

## Highlights

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# Target Talk

**Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925**

October 2006

[www.longbeachcastingclub.org](http://www.longbeachcastingclub.org)

(562) 433-9408

## Leader's Line

### Fish Fast?

**CAROLE KATZ, PRESIDENT**

So, you think you are a pretty good fisherman? Ever thought about competing in fly fishing? On the national or international level? I have a friend who does and would like to tell you about him.

Norm Maktima is a 26 year old American Indian who lives north of Santa Fe. Norm has been fishing all his life with his dad, Duane, a world-famous jeweler and not-too-shabby fisherman himself. Norm guides 90–100 days of the year out of High Desert Anglers and works at the Santa Fe Ski Basin in the winter. In his free time, though, Norm is fishing. And he can fish!

As an 18 year old, Norm was the World Junior Fly Fishing Champion in 1998. He was Assistant Coach to the Junior Team in 1999, and a competitor in the adult classification several years since then in countries such as Wales, Ireland, Sweden, and Slovakia.

In competition, speed is critical to maximize points. If you think you can tie fishing knots quickly, a few minutes with Norm would disabuse you of that fantasy. His fingers flash through Lefty's No-Slip Loop Knot, the Figure Eight Knot, Improved Clinch, Triple Surgeon's, and Nail Knot at the speed of light. No kidding. And watching him fish the waters of Northern New Mexico is a humbling experience—perfect casts, lightning fast hook-sets, brilliant reading of the water. In competition, there is not a minute to waste, and that is the way Norm fishes every day.

The United States' participation in the Annual World Fly Fishing Championships is governed by Fly Fishing Team USA, a non-profit organization. The World Championships were last held in the United States in 1997 in Jackson Hole. Some of the national sponsors who provide equipment and underwrite much of the travel costs are Action Optics, Clear Creek, Dr. Slick, Loon, Mustad, Nautilus, Simms, Scientific Angler, Teva, Umpqua, etc.

In 2006, there were regional competitions in Fresno, Salt Lake City and Michigan, followed by a national championship that served as the selection meet for the international team. Seventy-one fishermen were vying for six adult slots on the international team that will compete in Portugal in September.

*Leader's Line continued on page 2*

*Leader's Line continued from page 1*

At nationals, there were thirteen teams of five fishermen. Competition is held over five days, with the first two days being practice sessions on non-competition practice areas. "Beats" are assigned by lottery. There are five beats, through which each team rotates, one fisher at a time, for three hours over two-and-a-half days. Points are scored in two ways: any fish over 20 cm (8 inches) scores points, and the length in excess of 20 cm scores additional points. There is a controller assigned to each beat who records the points. Norm describes running a catch to the controller for point recording, and then running back to his beat in order to not waste any of his allotted time. Getting wet is a given.

In terms of equipment, the rods cannot exceed 12 feet in length. There can be no visible weight and no strike indicators. Rigging can include up to three flies at a time, but they must each be 50 cm apart. Only one fly can be a bead head and the bead is restricted in size. The only exception is a Copper John.

Countries that compete in World Championships include England, Poland, Belgium, Czech Republic, Austria, Bosnia, Switzerland, Finland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Andorra, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Canada, USA, Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Rumania, Spain, Iceland, Scotland, Norway, Sweden, Ireland, and Wales. Fly Fishing Team USA travels to the World Championships with entomologist Dr. Mark Vinson to provide authoritative information and aid in strategies for fly tying and insect identification. The team also travels with a fly tier who is selected through a competition. This year's team tier is Leslie Wrixton.

Anybody interested in trying competition at next year's regionals? Wouldn't it be a kick to send a team from Long Beach and, just maybe, make nationals?



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# The Casting Stroke with Bruce Richards

DENNIS MCTEER, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

The speaker for the October monthly meeting is Bruce Richards. The Friday meeting and the Saturday workshop is a unique opportunity for our club members to see and hear from one of the top fly-casting instructors in the world.

It was Bruce's knowledge in the science of fly-casting that brought Noel Perkins, a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Michigan, and he to cross paths. The two collaborated to develop the world's first fly-casting analyzer, now the Sage Casting Analyzer.

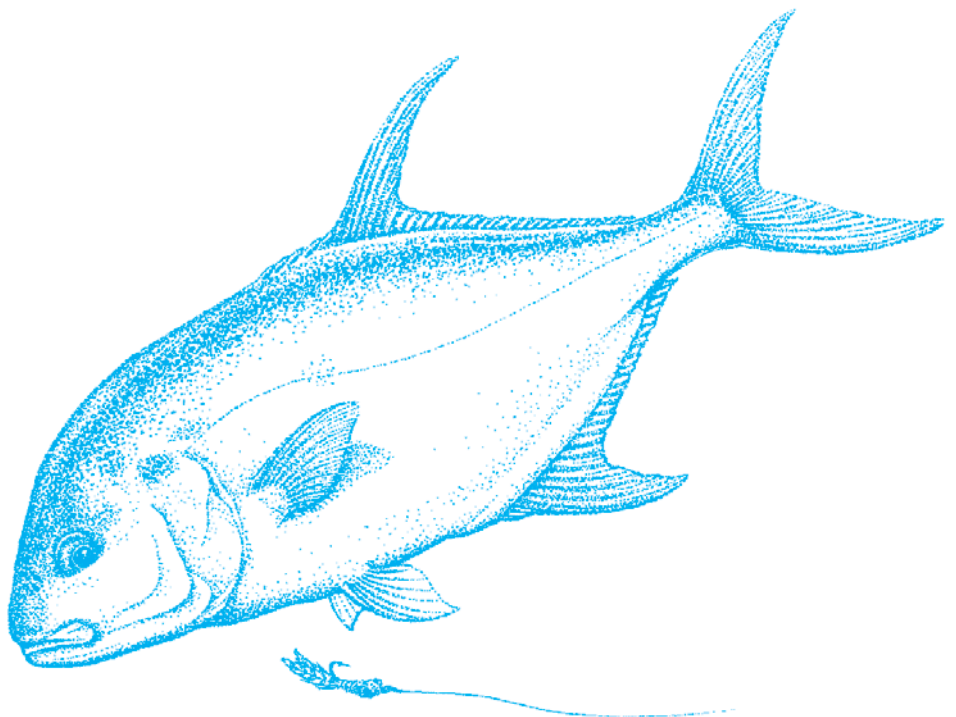
Join us for this Friday night meeting, October 27<sup>th</sup>, as Bruce takes us through the casting stroke. Be back at the clubhouse on Saturday morning. At 9:00 AM on Saturday, Bruce will give us a demonstration of the Casting Analyzer at our pond. Come see how this tool will analyze and improve your casting skills.

Bruce serves on the board of governors for the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) casting instructor program. He is also widely regarded as one of the foremost experts on fly line technology and plays a major role in the design and development of Scientific Anglers fly lines.

Bruce Richards grew up in Michigan, home to such fabled waters as the Au Sable River. He caught the fly fishing bug at age 13. Bruce went on to get his degree in Fly Fishing, oops; I mean Aquatic Ecology from Michigan Technological University and was regular on Michigan's trout streams and rivers.

For both pleasure and as part of his responsibilities working for Scientific Anglers, he has fly fished the world over. Bruce has experienced the fly-fishing throughout Europe and Scandinavia, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, the Bahamas, Central America, Canada and almost all U.S. states.

While his love for the sport started in the Midwest, his favorite fly-fishing adventure now is wading the bonefish and permit flats—preferably on Turneffe Island in Belize or on Abacos Island in the Bahamas.



# Upcoming Fall Fishing Trips

**BOB GRAHAM, CO-2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

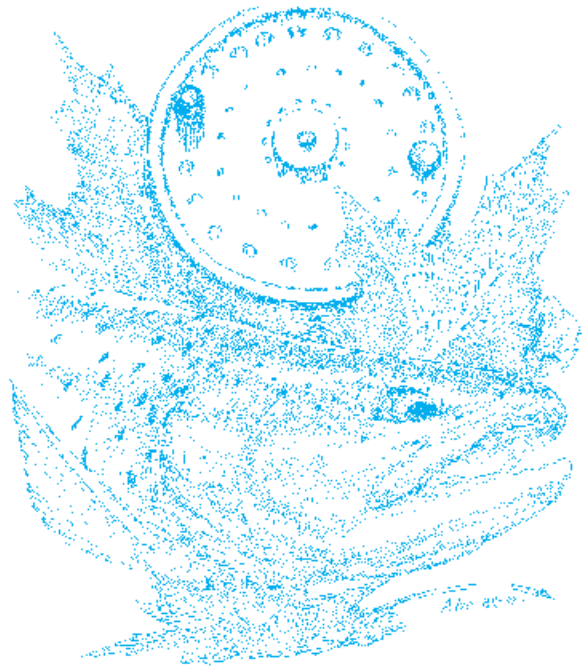
It's hard to believe that we have to write about the end of the fishing season while the temperature is still 85 degrees outside and in the upper 90s in Bishop and Redding.

The September trip to Mammoth has probably taken place before you can read this. As predicted earlier in the summer, the heavy spring runoff waters have receded and fishing has returned to normal. Last year in September the Lower Owens was flowing at 600+ cfs and this year it is down to 252 cfs as of early September. And conditions keep getting better.

The October trip is the last trip to the Eastern Sierra for the year. We'll stay in Mammoth in condos of Gary's choice. This is a popular trip and, with the constantly improving fishing conditions, you should plan well ahead and make early reservations with Gary. Initial deposit is \$75 for two nights and \$100 for three nights.

The other October trip is to Northern California. The first half of the trip is based in Redding floating the Trinity River and Lower Sac with guides. The second half is to the Clearwater Lodge on the Pit River where guides are optional. This trip started with a limit of 12 and we were able to increase it to 16. Next year we may break the trip into two separate trips so that we can control the costs.

The first weekend in November we go to the Kern River. Last year we had almost 30 anglers. Because most of us got skunked, I assumed limited interest. Wrong again. The six cabins I reserved at McNally's filled immediately and other people are already telling me of their plans to be present, making their own arrangements for rooms in Kernville. We will meet for dinner at McNally's on Saturday night to challenge the 40-ounce



Porterhouse steak that they still serve. Let me know if you are coming so I can reserve a place for dinner. A few of us are going up early so that we can have a guided trip on Friday. Maybe we will get to know the river a little better. Arrange your own guides, if you wish, through Guy Jeans' shop in Kernville.

If you enjoyed Peter Piconi's presentation on San Diego Surf Fishing at the club meeting last month, join us for a little local surf fishing on December 16<sup>th</sup> to see if this is something you would enjoy. Each surf-fishing trip seems to attract more anglers.

That's the end of a great fishing year. The club sponsored 17 or 18 trips to diverse waters and in many different conditions. Not all resulted in fish but they all returned the investment in fun. I hope you could attend the ones that appealed to you. Check the calendar in the Roster for next year's trips and make early plans to attend. Equally important, if there are fishing destinations we have not scheduled yet, let Gary or me know and maybe we can squeeze in some additional trips or begin planning for future trips.

Tight lines!

# Yet Another Dog Tail

**BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

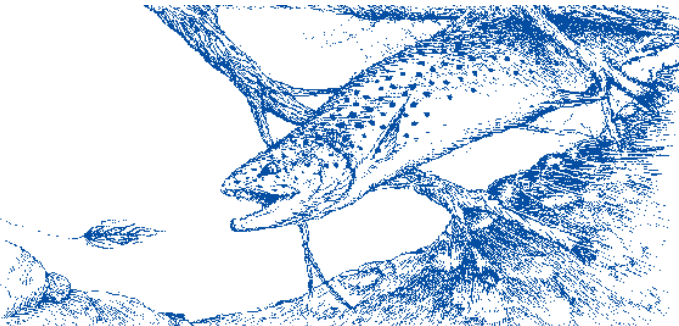
Several people asked at the last monthly meeting whether there were other Chester stories. Are there ever...

I searched through my source for the last two stories (Gary LaFontaine, FLY FISHING THE MOUNTAIN LAKES). I couldn't find the story I was looking for there but I vividly remembered it. Well it wasn't a story, rather a portion of a video.

Mike Lawson, Gary LaFontaine and Jack Dennis used to travel the fishing show circuit promoting fly-fishing. They became known as the Traveling Fly Fishermen. Several tapes were made of their banter and this story came from my copy of FLY FISHING TIPS FROM THE TRAVELING FLY FISHERMAN—2002. This is a DVD containing parts of old tapes.

The segment is Gary LaFontaine and Jack Dennis fishing the Green River just above the takeout at Little Hole. (by the way, it shows them taking numerous large trout from that location).

Gary had hooked a large rainbow that kept stripping line from the reel. Obviously a bruiser. Chester, the Wonder Dog, was running up and down the bank anxiously awaiting the landing of this trout. As the trout tired, Gary was able to get it under better control. Jack manned the net.



Every time Gary got the fish close to Jack, the fish would develop new energy and dash away.



Chester now joined Gary and Jack in the water, jumping with joy and anticipation and intently watching the fish.

Jack and Gary were only in up to mid-calf in the river, so it was easy for Jack to move around to assist in landing the fish. He tried valiantly to net the fish but it kept swimming away at the last minute rather than cooperate. Finally, Jack got frustrated too and took a lunge at the fish. The fish swam away again.

The next time Gary maneuvered the fish towards Jack, he was ready with the net under water. As he lunged, the fish started to move away, so Jack riposted again with net outstretched.

The net hoop touched the tippet, the "ping" was heard and the fish was gone. Jack apologized and they compared notes on the size of the fish. Chester came over and lifted his leg on Jack leaving a yellow stain down the back of his waders.

Chester is a dog of few words, but actions speak louder than words.

# Offshore Fishing Trip

GARY CHARLES, CO-2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

In all, 25 anglers participated in the August Offshore Trip. Of these, 23 were club members or guests; two were recruited through other sources. Although we were blessed with good weather, fishing conditions were tough. Shortly before the trip, high winds and waves broke up kelp paddies. As a result, hunting fish that were holding near kelp paddies became more difficult.

On the first day of the trip, we decided to go further south than the one-day boats. We recognized that this was risky, because no boats from the San Diego fleet had done so in recent days. Nevertheless, we forged ahead in hopes of finding better grade fish. Most fish taken were taken on the troll. Jay, an angler who signed on through the landing, won the first day jackpot.

On the second day, we fished waters within the range of the one-day boats. Although kelp paddies remained scarce, fishing improved. We encountered sizable schools of Dorado and Yellowtail. During the trip, anglers also landed lesser numbers of Albacore and Yellow Fin Tuna. Tom Camp took second-day honors by fooling a big bull Dorado with a fly-lined sardine.

Despite scratching for fish, the trip met with enthusiastic acceptance by all anglers. This was primarily due to the invaluable contributions made by former club president, Shauna Barton, and club members, Frosty & Gayle Johnson. In addition to staging an information packed pre-trip meeting, these saltwater pro's were on deck to supply hands on instruction and tips on knots, rigging, and fishing techniques.

The time and care that they generously gave to each angler who needed or sought advice was singularly responsible for making this trip such a success. Their detailed guidance regarding on deck etiquette and other courtesies was



instrumental in making this an enjoyable outing for all, beginners and veterans alike. A special thanks to Joe Libeu for suggesting that we invite these seasoned pro's to join us. Their presence made all the difference. We who benefited from their instruction wish to thank them, collectively, once again.

As if the above was not enough, Gayle, Frosty, and Shauna provided a complementary fishing cap and gift package for each angler. Packages were mixed bags with various contents, including hooks, line, shirts, decals, plus miscellaneous tackle and accessories. The gift packs were followed by a raffle for the grand prize, a high-end pair of Accurate long-nose pliers/line cutters. Travis Nelson was the lucky winner.

Both the crew and the meals were top rate. Most anglers went home with makings for a fresh fish dinner or meat for the freezer. Participants expressed an interest in another saltwater trip next year; and though the manner in which a trip may be done remains uncertain, the list of participants is being kept for persons to contact for an Albacore or other saltwater trip.

So, if you'd like information regarding what may be a non-club trip, contact Gary Charles to have your name added to the list. We'd love to have you along. There's nothing like a huge tug on the end of your line to get your heart beating.

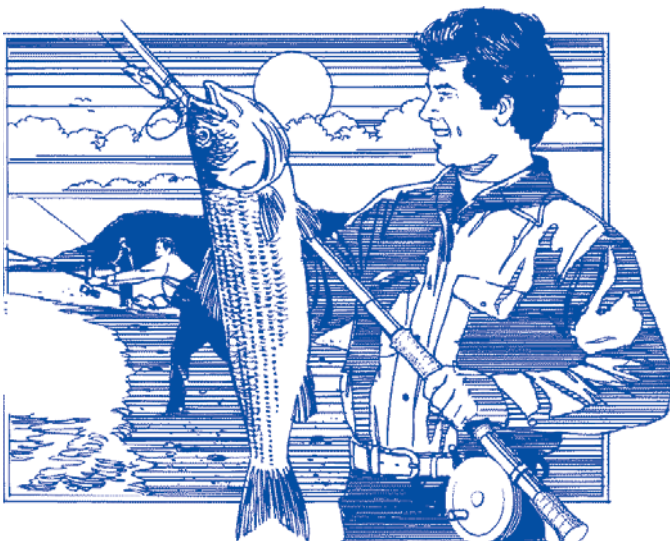
# A Day at the Beach

DENNIS MCTEER, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

For our August Surf Trip a dozen hearty club members attended the pre-trip meeting. I am far from an expert but at the pre-trip meeting I covered much of what I've learned from the surf fishing luminaries that belong to LBCC. I guess I fooled them because most of those at the pre-trip showed up for our Saturday's outing.

I had high hopes but surf fishing can be hit and miss and this trip was no different—it was mostly about fishing and did not entail a lot of catching. Dan Rivett caught a halibut while fishing in Alamitos Bay and I believe that Lun Hom also caught a fish. I managed to catch 1 corbina.

Steve Ludwig and I were walking one of the beaches when Steve spotted a pod of corbina. They were in about a foot of water and paid no attention to our offerings. Steve and I cast to the fish for 15 or 20 minutes before we wised up and moved on.



We shouldn't feel too bad since the following week; I saw a pod of fish in the same area. There were two fishermen using live ghost shrimp and they were having no more luck than we had



with our flies.

On the surf side I snagged a small ray on a clouser. I unhooked the ray with my pliers. I don't know if it was its leathery skin or cartilage in their head but it was very difficult to get the hook out of the fish. After unhooking the ray I resumed fishing and I had a few grabs but couldn't quite hook up. It wasn't until I decided to fish the bay that I checked my fly and found that the hook was broken.

I'll have my quarter ready for the Sunshine Committee.

## Plan Now For Great Fishing

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

Here's the line up for club fishing trips for this year and next. We need you to join us! I hate catching all those fish without witnesses.

### TRIPS SCHEDULED FOR 2006 AND 2007:

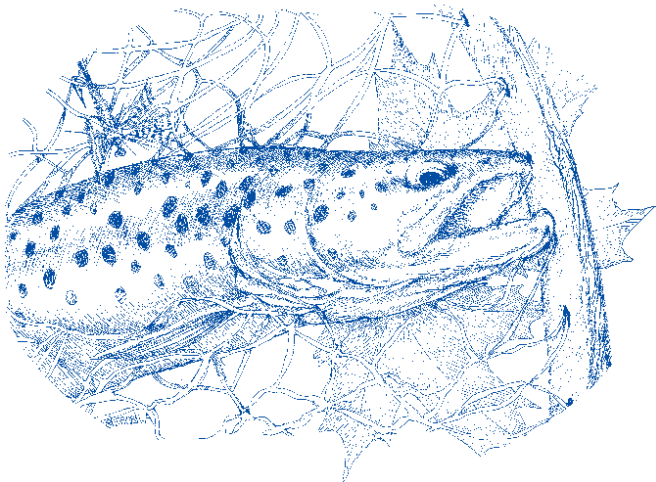
- ❖ October 13–17 Nor-Cal Trip
- ❖ October 20–22 Mammoth Trip #3
- ❖ November 10–12 Steelhead Trip
- ❖ December 16 Surf Trip
- ❖ January 19–21 Lower Owens Trip #1
- ❖ February 16–18 Lower Owens Trip #2

# Federation of Fly Fishers News

R.P. VAN GYTENBEEK, FFF PRESIDENT/CEO

## CONSERVATION

Activities here revolved around the DIDYMO (ROCK SNOT) CONFERENCE that we co-sponsored with the EPA. Participants came from many parts of the world to share baseline data and establish needs and priorities to deal with this most recent threat to our fisheries. The STRIPER SYMPOSIUM in Foxboro, MA sponsored with "Stripers Forever" to focus light on that issue brought together science, politicians, sport and commercial fisherman and economists. All this is in furtherance of our efforts to obtain sport fish status for striped bass. The MANGROVE INITIATIVE and the GILA TROUT RESTORATION projects continue to move ahead, but slowly. Our invasive species efforts with the Northern California Council on New Zealand Mud Snails and the U.S. Forest Service covering many other invasive species are coming along well. More on this entire program will be discussed in the fall.



## EDUCATION

The FAMILY TYES PROGRAM will be ready to pilot just as soon as the mentor checking program is



approved. The Federation's five pilot clubs are Sarasota, FL; Memphis, TN; Cleveland, OH; Idaho Falls, ID; with a west coast club to be determined. We expect to run the program with all qualified clubs commencing in September 2007.

Our on-going Montana education project for teachers and students serviced over 5000 students and 200 teachers in the past 12 months. Please note that the State of Montana paid for this program, including Matt Wilhelm's salary and travel. If your state is interested in this type of program, we will be more than happy to work with you, and with your state to set up a similar program.

## NATIONAL CONCLAVE

This year's National Conclave was held in Bozeman, MT during the last and very hot week in July. Despite the record heat and some facility problems (lack of air conditioning in the show hall) the conclave was a success. Registration, walk-in traffic and seminar participation were all up from 2005 (a record year).

The sold-out President's Dinner heard Special Forces Lt. Eivind Forseth explain the importance of our PROJECT HEALING WATERS program to him and his fellow wounded veterans.

Mel Krieger and Greg Pitts were both awarded the Federation's highest award, the Lapis Lazuli. Look for the detail of each man's exemplary service to the FFF and to our sport in the next issue of the FLY FISHER MAGAZINE.

Other awards were as follows:

Woman of the Year:	Carol Oglesby
Man of the Year:	Roger Maler
Buz Buszek Memorial Award:	Gary Borger
Don Harger Memorial Life Award:	Allen Crise and Dan Berry
Charles Brooks Memorial Life Award:	John Berry
Silver King Award:	Don Larmouth
Dick Nelson Fly Tying:	Bob Trowbridge
J. Stanley Lloyd Conservation Award:	Creekside Anglers
Lew Jewett Memorial Life Award:	Joe Valencic & John Colburn
McKenzie Cup:	Michigan Fly Fishing Club
Roderick Haig-Brown Award:	Paul Schullery
Lee Wulff Award:	Wasatch Custom Angling Products
FFF Conservation Award:	Mitch Keiler & Wolf River Conservancy
FFF Leopold Conservation Award:	Rip Cunningham
Robert J. Marriott Scholarship Award:	Kiza Gates
Membership Award of Merit:	Mid South Fly Fishers

### HEALING WATERS

The program to expand PROJECT HEALING WATERS from Walter Reed Hospital to all military hospitals and on to the V.A. Hospitals was officially kicked off at the Conclave. More details will be available in the very near future. We hosted four veterans at the Conclave. They enjoyed seminars, classes and fishing.

### BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

This program continues with successful teaching efforts in many locations throughout the country. If you are not currently involved and wish to be, please contact Matt Wilhelm in Livingston, MT.

### MEMBERSHIP

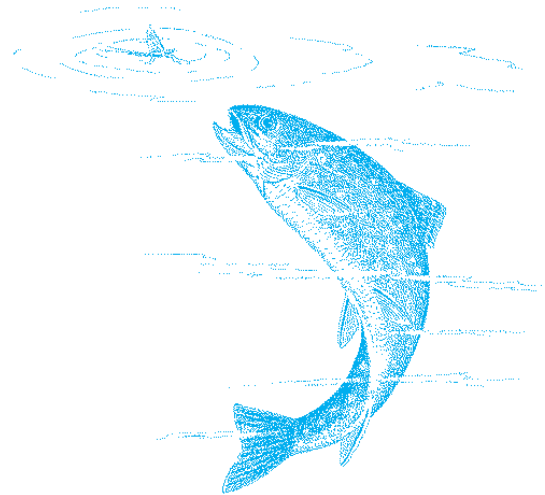
Our new membership incentive program is basically a re-work of the old rod incentive program, which so many of you wished to have reinstated. The club receives a basic TFO outfit (rod and reel) for every ten memberships it sells. If the club pre-purchases the memberships, we will provide one outfit for every nine new memberships. If you wish to step up to TFO's flagship rod (TiCr), the deal is 15 memberships, or 13 on a pre-purchase basis for one TiCr outfit. A separate Life Membership incentive that utilizes a Sage outfit will be forthcoming shortly.

## On The River Clinic

### JOE LIBEU, PAST PRESIDENT

The annual ON THE RIVER CLINIC for new club members will be held the weekend of December 9–10. This clinic is one of the most eagerly anticipated classes that the club offers. Because of its popularity, we have set a limit of 20 students and you must be a member of the Long Beach Casting Club.

The lecture dates for the clinic are set for Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of November and Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. The lectures will begin at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays. Each lecture will be different and will cover equipment, entomology, reading the water, knots etc.



The weekend of December 6–7 is set for our trip to the Bishop area to fish the Lower Owens—the stream portion of the clinic.

I am hoping that new club members will attend this clinic as it will provide you with valuable information on becoming a more proficient and productive fly fisher.

Remember, the class is limited to 20 students. If you have any question please contact me at 310-749-6771.

# A Personal Perspective

MARK LIPE,  
NATIONAL TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN

My first introduction to the Long Beach Casting Club was in 1990. Eager to learn a new sport and meet new friends, I attended monthly meetings, participated in workshops, and fished the streams in the Eastern Sierras. Soon thereafter, I found myself casting at 30" targets and eventually participating at local and national tournaments. Not long thereafter, I got roped into serving the Board of Directors as Captain a few times and was asked to be the Tournament Chairperson for two ACA Nationals. Wow! What did I get myself into?

Tournament casting is something that is special to me. It creates a forum that challenges my casting skills and improves my fishing. It's an opportunity for me to embrace a sport that seems to be endless. I am grateful to everyone who has shared their knowledge and skills in helping me with my quest of becoming a better caster. I began casting the dry fly and trout fly events and soon graduated to the bass bug and wet fly games.

Although, the club has casting equipment for me to use, I wanted to buy my own. Purchasing plug rods and a 308 Mitchell Garcia spinning reel was a must. I eventually mastered a bait casting reel without a "bird nest". For a new experience, I purchased equipment for the 1/4 oz. plug distance game and scored 193 feet at this year's National. My distance was marginal when compared to Henry Mittel and Steve Rajeff who both cast over 300 feet. Although I'm not competing with the elite casters, the event was fun and I will always strive to improve.

I thoroughly enjoy the friendly competition of tournament casting and feel rewarded when I make improvements with my scores. Sometimes my efforts are rewarded when I win a medal or two at the Southwestern or Northwestern tournaments. Winning a medal at the national



might be a dream but watching Rei, my 4 1/2 year old son cast in his very first tournament was a heart felt experience. He won the bronze medal in the 3/8 oz. plug event. Tournament casting is challenging and fun. What draws me to the sport most is the camaraderie and friendship associated with those involved. I hope you too find the fun and excitement with tournament casting.

Tournament Casting has a rich history with the Long Beach Casting Club. Even our monthly newsletter dons the name "Target Talk". Every year we host the Southwestern Tournament in February and most recently we hosted the ACA Nationals for our 8<sup>th</sup> time. Twenty of our members competed in the games and more 70 volunteers worked diligently throughout the week.

Tournament Committee members whose name are highlighted with an asterisk (\*) below were instrumental in the organization of the event. A personal thanks to them as this Committee prepared for over a year and worked the entire tournament. It was because of everyone's skills, dedication and hard work, that this years ACA National was one of the best ever! Kudos for everyone! The American Casting Association presented the LBCC with two recognition trophy awards for being such a wonderful host.

I am very proud to be associated with the Long Beach Casting Club. Working with individuals with a common cause was a wonderful experience. Building friendships and broadening my skills and knowledge has enriched my life. I look forward to our future endeavors on the stream or at the pond.

Listed below in italics are the LBCC members who worked as committee members(\*) and volunteers. Also listed are casters, silent auction and raffle donors, and individuals who provided financial assistance at the beginning of the year. Although not listed here, I want to thank the many people who purchased raffle tickets, silent auction items, meal tickets, and tournament clothing! Your contributions were key factors towards the success of the tournament. Thank you for your support!

*Thank you and please accept my sincere apologies, if I left anyone out!*

*Larry Albach, Bob Allen, Mike Allen, Randy Allen, Jerry Allison, Jay Anderson, Donald Bell, Richard Bell, Larry Berg, Keely Blyleven, \*Nani Blyleven, Connie Bullock, Lyman Burgmeier, Paul Burgner, Gary Charles, Chester Chau, Dino Christopoulos, Mark Cole, Tim Constantine, Michael Driscoll, Kim Dunbar, \*Marv Dworzak, Wayne Eguchi, Dennis Farrier, John Field, Michael Finney, Ron Finney, Andrew Flior, \*Barbara and \*Ed Flior, Mark Flo, \*Rich and Mary Lou Garrett, Steve Gonzales, \*Bob Graham, Craig Haines, Bill Heard, Akira Hedani, Don Hill, Rick Hilles, Barbara Hobson, Patti and \*Stan Holden, Joe Holtzman, Milt Huber, Yash Iseda, Steve Joines, \*Carole and Jeff Katz, \*Frank Kropacek, Tony Lark, Jane and Julius Lee, \*Joe Libeu, John Lincoln, Kumi and \*Mark Lipe, Rei Lipe, Guy Manning, Gerry Marotta, Mike McClay, Judy McLean, Dennis McTeer, Ephraim Mendoza, Bob Middo, Jim Minx, Chuck Moore, Ron Mori, John Musulin, Zino Nakasuji, John Napoli, Richard Nuthmann, Jerry Piatkiewicz, Keith Pomella, Dick Recchia, John Redner, Dean Rickerd, Matt Rickerd, Mitch Rickerd, Carl and Carole Rischer, Dan Rivett, Pete Rodriguez, Joe Rosenthal, \*Allen and \*Judy Ross, \*Jeff Sadler, Frank Sanders, Lewis Scherer, Jim Schrader, Alex Siemers, Bob Spear, Bill Staub, Greg Stumpf, Bettye Swartz, Bruce Takenaka, \*Mark Tsunawaki, Doug Uyematsu, Eliseo Ochoa, \*John Van Derhoof, Nicole Van Derhoof, Sue Vestermark, Chris Walker, Ian Walker, Margaret and Trevor Walker, Joe Wangness, Charolette and Jun Watanabe, \*Mick Woodbury.*

## Notes from the Pool

### FRANK KROPACEK, CAPTAIN

Our summer casting schedule is now over and our first cast in daylight hours will be on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> which will be the Captain's Handicap. I am scheduling a pond cleaning on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. The pond, which looked outstanding for the national tournament, is looking worse due to the heat and really needs to be worked on again.

With the start of our winter casting schedule, we will be resuming those looked forward to breakfasts which our club chefs are famous for. We will also be initiating a new program to interest new casters to the competition side of fly casting that you can read about in an article by Carole Katz in this Target Talk.

We always experience an upsurge in casters once we start casting during daylight hours. The biggest drawback to the Tuesday evening casts is visibility with the combined setting sun and pond lights creating a visual twilight zone where the fly is difficult to see. If you read Carole's article in the last target talk, you will see that these casts help a person refine the casting stroke, line handling, and the accuracy necessary to put a fly where you want it to be while on the stream. There's no better place to develop that expertise than our own casting pond.

Come on out — we have a lot of fun and we also learn a lot from one another. And don't forget those great breakfasts.



# ACA Rule Changes for 2007

MARK LIPE, ACA BOARD OF DIRECTOR

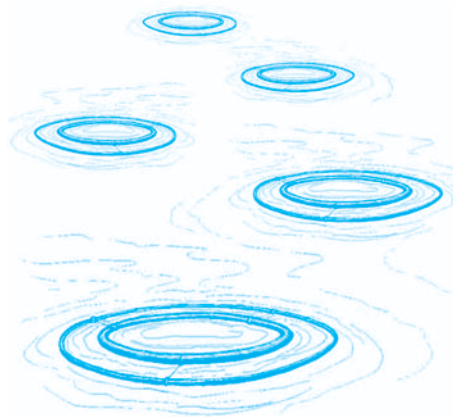
American Casting Association Officers, Life Members, and Club Delegates voted on 24 proposals at the annual business meeting on Thursday, August 3, 2006. Listed below are some of the results which begin next year. Upon your request, I can E-mail you a copy of the updated ACA Bylaws and Regulations. A copy is also available for your review at the Long Beach Casting Club's clubhouse library.

**AMENDMENT #1:** The proposal of changing the ACA insignia failed. Although there was a consensus that a change is needed, the association is hopeful that next year's amendment will include other artwork that is more appealing. John Van Derhoof has provided some alternative artwork that is very impressive and appealed to everyone at the meeting. We are hopeful that his recommendations and artwork are submitted and passed next year.

**AMENDMENT #2:** The ACA will receive 70% (compared to 75%) of the entry fees collected at the Annual Tournament with the remainder allocated to the organization(s) that host the Tournament.

**AMENDMENT #4:** The 5 weight Combination, Accuracy & Distance game has been approved as a Special Event within the ACA games. Rules and regulations of the event are available in the updated 2007 ACA Bylaws and Regulations. You can also obtain the rules from the ACA website [www.americancastingassoc.org](http://www.americancastingassoc.org).

**AMENDMENT #7:** The proposal of mandating that judging rings be used with all plug and fly accuracy events during National Tournaments failed.



**AMENDMENT #8:** As of January 1, 2007 it is permissible for the dry fly to be oiled or treated.

**AMENDMENT #13:** The proposal of allowing the caster to make three practice casts when standing in the casting box during plug games failed. The number of practice casts can be established as a "ground rule" with approval of the tournament committee.

**AMENDMENT #18:** During the bass bug event, the caster will be able to declare interference when temporary hang-ups occur during the pick-up after a final forward cast. The caster must abort all casting motion thereafter and declare interference. The judge will then acknowledge the restart by asking the caster to place the bug near the last scored target. There is no time out for temporary hang-ups.

**AMENDMENT #19:** The proposal of increasing Member Club Dues from \$50 to \$100 failed.

**AMENDMENT #20:** The proposal to eliminate the 3/8 oz. Plug Accuracy Game from the 12 recognized ACA Grand All Around Events and move it within the Special Events section failed.

**AMENDMENT #21:** The proposal to change both the maximum number of demerits from a maximum of five (5) to two (2) when casting at targets and for all penalty demerits to be one (1) failed.

# The San Gabriel Bears All

**MICK WOODBURY,  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

The September conservation trip to the San Gabriel was successful by any measure. The work group attendance was the best yet with nine guys and gals (Chuck Moore, Steve Atkinson, Craig Haines and son David, Stan Holden, John Lincoln, Jim Minx and Al and Judy Ross), the task was done in record time, and eight of the nine caught fish. The ninth (a non-fisherman hiker) fared even better with a bear story that will be repeated far more often than the typical fish story.

The conservation-minded troop met at 9:00 sharp and filled three vehicles for the trip up the mountain. The first stop was to install a piece of pre-cut and pre-painted plywood on two poles (nine people, two drills, four holes, four nuts and bolts plus washers). They probably finished in the time it took to read what they did. But the result looks good and the sign can now take paper notices instead of the more expensive decals.



Chuck Moore then asked the group if they wanted the "grand tour" or to go fishing. It was a



unanimous vote for the grand tour. Off they went, stopping often to hear about such places as Little Mermaid, Big Mermaid, Face in the Wall, and Sheriff's Hole. They went all the way to the dam where they met and talked with the dam keeper and his assistant, learning that the dam is being drawn down in preparation for the rainy season which begins in October. They also learned it has the capacity to hold 31-inches of rain.

When it was time for lunch, they went to Glenn Camp and supplemented their sandwiches with fresh-picked wild blueberries. Chuck knows all the good secrets. The group then split up and fished Big and Little Mermaid. David Haines, who prefers bird watching over fishing, went up a canyon to explore and perhaps see a deer. As he quietly made his way up the canyon to further investigate some rustling sounds, a bear stood up and peered at him over the bushes. The two stared at each other a bit and then David decided that discretion is the better part of valor and wisely made a careful retreat.

The next trip is Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. By then Chuck will have another project in mind and perhaps another animal sighting. Call him for the details.

# Club Membership Requests

fotofish@earthlink.net). You can also contact me by phone at (310) 377-3868.

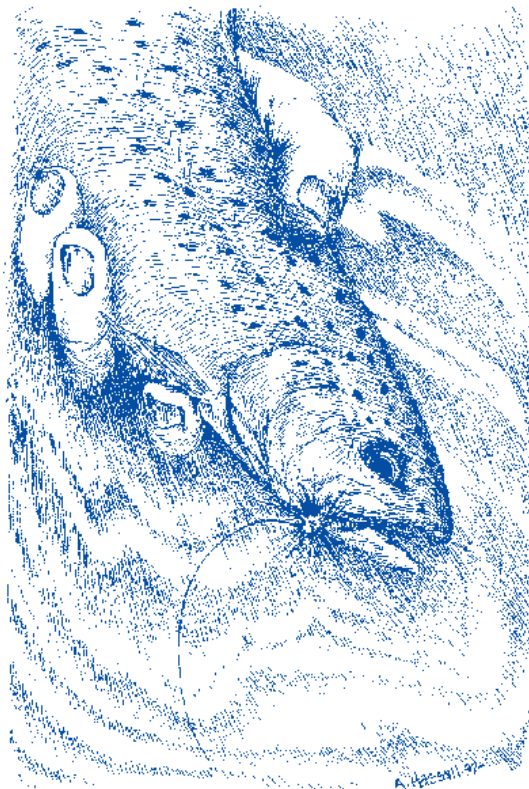
**JEFFREY SADLER, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Please welcome the following new member who joined us this month:

- ❖ Martin Byrne, Long Beach
- ❖ Bob Henrich, Lakewood
- ❖ Bill McLean, Rancho Palos Verdes
- ❖ Jim Mills, Manhattan Beach
- ❖ John & Laurie Whalley, Long Beach

Welcome to the club, and we wish you success, and fun, as a member.

I have finally joined the 20<sup>th</sup> century (I know, it's the 21<sup>st</sup>) and have hi-speed internet. Why do you care? For any questions, corrections or changes of address, etc., please E-mail me at fotofish@verizon.net (no longer at



## SALE — 30% OFF

### Big Savings on ACA Shirts & Vests

**ALAN ROSS, MEMBER**

A cold morning on the Lower Owens and you'll be warm as toast with a long sleeve T-shirt and a great looking fleece vest. And, in the condo you'll be so suave with your handsome ACA polo or sweatshirt.

We're selling out the remaining ACA merchandise at 30% off. This applies to the inventory on hand. While they last you can get the following:

T-shirt (longsleeve)	<b>\$15</b>	(9-M & 33-XL remaining)
Sweatshirt	<b>\$20</b>	(2-M, 7-L & 1-2XL remaining)
Polo Shirt	<b>\$20</b>	(1-S, 2-M, 9-L, & 1-3XL remaining)
Fleece Vest	<b>\$20</b>	(5-M, 2-XL, & 1-2XL remaining)

# Want to Improve Your Fishing Skills?

**CAROLE KATZ, PRESIDENT**

**D**o you want to be able to cast a dry fly to a precise spot in front of a rising fish? Want to avoid obstacles when casting? Want to improve your accuracy to increase your fishing success?

If you are interested in improving your casting skills and accuracy, the casting games will be a big help. Realizing that the games can be intimidating to the beginner, we have scheduled an orientation session for the Dry Fly Event. We picked this game because it is probably the easiest to learn.

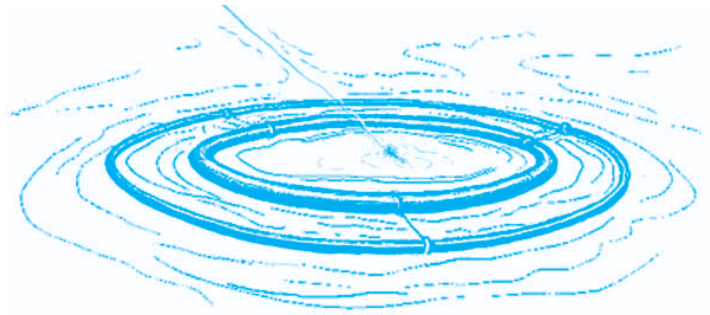
On Sunday, October 8, join us for breakfast at 8:00 AM and socialize with other club members. Afterward, there will be a short session on the rod, line, leader and fly requirements for this game. We will also talk about the rules and scoring for the Dry Fly Event.

Bring a 6 weight rod and a double taper line if you have them. Don't worry if you don't have exactly the right gear—use whatever you have or the club rods in the beginning. A 5 weight rod will do, as will a weight forward line. If you decide you want to pursue this, you can add to your equipment collection later.

We will also have an on-the-water demo, followed by practice time. There will be plenty of more seasoned competitors to answer your questions and help you with technique. This will be fun.

If this orientation is successful, we will schedule another for the Trout Fly Event in November. So as to not conflict with the club trip on November 5, we'll probably make the Trout Fly Orientation on November 26, but more on that later.

Give it a try.



## Not Here You Don't...

**JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR**

**I**t has come to our attention that, if you choose to park on the south side of the clubhouse, you may receive a ticket. Just so everyone is clear; this is the lawn area on the opposite end of the clubhouse from main entry. Parking in this area damages both the landscape and the irrigation system in place and Park Rangers have been issuing citations to vehicles parked there. It is also suggested that you not drive through this area and park on the west side of the building as well.

Additionally, please do not drive over the curb if the gate is closed and locked—park in the asphalt parking lot instead. There are already broken sections of curbing and the Parks Department is rightfully upset about having to fix them. The City's Parks Department has been very cooperative and helpful over the years and that relationship is being jeopardized by some people's lack of respect.

Please park your vehicles in our normal parking area on the east side of the clubhouse.

Thanks.

# Fly of the Month: Polly's Casual Dress

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

Many of our older members may well remember this month's pattern, Polly's Casual Dress. This pattern was a very popular with many of us way back and went by the unusual nickname of the "Pink Slug".

The Casual Dress came from the vice of E. H. "Polly" Rosborough of Chiloquin, Oregon, home of the Williamson River—one of my all-time favorite rivers. The fly, invented in 1960, published in 1969 in his book *TYING AND FISHING THE FUZZY NYMPHS* is one of Polly's best and most popular patterns. This is great pattern that imitates a great variety of different insects—mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies and dragonflies to name a few. It is fuzzy and has a generic, suggestive form rather than being a precise imitation. I feel that the fly's effectiveness stems from this fact.

I have used this fly as a searching pattern for years on more rivers and lakes than I can remember. I alter its size and color to meet the demands of the particular stretch of water I am fishing. Try tying the fly in other colors such muskrat dyed olive, brown and black. You can use other materials with lots of guard hairs, such as a hare's mask, to achieve the same effect. On a salmon hook it makes a great steelhead or Alaskan pattern.

Additionally, like with most nymph patterns, the Casual Dress works quite well as a bead-head. Simply add the bead before placing the hook in the vice, anchor it with a few thread wraps and tie the remainder of the fly following the instructions given in the remainder of this article.

## Materials for tying the Casual Dress:

Hook: Mustad 3906B or equivalent in sizes 2 to 18  
 Thread: Black 6/0  
 Tail: Muskrat guard hairs and fur color to match body  
 Body: Muskrat dubbing natural or dyed  
 Ribbing: Gold wire  
 Hackle: Muskrat guard hairs and fur collar  
 Head: Black ostrich herl or peacock herl and black thread



## Instructions for tying the Casual Dress:

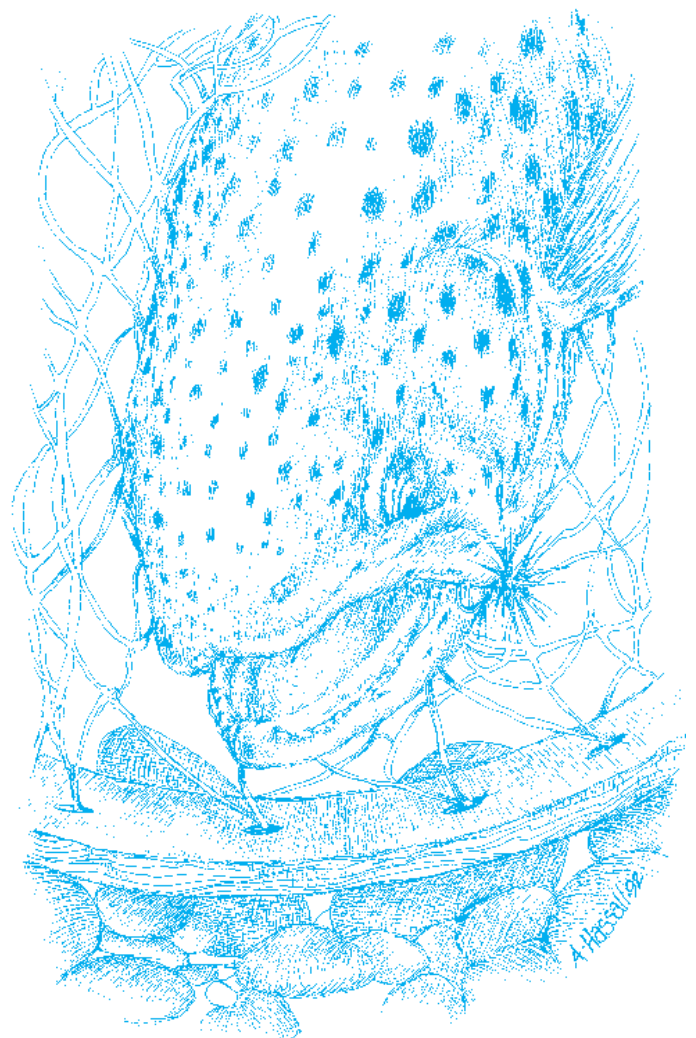
- 1) Attach thread to the hook behind the headspace and wind down to the bend of the hook. Select a good quality piece of muskrat skin and stand up a small amount of the guard hairs and fur so that they are perpendicular to the piece of skin (to keep the ends of the guard hairs even) and cut off. Remove about half of the fur and tie in the guard hairs and the remaining fur as a tail. The tail should be as long as the shank.
- 2) Cut a 4" long piece gold wire and tie it in along the back side of the hook. Cut more guard hairs and fur from the muskrat skin and mix it up with your fingers to use as dubbing. Apply the dubbing to the thread and wind it  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the body. Wind the gold wire ribbing in the reverse direction of the dubbing about 4 or 5 turns and tie off. Secure the fly with a 3-turn whip finish but do not cut off the thread.
- 3) Prepare a 3" to 4" long dubbing loop with the thread. Cut more muskrat guard hairs and dubbing from the hide in the same manner as the tail but about 2 or 3 times as much. Remove about half of the dubbing leaving mostly guard hairs and some dubbing. This material will be used as a hackle.

If you own a dubbing twister now is a great time to use it as it allows you to control the loop opening and thread tension easily. Place the guard hairs and fur in the dubbing loop so that the cut end is only about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " past the thread, tighten the loop and spread out hair and fur so that it is fairly even from end to end. With a dubbing twister or shepherd's hook twist the loop until the hair and fur are secure. This will create "bottlebrush" of guard hairs and dubbing. Lightly moisten your finger tips and apply that moisture to the hackle into something resembling a feather hackle. Do not saturate the hair and dubbing which will

make more difficult to work with. The correct amount of moisture will help you to control hair and dubbing when you wind it.

Without letting the loop untwist, grab it with a pair of hackle pliers and wind the loop 3 or 4 turns. Take care to keep the nice, pointed ends of the guard hairs pointing to the rear of the hook. Tie off the dubbing loop ending the hackle at the headspace.

- 4) Tie in the ostrich herl and wind 2 or 3 turns and tie off. Wind a very small (5 turns or less) thread head and whip finish. Apply some head cement to the thread only and the Casual Dress is complete.



# Long Beach Casting Club Programs for 2006

DENNIS MC TEER, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

Here is a list of the Long Beach Casting Club's Monthly Programs as they are currently scheduled. We have a great cast of presenters who will offer entertaining and informative programs, including two Saturday workshops—one for tying and one for casting.

Unless noted otherwise Monthly Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the Month at 7:00 PM.

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
October 27, 2006 (Friday)	Bruce Richards	THE CASTING STROKE
October 28, 2006 (Saturday)	Bruce Richards	ANALYZING YOUR CASTING STROKE
November 17, 2006 (Friday)	Simon Gawesworth	SPEY CASTING
December 2, 2006 (Saturday)	none	VENISON STAG HOLIDAY DINNER
January 25, 2007	Bryan Webb	FLY FISHING NEWPORT BAY
February 22, 2007	Sunshine Committee	WHITE ELEPHANT SALE



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Joe Libeu your instructor, is a certified Federation of Fly Fishers Master Casting Instructor and he brings with him years of experience on his own water.



The classes are limited to a maximum of 6 students with a minimum of 4 students.

The cost for this informative 2-day class is only **\$250.00** per person. This includes an afternoon lunch. Not included are lodging, tackle, meals, license and transportation.

Call Joe Libeu at 310-749-6671 or E-mail [fishlgf@ix.netcom.com](mailto:fishlgf@ix.netcom.com) for any additional information or to sign up for the clinic.



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# Calendar of Events

## October

2	Monday	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
3	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
4	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-trip Meeting: Northern California
5	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
7-8	Weekend		Northwestern Tournament
8	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: games plus "Orientation to Dry Fly" class
10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
11	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-trip Meeting: Mammoth #3
12	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
13-17			Northern California Club Trip
17	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
19	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
20-22	Weekend		Club Trip: Mammoth #3
24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-trip Meeting: Kern River Trip
26	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
27	Friday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Bruce Richards
28	Saturday	7:00 PM	Bruce Richards and Stroke Analyzer at the club pond
31	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Introduction Night

## November

2	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
3-5	Weekend		Club Trip: Kern River Trip
5	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games
6	Monday	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Techniques and Demonstrations
9	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Ant
16	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
17	Friday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Simon Gawesworth
18-19	Weekend		Marriott's Fly Fishing Show
21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Soft Hackle
26	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games
28	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Boss
30	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying

## December

2	Saturday	7:00 PM	Venison Stag
4	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Scud
6	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-trip Meeting: Surf Trip
7	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
10	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Sunday Cast
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear
14	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
16	Saturday		Club Trip: Surf Trip
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Pheasant Tail
21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Clouser Minnow
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
31	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Sunday Cast



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