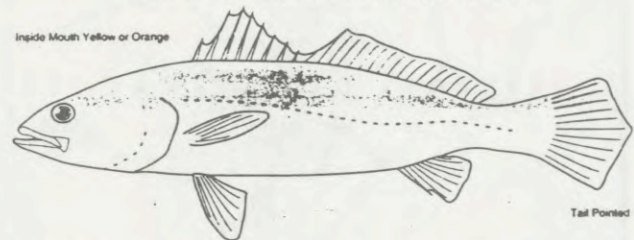
If you have any questions on gear or lures, call me at 968-3868.

### SHORTFIN CORVINA



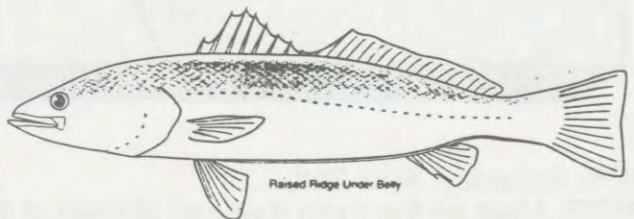
Grey back, silver sides, white belly, square tail.  
Medium mouth full of spikey teeth.  
1½ to 3½ ft. long 3 lb. 20 lb.

### ORANGEMOUTH CORVINA



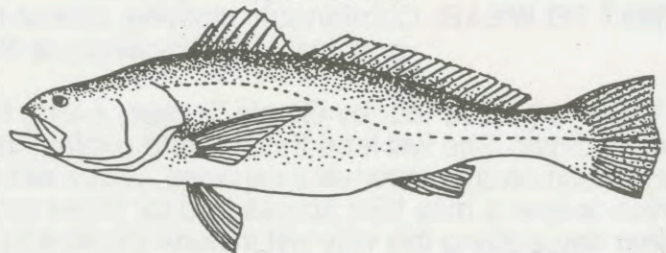
Grey back, cream color sides, triangular tail.  
Inside of mouth yellow or orange.  
1½ to 4 ft. long 3 lb. to 30 lb.

### WHITE SEABASS



Grey-blue back, silver sides, white belly, square tail.  
2 ft. to 5 ft. long 5 lb. to 90 lb.

### TOTOABA



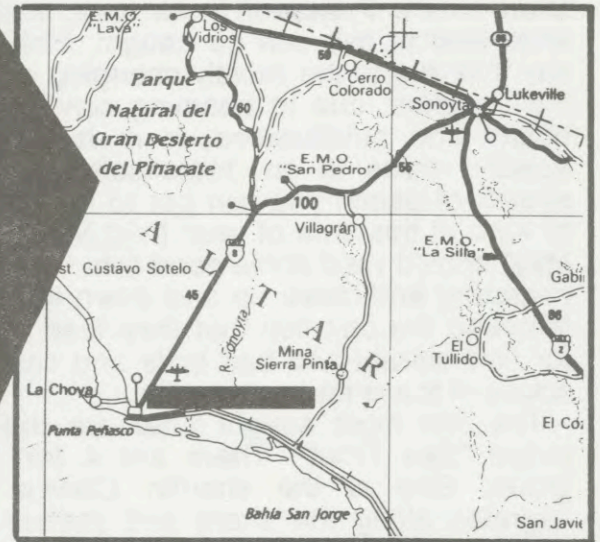
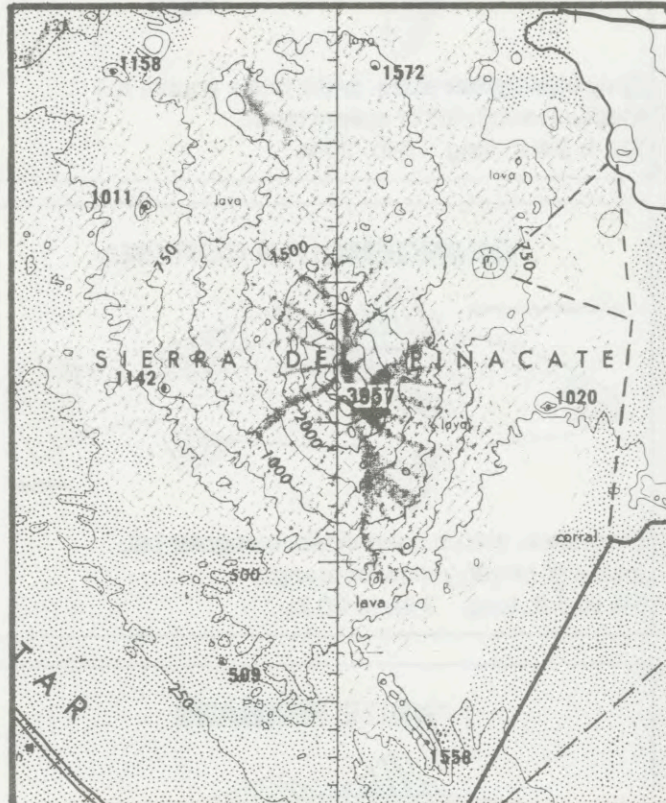
Body dull silver burnished somewhat with iridescent copper. overlaid with small dark spots.  
Angular tail, small eyes.  
up to 6 ft. long up to 300 lb.  
**CAUTION: ALL TOTOABA ARE PROTECTED AND MUST BE RELEASED**



# COME EXPLORE CRATER ELEGANTE

*An off-road trip to the  
Pinacate Biosphere Natural Preserve*

**EASTER  
WEEKEND**



**WHEN:** Saturday, April 2nd.

**WHERE:** Meet on the main road out of town at the Cholla Bay Sign.

**TIME:** 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Please arrive at meeting place prior to 8:30)

**DISTANCE:** 98 miles round trip

**WHAT TO BRING:** High clearance vehicle or off-road buggy full of gas (no Buicks or Cadillacs)  
Bring your own lunch, refreshments, drinking water.  
Camera with lots of film.  
Trash bags for garbage, as this is a Natural Preserve.

**WHAT TO WEAR:** Comfortable clothing, closed toe shoes - sneakers or hiking boots, wind-breaker or sweat shirt (it's windy at the rim of the crater).

This is a guided tour by Ginnie Tucker, a long time resident of Playa De Oro and off-road extraordinair. She will lead this trip and explain the formation of lava flows, cones, and sparse vegetation on this moon-like expanse. Stops will include a walk to the top edge of Crater Elegante, which is over a mile hike across and for those adventuresome hikers, a trip down into the crater. Other stops along the way will include explanations of the formation of the terrain. On the way back, if time permits, a short stop at a smaller crater: Colorado - which has a completely different sand stone look than the Crater Elegante.

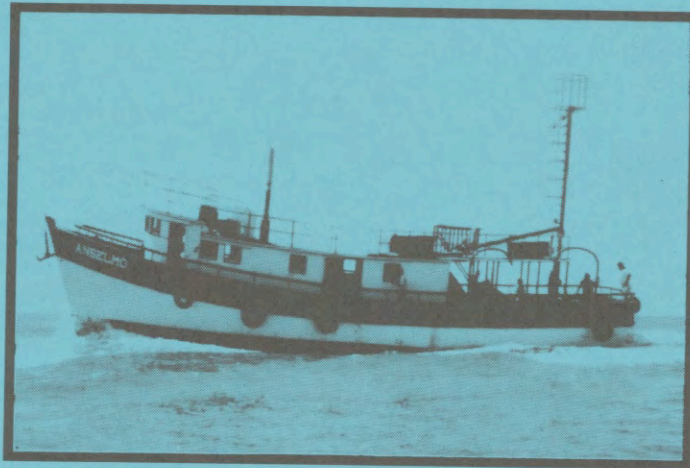
*Join the fun and come along on an adventure you will always remember.*

The U.S. Astronauts trained here prior to their trip to the moon almost 30 years ago. On this beautiful sparse landscape, you to can have a special day and feel almost as if being on the moon.



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DERBY Specials!*



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No Hotel Costs.*

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Minimum passenger load required (16 to 22 people). Day and long range trips are available. Any trip can be customized to fit your needs and you can even private charter the Anselmo for just you and your friends. Call us and let us help plan the trip of your dreams.

Air conditioned staterooms, full galley with bar, bathrooms, showers, walk-around deck, safety equipment, GPS, VHF Radio, and depth finders. We also take along four 24' Pangas for fishing.

Beer, well drinks, soda, Mexican fishing permit, rods & reels are additional costs.

We offer scuba diving, snorkeling, water and jet skiing, whale watching, sightseeing tours and much more.

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Meals and refreshments for your trip are not included in the cost. Bring a sack lunch, snacks, and cold drinks.

Mexican Fishing Permit, rod & reel rentals are an additional cost.

Reservations and non-refundable deposit are required for all charters.

Our excursions enable you to experience a unique opportunity to meet people, make new friends, fish at affordable rates, *and have a great time!*

**SO PACK YOUR BAGS, GRAB A FRIEND, & LET'S GO FISHING!!!**

For reservations & Information, contact:

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P.O. Box 34042 • Phoenix, AZ 85067-4042  
**Phoenix: (602) 230-9322**  
**Mexico: 011-52-638-3-57-99**

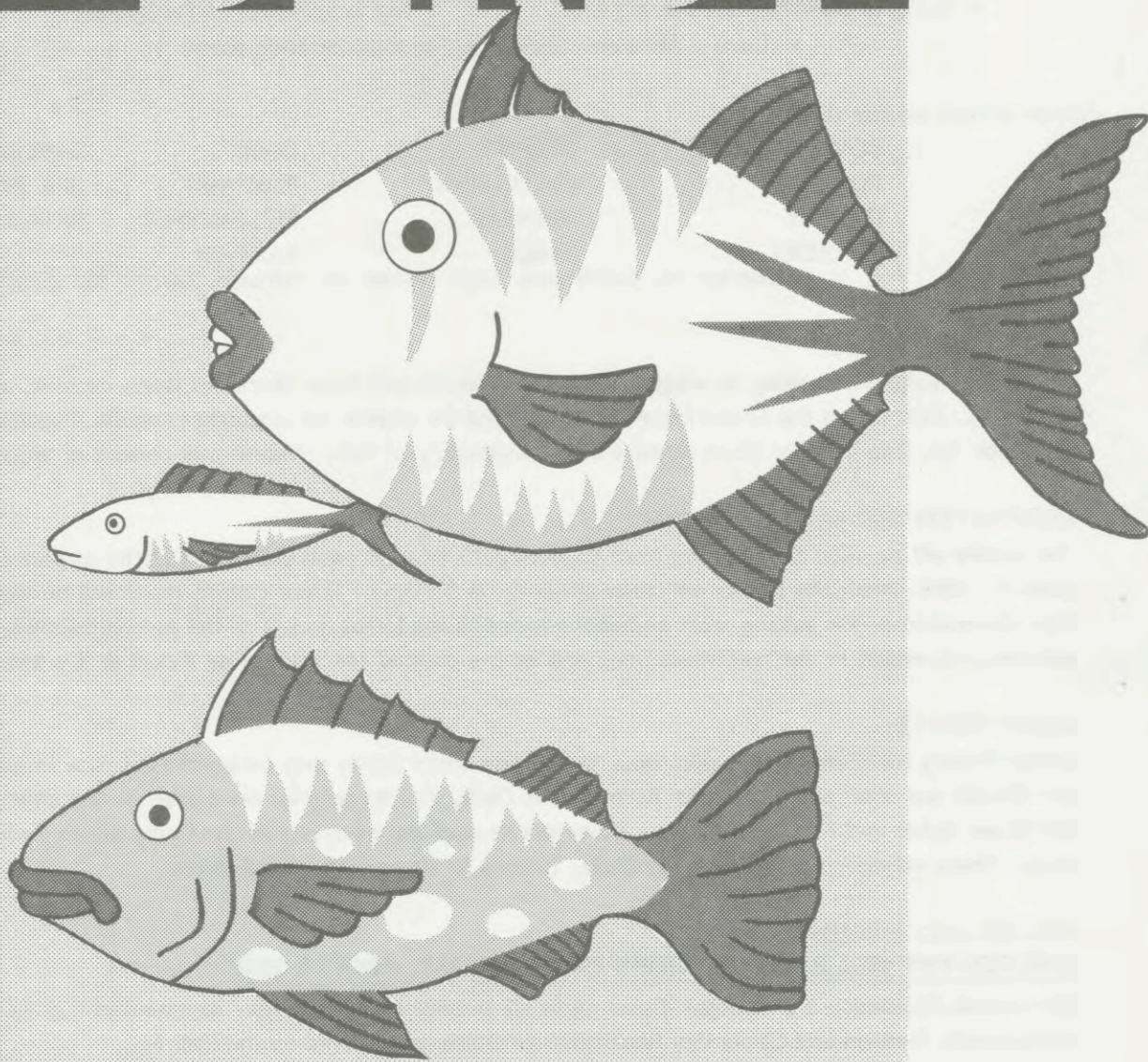
**\$ 65<sup>00</sup>**  
PER PERSON / PER DAY  
4 PERSON MINIMUM



**39<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual**

# FISHING DERBY

**CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB**



**CHOLLA BAY, SON., MEX.**

*3 Big Weekends:*

*April 29, 30 & May 1st*

*May 27th - 30th • June 10th & 11th*

Everyone is welcome! Open to Boaters & Non-Boaters  
Men's, Women's & Junior Divisions !!

To join the fun, sign up at the  
Radio Shack in Cholla Bay (Rocky Pt.), Mexico  
or Call (602) 992-8112



# CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

## 1994 FISHING DERBY RULES

1. Each contestant participating in the Derby must:

- Have a valid Mexican Fishing License
- Be launched from Cholla Bay
- Catch entered fish on hook and line
- Valid Derby Ticket before starting to fish.
- Have a valid Mexican Boat Permit
- Not launch prior to Derby date.
- Have a filled out Launch-Slip prior to entering water

2. Classes of fish eligible for prizes:

BLACK SEA BASS	GROUPER	PINTO	SARDINERO
COCHI	LEATHERFISH	POMPANO	SEA TROUT
DOLPHIN	MACKEREL	RED SNAPPER	SKIPJACK
FLOUNDER	PARGO	SAILFISH	

\*IT IS PROHIBITED TO CATCH AND KEEP SPECIES OF TOTOABA (WHITE SEA BASS)

3. JUDGING AND PRIZES:

Fish will be judged according to weight. There will be a Grand Prize Winner for men, women, and juniors (15 years or under). Fish taking the Grand Prize Trophy will not be eligible for any other awards. Additional awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place winners in each category of fish. Awards will consist of trophies and/or cash.

4. REGISTRATION AND WEIGHING OF FISH:

The scales will be open for weighing from 8:00am until 6:00pm each day of the Derby except the last day, Saturday June 11, 1994, when the scales will close promptly at 3:00pm. These closing times will be strictly enforced.

Any fish presented for judging must be accompanied by the Derby Ticket of the person claiming the catch. The date, species, and weight of the fish will be recorded on the back of the said Derby Ticket at the time of weigh-in.

5. DERBY TICKETS:

Derby Tickets which entitle the purchaser to fish the entire Derby may be purchased prior to and during the Derby for \$15.00 per adult and \$5.00 per Junior. Daily Derby Tickets may be purchased on the days you wish to fish for \$4.00 per Adult and \$2.00 per Junior. These will be available each day of the Derby at the Radio Room and Launch Area. There will be no refunds on the Derby Tickets or Super-Jackpot donations.

6. FISH FRY AND AWARDS CEREMONY:

**THE FISH FRY WILL BEGIN AT 5:00PM ON SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1994**

The awards Ceremony and Jackpot Ticket Drawing will follow the fish fry. Members of C.B.S.C. and guests, Derby participants, families and Cholla Bay Residents are welcome to come to the Fish Fry.

7. CASH JACKPOT DRAWING:

Tickets will be sold at 6 for \$5.00 or \$1.00 each individually. Sixty (60) percent of this money is for the CASH DRAWING held at the Fish Fry and Forty (40) percent is for the C.B.S.C.

8. SUPER-JACKPOTS:

BOAT JACKPOT entry fee will be a donation of \$100.00 per boat (non-transferrable).

MINI JACKPOT (**Women only**): Entry fee will be a donation of \$25.00 per individual.

Participants must be 16 years and older. One half of each Jackpot (Boat and Mini) goes to the two individuals catching the largest fish of the Derby Days. (Jackpot Participants only). The other half goes to the C.B.S.C.

**All Derby Rules Apply.**

9. All decisions of the Weigh-in Judges and Derby Chairman are final.



# CHOLLA CHAPTER CHITTER CHATTER

by Elaine Rimza

WOW! Our room at La Curva was packed at the March 8th meeting. The total of members and guests was 78 people! With that many people having a good time, plus somehow the speaker was lost (later found), so we didn't have a PA system, let's just say it was somewhat of a challenge for President Don Schmidli to conduct the meeting. He did a fine job, even with all the noise, and we had a good meeting and good food.

A soft and gentle lady, with quick wit and a warm and gracious heart, a wonderful cook -- her creme puffs and rum cake were heavenly, our friend Tish Basta passed away on February 28 after a long battle with cancer. A memorial service was held on March 6 in Cholla, with family and friends gathering at the Radio Shack. Mike "Frenchy" Basta has long been a friend to all, and we hope his many friends here can help to ease his sorrow. It was good to have you at the meeting, Frenchy. Our sincere sympathy to you and your family. We'll miss your lovely lady.

It was a pleasure to see Ralph and Phyllis Smith back in Cholla after so many months. They have had four rotator cuff (shoulder) surgeries in the past few months. When your arms are out of commission, even routine tasks can be most difficult. Their stories are funny -- with one good arm and one bad arm, each of them trying to help the other. You should hear about Ralph trying to get the panty hose on Phyllis! They look good, and we hope they'll soon be ready for fishing and beach parties. Their guests, John and Leah Anderson, were from Springfield, Oregon.

Ship's Store, at Betty Horton's, has been doing a booming business. The month of February was exceptionally good. They have all kinds of new things. Stop by and shop.

Nancy Schmidli went to the orphan's home, "Esperanza Para Los Ninos," and learned that the 3 boys and 1 girl there are from about 9-12 years old. They do not need food as much as they need clothes and personal items, especially underwear. If you have anything, however, that you wish to give to them, please take it to Schmidlis' or Rimszas and we'll be sure that it gets to them.

Frank Flynn, Council Chairman, was at our meeting, and said the financial situation of CBSC as a whole is improved. He said we need new members in all clubs, so encourage everyone who uses our radio communication system or who goes fishing and has the security the radio system provides to join the club. Frank Flynn said we in the Cholla Chapter have a really enthusiastic group. We appreciate that observation. We think so, too!

Make plans now to enter, support, participate some way in the 39th Annual CBSC Fishing Derby. Chuck Blair is Derby Chairman, and the first weekend is April 29-May 1. Your help is needed. Let's all work toward another successful derby -- 39 years is a long time!

Spring is here, and the weather is beautiful. Spring break is also here, and we're thankful that as of now we haven't heard of any serious problems. Thanks to Augustin and Penasco Police Department, it seems the tragedies and abusers have abated in the last few years. Let's all enjoy our delightful times in Mexico, but let's also remember to be sensible... we never know how much life we have left.

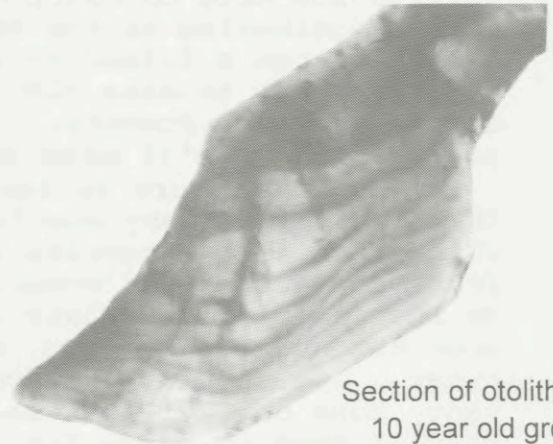
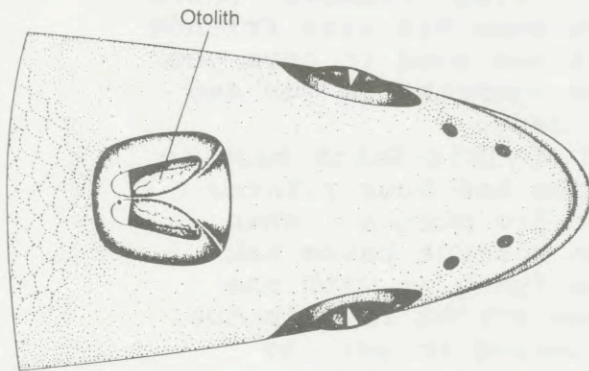


# HOW OLD IS THAT GROUPEL?

*(and why are you cutting its head open?)*

By Michael Baltzly

Ever wonder how old those big groupers that you catch are? Well I did, and when I couldn't find the answer I decided to do some research myself. The most accurate way of telling a fish's age is by looking at thin sections of the ear bones or *otoliths*. Fish grow faster during the warm summer-fall months than during the cold winter-spring months. These different growth rates show up as annual rings in the otoliths, just like rings in the trunk of a tree. The rings are easy to count under a microscope after mounting the otoliths on glass slides and grinding them until they are thin. Getting the otoliths out of the fish in the first place is the hardest part. Even in a giant grouper, each otolith is about the size and shape of half a dime, and the fish's head has to be cut in half to find them.



Section of otolith from 10 year old grouper

I decided that, as long as I was studying groupers, I might as well also look at pinto, sardinero, and black sea bass (pinto and sardinero are members of the grouper family). Gene Court and Joe Anacleto made it possible for me to examine almost 80 of these fish that were entered in derbies last year. I would like to thank everyone involved in the weigh-in and cleaning of fish at the CBSC derby and the June JJ's derby for allowing me to collect the information in this study.

## **Growth**

The tables below show how large grouper, pinto and sardinero are at different ages. This information is based on an average of many fish. Keep in mind that fish don't all grow at the same rate and there are always a few cases where an individual fish is bigger or smaller than you would expect for its age.

<b>Grouper</b>		<b>Pinto</b>		<b>Sardinero</b>	
Size (pounds)	Age (years)	Size (pounds)	Age (years)	Size (pounds)	Age (years)
90	25	30	24	18	35
80	22	25	19	15	28
70	18	20	15	12	22
60	15	15	11	10	18
50	12	10	8	8	15
40	10	5	5		
30	8	3	3		

The four black sea bass that I was able to look at weighed 58, 60, 66 and 89 pounds and were 19, 15, 16 and 17 years old. I also removed otoliths from two pargo in the 15-pound class and found that they were 16 and 18 years old.

Most of the grouper and many of the pinto that I examined were 10 or 11 years old. It seems that these fish found the conditions for reproduction to be extra good in 1982 and 1983. One explanation for this is that it may be related to the fact that these years were warm and wet, and the Colorado River flowed strongly into the Gulf.

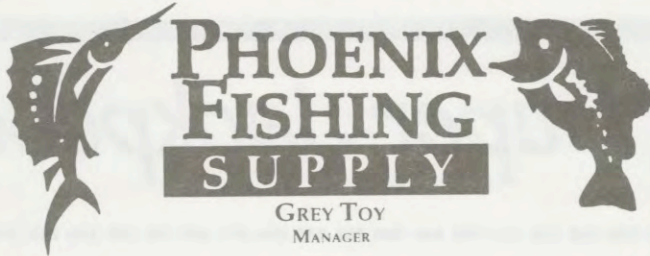


**Maturity**

In addition to length, weight, and age I also recorded whether each fish was a male, a female, or immature. All species of grouper that have been studied by biologists have been found to mature first as females and then change sex to males after a few years. I wanted to learn whether the grouper species in the northern Gulf of California also change sex. What I found was this:

- Groupers mature as females before they reach 30 pounds, then change to males at around 70 pounds. I need to look at some smaller groupers to find out exactly how big they are before they can first spawn as females.
- Pinto mature as females when they weigh about 8 pounds. Small pinto of 2 to 5 pounds are only 3 or 4 years old and have never spawned. I didn't see any pinto that appeared to be males. The question of where the male pinto are and when, or if, females turn into males obviously needs more research.
- Sardinero mature as females by the time that they reach 8 pounds and change to males at about 13 or 14 pounds. As with groupers, I haven't looked at small enough sardinero to learn how big they need to be before they can spawn the first time.
- The three smaller black sea bass were immature, and the 89 pound fish was a female. Black sea bass are not closely related to groupers and do not change sex.

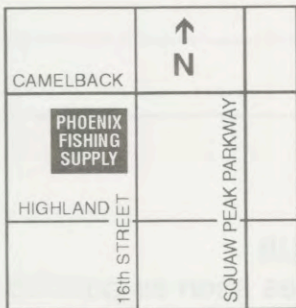
I hope to be able to continue my research and eventually collect enough information so that I can publish it in a scientific paper. For statistical reasons, I will need about 100 fish of each species before I can draw accurate scientific conclusions. If you have any comments or questions about this study, or if you would be willing to help me by letting me cut open the heads of fish that you bring in, you can leave a message for me with Rojo in Cholla Bay or write to me at 612 E. Balboa, Tempe, AZ 85282.



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## CHOLLA BAY HOMEOWNERS

Aprils' schedule looks as if it is going to be one of the busiest months so far this year. The local clubs have a long list of fun filled festivities planned. All these events are to make your visits more enjoyable, so be sure to get to the Bay and enjoy the hard work of the leaders and organizers.

The CBSC begins the first phase of their 39th Annual Fishing Derby April 29th and 30th. There is something for everyone in this Derby .. Fish .. shell and work. Lots of work goes on behind the scenes, so if you have extra time to spare, see Chuck Blair - the Derby Chairman. This a good way to help and also become better acquainted with your Cholla Neighbors.

Don Schmidli, President of the Cholla Chapter said the next general meeting will be April 12th at La Curva, 5:30 p.m. The June meeting will be on the 7th at the pool area of Villa Granada Hotel. This will be a luau, so all you Mermaids and King Neptune's get decked out in your best Mexican-Hawaiian attire. John Lawson of the Villa Granada is a most gracious host, so this event is destined to be one fun, fun time.

Don Schmidli also said work is beginning for the October Fall Fiesta. More details will be published in future Chatters.

The OBSC has their general meeting April 10th. One of the biggies for this club will be held April 16th. This will be the 8th year for their "Big Bash". Harry Fiebeg is bringing in the sky divers again. If you ever want to see a breathtaking event - catch this one. Of course all the goodies go with this bash .. food .. sodas .. beer .. games .. and lots of good fellowship.

JJ's Cantina will have their annual Chili Cook-off April 9th, Sailboat Races on the 16th - 17th, and the famous Bathtub Races on the 23rd.

Danny Brown is featuring Drag Races April 29th & 30th. This will be headquartered at the Reef on Sandy Beach. This was a big success last year, which was the first year and it promises to be even bigger and better this year.

Like we say -- **Cholla Has It All!** See you at the Bay.

*The Management*

# Super Jackpots • Super Jackpots

In addition to the jackpot raffle mentioned herein, there will again be a "SUPER JACKPOT" for the men and a "MINI-SUPER JACKPOT" for the women.

The "SUPER JACKPOT" prizes will be for the largest fish caught on Derby Days. Derby rules will apply.

**MEN:** \$100.00 donation per boat (or individual) is necessary to win one half of this JACKPOT.

**WOMEN:** \$25.00 donation per individual is necessary to win one half of the "MINI-JACKPOT".

The other half of each JACKPOT goes to the Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club.

Anyone interested in entering either of these JACKPOTS should contact the DERBY CHAIRMAN. Registration must be prepaid before the start of the Derby. No refunds will be made after the Derby starts.

MEN "SUPER JACKPOT" ..... DONATION \$100.00

WOMEN "MINI-JACKPOT" ..... DONATION \$ 25.00

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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Attention: DERBY CHAIRMAN • SUPER JACKPOT



## "Mexico" Mike Nelson Talks

The following article is reprinted by permission from "Mexico" Mike Nelson who is the Travel Editor for Sanborns Insurance Travelog.

Folks, I've gotten lots of requests for more practical information about driving in Mexico, so I am going to give you the best answers I have on the most common questions that I'm asked.

I've spent the last 20 years poking around Mexico and drive 30,000 miles each year checking out RV parks, hotels, restaurants, and out of the way places. I decided I needed to do this after nearly getting into a fight with a lady at church, who told me it was unsafe to drive in Mexico. Since I'm a better writer than fighter, I figured this was the prudent course of action.

**MYTH:** "Pothole Ridden". A driver complained of the roads after a trip to a rural area. "I wouldn't even ride a burro on some of those roads".

**REALITY:** True, there are potholes on certain roads which is a situation that occurs in every country. Major roads however, tend to be in decent shape and are easy to navigate. Be safe, and confine your driving to the daylight hours. You can't see potholes at night. I consider myself an expert pothole-dodger (in fact, I get a kick out of it when successful - a jolt when not) and even miss them in the dark. Please note, if you are riding a burro, the road always feel like potholes.

**MYTH:** Mexico is unsafe.

**REALITY:** This is most peoples concern - and I'll give you a straight answer. What really bugs me is folks who don't drive - who bad mouth driving in Mexico. I guess I just don't understand people who have closed minds and won't listen to facts. But most people who ask me sincerely want to know, so I keep trying. I'd rather be in Mexico than any urban area of the U.S. when it comes to personal safety. Crimes against people are fewer and less violent than here. On the whole, Mexico is a safe place place to visit. As for highways - Local, State, and Federal Officials patrol the routes constantly. An emergency road service call the Green Angels, which is run by the Ministry of Tourism, helps travelers who have automobile troubles. Driving the main highway poses no threat to anyone. Bandits are more of a myth than reality. They no more rule the highways than Hell's Angels rule the California freeways. More assaults occur in U.S. rest areas and National Parks than Mexican highways. Use common sense and you've got nothing to fear. Now, I have some local friends who are arrow head hunters. They go 'way off the beaten track. There are some areas where it is risky to do that and some that aren't. Steve Walker takes campers into the high country all year long and it's perfectly safe.

I know that you've heard someone talk about an "incident" that happened to someone he "heard of" but didn't actually know and really weren't sure when it was ...

Most of these stories happened a long time ago and involed people who were more than tourists (Missionaries, DEA Agent, drug dealers, family of local folks who were having a fued, etc.). I still hear people talk about the incidents in Guadalajara that occured 10 years ago as if it was yesterday. Enjoy yourself and be a tourist. Most people are friendly and helpful. Try it before you knock it! Seeing Mexico by land offers a unique perspective on the Country and its People. Give it a try.

This story and others appear in Mike's book, available from Ajo Insurance Service • 2021 N. Ajo-Gila Bend Highway • Ajo, AZ 85321 • (602) 387-6376 or 1-800-293-2560.

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Realtor

CLUB MEMBER

Bus: (602) 789-1112

Fax: (602) 789-1119

Res: (602) 789-9504

DISCOUNT ACCESSORIES & CUSTOM CANVAS

## ABC MARINE

5054 South 40th Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85040

**Frank & Dorothy Wagner (602) 470-1600**

## Court's Custom Tackle

Custom Fishing Rods

Specialty Penn Reels

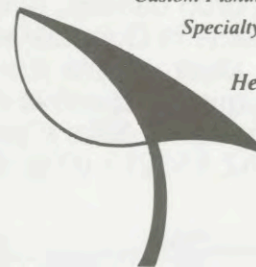
Herman E. Court

1022 Larkspur Ln.

Tempe, Arizona

85281

(602) 949-9447



### CLUB MEMBER

"SERVING ARIZONA OVER 20 YEARS"

## B & M Bumper & Hitch Inc.

Auto & Truck Hitches

4645 W. Missouri Ave. Glendale, Arizona 85301  
(GRAND & MISSOURI)

Truck Bumpers for all Styles & Models - Class 1, 2, 3 Hitches  
Contractors Racks Custom Made or Production Models  
Tow Bars Custom Made - Tow Dollies  
Complete Brake Control & Wire Hookups

Mel Jarvis  
Manager

939-8240

939-9590

Sonny Reid  
Owner



## CHATTER ADVERTISING RATES

10% DISCOUNT ON ADS PAID  
FOR ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE

PRICES ARE FOR CAMERA READY ADS

FULL PAGE (7 1/2" X 10") ..... \$165.00 PER MO.  
1/2 PAGE (7 1/2" X 4 7/8") ..... \$90.00 PER MO.  
1/4 PAGE (3 1/2" X 4 7/8") ..... \$50.00 PER MO.  
1/8 PAGE (3 1/2" X 2 3/4") ..... \$30.00 PER MO.  
BUSINESS CARD (3 1/2" X 2") .. \$20.00 PER MO.

CLASSIFIED ADS: Members in good standing may place classified ads. Ads are \$5.00 per month and should be approximately 50 words..

*Make checks payable to:*

### Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club

Send your ad along with name, address, and phone number to our Advertising Chairperson:

Kelley Adams  
6824 S. Hardy Drive • Tempe, AZ 85283  
(602) 345-0623

## IMPORTANT!

If you change your address, it is very important that you contact Von Frazier by mail or phone as soon as possible:

2214 N. 82nd Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257  
(602) 946-6986

This is the only way you will continue receiving the "Chatter". The U.S. Postal Service will not forward or return Bulk Mail.

### REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (OLD) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

— NEW —

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF REQUEST \_\_\_\_\_

## TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN THE CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

This application and payment may be turned in at the Radio Shack or Mailed to:

PHOENIX CHAPTER  
P.O. Box 7171  
Phoenix, AZ 85011

CHOLLA CHAPTER  
P.O. Box 267  
Lukeville, AZ 85341

TUCSON CHAPTER  
P.O. Box 5904  
Tucson, AZ 85703

DUES PER YEAR: \$30.00  SINGLE  FAMILY (effective January 1994)

Membership dues and other activities of the CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB have funded the purchase of radio equipment and continue to support the operation and maintenance of Marine VHF Radio (Channels 16 & 26) for the Northern Sea of Cortez. Also CB Radio (Channel 3) in the Cholla Bay area. The CLUB pays the salary of the Cholla Bay Radio Operator, is prepared to direct Search & Rescue operations and when necessary can assist with some arrangements for the emergency transportation of critically ill or injured. The CLUB also conducts an annual Fishing Derby, publishes the monthly "CHOLLA CHATTER" and promotes good relations between American visitors and our Mexican neighbors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

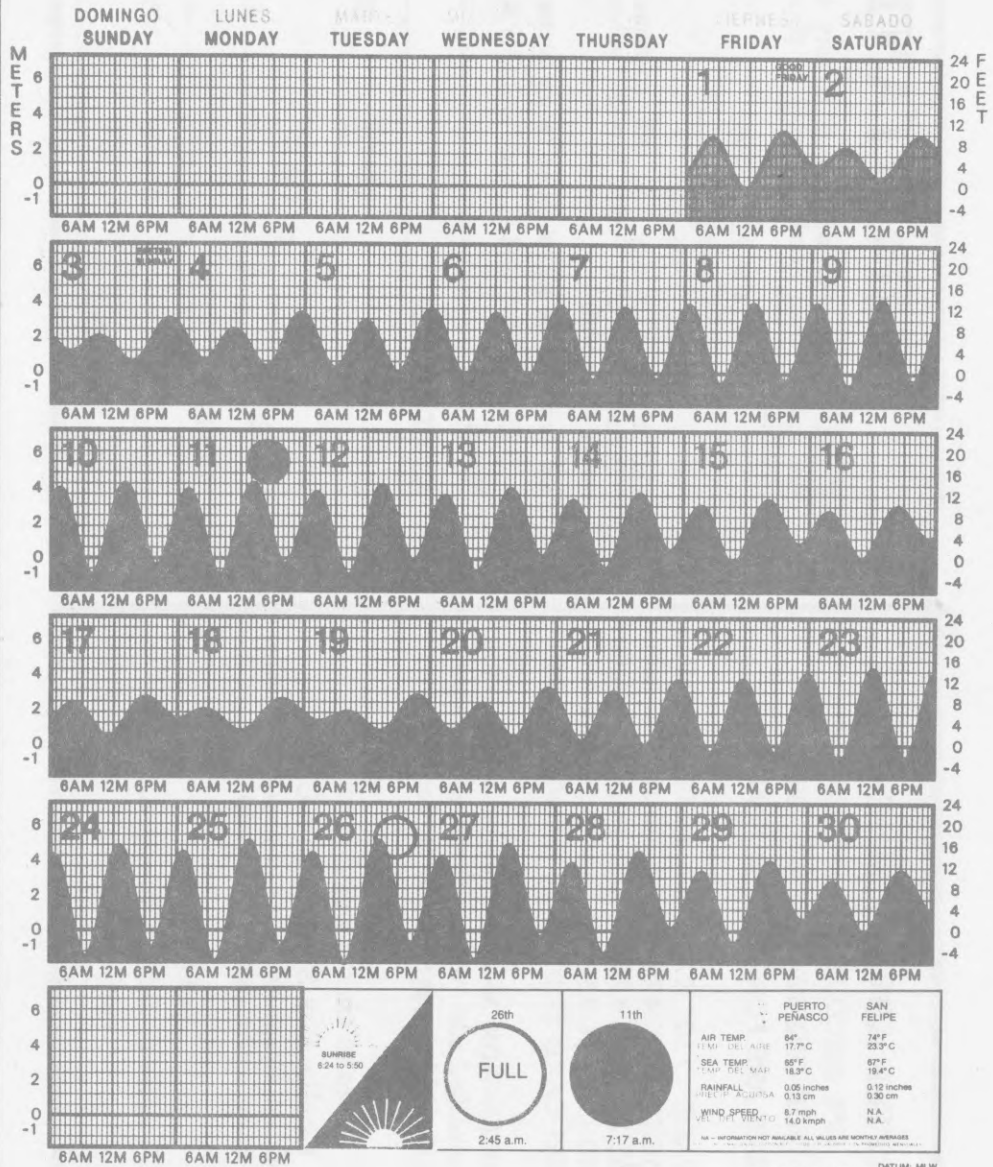
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Children Under 18: \_\_\_\_\_ Names & Ages: \_\_\_\_\_ Cabin #: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK BOX FOR CHAPTER AFFILIATION



# ABRIL APRIL 1994



CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.  
6824 S. Hardy Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85283



Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 138  
Scottsdale, AZ