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Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

December 2006

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line

Thanksgiving

CAROLE KATZ, PRESIDENT

At this time of year, we think about the reasons we have to give thanks. We think of our families, our friends and our health. We might be thankful for a career or a particular talent or a lucky break.

We members of Long Beach Casting Club have much to be thankful for. Our clubhouse is the envy of many other clubs, as is our casting pond and our history. We should be grateful to and thankful for our members, past and present, who have contributed so much. Board members, committee chairmen, kitchen chefs, instructors, and everyone else are visible and known to any club member who attends our activities. Some of our members, however, work primarily behind the scenes and might easily be overlooked.

Take *Target Talk*, for example. Our monthly newsletter has been published for decades, but with John Van Derhoof's talents and Kelley's before him, it has become a professional publication. Unless you have done this type of work, you might not fully appreciate the time and effort involved, not to mention the considerable computer skills. Contributors send articles to John. He edits them all. He has to send a reminder every month for those authors who have fallen behind schedule. He puts in the ads, often after modifying them. He has to update the three-month calendar. He

has to lay in the articles, making them fit. He dresses up the finished copy with eye-catching fonts and artwork. And he has his own column, the "Fly of the Month," to write and illustrate. It often involves a considerable amount of "tweaking" to get everything to fit just right. When finished, he sends it to the printer. John spends many hours every month for the last seven years working on this, silently, behind the scenes. As if that isn't enough, once a year, he prepares the *Roster* for printing, with all its various sections and ads, adding some special touches.

After *Target Talk* has been printed, Lydia Healy takes over. I would bet that many of you would not recognize Lydia if you saw her, but she too works behind the scenes to make sure that *Target Talk* gets to us every month. For seven years, she has been picking up the finished newsletters from the printer, getting them ready for the Post Office and preparing the paperwork. Because we use bulk mail to save postage, postal regulations require that the newsletter

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2007 FFFSWC Council Fly Tying Expo and Auction

BOB MIDDO, FFFSWC PRESIDENT

The FFF Southwest Council is planning to have a fundraising event on February 24th, 2007 at the Long Beach Casting Club to help offset the cost for new signs at Hot Creek. If you haven't been there lately, the old regulatory and information signs are in need of repair, and more than just simple painting and maintenance is needed. The Council decided to have new signs made that will be installed prior to the 2007 season opener. Hot Creek is our Council's only "blue ribbon" spring creek, a perennial favorite for most and we felt it was our duty to help preserve its heritage.

How can you help? We need tiers! Our plan is two fold. One is educational by having fly tiers from all over the Council demonstrate their craft. The other is of course to help raise funding for the new Hot Creek signs by conducting a continuous auction of donated flies.

What do we need? FLIES & DEMONSTRATORS! We wish to solicit flies from all tiers, beginner to advanced. These flies can be from salt water to steelhead and everything in between. Do you have a favorite selection for Hot Creek? The Madison? The Lower Owens? Surf Perch? The Green River? etc. To increase interest during the auction, we would also like to give a little background (uses, locations, etc.) on your flies as they are auctioned off, so if you plan to donate flies, please put a little note with the flies regarding their use, etc. All donated flies will be put into boxes by the Council and auctioned off, giving full credit of course to the tier. Demonstrators—anyone interested is more than welcome!

If you are interested in helping out please contact Naomi Okamoto at: meimei2@earthlink.net. Naomi's e-mail is spam protected, so make sure you list the FFFSWC Fly Tying Expo in the subject header.

Thank you for your help.



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Venison Stag Holiday Dinner

DENNIS MCTEER, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

The Venison Stag, our biggest annual social event, will be held on Saturday, December 2nd. This year we will feature our traditional menu of prime rib, baked potato, sautéed carrots and, for dessert, cheesecake. As a special treat, we will feature the added bonus of Matt Jarman's Magic during the Social Hour, so please arrive early. The Social Hour will begin at 6:00 PM with dinner being served at 7:00 PM. The price is only \$18 for adults (\$25 at the door) and \$6 for children.

Matt uses his sleight of hand skills and every day objects to perform magical feats the likes of which you have never seen before. He is a member of the Academy of Magical Arts (The Magic Castle) and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. In 1998, Matt took first place in the Junior Close-Up competition, one of the largest magic competitions with magicians from 29 countries. That same year, Matt became the first junior to be named Magician of the Year for the International Brotherhood of Magicians ring 313. He has been featured in the Los Angeles Times and several times in the Orange County Register for his unique Magic skills.

Shauna Barton and her crew will be preparing the dinner and we will need an accurate head count. There is a reservation form in this edition of Target Talk. You can me call at (562) 698-4746 or email mcflyfisher@charter.net with any questions.

Another one of the highlights of the Venison Stag is a drawing for one of Larry Albach's custom knives. To qualify for the drawing, you must donate time for one of the many volunteer projects or cleaning crews around the clubhouse and pond. Give back to the club and this beautiful knife

could be yours.

As with all our events, this is a volunteer effort. We will need help to do some cleaning as well as decorating and setting tables the morning of the event. We will also need some servers. Lastly, we will need a crew for washing dishes at the end of the festivities. Please give me a call or drop me an email if you can help.



Trout Fly Orientation

CAROLE KATZ, PRESIDENT

The second in a series of informational orientations to the casting games will be held on December 10th. This session will be led by John Van Derhoof. If you are interested in learning the basics of the Trout Fly Game, do join us. This game is composed of three rounds. The first two are similar to the Dry Fly Game from our the last session, and the third round is done using roll casts.

Breakfast will be served from 8:00 to 9:00 AM, followed by a brief discussion of the equipment and rules. Afterwards, John will demonstrate the game including specific techniques on the pond.

This game, like the others, will really help you refine your casting skills, and improve your accuracy and confidence when going after the big one.

Leader's Line continued from page 1

be sorted and banded by zip code. Lydia has to apply the labels—more than 400 labels—being careful to keep them in zip code order, and then band the bundles. Then she has to deliver the trays of banded newsletters to the Bulk Mail Department at the Post Office. She also has to make sure that we have enough money in our account at the Post Office to cover the cost of each month's mailing in advance. She too repeats the process for the annual mailing of the *Roster*.

It would be easy to take for granted the condition of the clubhouse and the casting pond, and ignore the time and effort necessary for maintenance, but a few members in particular are deserving of our thanks. Art Murphy has been the club's locksmith for decades. He's probably replaced more doors and locks than most of us can imagine. Gerry Marotta and Yash Iseda can always be counted upon to help with pond cleaning, but they do much more. They re-tiled a kitchen counter and one of our bathrooms this summer, along with the help of new member extraordinaire John Lincoln. They built rock planters around the perimeter of the porch and installed irrigation. They installed new paper towel dispensers and repainted the porch banisters before the National Tournament. Dan Rivett builds, he fixes, he takes apart. He did the bathroom demo; he rebuilt a new door for the electrical panel and installed a new lock. He saved us several hundred dollars by removing some very old locks for which we had no keys. Without these guys and their helpers, our clubhouse would be in a sorry state.

Stan Holden has occupied many high profile positions in the club for many years, but he, too, does a considerable amount of work below the radar. It was Stan who got the tile donated, and who arranged for the Fire Department to cook lunch and for the Coast Guard to present the colors at the National Tournament. For years, Stan has been the one to watch over the grass parking area, to mark off swampy areas, and to supervise parking during large events. Without ever being



asked, he just does it. When you see the yellow tape in the parking area, you can be sure that Stan has been at work to make sure your car doesn't get stuck in the mud, or that we don't get in trouble with the city for parking in restricted areas.

When you come to the clubhouse during cold weather, you can't help but notice the welcoming warmth of a fire in the fireplace and the smell of freshly-brewed coffee. Marv Dworzak made the fire, made sure we had enough wood to have a fire, and keeps the coffee going. Marv is the keeper of the ambiance of the clubhouse.

Many of us have used the club's extensive library of books and videos. Jeff Sadler has for years organized the library. He checks all donations of books and videos to determine if we already have a copy, and sets aside most duplicates for auction. He records the titles in a computer database and assigns inventory numbers. He regularly checks books in and out, and maintains the card file of these transactions.

As a club member and certainly as President, I am thankful for the members who keep LBCC and its facilities running smoothly. Volunteers seem to come out of the woodwork to get things done whenever necessary. It would be impossible to name everyone, but you can be sure that on any list of mine, I am thankful to have so many members willing to give of themselves and their time, often taking time away from their families or work, to contribute to the club's activities. Whether occupying a high-profile position or working behind the scenes, thank you all.

I wish you all the best this Thanksgiving and upcoming Holiday Season.

John McKim Loses Cancer Fight

JACK TURNER, PAST PRESIDENT

ong Beach Casting Club lost a true friend recently with the passing of John McKim. John succumbed to cancer after a long and gallant fight.

He first joined our club in 1967. He was an active caster and served as an officer in several capacities until he moved to Northern California in 1983. His wife was the daughter of Howard Isley, in whose name the club has maintained a perpetual trophy. John returned to our area in 2004 and maintained his membership until the end.

John discovered his fly tying ability while helping to improve the club's public fly tying classes. Little did he realize that this would form the background for his future career as the Department Editor, Fly Tying, of Western Outdoors Magazine. His illustrated column FLY IDEAS has been a regular feature since May, 1978. A professional to the end, before his death John had completed his articles that will be published until the January 2008 issue.

John's stories and illustrations have been published in *Saltwater Sportsman, Angler, Fly Tyer, Western Outdoors, Car and Driver, Road and Track* and numerous other publications. He also authored a short history of Long Beach Casting Club entitled Another Look at an Old Friend. His book Fly Tying...Adventures in Fur, Feathers and Fun, was published in 1982, now in its eighth printing and used as a manual by numerous fly tying classes and individuals, continues to be recognized as a standard for novice and intermediate fly tiers. John illustrated Basic Fly Tying, by Wayne Luallen, which was recently selected to serve as the tying manual for Project Healing Waters, a special tying program for servicemen wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan.

John was a good friend, open and helpful to all of us. To counter his easy-going persona, John nicknamed himself "The Old Grouch" although nothing could have been farther from the truth. His artwork, particularly his color plates of insects and their artificial counterparts, are treasured by all who are lucky enough to have one. Over the years, John donated several of these for auction to help the club he so much appreciated.

As I write about John, I can see our club logo with the leaping rainbow, framed, on my desk, with the artist's name "McKim" neatly signed between the trout's belly and the first water ring of the rise. How lucky we are to have had such a talented man share our unique interests and leave such a wonderful legacy we can enjoy forever.

God grant that I may live to fish until my dying day,
And when it comes to my last cast, I then most humbly pray,
When in the Lord's safe landing net, and peacefully asleep,
That in his mercy I be judged, as good enough to keep.

THE FISHERMAN'S PRAYER...from a 1956 issue of Target Talk

Notes from the Pond

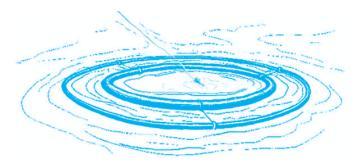
FRANK KROPACEK, CAPTAIN

ur October 8th cast found a large number of casters ready for three things: the breakfast courtesy of Mark Flo: Mark Tsunawaki's orientation on the how's and whys of the Dry Fly Game; and the ensuing cast at the pond. Mark's presentation really did the trick as most of the new casters turned in some very impressive scores for their first time being judged. We needed three judges in the water to accommodate all of the casters.

On October 22nd, the breakfast, hosted by Rich and Mary Lou Garrett, saw another group of casters enjoying another great breakfast. We didn't have as many as on the 8th (there was a fishing trip in progress) but had a great time that day. We are noticing a little more interest in the plug games as well as the wet fly game.

November 5th rolled around and found John Lincoln and his daughter, Thea cooking the morning's breakfast, assisted by Keith Pomella. We enjoyed great weather and a good turnout for the cast. The way the scores are looking, our friends up north will be finding stiffer competition for the Southwestern Tournament on February 10-11. If you would like to help at that event please contact me. The support you provide in these activities always draws extremely favorable comments that reflect well on our club. If you haven't participated, plan on doing so—you will be doing a service for the club as well as meeting some terrific people who attend. There are few clubs who offer as many programs as we do and it's always a great feeling to put some time and effort into the running of our activities.

Check your Target Talk or Roster for the dates and games and come out and participate. I ask you, again, to please use one of the ACA flies when you cast. Your leader will work better with the appropriate fly rather than that soggy piece



of yarn. Also, let's start observing some of the common courtesies to casters. If you want to have a conversation, please don't start it at the casting station while the caster is concentrating on the game. It is very distracting and as we observe courtesy on the stream, we should also practice it during our casts.

Hope to see you at our future casts.

Cold Weather; **Hot Fishing!**

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

am taking reservations for the San Juan River trip in New Mexico in February 2007. Mark your calendars, tie up some worms and let me know your interest.

We will drive there (carpool) on February 23rd, fish for three days and return on the 27th. Rick Hilles has made reservations at the Octagon Inn where we stayed last year. The cost is shared; about \$200 each or less for four nights' lodging. We'll be arranging guides later for those who wish to float or wade the river with local instruction, so let me know your desires. This year the trip is scheduled for the weekend after Lower Owens #2. You can warm up there and then join us for some great fishing for larger fish. Jump on this one—we have limited space in the lodge.

Northern California Trip Report

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Our most recent fund-raising event for the Sunshine Committee occurred at the beginning of October. Like last year, the trip was divided into two portions: Redding for three nights with two guided days fishing and the Clearwater Lodge where we spent another three nights and many of us had two additional days of guided fishing. While the trip was very successful, it has become clear that it is too long and too expensive. Accordingly, we will divide it into two trips next year.

Using Redding as the base of operations for the first portion, some of the group fished the Upper Sacramento River. The river parallels I-5 north out of Lake Shasta and one merely exits the freeway, parks, crosses the railroad tracks and ventures down to fish. Dan Rivett, Yash Iseda and Jeff Sadler did so and caught a few fish to begin the trip.



The guides from Chris King's Sac River Outfitters met us the next morning at 7:00 AM in front of the hotel with their boats in tow. We were assigned guides and chose to fish Lower Sacramento River fishing for large rainbow trout which were hanging out below the salmon redds waiting for loose salmon eggs to drift down to them. And the fly du jour was such a pattern. Despite the fall coloration of the trees, the weather was warm and the fishing was hot. Everyone seemed to report fishing success that day.

No club fishing trip seems complete without a substantial mishap and Dennis McTeer obliged by falling from his boat. There was complete silence on the river and no one breathed until it was clear that Dennis was unhurt. His only concern was how he would explain the event. He tried out various versions of the story until he found one he liked. Being sympathetic fishing buddies, Gary Charles and I presented Dennis with a pair of water wings at dinner and designated him the Safety Officer for the rest of the trip.

The next day was dedicated to steelhead. Three boats went off to the Feather River. Those boats caught numerous juvenile steelhead ("half-pounders") that had not yet made the journey to the ocean. Rich Garrett and Slim (his guide from last year of Mountain Man fame) went to the Lower Sac below Red Bluff and had a banner day. Rich returned with a big smile and photos of several steelies running at least eight or nine pounds and tales of many smaller ones.

Four boats were off to the Trinity River. Large salmon were seen cruising in water that barely covered their dorsal fins. As Gary and I came around one bend, Jeff Sadler warned us that Dennis was fighting a salmon just down river. Dennis' rod was bent in a very tight arc and his guide, was running around with the net trying to land the fish. Every time the net touched the water, the salmon took off on another run down stream. At the end of the fight, I don't know who was more exhausted, Dennis or the twenty-pound salmon!

Al and Judy Ross put in below our location and when we met for dinner, they reported catching numerous juvenile steelhead; Judy out fished Al five to one once again! Bob Allen and Maria Rivas put in above where we did and reported mostly wading adventures: slips, falls and a bobbing Bob.

Gary and I caught several juvenile steelhead and I managed to land a fairly large adult. Chris King

Northern California continued on page 8

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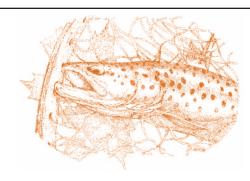
assured us that there would be more and larger fish if we came later in the year so next year our steelhead trip will be in November. The Trinity River is a gorgeous watershed given the fall colors. The crystal clear water was flowing at a walking pace, which was perfect. As Slim said, we now have the "Tug bug", an addiction to steelhead.

The Clearwater Lodge portion of the trip presented the opportunity to fish the intermountain region between Mt. Lassen and Mt. Shasta. Hat Creek was the favorite for many. On the first day there, even before we checked in, Dennis netted quite a few nice rainbows in the Powerhouse Riffle. The rest of us had more limited success.

With our assigned guides, we could choose where we wanted to fish. No one floated the Fall River where the fishing was off but some ventured to the Pit River where the river lived up to its reputation as difficult water to wade. The boulders were huge and mossy with no gravel in between to get your footing. But big fish are also lurking there and some were coaxed to the net.

Al, Judy, Gary and I fished the McLoud River just above the Nature Conservancy. The boulders were smaller than the Pit and the river was a little easier to wade. The October Caddis were out in force and the fish took the imitations with gusto. These flies are big, bright orange and more than an inch and a half long; the naturals look large enough to attack birds!

The last day Gary and I fished Hat Creek near the old Clearwater House. I can't report on the success we had that day or I'll never be able to get rid of the fish counter! We also fished Lost Creek—a small stream maybe ten feet wide and a foot deep under a canopy of willows. Our guide loaned me a short 3-weight rod to use to catch a few small red band trout. The band on the red band is far sharper and more distinct than the stripe on a typical rainbow. We didn't land



anything larger than ten inches but they were beautiful fish to net. In one pool, we had a double hook up on the first cast and on dry flies! It was a perfect way to end a fine day of fishing.

The food at Clearwater Lodge is excellent; the accommodations comfortable and the guides are long time area residents most of whom are certified casting instructors. Management's goal is to establish Clearwater as the destination fly-fishing resort in California. I think they'll make it. As stated above, this year's trip was really two distinct trips offering two types of fishing and different target fish. Next year, we have scheduled the Clearwater portion for late June to coincide with the Hexagenia hatch on the Fall River—big fish on big flies.

All LBCC trips include a few antics. Our final dinner ended with Yash lighting a few candles and charring some wine corks. We used these to paint black eyes on all of us, similar to the black eyes suffered by Dennis as a result of his diving adventure. Some of the guides and a few of the other lodge guests also painted their faces, joining a happy group Jeff named "THE SOPHISTICATES". Someone has incriminating photographs of a very memorable fishing trip. You should have been there!

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Yes, Virginia, There are Fish in the Kern River

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT GARY CHARLES, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Almost a dozen anglers returned to the Kern River despite having been skunked as a group last year. At that time, we faced bad weather, difficult fishing and some grumbling from those who had little success. This year the weather was warm and sunny but we had a full moon approaching. Last year we had almost forty in attendance. Bob thought we'd only have a party of six or so, so our expectations were pleasantly exceeded.

We stayed at Johnny McNally's Fairview Lodge, which is now under new ownership. They have not changed the rustic cabins one single bit: the bulb in the floor lamp was burnt out, the bathroom faucet still leaked and the floors creak.

Each set of partners seemed to get a guide for one day since we were all still trying to learn this challenging watershed. Connie Bullock and Judy McLean were assigned John, a very young man. Judy quipped, "I have tippet material older than he is." However, he proved to be a

knowledgeable, competent and patient guide.

This year no one ventured into the high meadows; we all elected to stay in the main Kern River to learn its nuances. But our ultimate challenge was the presence of forty-two members of the Orange County Fly Fishers for their President's Outing. We were afraid the two groups would crowd each other out but we only saw them at breakfast.

Even though we were spread out over the river system, we all seemed to catch a few fish this year. The fish were holding in deep pools, some troughs and a few riffles. Joe Libeu had attended the Pre-Trip Meeting and gave some advice on rigs and flies from his experience the weekend before. So with his insight, our collective success rate greatly improved over last year.

As you know, camaraderie is a major factor in our trips. On Friday night we dined at the Kern River Brewing Company, a micro-brewery that opened last June. With light dinner choices from a short but ample menu, a few brews and some live blue grass music, our evening was made. Al Ross knew most of the words and sang along. Unfortunately, he has no feeling for rhythm and clearly did not major in music in college.

But the star of the show was clearly Maria Rivas,

who caught a twenty-three inch rainbow of beautiful colors. She and Bob had ventured out onto a flat section of water, wading up to about mid calf. Using the wading staffs, they carefully and slowly placed each footstep on the mossy rocks. She fished for a while without a take and switched flies to a Lightning Bug that she had tied. In two casts she had a volunteer. FISH ON!

Bob put his rod down and grabbed his net. It was definitely inadequate for this task, being a

small Eastern Sierra model, but it was all he had. They were facing a campground lined with bait fishermen and spin casters. The congregation became silent and was mesmerized by the sight of Maria battling a very large fish. The beer was flowing and someone opined, "This is just like Championship Fishing". They danced up and down the river for about a hundred yards with Bob just trying to avoid touching the line or leader. The fish led Maria wherever it wanted to go. Maria and Bob forgot their wading staffs and stiff knees



Yes, Virgina continued on page 10

Yes Virginia continued from page 9

and just followed the fish.

Two fly fishermen downstream of them had to move out of the way. They were clearly upset that someone had hooked a trophy in the very waters where they had been fishing all afternoon. Bob heard a woman on the bank saying, "John, why can't you teach me to do that?"

After twenty minutes or so Maria finally backed the huge hen into shallow water to be netted. Almost half the body was above the net! Pictures were taken and then Maria carefully revived the fish which took nearly as long as the fight. Maria received a well-deserved standing ovation from the crowd on the bank for a wonderful performance; the fly fishermen silently left.

The pictures were shared with any one who slowed down to a walk. At dinner at McNally's that night, Maria had the seat of honor at the head of the table. Her chair blocked the exit and every diner got the opportunity to see the photos of the fish. If you somehow missed the picture, go to the fishing report section on Guy Jeans' site at www.kernriverflyfishing.com. You'll see her smiling face posted under the topic "Fishing is Still Hot".

We all frequently returned to Guy's fly-shop for more precise directions or advice on a few places we discovered ourselves. This is not a twenty or thirty fish per day fishing opportunity; a good day might be 4 and a stellar day 6 or more. Joe is considering the possibility of conducting an intermediate or advanced nymphing class on these waters in the future. Yes, he was that vague.

We have planned next year's trip for late October squeezing in between the biker's weekend and the Orange County club. Large fish are resident in the Kern and Guy believes even larger fish will start moving up the river from Lake Isabella and will be in the river close to town. Add it to your calendar—it should be exciting.



Begin Your Fishing Year at the Lower Owens

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT GARY CHARLES, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

We invite you to attend the first club outing of 2007. Bring your long johns, woolen mittens, earmuffs and 2007 fishing license and come along. We're off to the Lower Owens on January 19–21, 2007. You'll stay in Bishop at a motel of your choice. A list of motels will be provided at the Pre-Trip Meeting on January 10th or you could just check in at www.395.com and book now.

This trip will be structured for beginning anglers and those new to fly-fishing. At the Pre-Trip Meeting, we will review various nymphing rigs and specific flies that have proved effective on the Lower Owens. We will cover reading the water and what to look for to determine where to find the fish. We will address and demonstrate nymph casting to avoid pierced ears. If you want to team up with more experienced fishermen, we will have several at the footbridge in Pleasant Valley Campground just north of Bishop on Saturday morning at 8:30 AM and we'll get you started.

The good news is that Cal Trans put up new signs around Bishop this year and the turnoff to Pleasant Valley Dam Road is now clearly marked. But we'll have a map for you any way. We hope you'll join us.

Some New Fishing Trips for 2007

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT GARY CHARLES, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

We announced some new trips for 2007 at the last meeting in addition to our usual monthly trips. Other trips are in the planning stage. Except as noted, we are not taking reservations yet. This announcement is so you can ask Santa Clause for new equipment that you now need, make arrangements for the kitchen pass and complete those lingering honey-do's. We do not want to be the cause for domestic turmoil.

SAN JUAN RIVER, NEW MEXICO. Rick Hilles is organizing a club trip to the San Juan River in February 2007. It will be cold but there are no crowds. With Rich Garrett's generous donation of salmon and spot prawns, we had the least expensive trip of the year last year because we barbecued each night and ate in. Without gas (do consider carpooling), the cost was less than \$200 without guides. Contact Rick directly if you are interested. Come learn how to fish for big fish with size 20 flies.

LEES FERRY, ARIZONA. We drive to the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam on March 31, 2007 and fish three days. Cost is \$695. We have reserved a house that holds 6 and one double motel room. We will fix meals ourselves at the house to keep the total cost down. We have space for one more Contact Bob ASAP if you are interested.

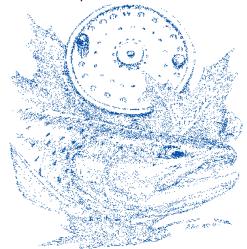
GREEN RIVER, UTAH. This trip again takes place over Memorial Day weekend—in on May 24, out on May 29. The club trip is five night's lodging and two guided days fishing on Friday and Sunday. The other days we wade. You can, of course, add more guided days if you like. This trip is about \$700. Reservations are now open but Marriott's will not accept yours unless you have a roommate and a

boating partner. If you are alone and want to go, Bob will maintain a singles list. Let him know.

CLEARWATER LODGE on the Pit River, California. We drive up on Friday June 22, 2007 and fish four days. We drive back on June 27. The timing is for the Hexagenia hatch on the Fall River, which will require a guide with a boat. Large fish on large flies. There are a limited number of boats so we can't all fish the Fall River on the same day. Cost has not been determined but figure about \$800 without the guide.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STEELHEAD. We drive up to Redding on November 1, 2007 and fish for the next three days, leaving the 5th. The Lower Sac, Trinity River and the Feather River should all be full of adult steelhead and the weather won't be too cold. We will go where the fish are. You can plan on the trip costing about \$700. This is the early winter steelhead and we aren't planning to go back in December.

Striper Fishing in the Sacramento Delta. As a result of the enthusiasm generated by John Sherman at the September monthly meeting, we are planning a striped bass trip for early December of 2007. We'll be using 10 weight lines, shooting heads and 8 to 12-inch flies. This is not a trip for beginners or the faint of heart; everyone will have to have good casting skills. We will have shooting head classes in the summer before the trip to learn new techniques.



San Gabriel River— Buckets of Fun

MICK WOODBURY, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

When Ernie Ertley, Kaz Hata, Patti and Stan Holden, Jim Minx, Keith Pomella and Jeff Sadler arrived at the San Gabriel River for the November conservation work detail, Chuck Moore greeted them with buckets and their assignment: repaint the four handicap access signs. The buckets held all the essential tools—soap, water, Scotch-Brite pads, wire brush, paint thinner, paper towels, newspaper, masking tape, two cans of spray paint, trash bags and essence of hookup. Chuck's an organizer!

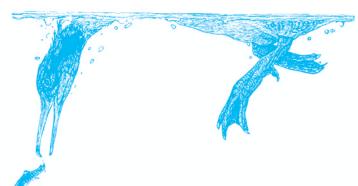
The instructions were simple. Remove grass from around the sign posts. Wash down and wire brush all the metal parts. Mask off the sign faces and spray, spray, spray. Fish. Spray, spray, spray. Fish. Spray, spray, spray. Go to lunch.

Jeff and Keith's sign was unsteady so they had to re-dig the hole and reset the post. Still it took less than an hour and a beautiful place was made better by the modest effort.

At Glenn Camp, fish tales were served up with lunch. Everyone reported catching fish, but one tale was particularly suspect. Without mentioning names, who would claim that a Royal Wulff caught five fish on five consucutive casts?

After lunch, Stan, Patti and Kaz elected to take Chuck's famous grand tour up to Cogswell Dam including recollections from the past.

At two o'clock everyone reluctantly met at the gate, emptied the trash from the buckets and returned home with smiling faces. The next trip is Wednesday, December 6th. Chuck will have all the details worked out; just show up at 9:00 AM.



Welcome!

JEFF SADLER, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

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

- Peter Binaski, financial advisor from Irvine
- Peter Debellis in software from Laguna Hills
- Elaine, Steve, Landon, and Jordan Gold from Rancho Santa Margarita
- John Stine a school counselor from Long Beach
- Howard Uller a non-profit consultant from San Pedro

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

A recap of our 543 members is as follows:

- 264 Individual members
- 93 Heads of household
- 93 Adult family members
- 46 Junior family members
- 33 Life members
- 11 Associate members
- 3 Junior members

If you should have any questions or corrections contact me at (310) 377-3868 or fotofish@earthlink.net

The New Semester Begins Soon

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

This is a teaching club. Rick Hilles wrote an article for Target Talk in June of last year depicting the club as the University of Long Beach Casting Club. Consider the curriculum: casting lessons (often one on one), fly tying (learning all of the basic tying techniques), rod building (some members only own rods they have built themselves) and the monthly meetings with speakers on all aspects of fly-fishing. The tuition is FREE, but the education priceless!

For a nominal charge the club offers Maggie Merriman's entomology class and Joe Libeu's On the River Clinic, both dynamite courses for the complete angler.

Overlooked by some, are the fishing trips we take. Gary Charles and I have tried to increase the number of outings to include fishing opportunities you may not have thought of yet. Not all of our trips are meant for or attract beginning fly fishers but there is a self-selection process and some of our trips attract more advanced anglers. This is to be expected since we serve over 500 members with a wide range of experience.

Look at the trips as opportunities for Continuing Education—we all can learn more. The trips sometimes go to new waters requiring new techniques, new flies and a new attitude about our passionate sport. The "beginning" trips to the local waters provide a good opportunity to develop a solid foundation in fly-fishing techniques.

Before each of the club trips, we have a Pre-Trip Meeting. Some of the information shared consists of simple logistics of that particular trip: how to get there, where to stay, where to meet for dinner, what fly shops to visit, what gear is suggested,

what to wear, etc. Our pre-trip notes usually identify specific maps, websites or books for further study prior to the trip (some of which are often available for free in the club library). Sometimes, we offer a class on specific techniques; even trade secret flies useful for that trip or divulge secret spots where the elusive trout are found.

Half of our club trips last year included some educational content in the Pre-Trip Meeting. Examples abound:

KERN RIVER: At the Pre-Trip Meeting I presented a box of Kern River flies from Guy Jeans (Kern River Troutfitter) that are about three or four times the size of those we normally use in the Eastern Sierra. Last year, in addition to our own exchange of experiences on the river from the preceding year, we arranged for a Saturday clinic with Guy Jeans and one of his guides on the water. They instructed us on fishing techniques they use and identified some ginormous flies to use.

MAMMOTH: For one of the summer Mammoth trips this year, member Yash Iseda gave a presentation on Mas Okui's long leader fishing style developed specifically for Hot Creek. We even retired to the pond so that Yash could demonstrate the cast needed for fishing a leader 16-20 feet in length. His presentation was so intriguing that I now carry George Harvey's 11-foot leaders in my vest and have tried the system (without success: more practice required). The members who attended pressed for a presentation from the master himself. As a result, Mas Okui will speak to the club later

New Semester continued on page 10

next year.

New Semester continued from page 9

SAN JUAN RIVER: For the past two years Rick Hilles has displayed his in-depth knowledge on the micro-midging techniques for this particular river. One year we had John Tavenner (Sandstone Anglers) meet us for dinner there; he gave us the slide presentation he made previously at the



Show. He also critiqued our efforts at fishing that day. This past year we followed Rick's presentation at the clubhouse with a day of on-the-water training with a guide to learn what flies were effective that day and how to fish under the then current conditions.

LOWER OWENS: This year I shared my limited knowledge of nymph fishing and developed some visual aids: actual larger than life nymph rigs. My presentation was somewhat longer than I intended because Gary cross-examined me about my style and insisted that I show my complete nymph box and identify all of the flies.

LAKE CROWLEY: Member Kim Dunbar has presented several times on lake fishing techniques for the Pre-Trip Meeting. He brought all of his tools: float tube, anchor, fish finder, fins and beer can holder. He also brought his fly box filled with big, purple wooly buggers that accurately represent big, purple wooly buggers.

SURF FISHING: This trip has grown in popularity. We now have several such trips every year. Doug Uyematsu, who holds several records for saltwater fish caught on the fly, has presented some of the Pre-Trip Meetings. Supplementing Doug have been Ernie Ertley and Dennis McTeer (also members) for some of the trips. They all have shown us the flies and casting techniques they use and shared their knowledge about the needed

equipment unique to this kind of fishing.

OFF-SHORE FISHING: This Pre-Trip Meeting was a highlight of the year. Many attending had never participated in blue water fishing, myself included. So I was very interested in the presentation arranged by Gary and given by members Frosty and Gayle Johnson about all aspects of off-shore fishing. They discussed not only the equipment and gear needed, but more importantly the techniques leading to a successful day and the required etiquette to be sure that you return.

I am sorry that I can't write a short article about our teaching efforts on trips. Wherever I fish with a guide I learn something new. Actively fishing with the members of the club offers unique opportunities to learn more about an ever-changing sport.

The new semester begins in January and February with our trips to the Lower Owens. Imagine fishing when the most the anglers in the country are tying flies by the fireplace pining for the opportunity to fish. We'll pair you up with some more experienced anglers on the Owens. But even if you can't make the trip, drop by the Pre-Trip Meeting for those trips or any other trip. You might learn something. And if we don't have a speaker or a specific agenda, ask a question. You WILL get an answer, or a debate or a fight. Opinions will be shared. And no fisherman ever tells lies.

The midterm test is brutal (hopefully, there's no final exam). You must remember everything you have ever learned and try to fool a finned professor with a brain the size of a pea. At the end of the day, you will know whether you did your homework or studied enough. See you in study hall!



FFFSWC President's Message

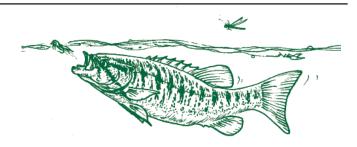
BOB MIDDO, FFFSWC PRESIDENT

Acouple of questions came up the other day about "What does the FFF do for me, and why should we care about the Mangrove Initiative?" Questions like these come up time and time again. I guess we (FFF) haven't done a very good job of explaining our purpose and goals. Let me see if I can put things into perspective.

A Past President of the FFFSWC once told me that the FFF is the keeper of fly fishing's past, present and future. We are the only organization that looks out for fly fishing interests exclusively; something that Cal-Trout, United Anglers and Trout Unlimited do not. This is not to say we are competing with them, quite the contrary. We partner with these organizations and others in various causes so that fly fishers and their concerns are not overlooked, and, though we are not a lobbying organization, we still get a lot done with what little resources we have.

A few things that the FFFSWC have implemented to benefit the fly fisher include the **FISHERIES RESOURCE VOLUNTEER CORPS (FRVC)**. The FRVC was established in our Council to assist the U.S. Forest Service in electro-shocking, trash cleanups, graffiti removal, etc. and to serve as goodwill ambassadors and educators on our local streams. You may have seen them yourselves on occasion at steramside and probably thought they worked for the U.S. Forest Service. No, they are our own volunteer fly fishers donating time and effort to see that our local streams are not overrun with trash, unlawful angling and graffiti

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM (TIC) is another program that was initiated by the FFFSWC which targets our future keepers of the streams, rivers and lakes. This program educates hundreds, if not thousands, of



elementary school children throughout Southern California each year about the importance of conservation, pollution and habitat. Some clubs have an excellent program and Wilderness Fly Fishers have recently received a special award from Culver City for their efforts.

Catching fish on a fly is fun, but for many there is that one fish just 10 feet further than you can cast. Well, now you can if you want to thanks to the FFF. One of the most successful programs in the FFF is the Certified Casting Instructor Program. This program has trained and certified over a thousand instructors worldwide, who in turn have taught thousands more at shows, club outings, casting classes, and more how to cast. This program has taken the mystery out of fly casting and has shown that casting is not about secret techniques privy only to a select few. In doing so it has increased the enjoyment of the sport for many.

Finally, why should we care about the FFF's efforts in other areas of the country? If we only cared about our local waters and didn't support anyone else's, then soon we would have few waters to pursue fly fishing. United we stand and divided we fall. When we take a stand as an organization and not individuals it's easier to accomplish things. Mangroves may not be your thing, but what if Hot Creek was endangered? Wouldn't it be beneficial to have an organization dedicated to fly fishing to help convey your concerns and help fight for your interests? I believe so.

There are other things I could touch upon, but these are my favorites. The FFF does do quite a lot for us—it's just that much of it has been overlooked or forgotten.

Fly of the Month: Hank o' Hair

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

Despite a reputation for tying complex, time demanding flies, what I fish with is quite another story. I like to tie and use simple flies as it is often the simplest flies that catch the most or largest fish. The reason, I believe, is in the fly's ability to 'suggest' something alive that is the appropriate color and profile of those insects and other foods that are commonly available to the fish. To say nothing of the short time it takes to tie them.

In these articles I try to give all of you a variety of patterns and styles that will not only help you catch fish but, also, to challenge your tying ability and inspire you to try different techniques as well develop techniques of your own. This month's pattern, The Hank o' Hair falls in the first category. It is so simple that I am sure you might think it a joke—I assure you it is not. This pattern works and for years was the unofficial "official" fly of this club.

With this fly I have spent a June morning catching trout on the Henry's Fork as a Pale Morning Dun emerger and adult and working a Baetis hatch on the Firehole later the same morning. After a late lunch, I added a small split shot to the very same fly, fished it dry/wet as a caddis emerger on the Madison River and after dinner as a caddis adult—minus the split shot—and caught fish until it was too dark to see.

The original Hank o' Hair was tied with elk or deer hair on a bare hook and was wildly popular amongst rebellious—slothful—fly fishers. I also recommend an updated version using CDC for the wing which lets the fly sit lower in the water creating a better emerger pattern. Tie some up in olive and take them to the Lower Owens this winter and save a few for Hot Creek this spring.

Hey, Sadler, you can even add a band of red floss and fish the Royal Hank. Or would that be a King Henry?



Materials for tying the Hank o' Hair:

Hook: Standard dry fly, sizes 12–24

Thread/body: 8/o, in a color to match insect (gray, olive, pale yellow, tan, black)

Wing: Elk hair, deer hair or CDC (cul du cunard) in a color to match insect (natural,

light gray, dark gray)

Instructions for tying the Hank o' Hair:

- 1. Attach the thread at the head space. Apply a very small drop of head cement on the shank of the hook. This will help strengthen the fly's all thread body.
- 2. Wrap the thread over the wet head cement down to just before the beginning of the hook bend and then back to the starting point. Remove any excess head cement before continuing.
- 3. Select a small clump of Elk or Deer hair from a good quality hide, remove it and remove all of the basal hair. Place the fibers in a hair stacker and align the tips. Tie in the hair on top of the hook shank "elk hair caddis" fashion. For a wing comprised of CDC, first strip the fibers of both sides of a CDC plume and tie them down "elk hair caddis" fashion, on the



top of the hook shank. The wing in either case should extend not quite to the bend of the hook. For emergers and adult midges, especially with CDC, I like the wing even shorter not quite reaching the end of the shank.

4. Wind a small head, whip finish and trim the butts of the wing. Add a small amount of head cement and the fly is complete.

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Wake Up! No, its not a dream, you are there, walking along the flats in the cool ankle deep blue Pacific, wind and sun at your back on a incoming tide. Your dream has come true; you are fly fishing for Bonefish and GT's on Christmas Island. From the time you first viewed Christmas Island, you have waited for this moment—making your first cast to the silver ghost, watching the sudden rush to your fly after a couple of slow strips then setting the hook. Finally, the sight and sound of 125 + yards of backing screaming off of your reel...

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The cost for this trip is \$2195 per person, double occupancy, and will be limited to 8 people. A deposit of 50% is required upon booking.

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Calendar of Events

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2	Saturday	6:00 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
	•		On the River Clinic: Lecture #3
7	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
9-10	Weekend		On the River Clinic Trip: Bishop Area
10	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Sunday Cast: TF Orientation, TF, BB, 1/4 oz.
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
20	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Steelhead Trip
21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
29–Jan 1			Club Trip: Trinity River Steelhead
31	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Sunday Cast: DF, WF, 3/8 oz., 5/8 oz.

January 2007

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4	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
8	Monday	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
9	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Clouser Minnow
10	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-trip Meeting: Lower Owens #1
11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
14	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: TF, BB, 3/8 oz., TF Dist., SH Dist., 1/4 oz. Dist.
16	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Crazy Charlie
18	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
19-21	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens #1
23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Wool <mark>y Bugger</mark>
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Bryan Webb, Fly Fishing Newport Bay
28	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
	10	9:00 AM	Casting Games: DF, WF, 1/4 oz., 5/8 oz.
30	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Muddler Minnow

February

1	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
4	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
	•	9:00 AM	Casting Games: Practice for the Southwestern
5	Monday	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Elk Hair Caddis
7	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower Owens #2
8	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
10-11	Weekend	8:00 AM	Breakfast (Sunday only)
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: Southwestern Tournament
13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Royal Wulff
15	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
16-18	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens #2
20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Adams
22	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: White Elephant Sale
24	Saturday	8:00 AM	SWCFFF Fly Tying Workshop
25	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
	•	9:00 AM	Casting Games: TF, DF, BB, 1/4 oz., 3/8 oz., 5/8 oz.
27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Parachute Adams
	•		, , ,

Long Beach Casting Club Programs for 2006

DENNIS MCTEER, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

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

TOPIC/SPEAKER DATE

VENISON HOLIDAY DINNER Dec. 2, 2006 (Saturday) None

FISHING NEWPORT BAY Jan. 25, 2007 Bryan Webb

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE Feb. 22, 2007

Sunshine Committee

FLY TYING WORKSHOP Mar. 5, 2007

A.K. Best

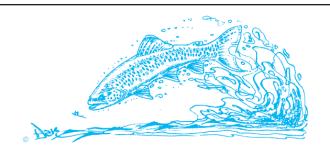
STREAMER FISHING Mar. 29, 2007

Kelly Galoup

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Apr. 5, 2007

Board of Directors

EARLY SEASON/HIGH WATER TACTICS Apr. 26, 2007 Pat Jaeger



Plan Now For Great Fishing

BOB GRAHAM, CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

ere'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:

- December 16 Surf Fishing
- Winter Steelhead ❖ Dec 29–Jan 1 ′07
- ❖ January 19–21 Lower Owens Trip #1
- February 16–18 Lower Owens Trip #2
- February TBD San Juan River, NM
- March 17
- Newport Bass Tourney
- Mar 31–Apr 4
- Lee's Ferry
- April
- to be determined Bishop/Mammoth
- May 18-20 May 24–29
- Green River, Utah

VENISON STAG RESERVATION Saturday, December 2, 2006 Social Hour: 6:00 PM Dinner: 7:00 PM Reservations are due by November 19, 2006				
Name:				
I will attend the Venison Stag on Saturday, December 2, 2006				
I will bringadults. Total number@ 18.00 =	Total Enclosed:			
I will bringchildren. Total number @ 6.00 =	=			
Yes, I would like to help!	MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Long Beach Casting Club			
Please call me at this telephone number	AND MAIL TO THE ABOVE AT:			
()	P.O. Box 90035 Long Beach, California 90809-0035			





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