

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2013



KOKANEE POWER
P.O. BOX 3857 MERCED, CA 95344-1857

THE KOKANEE KRONICLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KOKANEE POWER

WANTED: OTOLITHS!

BY: WES HAMASAKI

In William Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar, Mark Antony said, "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears." This statement can certainly apply to the Department of Fish and Wildlife when it comes to their latest efforts in studying California's Kokanee and King Salmon fisheries.

Kasie Barnes, the new Coldwater Specialist for the Department of Fish and Wildlife, is looking to gather otoliths from Kokanee and King Salmon in all of California's lakes to determine growth rate, age of the fish, and potentially if fish are from natural or hatchery origin. Data gathered from this study will help manage the fisheries and improve the quality of our Kokanee and King Salmon.

Otoliths are commonly referred to as "earstones" or "ear fish bones." Located directly behind the fish's brain, these hard, calcium carbonate structures aid in the fish's balance, orientation, and sound detection very similar to the inner ear of mammals. As a fish grows, so do its otoliths. Calcium carbonate continues to add to the existing otolith, which causes it to gradually increase in size.

Kasie and her team will be able to take the otoliths and observe them under a microscope in their lab. Under a microscope, the added calcium carbonate creates rings that are very similar to the rings on a tree trunk, which will allow the age and growth rate of the fish to be determined.

As anglers who enjoy our inland fisheries, we should all assist Kasie and her team in gathering as much data as possible in hopes of improving the quality of our fishery. They are currently stationed at both New Melones and Lake Berryessa, and you may be asked to relinquish the heads of your Kokanee or King Salmon so that the otoliths can be extracted.

However, since they cannot be at every lake, Kasie and her team are asking anglers to provide heads from other lakes such as Pardee, Don Pedro, Stampede, and Donner, just to name a few. It is best if each head is bagged separately with the following information written on each bag:

- Date the fish was caught
- What lake the fish is from
- Total length (from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail) in either millimeters or centimeters
- Weight

Anglers can provide the heads of their catch to Kasie by calling her directly at (916) 327-7013 for information and drop off arrangements.

Kasie will be accepting heads from this season's catches up until October. Let's all do our part in helping this great study!

FUTURE PUBLICATIONS OF THE KOKANEE KRONICLE CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT:

<http://www.kokaneepower.org>

OR



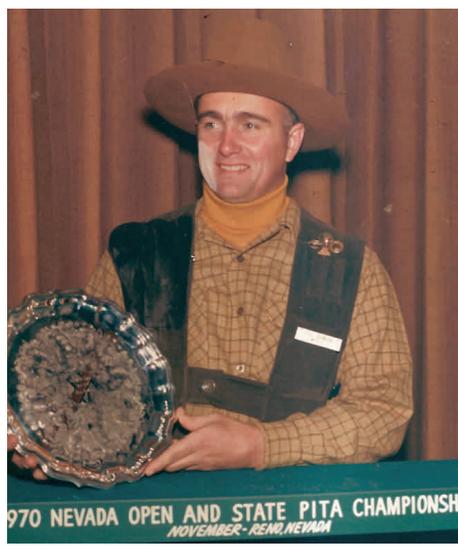
Search "Kokanee Power" on Facebook

TRYING SOMETHING NEW WITH SOMETHING OLD

BY: AL MILLAN

With two warm gloved hands, the finely finished piece of Cirassian walnut is lifted to meet cheekbone seconds after the word "PULL" is called with authority. Two brightly orange circular discs are flung through the cold morning air with velocity and trajectory mimicking that which can be seen on the night of the 4th of July. Split seconds later two blasts are heard and the only remnants of the orange discs are two clouds of orange powder and the smell of double A gun smoke fills the air. There's nothing like the smell of gun powder in morning – especially when you're shooting sporting clays!

What is Sporting Clays? The best way to describe it is golf with a shotgun. As golf involves 18 holes with different presentations, layouts, and levels of difficulty, sporting clays typically involves 10 to 15 different shooting stations laid out over natural terrain each offering a great variety of trajectories, angles, speeds, elevations, distances, and target sizes. In a nutshell, sporting clays simulates the unpredictability of live bird hunting. Sporting clays is an old sport invented in the early 1900s. It was a way for British shooting schools to practice for upcoming bird hunts. The sport quickly took off and the first sanctioned tournament was held by the British in 1925 now known as the British Open. Eventually the sport made its way to America via Field and Stream Magazine through an article written by Bob Brister. It was on September 27, 1980 the first American sporting clays tournament was held at the Remington Lordship Gun Club in Connecticut. Today more than 3 million people enjoy sporting clays both competitively and recreationally.



***Phil Johnson receiving top honors
at the 1970 Nevada State Open.***

Our organization's first president and founder Phil Johnson not only enjoyed chasing Kokanee, but was also an avid wing and clay shooter. If he wasn't on Don Pedro showing us how to catch kokanee, or at the Friant Hatchery looking after the year's kokanee plant, he was at the gun club breaking clays with his good friends.

It is with this fond memory that we are proud to announce Kokanee Power's inaugural ***A Day For Breaking Clays Sporting Clay Event*** on Sunday May 19, 2013. This will be our first event at an old sport and hopefully the first of many to come. The brainchild of Davey Tree President Larry Abernathy, KP President Gary Coe, and with a "little" input from yours truly, the event found its beginning during a round of sporting clays last season. The event will be hosted by Camanche Hills Sporting Clays where our hosts Larry and Joyce Skinner run a first class venue. We are also proud to announce that this inaugural event is sponsored by Davey Tree and ALL proceeds will go to the Phil Johnson Memorial Scholarship Endowment at Feather River College in honor of our founder. Admission includes BBQ lunch and 100 targets. Register your own squad of five shooters or we'll be glad to team you up with others. If you are interested in supporting this event or would like more information, please contact President Gary Coe at (916) 985-4943. The application can be found in this newsletter or you can download an application at www.kokaneepower.org.



KOKANEE POWER

presents

THE INAUGURAL

A DAY FOR BREAKIN CLAYS

SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT & BBQ

Sponsored by:



www.davey.com

When:

SUNDAY MAY 19, 2013

8am—2pm

ALL proceeds will go to the

Phil Johnson

Memorial Scholarship Endowment

at Feather River College

Event hosted by:



SPORTING CLAYS

2951 Curran Road

Ione, Ca 95640

www.camhills.com

Information:

- \$75.00 Entry Fee Per Participant
- 100 targets, 10 to 12 Stations
- Entry Fee Includes BBQ Lunch
- 5 Person Squads
- Single person entries will be joined with open squads
- Lewis Class Scoring
- Awards for H.O.A. and 1st & 2nd in each class
- Limited entries so register early!!

FOR INFO CONTACT:

Gary Coe - (916) 985-4943

Application On Back

EVENT SCHEDULE:

- 8am: Orientation/Check-in
- 9am: Event Begins
- 12pm: BBQ Lunch Begins
- 1pm: Presentation of Awards

SEND PAYMENTS & APPLICATION TO:

Kokanee Power

PO Box 3857

Merced, Ca 95344-1857

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: *Kokanee Power*

PLEASE DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATIONS

AFTER MAY 15TH

TO REGISTER BY PHONE CONTACT:

Gary Coe — (916) 985-4943

Participant #1 (Squad Captain)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Tel: () _____

Name on credit card:	_____
Card Number:	_____
Code:	Exp Date: _____

Participant #2

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Tel: () _____

Name on credit card:	_____
Card Number:	_____
Code:	Exp Date: _____

Participant #4

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Tel: () _____

Name on credit card:	_____
Card Number:	_____
Code:	Exp Date: _____

Participant #3

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Tel: () _____

Name on credit card:	_____
Card Number:	_____
Code:	Exp Date: _____

Participant #5

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Tel: () _____

Name on credit card:	_____
Card Number:	_____
Code:	Exp Date: _____

DERBY SEASON IS UNDERWAY!

BY: WES HAMASAKI

Kokanee Power's derby season has officially kicked off, and the first two derbies are already in the books. The first derby was held on Saturday, April 6th at Lake Camanche. The first derby of the year is always exciting. Anglers get reacquainted with each other as many have not seen each other since September or October. They also get to try out their new rods, reels, tackle, and boating accessories picked up during the offseason at events such as the International Sportsman's Expo or the Kokanee Power Fundraising Banquet. Some anglers may even be fortunate enough to try out their new boats!

Compared to last year's wet and stormy conditions, the weather was a slice of heaven. The morning was calm and cloudy giving way to partly cloudy skies later in the afternoon. While there was a touch of rain later on, the conditions remained calm making it easy for boat control and accurate bait presentations.



A total of 57 teams and 12 juniors competed in the event. The bite was unusually tough for this time of year at Lake Camanche, which caused anglers to throw their entire tackle box in order to entice a bite. The successful patterns included slow trolling with small dodgers, rolling worms, and pulling Rapalas in the F-5 version all the way up to the larger F-11 anywhere between the surface and 30 feet as the day progressed. Most of the fish weighed in were caught prior to 9:00 AM.

After a couple weeks rest, anglers made the trek down to Pine Flat Lake for the second derby of the season on Saturday, April 20th. Come derby day, 37 teams and over a dozen juniors were in search of the elusive landlocked King Salmon and the beautiful Rainbow Trout that Pine Flat has to offer.

The weather and conditions were perfect with temperatures topping out in the mid-70s by the afternoon and accompanied with a slight breeze to keep anglers comfortable. The fishing itself was a challenge, to say the least. The Rainbow Trout were the species of the day as the Kings had "lockjaw" and were difficult to come by. The Kings that did make it to weigh-in were caught between 90 and 100 feet on rolled shad. Surprisingly, the majority of the Rainbow Trout that put anglers into contention were also found deeper than normal as well with some caught as deep as 90 feet.

Congratulations to the top 15 teams and the junior anglers who placed in each of the derbies. Thank you to everyone who came out to the derby and showed support for the fishery.

The derby results have been posted on the Kokanee Power webpage.

Lake Camanche results: <http://kokaneepower.org/derbiesdet.php?code=20130406>

Pine Flat Lake results: <http://kokaneepower.org/derbiesdet.php?code=20130420>

See you all at the next event!

CORRECTION FROM MARCH NEWSLETTER

In the [March newsletter](#) on page 2, "Jeremy Jahn — Kokanee Kid Tackle" was mentioned. It should be "Jeremy Jahn — Kokaneekidfishing.com."

UPCOMING EVENTS



Don't forget to mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

May 4th & 5th: Shasta Lake Classic Team Tournament

Sign up online through <http://kokaneepower.org/derbies/online/20130504.html>

May 19th: Kokanee Power's Inaugural Sporting Clay Event

Sign up by filling out the form at <http://www.apexprime.com/kokaneepower/kpdavey-shootspring2013.pdf>

June 1st: Don Pedro Phil Johnson Memorial Team Kokanee Derby

Sign up online through <http://kokaneepower.org/derbies/online/20130601.html>

June 15th: Lake Almanor Team Trout and Salmon Derby

Sign up online through <http://kokaneepower.org/derbies/online/20130615.html>

July 13th & 14th: New Melones 2-day Kokanee Team Tournament

Sign up online through <http://kokaneepower.org/derbies/online/20130713.html>

August 3rd: Stampede Reservoir Team Kokanee Derby

Sign up online through <http://kokaneepower.org/derbies/online/20130803.html>

August 17th: Lake Pardee Team Kokanee Derby

Sign up online through <http://kokaneepower.org/derbies/online/20130817.html>

WANT KOKANEE POWER GEAR? VISIT OUR NEW ONLINE STORE AT:

<http://www.kokaneepower.org/store/>

WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP? VISIT:

<http://www.kokaneepower.org/join.php>