

THE FISHIN MISSION JOURNAL

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News Bulletins!

1. Your Commish has been in chambers holding private hearings related to the issue of expanding the Big Fish Derby to include fish caught on Thursday. It is expected that a decision will be rendered on May 20th—and a Press Announcement will be available on the web site at that time.

2. Your Fishin' Mission Foundation Board of Director's has been moving ahead in the planning of the 4th Annual Western BBQ & Concert! Another kick-ass fund raising event over the Labor Day weekend in Bridgeport!

The event will feature BBQ by the famous Billy Ruiz of Cowboy Flavor—and some great country music from Jasmine Fields!! The tickets will go on sale online and at Ken's just in time for the 40th!

More information in June!

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40th Annual? No Way! Way!

For those of us that set our goal at "making the 40th" it's time to raise the bar again because the 40th is here!

Your Commish could wax poetic about life, goals, commitment, and success—but let's just all admit it's fuckin' amazing that this gig has lasted 40 years!

No one could have known or even guessed in 1974—when the first four embarked on a fishing trip—that we would still be at it in 2013!

It wasn't until the 6th Annual in 1979 that we thought maybe doing a commemorative shirt would be cool! Hands introduced a cowboy dude with a small stringer of fish and a few playing cards in his hat.

It was on the 9th Annual in 1982 that LTR introduced our first logo and delivered our first hats! We used that logo for belt buckles, hats, and t-shirts until the 15th in

That's probably the case for most of us—we are all getting older and can't remember shit! That's why we write the shit down!

For more and more dudes, the gig seems to be starting on Thursday. OD and Bucks made the haul straight through from AZ—barely

Continuing to sport the logo that was created in 1988 for the 15th Annual—the Fishin' Mission is now entering it's fifth decade as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary this year! Fucking amazing!

1988 when we introduced the new logo. By then I guess we figured some of us were going to keep doing this for a while.

So with a core group of probably 50-60 guys and a total attendee number exceeding 120....we continue the legacy! We've heard of other groups with years un-

avoiding a 4 car (our two and their two) collision in San Bernardino when we were only half-way there. Shit that was close!

In the meantime, Smilin' and Topper, Sparky and Mayo, Evil Eye and Tater, Greener and BEV, Rocko and Tambo were already at Rhino's.

der their belt—but no one that we have met can say **"SINCE 1974—BUILT TO LAST"** like we can!

So....make sure you are there this year for the 40th celebration and continue the legacy as we.....

REACH FOR FIFTY!

Backwards, Mighty Joe, and Red were already in town, sans Ernie who had back problems. And after a late fishing excursion, T, LTR, and CR showed up too. **Shit—that's EIGHTEEN on Thursday!**

And then there was Friday..

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FMF Co-Sponsored the 2nd Annual East Walker River Clean-Up!

Everyone is aware that the Fishin Mission Foundation is sponsoring the 4th Annual Western BBQ and Concert on August 31st—but some of you might not know the FMF also co-sponsors another event over the Labor Day weekend.

In partnership with Ken's Sporting Goods and Walker River Outfitters, the FMF will again co-sponsor the 3rd Annual East Walker River Clean-Up on September 3rd! This is a great local environmental function and we get about 40 volunteers each year that get out and pick up trash along the EWR.



Clean-up done! Time now for a great get-together with volunteers for Roast Pig and BBQ Tri-Tip visit our FaceBook page and "like" it—for all the pictures!

Last year, one of the interesting pieces of trash was a beer keg from Acme Brewing Company in San Francisco from the early 1950's. We had many other large items like chairs and the like—and a lot of small trash to pick up like beer cans and empty bait jars (uh oh) to fill the trailer!

Check out the FMF Facebook page for pictures of this event as well as the WBBQ&C. Be sure to "like" us if you haven't already!

Be there this year—don't miss the fun while helping the Bridgeport Community!!

The Rest of the Attendees on the 39th.....

On Friday we added the Duran Duran Clan (4) and the Kardashian Team (5) and the patriarch Noble Clan (3) was also well represented with Christopher and Kyle both on board!

HFTB, Mayor, Hands, Mattio, and 3D also showed up, as did the famous Carmageddon and TommyBoy team. HFTB's son Davinski showed up on Saturday, Slomax showed up Monday night, and then Ranger Chuck showed on Wednesday winning the prize for the latest arrival!

You can read about all the activities in the "Chronicles"—and I apologize if I've left anyone out who attended—but may call out some of the hacks we expected to see but didn't in the "Chronicles"!

40 Attendees? The economy sucks!

Big Fish Derby—Can Anyone Top Topper? Nope.

Last year T won the derby with a four pound 'bow, so when he showed up early this year with a 2 lb 8 oz'er in the freezer, folks started wondering if maybe he would repeat. But when most folks were asked—the answer was always the same...Nahhhh!



In the meantime, on Friday, Topper upped the ante with a nice 3 lb 9 oz 'bow in the boat! He was already living up to his name by topping T!

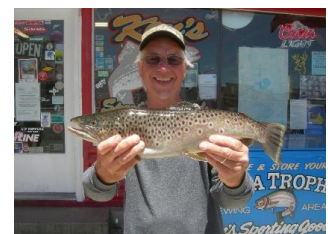


Under the excellent tutelage of Smilin' Jim (7-time derby winner) Topper has shown his fishin' skills by topping his own catch with this 4 lb 1 oz DERBY WINNER!

Then on Saturday, things really started heating up! First, Evil Eye got into a 3 pound 'bow which was close to topping Topper.



LTR also had a 3 pounder on and showed confidence in his net-man CR (even though the fear of pay-back for LTR's infamous "net-fail" on CR's monster trout the year before loomed) but CR "manned up" and put a solid net down so LTR could get this picture.



Rhino's 17th Annual—"Bill Reid Memorial"

As reported elsewhere in this journal, the weather on Tuesday morning was no different in that we woke up to freezing ass cold and some snow that had fallen. Can't wait to get out to Hawthorne to thaw out!

Before we teed it up—tried to do Maggie's but it was closed—so settled on Mickey D's! Gut plugs before golf! Way to go!

So let me introduce the teams....based on their final score....

Tied for third were **Take No Prisoners** with a shitty 3 over 71.



And also **Petey's Boys**.....



And in second place was **Team Top Dog** with a 2 under 66.....



And the winner was.....the **Heart Attacks** at a fuckin' 7 under 61!

Are you kidding me?



Same team as on the 13th when they went 10 under with a 58! Hmmm.

Rumors started that we would draw for POD next year!

3 Closest to Pin—POD 32'

4 Longest Drive—Gordo

8 Closest to Pin—Petey 35'

All the prize money (as usual) was contributed back to FMF so we raised \$250 on the day.

Then we moved on to Rhino's for a pizza feed and many scoops!

The "Chronicles of Fishin" for the 39th...

Thursday May 31st: As mentioned in other places—Thursday is the new Friday—and for some (Mighty Joe, Red, Backwards) apparently Wednesday is the new Friday! We had almost 20 guys in town for Thursday night! Some (T, LTR, CR) already had their lines wet and a 2 1/2 pounder in the freezer at Ken's! As usual—we kicked off the week at Rhino's but wandered all over town with a common theme—cold adult beverages! And perhaps a quest for designer eyewear!



Friday June 1st: Some were finishing camp set-up early and some went fishin' early!

The Res was like glass early and there were a lot of lines in the water! Topper managed a nice 3 lb 9 oz trout from a boat but many were still trying to get the

feel on the banks! By the way—this picture is before Mattio hooked his chair on a cast and thought he could still launch his Power Bait! Tip Test—Mattio lost! His pole that is!



Ended up at Rhino's for dinner. CHP was trolling so we left for camp at 11:00PM.

Saturday June 2nd: Everyone was up early on the Res—time to top the Topper who was leading in the freezer.

All the chickens were ordered from Albert for the cookout in camp—and everyone was focused on fishing. The weather was still pretty good. CR, LTR, T and Greener actually took the time during the day for the Barney Lake WRC—Tambo bailed—said "he's been

there and done that"! They were back in time for cocktails—and for old times sake—T and Walkbucks popped the last two ampules to celebrate that year when they both probably had a dozen!



And the Commish would be remiss in not mentioning the arrival of his nephew Davinski—with a bottle of Johnny Walker Blue Label under his arm! And thanks to the Duran Clan for the Coopah Polish Vodka—I think....

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The “Chronicles of Fishin” for the 39th...(con’t)

So after all that consumption it was time to cook....barrel chicken, tri-tip, baked potatoes, Tater taters, brats, two pasta, grilled onions, paella—and pies!



Sunday June 3rd: Early to rise - even with hangovers and whatever - because we were all still trying to top Topper! Did manage breakfast first at the Café - and many remarked about the remodel—NOT.

Early part of day on Res—wind kicked up so many headed for Trumbell where we heard they were killing them! And Davinski could get some lessons while Backwards supervised.



While that was going on, Topper topped Topper—for the full story read about the Derby. Eight of us headed back to Rhino’s where Walkbucks picked up Smilin’ Jim’s platter steak because of a baseball bet. Damn. And there’s a story about a CUPCAKE?

Monday June 4th: Last chance for MONSTER FISH and a Derby upset! Quite a few early outs this year so we only had about ten down on the Res—wind was gusting at 45 MPH so we huddled at the Fish Bowl to hide from the wind—right!

But we were treated to a double-triple which was awesome! At 9:15AM 3 F14’s screamed over the Res and then

at 10:00AM we got 3 F10’s buzzing the lake! Even with the military karma no one was able to upset Topper!

We showed up at NOON to hand over the Big Fish award....



Then went on to Rhino’s to spend his \$165 in winnings.....and then held our FMF Annual Board Meeting.....



As the private party was winding down, the wind was winding up. Combined with a temperature drop followed by hail and snow, ten of us stayed at Rhino’s for dinner! And JR and Joe introduced us to a dice game called Mexico and money did change hands! Finally left at 9:30PM to head to camp where Pat and Tater had been....cooking out in the snow. WTF?

Tuesday June 5th: Don’t miss the report on the 17th RHINO’S WIDE OPEN REPORT on Page 3.

After the golf we did go back to Rhino’s for a pizza feed—and had the chance to see Tater actually help out the wait-staff by taking the drink orders for a table of five! And yes—it was strangers!

Wednesday June 6th: Quite a few guys had to leave earlier than normal so we have eight left in camp on Wednesday. Up at 7:00AM for some camp breakfast (oops—Tater missed the wake-up) and that time when folks are trying to finish up their food. So.....pounds of bacon, tons of potatoes and lots of fried eggs

were served.....



Then on to town for some kicking around time before heading back to Twins for some good fishin’!! Tater finally made the call.....and Mayo worked on his cast!



Back to camp for jimbo’s gumbo, bbq chicken, tri-tip, chili, wine and margy’s.



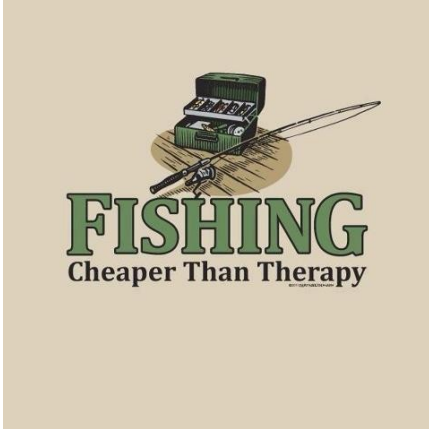
Thursday June 7th: Check out day so cleaning trailer and packing. Evil Eye and Tater have to leave but Tater still under the weather and demands a bucket up front? Yep.

Mayo leaves, but the Mayor comes back for the third time. Sparky needs to leave early Friday morning so we close out early and head for town.

Friday June 11th: Had a farewell breakfast with the Reid’s, kicked around town for a while, and then started the trek home. Longer for some than others.....but already thinking about the 40th!!!

See ya on the 40th Amigo’s!!!!

What about the 40th?



As you all know and many have witnessed, as the email volume kicks up as we get closer to June—folks start trash talking and of course start letting us know who’s making plans, who’s not, and why.

Unfortunately, it’s not always good news. Some of our amigo’s will not make it this year and have damn good excuses:

Sperm—allegedly fell off a ladder and broke his back in two places. You may be wondering what he was doing on the ladder? Really? According to BT after a call with Sperm, “it had more to do with two 22 year old, big-titted red-head sisters, and something about 17 ninjas”

Morgy—after suffering through a staph infection last year that almost cost him his leg, it moved into his spine this year and the surgery opened him up from the top of the neck to the middle of the back. He said his surgeon said he should be paralyzed, but he’s in recovery and doing better every day. Mattio will miss also because he’s heading to Idaho to visit Morgy. He actually photo-shopped this picture in order to support his excuse.....



Rick Rough—one of Dan Noble’s clan, Rick, has started a fight we all know he will win with cancer and is only missing the 40th because he will just be finishing his second round of chemo at that time. C’mon Rick, BS excuse! Seriously, you have all our thoughts and hope that you make your date in August for your 40th Annual when you are feeling better and your clan comes to Bridgeport!

OD—Janet having back surgery now (as I prepare this Journal) and will be out of it in body-cast type gadget for 8-10 weeks so OD is staying behind to provide care. WTF? OD is actually making a good decision? Impossible!

Slomax—heard from York he had been in the hospital for a while but he’s out and doing better, but will not make the 40th and is already having regrets. I guess golf on Tuesday will be done a little earlier. :)

Judge Ito—there were great expectations the little Hawaiian judge would make it to the 40th—what with OJ begging for a new trial and all. WTF?

On the other side of the ledger, we do expect some folks to show up for the 40th that we haven’t seen for a while, but other than mentioning:

B Hendy—who will apparently do a fly by on Monday at around noon.

Other than that we’ll just have to see who really shows and be sure to acknowledge them in the next FMJ. OK—I’ll give you a hint on a couple!



So.....with two weeks to go.....are you committed? If not—why not? If you really have an excuse we probably would have heard about it like those listed in this piece. Otherwise....really?



There’s still time—call a friend—beg for a ride—beg for a bunk—just show!

Do you really want to miss the 40th? I know nothing in your life has lasted this long so why not Honor it?



You know.....with shots!



We’ll be waiting for ya’!!! And hope to see everyone.....for the 40th!

40th Annual Fishin’ Mission Extravaganza starts Thursday, May 30th for those that arrive early!