

THE FISHIN MISSION JOURNAL

Volume 35 Number 2

*** Western Edition ***

May 1 2008

Game on! 35th Annual is HERE!

Breaking News!

There are rumors floating around that we may see some folks this year that we haven't seen up in Bridgeport for a while! I'm not going to print their names here; first because if they are after only publicity—I don't want to serve that purpose; second because they are probably just full of hot air as usual!

We'll see—if they do show up they will be greeted with open arms (figure of speech you homo-phobes) and immediately brought back into the Circle of Life!

Also....we asked you to pray for snow...and your prayers we're heard! The winter snowpack was excellent so we should have good water this year—and the runoff should provide great food source!

The 35th Annual Fishin' Mission Extravaganza starts later this month! Wow—finally less than thirty days to wait! I'm sure you've all made your plans, cleared the deck of all other "things to do" - and gotten approval (yeah—I know—most of you punks still have to ask) to attend.

Hopefully you have started gathering your "stuff" and perhaps cleared space in the garage where as you think of it—you pile it on so you don't forget it!

Wait until you get to Bridgeport to change out line, buy new gear, and put the finishing touches on your "stuff". It's nice to help the local businesses!

The 35th Annual is a milestone event—and I hope to see you all there! Over the years we've tried every form of motivation outside of water torture (I guess that's even okay now?) to get you



Sparky's shot of the Sawtooth behind Mono Village deserves the front page for this issue. A picture is worth a thousand words—be there!

folks to Bridgeport.

This year—ask yourself one question—is this my last chance?

Simple math—if this is our 35th and we started this gig in our twenties.....well.....then you're freaking old! One

more time before you strap-on the depends, right?

So.....finish your planning and packing—and hit the road! We'll see you there...at Rhino's, at Mono Village, at the Virginia's, at Ken's, or at the RES.....

.....**just get there!**

Time for the Fishin' Mission Foundation!

You all know—because you have participated over the years—The Fishin' Mission has been involved in philanthropic (look it up numb-nut) events over the past ten years—and has raised well over \$20,000 for various causes—including foundations fighting both Multiple Sclerosis and Leukemia .

We have mostly used the vehicle (or should I say bike?) of Kathy Reid—who has been riding her bike for the various causes as the catalyst for donations.

Kathy has decided not to ride for a national cause this year—and so your Commish and others started thinking

(I know—that's a stretch) about options to keep the fund raising efforts going.

It was during a morning hike recently that the Commish had an idea (okay—it was actually his wife that had the idea) "**why don't we raise money for the local community**"?

WOW—that's a really good idea! The conversation group was enlarged—great pundits of philanthropy were queried (okay so maybe it was just a few of you who do respond to your email) and options were evaluated!

We sought advice from Bridgeport residents too.....

Time for the Fishin' Mission Foundation!

And they thought the idea was fantastic! After all they have done for us (if nothing else—just putting up with us) this would be a great achievement!

After deliberation and evaluation—we all agreed on an approach that would allow us to meet our goal and give back to the local community—**and to that end we are therefore creating the Fishin' Mission Foundation!**

Over time this will become a legitimate 501C non-profit (so you can all get your tax deductions) and at least this year as a start—we hope to be able to grant two high school graduates in Bridgeport who have made a commitment to higher education—\$1,000 scholarships for college!

This is just the start for us! We have the

opportunity to expand the scope of the Fishin' Mission Foundation—and as balances grow—perhaps do more good things in the Bridgeport community in the future!

What better time than our 35th Annual Fishin' Mission Commemorative Extravaganza to start this effort?

We already have some "seed money" because Rocko's \$500 commitment from the 34th will be part of the opening fund. We will be able to deposit the proceeds from Rhino's Wide Open Golf Tournament to this foundation too! And Carm Boy has bottled wine (red and white) and is bringing sixty (60) bottles of Fishin Mission wine up to Bridgeport as a fund raiser too! **Don't bring wine—prepare to buy it from Carm Boy!**

Now—in addition to these events—you know we are still asking each of you to help—just like you did when we were raising funds for any of Kathie's rides in the past.

This year—until we have the 501C set-up.....we need you to send your donations in to:

Gary Walker
814 E. Desert Flower Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85048

A special account has been set up for the deposit of these funds and we will be able to issue cashier's checks to the scholarship winners—perhaps even while we are in Bridgeport! We are already working with the principal of the high school on candidate selection criteria!

So.....please dig deep! Do what you can as soon as you can! If you've donated to these causes in the past—please match your previous donations. If you haven't done it before—what better time?

Let's get this Fishin' Mission Foundation off on good footing—and be in a position to make some scholarship grants on the 35th!

The Bridgeport Community has done a lot for us over the years—let's try to return the favor!

By the way—while at Rhino's on Monday celebrating the derby winners by spending their prize money on drinks—and having Smilin' Jim also organizing the Rhino's Wide Open—we will also nominate and elect the board members for the new

Fishin' Mission Foundation!

Be prepared with your nominations! And **please send checks NOW!** It will help knowing we are funded before we get to Bridgeport!

Now when we claim 35 years of Community Service—we will mean it!

Sperm is Ready for the 35th Annual.....

This is an email from Sperm....."In His Own Words"....

You Betcha! I can't wait to drive 12 hrs., pay \$4.50 a gallon for gas, drink no beer, catch no fish, hit a 50 yard drive, 4 putt, get constipated, talk to a bunch of ugly fat chicks and reminisce about the good old days when we were young, fit, good looking and did things that were interesting.

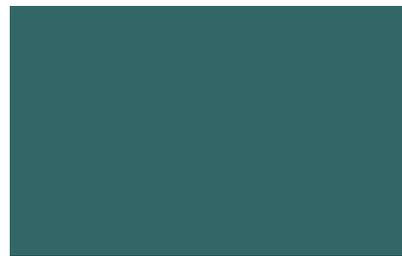
Oh yeah, I also can't wait to have a in-depth conversation with OD after he's had 6 scotches, 20 beers and a glass of wine.

At least Smilin' will be

"wheeling" so I won't have to drive, since I am "Blackballed" from the rental car company after returning their new car, last year, with a bunch of dents.

Why would anyone not want to make that trip? So bring all your new fishing poles, I've been practicing my "Tip Test" and I can't wait to try out my new "Mini Bike" around the camp.

I'll see ya there again this year because you just can't teach an Old Dog new tricks. Although, I may need some help finding Rhino's, the Res and the way back to camp. - SPERM



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