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.

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A Message From the President

Hello Friends,

As my time as president of CCWF is soon coming to an end, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved over the multiple terms I have been here. You have all made CCWF a successful organization. I am proud of what we have accomplished, and serving as your president has been a pleasure and an honor. Our accomplishments have been achieved through the dedication, energy, and support of our members who have volunteered for each of our events, and also because of the board of directors that have served with me. Any success we have had is credited to that team, and I thank you all.

I believe it is time for some new members to be on our board, with new and different skills. I will continue to be involved with CCWF (I am not going anywhere), and I will offer my support where I can, just as you all have. I am looking forward to seeing how this new board will continue to work for the benefit of our fishing community.

Before I finish, we will have one more general membership meeting. Saturday, July 18th at the Morro Bay Yacht Club. This is a beautiful spot to enjoy brunch, on us. Gather and catch up on what CCWF is doing, but also spend time with the other women who understand your lifestyle. For me, friendships with women in similar situations to mine have been one of the best benefits of this organization. The results of the voting for board of directors will be announced at this general membership meeting also, and I hope you will all show up to support them.

Please also take note of the other things happening that are mentioned in this newsletter. Like an opportunity to send your kids or grandkids on a fishing trip with us (fishermen have first priority). Our fund raiser at the Avocado Margarita Festival is coming in September, and we will need your help. We are also looking for others to be involved with the development of interpretive signs we hope to have placed in Port San Luis to educate the public about our local fisheries. If you are interested in any of these please contact me.
Hope to see you all soon and have a great summer,

Lenore Ward, CCWF president (for just a little longer)

All Invited to the CCWF General Membership Meeting
Saturday, July 18 at 10:00AM at the Morro Bay Yacht Club. Brunch provided.

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Avocado Margarita Festival

CCWF will sell albacore salad stuffed avocados at this event on the waterfront. It's Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10:00 to 6:00. Anyone that can help, even for a couple of hours, contact Lenore (board members page 3).

CCWF Kids at Sea 2026

On June 9th, 21 kids ventured out to sea from Morro Bay on the *Black Pearl*. This is the 2nd year CCWF has had Kids at Sea trips, which are totally free for the kids. We had 3 trips last summer and plan 3 again this year. Local landings have generously given CCWF a discounted trip price, as well as reduced prices for tackle, lunch and fish cleaning. They have also donated the use of their rods & reels. The *Black Pearl* crew were great with the kids and although it was a rough day, they had a good time and each brought home a bag of fillets. CCWF members Pam Sines and Charlie Nungaray volunteered on the trips last year and are doing the same this year. They've proven to be invaluable with the needed duties, including the check-in process when the kids arrive, helping the kids fish, and making sure all the kids are back with parents when they disembark. We appreciate them and also a big thanks to the other volunteers on this trip; parents David and Janet Serna and Mary Jane Puett and her son Daniel Puett. They used to own the roller skating across the street from Morro Bay High School, where Daniel spent much of his childhood. The next 2 trips are July 13th on the Endeavor out of Morro Bay Landing and August 10th on the Flying Fish out of Patriot Sport Fishing.



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2026 Captain Michele Leary Memorial Scholarship

For the 14th annual Captain Michele Rowley Leary Memorial Scholarship , 2 Morro Bay High seniors were awarded $1,000 each on June 2, 2026 at the Senior Awards and Tribute Night. Karina Carranza plans to begin at a community college and has sights on nursing as a possible career. Reese Kelly will begin at a 4 year college with environmental studies as a major. An answer to an application question; Plans after graduation? Reese answered, "Flight nurse for the army." Both of these deserving young women with admirable goals have our best wishes.

A special Thank You goes to retired commercial fishermen Diane Schoditsch and her late husband Tom Roff for funding. Also, Thank You to Jeremiah and Trudy O'Brien for presenting the awards, which they have done for many years. They are pictured with the 2 girls, Reese on the left and Karina on right.



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.

CCWF gave a donation to Newport Fishermen's Wives for their ongoing legal fight to keep the Coast Guard Helicopter base in Newport, Oregon.

CCWF sent a card to Jeremiah O'Brien

CCWF sent a card to Bill Ward

A thank you card was sent to Patrick Roelle from Reedsport, Oregon. He donated samples of his canned albacore to CCWF

CCWF Board of Directors

President:
Lenore Ward lenoredw@gmail.com
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Sheri Hafer somethingsfishy@charter.net
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ccwf@womenforfish.org

Congratulations to CCWF member, Elizabeth Cota

She recently graduated from Cal Poly and received one of our scholarships. "I have completed my Single Subject Teaching Credential - Social Sciences. That means I can teach Middle or High School Social Sciences, like History, Econ/Government, or Geography... I have spent the year teaching at Los Osos Middle School and have loved the kids and watching them grow and get curious about the world."

Blessing of the Fleet 2026

The annual Blessing of the Fleet was on May 3 this year. As usual is began on the north T-pier at 1:00pm. Following the ceremony, lunch was served up the hill at the Veterans Hall by the Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization. Dessert was provided by Central Coast Women for Fisheries.







Pictures on the right of a good turn-out at the Veterans Hall and one of the desserts by CCWF; A cake made by Sheri Hafer.

COOKING WITH CCWF and FRIENDS
Baked Salmon in Foil
This recipe is from an Allrecipes cookbook: Good Reviews!

Ingredients

1/2 cup olive oil
4 to 5 cloves of minced garlic
3 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
1 Tbsp brown sugar
1 tsp dried Oregano
1 tsp dried Thyme
Salt & pepper to taste

Olive oil to brush on to foil
2 and 1/2 to 3 pounds of salmon fillet.

Optional: fresh chopped or dried parsley and sliced lemon for top

Directions

Combine in a bowl the oil, garlic, lemon juice, brown sugar, Oregano, Thyme, salt & pepper.

Place a large piece of aluminum foil on a large baking dish. Have enough foil to fold over salmon. Brush bottom of the foil with oil, then place salmon skin side down in the middle. Drizzle with all the mixture in the bowl.
Fold the foil over the salmon, covering and pinching foil to seal.
Bake 375 degrees, 20-25 minutes. Possibly slightly longer if thick fillet., until fish flakes easily.
Garnish with lemon slices and parsley.

Pages From the Past

A Walk On The Waterfront

by Sharon Rowley

Walking along Morro Bay's waterfront on a Saturday morning in 1973, I feel a breeze that rustles through the rigging of the fishing boats, making sounds like many chimes. It's a clear day and still early enough before the noise of tourists and cars takeover the sound of the nearby surf. The main activity are fishermen starting their day of getting ready to go to sea or working on their boats. All the tie-up spaces on the north T-pier are taken, so boats are rafted together, 2 or 3 outside of the boat tied to the pier. A few of the boats have fishermen working on their nets and I see a guy climb out of an engine hatch in dirty overalls. Near the base of this pier, there's big dock for unloading fish run by Regal Seafoods. There's a lot of fish unloaded here all year and during albacore season a semi is typically parked here so the tuna can be loaded directly on the truck. Sometimes there's cases of whisky in the office as a gift to the crew after they unload. A little way down is Sites Abalone processing, which today is part of Tognazzini's Dockside Restaurant. Then, passing Virg's landing there's a crowd of bundled up people, many holding fishing poles and tackle boxes, waiting to board one of the Landing's six boats. Taking a quick peek in the tackle store, I see another crowd lining up to buy tickets. The excited chatter makes me smile. It always does. This is where I work, but I'm having a rare Saturday off. This location is now Morro Bay Landing and Virg's Landing, which is one of the oldest businesses in Morro Bay, is up the hill on Market Street in the building that used to be Giannini's Marine Supply Store. Even though there used to be many more sport fishing businesses in the 1960's, 70's and into the 80's, it still seems to be busy enough 54 years later in 2026.

Past the Harbor Hut there's a bait boat that loads up with anchovies or sardines to sell off the dock to other boats. At the southern part of the dock is an old building, that would later be remodeled and become the Great American Fish Company restaurant. The *Glady I* and the *Lucky Strike* dock here and take passengers out on fishing trips. The sun was coming up more and the warmth felt good. Passing the south T-pier, I saw it was full of boats too. There's also a tower-like building with a conveyer belt used for unloading fish. A few tourists seemed interested in watching the fishermen's activities, including some of them hollering and untying their boats to leave. I walk across the street to the donut shop for a pineapple donut for 25 cents and a cup of coffee. This donut shop would be a fixture for over 40 years and is now a beef jerky store.

Crossing back to the channel side of the waterfront, I pass the Shell Shop on the corner, which is now Stacks Wine Bar. (The Shell Shop later relocates more to the south.) Behind is a fuel dock. There are two other fuel docks on the waterfront, but today there is only this one. Right past there, I drop in to say hello to Bruce and Rusty Brebes at their tackle store. They sell tickets for Ed Ewing's sport boat, the *Sea Venture I*. Mark Tognazzini is his deckhand. They're too busy to chat much, so I stroll by Brebes Fisheries and sip coffee while watching the filleters cut fish. Brebes also has a building across the street on Beach Street where they process fish. Out front is Brebes Ocean House Restaurant. Some of the best fish & chips are there. All the waterfront restaurants regularly serve local rock fish. No one has heard of Tilapia and Alaskan Cod is not served yet. This whole complex today is Giavanni's Fish Market and Galley. Walking along, I pass Mike St. John's sport fishing landing, then Grahams Landing. A restaurant and tackle store are up front and at the dock in back the *San Mateo* takes passengers out. Mike Graham is a popular and very good captain. The Galley Restaurant is nearby. Bill Wilson built this place as a fish market from his fishing proceeds on his small boat, the *Lucky Boy*, then sold it to the Andersons and they made it the restaurant. Past there, is the Machine Shop where Jim Eddy does a lot of work for the fishermen. It's conveniently next to the boatyard, where all of Virg's boats and many commercial fishermen haul out for boat maintenance. Today, it's still called the Boatyard, but it's a complex of gift and food shops. Walking by Bob's Seafood, Sammy the seal is barking in the pool they built for him out front.

Passing the Fish Bowl I find a trash can to toss my coffee cup and think about the mouth-watering fish and chips they make. I stop at 5th Street Landing to say hello to Weldon Lackey in his little office. He's selling a few tickets for a late morning charter on his boat, the *Captain Midnight*. Since it's Saturday, his two mischievous boys he's raising are running around and they'll go on the boat too. Little Mike and Gordon Lackey grew up fishing and as of today have had their own boat for decades, the *Vagabond.* It's a very successful fishing operation in San Diego, taking passengers for mostly tuna. Where Lackey's place used to be is now just a short pier between Roses Landing and The Libertine Pub, which used to be the Fish Bowl. Roses has always been a restaurant but used to have a dock behind it that Captain Bob Gannon ran his boat out of, the *Mallard*. In the mid 1970's he sold it to Virg's Landing and went to work there.

Pages From the Past continued

Virg's had it until the mid-2000's, then sold it to Patriot Sport Fishing in Port San Luis. The *Mallard's* demise happened during a strong southerly storm where it's mooring broke and it washed up on the beach.
Farther down is Johnson's Oyster and it's a fish market too. Also, the Yachts Club, Browns Tackle, the Aquarium and Sylvester's Tugs. I didn't continue, though, and ended my walk across the street from Roses. My boyfriend John and I live in a dinky apartment that's part of a trailer park. We pay $35 a month, all utilities paid. It's fun living on the waterfront. The vacant lot to the north of us is now a restroom and Centennial Parkway, which has a giant chess board.
Fishing is big in Morro Bay during this era and there's plenty of businesses to support them. There's also Jim Lapp's Refrigeration, another fuel dock besides the 3 on the waterfront, Orval Leagues Cannery, where more boats can unload, another small boat haul-out facility and two electronic stores for marine equipment purchasing and repairs. Today, in 2026, the fishing is a shadow of what it once was when I took this walk. Regulations and costs are some factors. Traditionally there have been generations that have carried on the family fishing operation. It's tougher these days and many of the younger generation have gone on to different careers. With the dwindled amount of fishing boats there's not an abundance of crew, so less young people that were eagerly wanting to break-in to the fishing industry. There are still some though, and a strong effort to keep this way of life that provides fresh seafood to the public.

Garret Rose *a younger generation carrying fishing into the future*

"You have to love it, sacrifice other things and its life-consuming." These are some of words from Garret Rose to describe a lifestyle of being in the fishing business on California's central coast. He currently has Morro Bay Seafood Company next to the north T-pier. Buying fish from the fishermen and selling evolved from a simpler venture, from selling his own fish on a pier in Santa Barbara, then later getting a license to buy from other fishermen and sell their fish too. The success developed and led to acquiring the lease on the dock for the Morro Bay Seafood Company.
Like many fishing families, Garret started young fishing with his dad, David Rose. Dave even let him miss some school to go fishing as long as he kept his grades up. Dave's hard work, knowledge and skills were passed on to his son and instilled a good worth ethic.
Garret graduated from Morro Bay High in 2012 and Cal Poly in 2016. During college he trolled for salmon on his boat, the Prime Time. After college, he moved to Santa Barbara and fished the Taurus, which he later bought from his parents. There, he sold whatever he caught, salmon, rock fish, etc., to the public. Then, he began buying other fishermen's catch to sell.
Besides running Morro Bay Seafood Company, he often makes fishing trips for sable fish, black gill and groundfish. He still has the Taurus, and another boat, the TKO. He's a busy man with a family too; his wife Whitney, 2 and ½ year old daughter Ollie, and 1 year old son Roy. Garret's father, Dave, sold the boat he fished, the Nicki J, and got a 36' boat he fishes squid with. He also helps his son, as he is part of the Morro Bay seafood Company.
Garret doesn't see a lot of involvement with the younger generation keeping the fishing traditions going or new ones getting into it. He says most of the local fishermen are in the "sunset of their careers." Many long-timers are now retired or have passed away. It's a lot harder now to own a boat and fish for a lot of reasons. The regulations and costs are big factors, but he said there are still some young fishermen. He thinks parts of the west coast to the north are healthier as far as fishing being carried on by the next generation. There are still some younger fishermen around here that are hard-workers, focused, and love being on the ocean.



Garret with his family. His wife Whitney is holding Roy, and Ollie is their daughter.





Garret's 2 boats, the *TKO* on left and the *Taurus*

A successful Blackgill trip



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

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William

by Pam Sines

Editor's note: A dedicated volunteer and a little boy determined to fish.

Tuesday, June 9th was a very wet, foggy, sort of breezy morning. The Kids at Sea parents were dropping their kids off, handing the waivers to me to check them off the list, and Charlie printed out name tags for the kids, asking what name they preferred on their tags.

A mom approached me with a waiver but her son wasn't by her. Reading the waiver, I asked her how he would want his name tag made out – Billy, Willy, Will, William?… She said his first day of school his teacher asked what he wanted to be called, and he replied "my name is William." She went on to tell me that none of their other kids had any interest in fishing, only William. She said he was quite insistent that he wanted to fish and to go on this trip alone. She couldn't figure out where that drive came from, but she was grateful the Kids at Sea program gave him this opportunity. It was his first time fishing.

She asked me if I thought he needed a Dramamine, and I looked at her puzzled because there was no way I could answer that, I hadn't even seen him yet. She said he gets carsick and I told her he definitely should have a Dramamine. The mom asked if the kids would all be wearing life vests, and I told her he was welcome to wear one but that it might be a little difficult for him to navigate while fishing because they are the big orange ones, and only one kid wore one last year and it was his personal vest. She was happy there were at least vests on the boat and let it go at that. When she called him over to get his name tag and the pill, I noticed he was just a little bitty slip of a boy. He could have been the smallest one on the boat, although not the youngest, and when he talked to me he looked me right in the eye.

We loaded onto the boat and the sun coming through the fog was eerie. I caught sight of William as we were about to leave the harbor entrance and thought he looked a little green. The water was a bit rough and once we left the harbor we rocked and rolled quite a lot. About 20 minutes later I located William in the cabin, head on table. He said he didn't feel good and turned down my offer of ginger ale and soda crackers. He said he just needed to stay quiet for a bit. We were about an hour getting out to where they started fishing and I had checked in on William probably 5-6 times and each time he had his head in his hands down on the table with his eyes closed. The other kids started fishing and William stayed head down in the cabin.

About half an hour later I went in to check him again and he asked if it would be okay if he fished. I told him to come with me and we would get him hooked up with a pole. It was still foggy, and the boat was still rocking, and when I turned around he had his head over the rail

I waited for him to finish, and he wiped his mouth then looked at me and said in a slight voice he wanted to fish. So we got his line in the water. He fished that way off and on for roughly an hour - head over the rail, then hand out for his pole, and repeat. He wound up in the cabin again for a bit, but he did come back out to fish some more. He was fishing when the lines came out for the last time.

When we arrived back at the dock, Charlie handed out the coloring books as the kids got off the boat and I went up to make sure kids hooked up with their adults. William's mom immediately sought me out and asked how he did. I told her how very sick he was most of the trip, but he sucked it up to catch some fish in between bouts of nausea. She felt so bad for him, thinking he would never want to fish again. He came up behind her holding out his bag of fish fillets with a huge smile on his face, and asked if they could do it again tomorrow.

I know it's a trip William will always remember. I know he's one of the kids I will always remember- tiny, full of grit and determination through adversity. All the parents are always so grateful that the program is in place, thanking us over, and over again. CCWF is making a huge difference, and Kids at Sea program is truly educating the next generation of fishermen.



