

PELORUS

Pelorus: a fixed compass used to take bearings relative to a ship's heading.

The Quarterly Newsletter of

Central Coast Women For Fisheries, Inc.

Incorporated May 4, 2006



A Message From the President

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are having a beautiful and fun summer. CCWF will not be meeting in July due to summer business, but we did have a nice coffee time gathering for our general membership meeting in June.

First of all, I would like to thank the women who were willing to be on the board of directors ballot, both past members and new, We are so grateful to have each of you involved, and for your support of our fishing community. The vote was very close this year, with results being that the same board will continue from the previous year. We announced the results at the general membership meeting and the board will choose each of it's officers at our next meeting. (See list of board members on page 3).

If you have not renewed your membership at this time, I encourage you to do that soon. Each member makes us a stronger organization, and that allows us to continue supporting the fishing community with our scholarship program, fishermen's relief, and education activities, and other projects. CCWF also want to acknowledge and thank the Central California Joint Cable/ Fisheries Liaison Committee for the grant we have received from them. This helps us with our mission, especially with the scholarship program.

Our next event will be the Maritime Family Fun Day, where we will be doing fish prints with the kids, and serving albacore salad in avocados. We are also beginning to work toward some informational signs for Port San Luis, similar to those we did in Morro Bay. Anyone wanting to participate with any of these things, please let me know.

Lenore Ward, CCWF President

Summer 2024

Volume 19, Issue 2

Inside this issue:

2024 Scholarship Awards 2

Leary Scholarship 2

Aloha 3

CCWF Board and email 3

Cooking with CCWF 3

Pages from the Past 4

Pages from the Past continued 5

The Last Word 6

CCWF Fishing Heritage Scholarship Program
2024 Recipients

Student	College	Major	Fisherman related to
Leah O'Brien	Curry College	Early Education	Jeremiah O'Brien
Amanda Leary	Auguste Escoffier	Culinary	Michele Leary
Emilie Giannini	Cal State University	Kinesiology	Joe Giannini
Gregory Cullen	Colombia College	Business/Marketing	Roger Cullen
Tyler Lee	University of Phoenix	Cyber Security	Self
Lyla Boughton-Proano	Colorado School of Mines	Engineering	Larry Stoffle
Nicholas Cefalu	Georgetown University	Political Science	Fred Cefalu
Blake Daniels	Sacramento State	Economics	Tom St. John
Hailee Brinckerhoff	San Joaquin Valley	Dental Assistant	Travis Evans
Lindsey Giannini	Barry University	Nurse	Joe Giannini
Otis Kelly	Cal Poly, Humboldt	Geospatial Science	self & Becca Kelly
Braxten Lintner	Cal Poly, SLO	Business	Brent Lintner

Congratulations to these well-deserving students!

Michele Leary Memorial Scholarship

The Morro Bay High School Senior Awards and Tribute night was June 4, 2024. The recipients of the 12th annual Captain Michele Leary Scholarship were Emily Schalwitz and Otis Kelly. Emily plans to attend the University of California San Diego or Cal Poly. She is mainly interested in Biotechnology/Coastal Sciences. Otis plans to attend Cal Poly Humboldt, majoring in Geospatial Science Technology. He'll be busy this summer running to be in shape for track, and being a beach lifeguard in Morro Bay. A huge Thank You to retired commercial fisherman Diane Schoditsch for funding this scholarship in honor of her late husband Tom Roff. They had an adventurous life fishing many decades for swordfish, tuna, salmon, and other fish, as well as diving for abalone. This hard-working couple cared very much about the commercial fishing industry and advocated for it in different ways. Tom was also once President of the Ventura County Fishermen's Association, and later in Morro Bay, was well-known for his work as Chairman of the Central California Joint Cable/Fisheries Liaison Committee.

We wish all the best to these 2 well-deserving students!

ALOHA: (In Hawaiian, “Aloha “ means love: CCWF uses it to say both “hello” and “farewell” with love.)



Our Aloha committee is there for you. The committee sends cards and flowers, but we need you to make the call and let us know of the need and the address. Members are encouraged to contact the committee and help CCWF observe occurrences throughout our community, whether happy or sad.

Check out the CCWF website:
www.womenforfish.org
For news, events, projects, programs and much more, including past issues of the newsletter. We are also on Facebook.

CCWF Board of Directors

President:
Lenore Ward lenoredw@gmail.com
Vice President:
Sharon Rowley srowley303@gmail.com
Secretary:
Sheri Hafer somethingsfishy@charter.net
Treasurer:
Tacy Lee 4tacyl@gmail.com
Director:
Becka Kelly bkelly@morrobayca.gov

CCWF email:
ccwf@womenforfish.org

Maritime Family Fun Day

This year’s Maritime Family Fun Day is Saturday, October 12. This event that celebrates Morro Bays waterfront will have plenty of activities, food and fun for kids and adults. Besides CCWF’s fish print booth and albacore stuffed avocados, there’s knot tying, fishing games, sand castle building, exhibits, and much more. It will be held at the Maritime Museum area on the Embarcadero.

COOKING WITH CCWF and FRIENDS

Don’t Knock Yourself Out Shrimp Alfredo Pasta Is what I named the recipe.

My niece, Marita Lynn, made a delicious Alfredo sauce from scratch while visiting from Texas a few years ago. It was a lot of work with a long list of ingredients, but I wanted to make the sauce easier. It’s delicious, but this Alfredo sauce is not as outstanding as Marita’s. We tried it with chicken in a crock pot the first time. Our family liked it so much they wanted me to try it with shrimp.

I used **Prego** brand Homestyle Alfredo Sauce. Not all jarred Alfredo sauces are great, but this was good. If you have a brand you like, then use it. If you make your own Alfredo sauce from scratch, then you can change the name to

Knock Yourself Out Shrimp Alfredo Pasta. Sharon Rowley

Ingredients

Any kind of shrimp or prawns, peeled, as much as you want.
Large jar of Prego Homestyle Alfredo Sauce
Chopped green onion
About 1 cup milk
One 8 oz. cream cheese
About 1/2 cup grated Parmesan, more if you want
16 oz. package wide noodles.

Directions

Sauté shrimp in butter till almost done (with garlic too if you want). Set aside.
In a pot on the stove, pour in the Alfredo sauce. Add about a cup of milk to the jar, shake, (with the lid on) and pour into pot.
(I just filled the jar with milk about half way. You can add more later if too thick)
Mix cream cheese till smooth, then add to sauce. Throw in the Parmesan too. Heat and stir until all is smooth.
Cook the noodles separately and drain.
Add the noodles, shrimp and green onions to the pot of hot Alfredo mixture.
I didn’t try yet, but you can add other herbs to spruce it up, such as Thyme, Basil, Oregano, and salt or pepper.

A Few Memories of a life at Sea

by Diane Schoditsch



In the summer of 1972, I met an abalone diver in Marina del Rey who offered me a job as his tender. I was on spring break from nursing school at USC, had recently moved to California from Philadelphia and didn't know what an abalone was. But I grew up watching Sea Hunt and Jacques Cousteau TV programs and the offer of a job on a boat on the Pacific Ocean seemed like a good way to make summer money. I didn't go back to school. I worked on a few other ab boats and bought my own boat from another diver who was going to Prison in 1976. My boat sank the next year on a mooring in Avalon and I met Tom, an Ab diver and future husband. He was moored nearby and offered to help me. He helped me for the next 39 years.



I loved diving! My favorite Island was Santa Barbara Island. Other divers pretty much ignored this one square mile rock. It has purple coral reefs, brittle star reefs and deep canyons frequented by Giant Black Sea Bass. These fish can weigh in at over 500 pounds and were always frightening, yet awesome to see. I also saw my first White Shark at Santa Barbara Island, a ten-footer. I was down at 80 feet and froze. But I will always remember the eyes. It looked straight at me and kept going. I considered returning to nursing school.

Tom and I dove all of the islands except San Miguel. Each Island is different. San Clemente and San Nicholas were always "interesting" with the Navy. We were pros at swimming in for unlawful beach landings on San Clemente Island, to hike. Except once, when we were caught. Our group of 5 fishermen and 4 dogs were put in Jeeps and taken from the south end of the island to Wilsons Cove, the Navy base at the north end of the island. The Commander didn't know what to do with us, so he fed us dinner and beers and had the Jeeps drive us back to the other end of the island. We swam back to our boats at 3am.



Tom and I basically fished for anything with a price on its head. We had mountains of nets and buckets of hooks for different fish and different seasons. One summer, we packed an ultralight plane with pontoons on the deck of our boat. We would launch him overboard for spotting the swordfish we hoped to harpoon. We dove for abalone at Cortez Bank, a high spot in the ocean roughly 100 miles from San Diego. Finding "The Bank" was iffy prior to GPS on our old, slow boat in strong current.

We saw the Navy drop a practice bomb on our set net flag, and shook in our boots when a 1,092 foot aircraft carrier ran our drift swordfish net over, half of a mile away from us as we were pulling the net. It happened 3 days before Christmas and the tremendous amount of damage to the net was devastating. Dealing with the Navy for compensation wasn't easy, and it eventually took an investigation by a TV program called JAG (Judge Advocate General) to resolve the issue.

Each fishery is unique and challenging in its own way. But the biggest challenge has been, and continues to be the blatant mismanagement of most fisheries by National Marine Fisheries Service. They folded to the threats of costly legal actions from radicalized environmental groups and implemented closures and restrictions to pacify the overly emotional, poorly educated, irrational eco gangs. They continue to disallow first hand observations from fishermen and have destroyed many small businesses in the name of conservation. They have little respect for fishermen, and I, for one, have no respect for them. Americans import 75% of their seafood from countries with minimal conservation restrictions. We have closed areas to Save the Turtles, other countries are making them into soup.



I dove/fished from 1972 until Tom's death in 2015. I miss Tom and our fishing life terribly. I was proud of our career and felt good that hundreds of people would be enjoying quality seafood after we unloaded. I'm deeply thankful for my life on the Ocean.

Diane Susan Schoditsch



Abalone diving days



Young Diane with shark. Tom and Diane were involved in many different fisheries during four decades.



Part of the crew was their best friend





Central Coast Women
For Fisheries, Inc.

785 Quintana Road, #106
Morro Bay, CA 93442

www.womenforfish.org

Please Note: The Quintana Road address for mail is a postal box only.

The Last Word by Tavis O. Evans

Grandma

In the dim and distant past,
when life's pace was not so fast,
Grandmas used to sit and rock and knit,
and sometimes even babysit.
But now, the dear old soul is down at the gym,
exercising, trying to stay trim,
or out golfing with the "in" crowd
and wearing slacks that are way too loud.
Mountain slopes Grandma will never master;
Her last ski trip was a fractured disaster!
She's made friends worldwide on the internet;
Doesn't tell them her age, I'll bet!
We don't know what Grandma's up to next.
She might start dating the opposite sex.
Nothing that we do or say
seems to phase or stop her.
All we know for sure is, Grandma's off her rocker!

