

THE FISHIN MISSION JOURNAL

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*** Western Edition ***

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JR and Missy Tie the Knot!

Schedule the 29th NOW!

- Exercise your rights as the *damn paterfamilias!*
- Make sure you are in 29th Annual photo's that will be in the new CD Photo Album on the 30th!
- Stay "Wide Open" on Tuesday!
- Dates: Friday May 31st-Sunday June 9th !
- Go to the web site for a "color" version of this Fishin' Mission Journal!

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One of the big topics of discussion at the 28th Annual Fishin' Mission—besides fishin', golf, and the weather – which you will read about later in this Journal - was the fact that JR and Missy had "set the date"!

So, on July 14th, as they had planned, they followed through and tied the knot!

Several missionaries made the trek back to Bridgeport for the occasion—and they were "knot" disappointed! BT, Hands, Walkbucks, Mayor, and Sparky were all there to help celebrate the day, and try to represent the Fishin' Mission to the best of their abilities! They also had the pleasure of presenting the couple with the Fishin' Mission Wedding Gift (cold cash—thanks to all who contributed) which we understand was used appropriately for lot's of liquor during their honeymoon in Tahiti!

The wedding ceremony was

Great Attendance on the 28th

The 28th Annual was well-attended, and those who were there know it was as special as the twenty-seven preceding events!

After turning over the attendance list to Anderson Consulting (hey, they did a great job for Enron) for a final review—it appears that we



After a spectacular wedding ceremony backed up against the Sierra's at Green Creek, JR and Missy serve up a toast to The Fishin' Mission (and surely others) during their reception at Sceirine Ranch.....

up at Green Creek and with the Sierra's as the backdrop, the sun shining, and a warm breeze (kept the bugs down dudes) and it was awesome!

The reception was out at the Sceirine Ranch (BBQ-Bridgeport Cowboy-Style) and it went on into the night

(including a campfire and marshmallows) and even into the next day for some!

**Congratulations
JR and Missy!**

had **45 Attendees!** This article will mention all—but only comment on a few:

CR, LTR, and T where there, but only for a minute (FIFO) —they preferred a stay in Mammoth to hangin' with us!

The Professor, OD, POD, Walkbucks, Lewd, Smilin'

Jim, Hands, Sperm, Sparky, Mayor, HFTB, Oregonism, and 3D where there!

DJ showed up with his two sons—Rob and Tim. Judge Ito, Fast Eddy, and Quiet came to party! BT showed up and brought Gerry—a rookie I'm sure will be back!

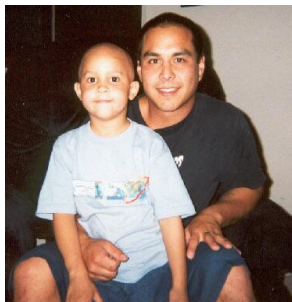
-con't on Page 2

Fishin' Mission continues it's fight against Leukemia

Although our primary Mission has always been Fishin' - over the last few years we have taken up a new cause—and should feel pretty good about it!

Working with Kathie Reid (who by the way, does all the *real* work—training and then riding in the 111 mile—Tour de Tucson with her Team in Training) the Fishin' Mission participated in our third annual fund raising event for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America (LLSA).

This year was even more special and important, as we raised money to help one of our own—Marko



Marko and Marcel Deon—all smiles !!

Porno's little nephew Marcel Deon Souder—who was recently diagnosed .

This year, despite the impact of the horrible events of September 11th at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, **we raised another \$1495 for the Leukemia Society!** This brings our three year total to over \$3700!

I'm sure you want to do even more this year! Why not make this one of your key charitable organizations?

Start saving now—we WILL be passing the hat many times on the 29th Annual! It'll make ya feel good!

Great Attendance on the 28th Backwards Bob, Scratch, Wild Bill, Red (a new thinner version) Cartier and Bowen made the trip! Robbin (Lucky) was back and brought Jules. Omar was there with his sons Kyle and rookie Christopher!

Stiffy showed up, with Mike (Runs with Stiffy) and Steve (Runs with Stiffy2) and Dave Covert showed up with his sons Davy (Junior) and Johnny. It was great to have Greener back (and we'd like to see more of those New Generation guys in the future) and Slomax made it in from Washington again and even got to fish!

We also met Dennis and Kevin Bernard—rookies to the Fishin' Mission—but they've known Bowen (don't hold that against them) and have been making the Bridgeport run since 1973!

And that makes 45! So I won't mention those that weren't there!

Fishin' Derby Controversy: Are Perch "Gamefish"?

The Fishin' Derby has been steeped in controversy (not unlike the ice skating judges at the Olympics) over the years—everyone remembers the difficult ruling the Commish made on the 21st when there was an "alleged" big fish, but neither fish nor fisherman were present on Monday at 12:00PM!

This year it was "déjà vu all over again". Friday is normally the day when folks try to get a jump on the competition, but with the fast wind and the slow bite—they may as well have been watching

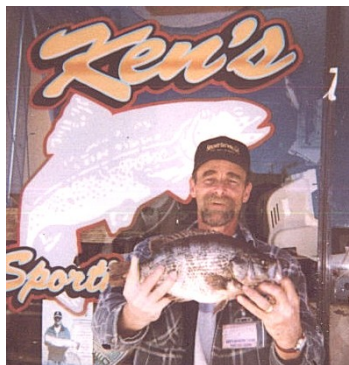
"Jump Street" on the TV at Rhino's!

Saturday was not much better. The only fish bitin' was the "singing bass" in the lobby of the Best Western! Nothin' worthy of the freezer at Ken's had been taken!

Most folks skipped church on Sunday to make the early bite, but the Res, the Twins, the EWR, and even Carmen were as slow as a VW bus going up Conway Summit—and then it happened! The Mayor was at the Res with

a "fish on" and rassed a 2 lb 7 oz PERCH to shore! Shit—we are "out for trout" - what the hell do we do with a **lunker PERCH?** Cartier had landed a 2 lb 5 oz 'bow—but that was not enough!

On Monday, we were all out to beat the PERCH! Damn, we're in a tight spot! It looked like the Commish would have to rule on the "gamefish" issue—when **at 11:57AM, the Mayor withdrew from the derby**—avoiding a ruling (wonder what it would have been?) and allowing Cartier the back-door victory!



The Mayor proudly displays his 2 lb 7 oz lunker Perch.....

"The hell with the derby, I want that Perch for my BBQ! Fish tacos baby!!"
-JR



The 28th Annual Derby Winner—Steve "Cartier" Carter—accepting the prize with his 2 lb 5 oz 'bow.....

Rhino's is "WIDE OPEN" for the 5th Straight Year!

The 5th Annual "Wide Open" started early, with breakfast at Hays Street (time for a carbo reload) at 7:00AM! All the players were there, but our videographer (HFTB) was missing. Oh well, we'll save money on his cart!

After a safe (how unusual is that?) drive to Hawthorne and the Walker River Country Club, it was time for the Commish of Golf—the honorable Smilin' Jim—to take charge.

The teams:

Long Balls - OD, Professor, Hands, and Mayor

Team Vaseline - Slomax, Sparky, and Sperm

3D's (Dumb, Dumber, and Dumbest) - 3D, Walkbucks, and Greener.

Had More Fun - Smilin' Jim, Quiet, POD

The brewskies started to flow, and the talent started to ebb (get it?) but as usual, The Commish of Golf managed to field some teams with equally bad

abilities—and the day ended with a three way tie (at one over) between the Long Balls, 3D's, and Had More Fun.

Smilin' Jim was prepared! He immediately called for a "closest to the pin" tiebreaker shootout at #15—the 140 yard tee-to-green shot between two



Hangin' it out at the "Wide Open" - a distinguished group of players.....

rows of 80 foot Aspens—a can of corn!

Only two shots made the green, and how poetic that it was GREENER that was closest! (sorry OD) **That meant the 3D's, dumb as they come, won the 5th Annual Rhino's Wide Open!**

Other notables:

Longest Drive—POD (ya think?)

Closest to Pin #15—Walkbucks

Closest to Pin #17—No Winner

(although Smilin' Jim did get close on a second try and was "beggin'")

After a Victory Beer in the Clubhouse, we took the **\$147.00 prize pool back to Rhino's for cocktails!** As usual...it wasn't enough—we had to kick another \$10 each to cover the "early evening" tab!

Even in the midst of the basketball game on that night, the trash-talk was already starting.....about the 6th Annual Rhino's Wide Open!

"Clipboard Chronology" of the 27th

Thursday May 31st: The anticipation regarding the 28th Annual was unrestrained, as Walkbucks and OD started early and met up in Lone Pine; LTR, CR, and T stayed over in Mammoth; and Smilin' Jim and Sperm shacked up with Hands; all desperate to get to B-Port early! First in was Lewd, who was solo at the Best Western on Thursday night!

Friday June 1st: Guys started showing up at around 10:30 AM—already talking about how this was their year! Time to win the derby—time to get their name on the plaque! There was a crew at the Bridgeport Inn, and folks at the Walker River Lodge, but most ended up at Doc 'n Al's or Mono Village as usual. News of the Professor's recent transition into "the cloth" raised eyebrows. How would the Reverend Professor manage? (we later found out—he managed "as usual") As we set up camp up at Mono Village, Walkbucks whipped his big one out! No, not that one-you dickweeds-it was his

new commercial grade three-burner stove! The rumor was that Ito was already doing laundry!

Saturday June 2nd: At 6:00AM Mayor, Sparky, and Walkbucks hitched a ride on Gordo's boat and hit the Res! It was windy—but they managed a few! Folks were at the Honey Hole, the Upper Lower, and the EWR—but the bad fishin' lent to twisted thoughts-and it was soon off to Rhino's and then back to camp for a group dinner. Gordon brought firewood (LOTS of firewood) and wooden nickels from the Sportsmen that were used over the next several days—and twenty were on hand for tri-tip, rib-eyes, kabob chicken, corncobs (yes—they had corn on them) potatoes, and salad! Stiffy showed up late with his two amigos and they went for round two in

the kitchen! Lewd was missing-and we found out he had done R-U-N-N-O-F-T! And LTR, CR, and T caught the same bus out of town-wassup with that?

Sunday June 3rd: Sparky, BT, Gerry, and Hands make an early morning run to Carmen Lake. Professor, Mayor, Oregonism, Walkbucks, and 3D make an early run to the Res-where Smilin' Jim and Sparky show up later ("it's raining russets!") and Slomax even gets his line wet—nothing but PERCH—shit! We head to Rhino's to party, and while the 76er's won Game 7 (anybody watching?) Cartier was landing his 2 lb 5 oz 'bow. [Ed.

"Who is the idiot that is always carrying that clipboard around and taking notes?"

Note: see Page 2 for the significance of that event]

-con't on Page 4

More on the “Yellow-Legged” Frog

In the Fishin’ Mission Journal printed on April 15, 2001 we had reported on the yellow-legged frog, an indigenous and endangered frog in the high lakes area—that most speculated were in danger due to trout stocking—which had negatively impacted frog habitat. While further studies were done, stocking was halted in some high lakes.

In the Winter 2002 Issue of Streamkeepers Log, there is information on a new study which has compelling statistics pointing to Central Valley pesticides as the culprit. They are finding “substantial levels of pesticides in both the water and the bodies of frogs in the High Sierra. No surprise, since over 6,000 tons of pesticides are sprayed in the Central Valley—and some is making its way on the winds to the high lakes! The pesticides suppress enzymes vital for muscle control and survival. **Shit!**”

Errors/Corrections/Quotes

The Commish has withdrawn his threat to eliminate members strictly because of a lack of attendance. When recently queried on the subject, the Commish said “I’m in charge because I appear to be the only one with a capacity for abstract thought!” I see.....

JR was quoted as saying, “these guys are half Fishin’ and half Mission!” I see.....

Judge Ito and Quiet were left off the attendee list for the 27th! I don’t see.....

“Clipboard Chronology” (con’t)

Monday June 4th: Most of the focus in the morning seemed to be “get a trout bigger than the perch!” Most of us were on the Res, skipping stones and launching russets rather than fishing! BT had landed a nice 6 lb ‘bow (on a still water nymph) out at Hunewell Lake (C&R) and could have beat the Mayor’s perch—but all he had was a picture! Can’t put that in the freezer!

By the way—**thanks to Gordon and the Sportsmen’s Inn for the folding chair and thanks to JR for the tackle and tackle box from Ken’s!** Nice prizes for Cartier!

We took Cartier’s prize money over to Rhino’s and, with JR behind the bar (we missed Jason but JR does know how to tend bar!) we spent every penny and then some. We ran video from previous Missions, digital pictures from the 28th, and some “special” stuff! Just before JR had to open for the rest of his customers, we passed the hat (I’m sure he passed the loot on to Jason—NOT!) We retired to camp, put on a feed-bag with

all the fixin’s for twenty guys again—and retired early (okay maybe about 2:00AM) for the big golf tourney on Tuesday!

Tuesday June 5th: Not much to report that hasn’t been said on Page 3—except **thanks to JR for the Rhino’s Golf Derby Shirts!**

Wednesday June 6th: The crowd is dwindling (as it does) but Sparky, HFTB, Walkbucks, and Professor decide to hike to Barney Lake for some brookies! With a lunch pack, cocktails (duh) and fishing poles they head off up the mountain, while Greener goes to the library and OD goes fishin’ at the Twins. After a great hike (everyone got brookies except...well...Here For The Beer!) **we ended up back in B-Port for B-Ball and T-Bones!** Those wooden



Walkbucks, HFTB, Sparky, and Professor prove Barney Lake really does exist!

nickels from a few nights back came in real handy!

Thursday June 7th: After an early AM breakfast in camp, Sparky had to leave for his boy Trevor’s graduation, and

most of just hung around camp. OD actually did some fishin’ and limited out down at the Log—and then had a dinner date in town of some sort?

Sparky, HFTB, Professor, and the Mayor—who had left but returned—hooked up with Chuck Grennell (another Class of ‘68 GHS’er with Mayor and Walkbucks) for a mini-

reunion and some fine filet mignon’s!

Friday June 8th: Time to break camp, head home, and plan for the 29th!

See you there!!!!

So.....What about the 29th??

They say “it’s a fool that looks for logic in the open heart” but it’s time you dealt with it!

The 29th Annual Fishin Mission has many attributes:

1. It’s the last one before the 30th Annual!
2. It’s the only place you can go where you really ARE in charge!
3. It’s the only place you can spend that wooden beer token you’ve had in your ash tray since last year!
4. It’s the last one before your next birthday!
5. It’s the only place you can wear the same clothes for days on end!
6. It’s never to late to meet up with your friends again!

Sure hope you give this one serious thought, from the heart, and make the commitment to be there! It will change your life forever!