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KOKANEE POWER
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THE KOKANEE KRONICLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KOKANEE POWER

NEW MELONES DERBY A BIG HIT

BY: WES HAMASAKI

New Melones Reservoir is a man-made lake nestled in the central Sierra Nevada foothills of Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties. Created by the Stanislaus River, New Melones has a potential capacity of 2,400,000 acre-feet and can have a surface area of 12,500 acres. There are over 100 miles of shoreline that is left to be explored when the lake is full.

While relatively young compared to most of California's lakes and reservoirs (initial filling of the lake began in 1983), New Melones has become one of the most popular lakes within California for any water-filled adventure. People come from all across Northern California for house boating trips, waterskiing, camping along the reservoir's majestic shorelines, and for the top notch fishery. For over a decade, New Melones has been the home to some of Kokanee Power's trout pens. Over the past few years, New Melones has also evolved into one of the top Largemouth and Spotted Bass fisheries in Northern California with Largemouth Bass in the high teens being caught regularly each spring. The Spotted Bass have also made a huge presence with bass up to 10 pounds being caught within the past year. There are rumors that there's a potential world record Spotted Bass swimming around in the

reservoir. However, the biggest draw, especially during the spring and summer, is the Kokanee fishing. While not trophy-sized by any means, New Melones Kokanee are hard fighting, plentiful, and great eating!



On July 13th and 14th, New Melones was the backdrop for Kokanee Power's sixth tourney of the season. With fishing being, for lack of better words, red hot since early April, everyone had high hopes of catching fish and having lots of fun doing it. As a result

of the great turnout of adult anglers and juniors and partnered with the wide open bite, there was no shortage of fish weighed in that kept the weigh team of John Lico, Ken McDonald, and Steve Quintal busy during the two-day event. During the event, majority of the fish were caught from just outside the Glory Hole launch ramp up to the Highway 49 bridge. The kokanee were holding anywhere from 70 to 100 feet, and they were caught on a variety of different lures, as expected with Kokanee fishing. A couple of the best offerings were micro hoochies and Apexes. The biggest Kokanee out of the two days was slightly over 1 pound, which, compared to last year, is high quality fish. Dale Gibbons and Jason Tidwell took top honors with a total of 90.10 ounces for the two day event, and it took 84.35 ounces just to be awarded a check. Less than 6 ounces separated 1st and 15th place.

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<http://www.kokanee.com>

OR



Search "Kokanee Power" on Facebook

While the fishing was exciting, the lunch and raffles on each day of the event did not disappoint either. Anticipation was particularly high on Sunday as there were three high-dollar prizes to be awarded – a Husqvarna chainsaw donated by the Davey Tree Company, a 42 inch Panasonic flat screen television donated by Robert Mulready of Lifestyle Audio and Video, and, the top prize, a Yamaha 9.9 HP 4-stroke kicker. Special thanks go out to Victor Gonella and Victory Yamaha Outboards and Power Products in Petaluma, CA. The lucky winners of these fabulous prizes were Cliff Dumlau for the Husqvarna chainsaw, Jake Flohr for the television, and Robert Muhlbeier who walked home with a new Yamaha kicker.



As always, the New Melones Tourney results can be found on the Kokanee Power website or by clicking the link below:

<http://www.kokanee.org/derbiesdet.php?code=20130713>



Thank you to all the participants who came to show their support, and congratulations to all that placed in the derby and walked away with some wonderful raffle prizes!

See you all at the Stampede derby!

INAUGURAL KOKANEE POWER PICNIC

BY: WES HAMASAKI

Former Secretary of the State of Connecticut, Pauline R. Kezer, once said, "Continuity gives us roots; changes give us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights." This quote is symbolic of Kokanee Power. The roots of the organization run deep to help enhance California's Inland Fisheries, only made possible by the loyal support of all our fellow members. Since its inception on July 1, 1998, the organization has come a long way over these past 15 years, and the organization could not be what it is today without our membership. The strong roots have allowed Kokanee Power to evolve and change over the years, and in particular, this year!

As many of you have all witnessed, 2013 has been a year of change for Kokanee Power. It all started with new Board of Directors being brought on – Steve Quintal, Ken McDonald, and myself, Wes Hamasaki, along with the reinstatement of former Board of Director, Nancy Coe. The second change was the inaugural sporting clay event that was fully sponsored

by Larry Abernathy and the Davey Tree Company. Nothing but positive feedback and excitement resulted from this event, and it definitely will not be the last! If that's not enough change, there's another exciting change just on the horizon – the inaugural Kokanee Power Summer Picnic!

Scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2013, Kokanee Power will be hosting the first ever picnic event at Micke Grove Regional Park in the San Joaquin Shelter Picnic Area (11793 N. Micke Grove Road, Lodi, CA). What better way to reflect on the Kokanee season by sharing it with family, fellow Kokanee Power members, and derby contestants over a delicious BBQ lunch, which includes tri-tip, chicken, baked beans, salad, bread, and your choice of water or soft drink. Come on out and join in on the fun! Share stories and memories from throughout the season – the hottest lure this year, the biggest fish caught this year, the one that got away two feet behind the boat, or maybe even the one that you lost to the majestic American Bald Eagles that reside on the shores of Pardee. And, just like any other Kokanee Power event, there will be a raffle after lunch.

Reservations for the picnic must be made by Saturday, September 7, 2013. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Each person will receive one free raffle ticket at check-in. Children 10 and under are free. Parking will be \$6.00 per vehicle. The event will open at 11 am with lunch being served at 1 PM and concluding by 5 PM.

For more information or questions, please picnic chairperson Steve Quintal at (209) 481-2123. Like any of our derbies and events, the flyer can be found on our Kokanee Power website or by simply clicking [here](#).

Mark your calendars and bring your appetites! See you all there!

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

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>

September 14th: Kokanee Power Picnic @ Micke Grove Park, Lodi, CA

Sign up form at <http://www.kokaneepower.org/articles/71.pdf>

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