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Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

September 2007

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line

Leave No Trace

DENNIS MCTEER, PRESIDENT

There was an article in the paper today about the marine closures around the Channel Islands. In the closure area is a seamount known as "The Footprint" an underwater mountain whose summit is 360' below the surface. The article quotes Dr. Milton Love, who states that this seamount is one of the most prolific areas for rockfish in the Channel Islands. He said the area had, past tense, been a honey pot, but now there are more Bud Light cans than fish due to the over-fishing and misuse by recreational fisherman.

It hurts to read about the depletion of the fishery and its littered sea bottom as being attributed to recreational fishing. In the public's eye, all fishers are lumped together, even though most of us consider ourselves conservationists. In spite of public opinion we should all try to emulate CalTrout's goal: *"...to protect and restore trout and the beautiful places where they live"*.

The article got me thinking of my backpacking days when I practiced the tenets of LEAVE NO TRACE. LEAVE NO TRACE is actually a nationally recognized outdoor skills and ethics program with 7 principles:

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimize campfire impacts.

6. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.

I know I am preaching to the choir, but I have to admit that I've been guilty, on occasion, of not respecting some of these principles—but I do try. I always pack out what I pack in and I can't remember the last time I built a fire in my fireplace; let alone in the wilderness. I don't take souvenirs beyond the occasional picture and I do try to respect wildlife as well as the other visitors to the areas that I fish.

Cutting switchbacks is a pet peeve of mine. If you've ever done trail work, you gain great respect for those who spent the time, effort and energy set the trails. The trails are there to reduce erosion. Erosion can destroy a hillside or the streamside

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Leader's Line continued from page 1

habitat of places like Hot Creek, the jewel of the Eastern Sierra. All of these places, sadly, are at the mercy of human impact.

The next time you are at Hot Creek, park at the first parking lot. As you walk down the canyon section, below the new signs (installed through the efforts of the Southwest Council and others), please stay on the trail. Some years it is difficult to determine where the real trail begins due to the number of persons marching straight down the hill or cutting the established switchbacks.

Conversely, if you've been to the Upper Owens River in the past couple years, you will see that the river's banks are vastly improved from the condition they were in only 8 or 9 years ago. The fences keeping the cattle out of the river have paid huge dividends.

Travel south to the Lower Owens and you'll see where the undercut banks have fallen into the river, silting up some of the runs. Some of the banks fail from the natural erosion caused by the flow of the river however, cattle still graze and water next to the river degrading the banks while we're driving our cars down the dirt paths to the river. What can we do as individuals? Reduce or eliminate the car travel between Chalk Bluff Road and the river.

An analysis by Bruce Wilkinson, a University of Michigan geologist, shows that human activity causes 10 times more erosion of continental surfaces than all natural processes combined. I know we can do better. We should all think about parking along Chalk Bluff Road this winter when we are at the Lower 'O'.

On a lighter note, a new rare species of orchid has been identified in the meadows of Yosemite. The *Platanthera yosemitensis* is the only known bog orchid species in the Sierras. The orchid does not have any commercial value because the flowers are less than a quarter inch wide...and the orchid emits the smell of sweaty feet.



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Chris King: Northern California Steelhead and Big Trout

BOB GRAHAM, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Chris King, the Owner and Operator of Sac River Outfitters, is our speaker for our September 27th meeting. He and his guides take over 600 trips a year. LBCC has taken numerous club trips with Chris and his guides and its members have used the guide services extensively.

Chris is an FFF Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor, a newly elected member of the Casting Certification Board of Governors and one of just a handful also certified in Two Handed Fly Casting as well. He learned fly-fishing from his father and after a year in college, he settled in Breckenridge, Colorado. Already a world-class skier and snow boarder, he concentrated on fly-fishing in the spring and summer. He soon came to the attention of Summit Guides at the Keystone Resort and began teaching fly-casting to the resort guests and guided on the Colorado, Blue and South Platte Rivers.

He worked at the House of Hardy where he was trained in the science of rod building. While there, he ventured to Scotland and learned spey casting. While working at the House of Hardy, he met Mel Krieger. Soon he moved to Northern California where he was head instructor for the Mel Krieger Fly Fishing School. He also worked as a guide for The Fly Shop in Redding. In 2003, he established Sac River Outfitters.

His presentation will concentrate on the Trinity and Lower Sacramento Rivers: when and where to go, what to use and even access points to the best fishing spots. His guides regularly produce rainbow trout up to 18-20 inches and steelhead averaging over seven pounds.

As an added bonus, Chris will stay over and conduct a Saturday clinic in single-handed spey techniques. This has become a very popular clinic.



Long Beach Casting Club Programs for 2007

BOB GRAHAM, 1ST 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. Unless noted otherwise Monthly Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the Month at 7:00 PM.

DATE	SPEAKER/TOPIC
September 27, 2007	Chris King NOR-CAL STEELHEAD
October 26, 2007 (Friday)	Rick Hafele UNDERSTANDING EMERGERS
October 27, 2007 (Saturday)	Rick Hafele WESTERN HATCHES WORKSHOP
November 22, 2007	Chris Helm TYING WITH HAIR
November 23, 2007 (Friday)	Chris Helm FLY TYING WORKSHOP

Silent Auction for One Week Near Lake Tahoe—Benefits PHW!

CAROLE KATZ, JUNIOR DIRECTOR

Get some fishing buddies together and place a bid to benefit Project Healing Waters! Bid on a six-night, seven day stay in a private home in Truckee, California, near Lake Tahoe. You will be supporting Project Healing Waters while you fish or ski in this scenic area.

The home is 2500 square feet and sleeps six to seven people. This is not a rental property; it is made available only to friends and family, and, occasionally as a donation. To get there, fly to Reno and then drive 35 minutes west to Truckee on Route 80.

It is available at any time of the year, as this is both prime fishing water and great skiing country. There are seven ski resorts nearby. Then there's the fishing the Truckee and Little Truckee Rivers nearby. Popular lakes for fishing are the Prosser, Boca, Stampede, David, Donner, Jackson Meadows, Milton Creek Reservoir and a host of others.

This will be sold as a silent auction item with an ending date of Tuesday, November 13 at noon. As this goes to press, there is an opening bid of \$1000. Incremental bids must be at least \$200.

To place a bid, call me at (714) 731-6044, or email katzhogan@cox.net before the deadline. I can send you color photographs of the area, the home, and the fishing waters.



Notes From the Pond

MARK FLO, CAPTAIN

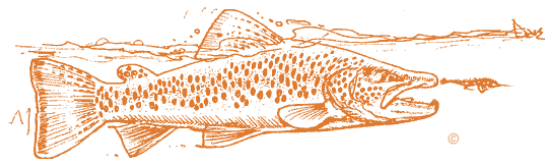
Starting September 16th we will be starting our Sunday breakfasts and casting games. Games will be scored Western Rules. Accuracy events will be 1/4 oz. Plug, Trout Fly and Dry Fly. The three Distance events will be 1/4 oz. Plug, Trout Fly and Steelhead.

Then, on Sunday, September 30th we will host the annual Fall Registered Cast. All of the accuracy events (1/4 oz., 3/8 oz., 5/8 oz. Plug, Trout Fly, Dry Fly and Bass Bug) will be scored using ACA rules. (Rats!)

Breakfast starts at 8:00 AM and casting begins at 9:00 AM, so come on out and enjoy the morning with a good breakfast and some casting. See you on the Pond!

Steelhead Deposits Are Due

BOB GRAHAM, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT



Just a reminder that a \$300 deposit is due from those of you who have signed up for the Steelhead trip November 1–5, 2007. The cost of the trip this year is \$825. There are only a few openings left as of early July and I will maintain a wait list in case there are cancellations. The total cost must be paid to Marriott's before Labor Day.

Brookie Bash X

JEFFREY SADLER, PAST PRESIDENT

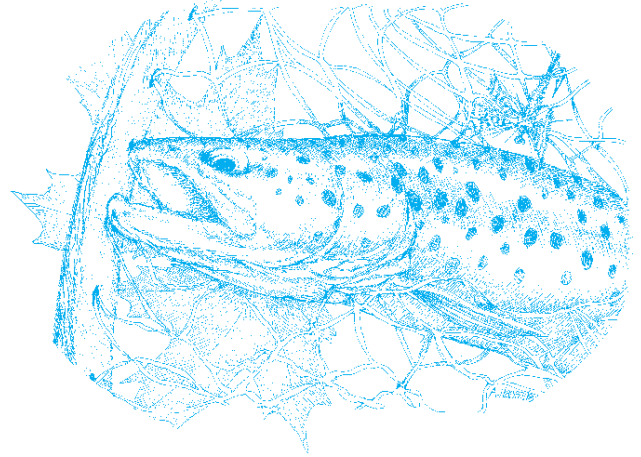
Tom Tatham emerged from the mist to lead the 30+ Long Beach Casting Club Brookie Bashers to another successful High Sierra adventure. Tom invented this trip so long ago they were just the Sierras (not so "high"). Also, it should be noted that for the first time Tom actually brought everything he needed (rod, reel, lunch, etc.) and will be fined a quarter at the next meeting just because.

Another two bits will be extracted from Maria Rivas as she has set the bar too high. How high, you ask? For the weekend Maria caught all 5 Sierra trout species: brookie, rainbow, brown, cutthroat and golden. Next year her challenge will include a barracuda.

The Sunshine Committee provided the sunshine, your basic perfect weekend including no mosquitoes. Our 2nd V.P. Carl Laski provided great digs and dinner on Saturday night for 25 or so of his closest friends. Not pizza, not fast food but pasta with a homemade sauce which took hours, salad, bread and enough wine to catch trout in.

On Thursday I fished with a member I had never met before, Joyce Hoffman. A good caster, a good fisher, and a good new friend but she drives the "Truck-From-Hell". Your basic Ford Maxi-Van tricked out with a suspension a Marine Humvee would drool over, bright red. How bright, you ask? One of our members said it ought to have a white swoosh and the words "Radio Flyer" on the side.

So, here's Joyce sitting on a rock as Maria and I clump over the top of a hill. We had lost sight of Danny Rivett so I asked: "Joyce, have you seen Dan?" She points left and up, and I mean straight up, and says: "He went thataway."



Mild mannered Maria muttered "that Rat Bastard." Oh dear, gentle reader, what could have caused such language? Well it seems Maria, Danny, and I have this little most species caught thing and at this time I was in the lead with four (no golden), Maria was missing a golden and a rainbow and Danny was missing a golden and a cutthroat. Maria figured Dan knew a secret lake and ditched us on purpose so up she goes yelling encouragement over her shoulder to the old guy, me. We go up and then way down into a valley with no-name-lake and there was Dan with the biggest Brook Trout I have seen in the Sierra's, about 14 inches.

Well Dan volunteered to go golden hunting but it involved hiking up a vertical waterfall and I wimped out. That's where Maria picked up her fourth and fifth species.

Finally, who won the most highly coveted "High Sierra, Brookie Bash. One-Fly, One-Hour" Contest? Not only did Mark Flo take it away he was awarded the Yoshi Kato memorial Clicker. Craig Haines was second using a Royal Wulff. As a comment on the fishing, this was not the best year we've had. I expected a good hour's fishing to have trout in the teens but Mark won with six.

In general fishing was tough but this was a low snow year and an early melt-off so things were a little weird. But, we'll be back...

Breakfast & Casting Competition

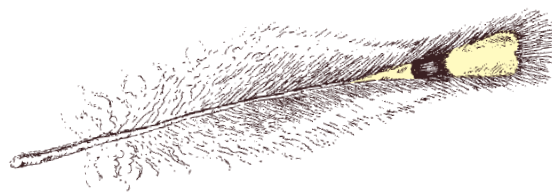
RICK HILLES, SENIOR DIRECTOR

Before we know it summer will be ending and our casting competition will shift to Sunday mornings instead of Tuesday evenings. As usual, breakfast will be provided before casting begins.

We need members willing to volunteer to do (cook, serve and clean up) one of the breakfasts on September 16 and 30, October 28, November 11 and 25; December 9 and 23, January 6 and 20, February 3 and 24, March 9.

The menu will be up to you as long as it's ready by 8:00 AM for a hungry, appreciative cast of characters.

If you're interested or if you would like more information please contact me at legacygroup@cox.net, or see me at the club where a sign up sheet will also be posted.



Plan Now For Great Fishing

CARL LASKI, 2ND 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 2007 AND 2008:

❖ September 21–23	Kern River
❖ October 19–21	Mammoth #2
❖ November 1–5	Fall Steelhead
❖ December 14–16	to be determined
❖ January 19–21	Lower Owens #1
❖ February 16–18	Lower Owens #2

New Members

MICK WOODBURY, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

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

- ❖ Robert Hedges, (Carmen), Long Beach
- ❖ Ernie Hockenstein, Huntington Beach
- ❖ Audrey Williams, Irvine

Welcome to the Long Beach Casting Club. As a new member, we wish you good times, great success and improved fishing. And if you've never been to one of our Monthly Meetings—be sure to bring a quarter!

If you have any questions or corrections to your address, telephone or email information, please contact me at (714) 840-5649 or email me at mick@rwmarketing.com



Looking Forward to Getting Benched... Again

MICK WOODBURY, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

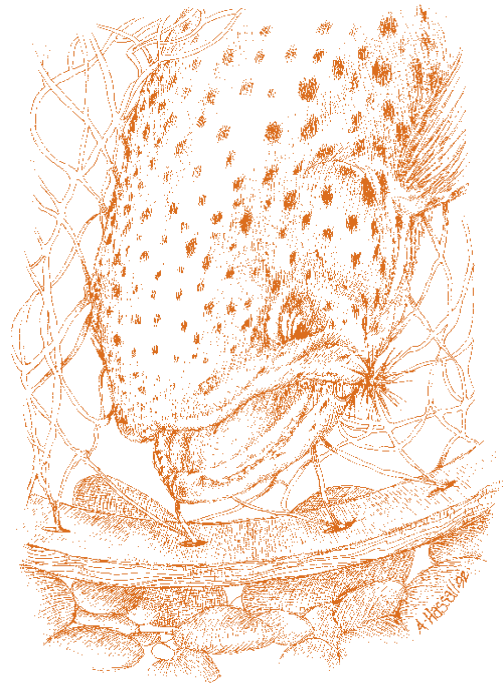
The best laid plans sometimes go awry. So it was for Chuck Moore, Jim Minx and grandson Jon, who intended to fish Crystal Lake to aid the DFG fish studies, and then move the two remaining picnic benches to the San Gabriel River. It turned out that Rene, the FRVC truck driver, had a more urgent agenda—his wife was having emergency back surgery. Without the driver, there was no truck. Without the truck there was no access to the lake. Without access...well, you get the idea.

Instead the trio went to the San Gabriel and checked out the recently located benches to determine what wood should be replaced on future outings. They also took the opportunity to do a little fishing and caught a couple of 12" stockers in the lower section. To a 14-year old, fighting a 12-inch trout is pretty exciting. For a proud granddad, even watching ranks high.

The stream is starting to feel the effects of the drought, and as Chuck says, *"There are excellent restoration opportunities all along the stream."* (Being away from the hustle and noise of the city has good restorative qualities for the volunteers too.)

The intent for the August trip is to move the remaining benches—after fishing Crystal Lake. When that gets completed, future tasks will concentrate on replacing some the planks on the benches. If you have a source for 2 x 10s, please contact Chuck Moore.

Keep the San Gabriel River in your plans and if you know how to do a rain dance, make it a good one. Streams throughout the State can use your help.



Single Handed Spey Clinic with Chris King

BOB GRAHAM, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Chris King, Master Casting Instructor and our September speaker, will be staying over the weekend to conduct a single-handed spey clinic on Saturday, September 29th. The class size is strictly limited to ten. The cost of this extraordinary day is only \$60. You must reserve a spot by first class mail to:

Bob Graham,
17060 San Bruno, Apt F-3,
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Your reservation must be postmarked September 1, 2007 or later and include a check made out to the LBCC for \$60. Plan on a full 6–7 hours of casting instruction. Lunch will be provided.

Learn spey casting with your 9' trout rod for greater distance and control in the wind.

Fly of the Month: John's Lemming

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

lem · ming (lěm'ing) n.

Any of various small, thickset rodents, especially of the genus *Lemmus* or *Dicrostonyx*, inhabiting circumpolar regions and known for periodic mass migrations that sometimes end in drowning.

I don't really know if I can fully describe what I saw and felt the first time I used this fly. It all happened so fast that it has become a blur. I presented the fly down and across this small, tea colored stream in Alaska. As soon as it plopped on the surface and started to chug through the current I saw this wake...

The fish hit the fly so fast and so hard that I was completely shaken and farmed the fish before I ever really had it on. All I remember seeing was flying water and foam—there is a vague recollection of a big rainbow. I was only slightly better prepared for the next fish.

Lemmings are common in Alaska and northern Canada and trout, as well as other game fish, have no problem including them in their dietary program. I have one version that I call "the Weasel" that has five body sections and works great on northern pike. When you think about it, this fly could be looked upon as any number of rodents or small mammals that either purposely or accidentally find themselves crossing a body of water. This fly has been successfully fished all over North America, including rivers such as the Green, Madison, Henry's Fork of the Snake, Williamson, and the Yellowstone just to name a few. Though I have never hooked one, I have turned several large fish late in the evening on Hot Creek and the Upper and Lower Owens.

To fish this fly cast quartering downstream with a reach mend. Allow the fly to drag slightly creating a wake using your rod height and the mended line to control its speed. Softly bounce the tip of the rod to make the fly more lifelike.

Just keep your eyes peeled for the wake...

Materials for tying John's Lemming:

- Hook: Tiemco #8089 bass bug in size #2 or #6 for the front and any ring-eye hook for the rear (8089 or a Mustad 9674)
- Thread: Danville Flymaster Plus or similar in white or black
- Tail: Synthetic (or natural) chamois cut into a tapered, rattail shape
- Body: Stacked deer hair in rust or dark gold color (for mice use natural gray)
- Eyes: 3mm doll eyes hot-glued on (optional)
- Connector: Clear 15# or 20# monofilament



Instructions for tying John's Lemming:

- 1 Place the rear hook into the vise and attach your thread at the bend of the hook. Cut a tapered, rattail shaped piece of a synthetic chamois about 4 to 5 inches long and tie it in at the bend of the hook. The tail should be about $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide at its base. You can use a natural chamois if you like but the synthetics are a little thicker and stay a little stiffer when wet.
- 2 The body of this fly is comprised entirely of deer hair that is stacked onto the hook—not spun. This will take only a little bit of practice. The real trick with this type of fly is getting the right length of hair. For the rear section of the fly start by cutting off a section of deer hair about the diameter of a pencil and tie it in with tips on top, pointing back and about $\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Pull the butts of the hair, which should be mostly on the top of the hook, down and back and add a few wraps of thread in front to hold it in place. Don't worry if the butts spring back a little towards the front. The next bunch of hair will push them back. Keep adding bunches of hair to the body with each bunch being slightly longer than the preceding one. This will help give the fly a nicely tapered lemming/mouse shape. At the front of the rear body section of the fly the hair should be about 1" in length. After each clump of hair carefully push it back and compress it into the other sections.
- 3 When you reach the headspace pull back the final section of butt ends and wrap a neat head, whip finish and apply a coat of head cement. With a single edge razor blade carefully trim the butt ends (and not your fingers or the tail) as close to the underside of the hook as you can without cutting the thread wraps that hold the body together. Use your scissors to blend any left over butt ends into the tips. The fly should have uncut tips on the top and sides with trimmed butts underneath. Carefully cut away the hook bend and point as close to the tail as you can with a pair of heavy wire cutters.
- 4 Place the front hook into your vise and attach



the thread at the bend of the hook. Cut of a 2" long section of 15# to 20# clear monofilament and pass one end of the monofilament through the eye of the rear section and fold it back to meet the other end. Melt a small ball onto each end of the mono with the side of a flame to help keep the ends from being pulled out. With the loop holding the rear body section of the fly extending back about $\frac{1}{4}$ ", securely bind down both ends of the monofilament along one side of the hook (this will keep the rear section in line with the front).

- 5 Cut off a section of deer hair just as you did with rear section of the body and tie it in with tips extending about 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in length. Proceed with the body just as in the rear section slightly increasing the length of the hair for the back half of the body then quickly decreasing the length in the front half. Your last clump of hair should have tips about $\frac{1}{2}$ " in length.
- 6 Form a neat head, whip finish and apply a drop of head cement. Again, carefully trim away the butt ends from the underside of the hook and use your scissors to blend them with the tips. Select two 3mm doll eyes and score the backside of the eyes with an X-acto knife. Using a hot glue gun (I think we're setting a record here for most number of dangerous operations on one fly) work a small amount of glue into the hair and the back of the eye and press them together. Do the same with the other eye and your Lemming is ready for a mass migration.

Intermediate Casting Clinic

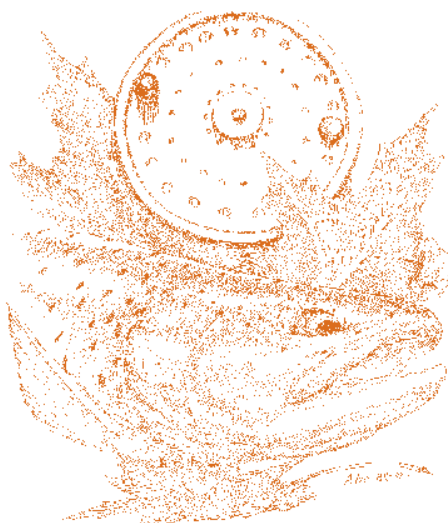
JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

The club will offer an Intermediate Casting Clinic this September. This is a class that has been given in the past and it will targeted towards individuals that want to improve their casting and fishing ability. Emphasis will be placed on fishing casts, increasing distance and line speed and improving line control. The cast will start on Wednesday, September 5th and run for a total of four consecutive Wednesday nights.

In order to make the class more effective we have placed a few requirements on who can participate. First, attendees must be Long Beach Casting Club members—this class will not be

offered to the general public. Second, all attendees must have at least one full year of experience casting and fishing from the time that they took our beginning casting clinic—sorry.

If you have any questions about this clinic please contact me at 562-424-7313 or by email at jvanderhoof@peridian.net.



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"On the Stream Fly Fishing Clinic"

Lower Owens River Fishing with Joe Libeu for the Fall/Winter 2007

Class Dates: Saturday and Sunday October 13–14, October 20–21, November 10–11, November 18–19, December 8–9 & December 15–16.

Join us for a 2-day educational experience geared to the individuals that wish to improve their success in both nymph and wet fly fishing. You will be introduced to entomology, stream structure, casting applications, short and long line presentation, reading the water, fly selection and basic knots. 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 **\$275 per person**.

This includes an afternoon lunch. Not included are lodging, tackle, meals, license and transportation.

Call Joe Libeu at 310-749-6671 or email Fishlfgf@ix.netcom.com for any additional information or to sign up for the clinic.



Sierra Pacific Fishing Adventures • 3901 Brayton Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 • (310) 749-6771 • www.spfadventures.com

Calendar of Events

September

4	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Clinic: 1st Night
6	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
12	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Kern River
13	Thursday	7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Clinic: 2nd Night
16	Sunday	8:00 AM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
		9:00 AM	Breakfast
			Casting Games
19	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Clinic: 3rd Night
20	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
21-23	Weekend		Club Trip: Kern River
25	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building: 1st Night Orientation
26	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Clinic: 4th Night
27	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Chris King on Steelhead Fishing
29	Saturday	9:00 AM	Chris King Single-Handed Spey Clinic
30	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games

October

1	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
4	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
9	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building: 2nd Night
10	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Mammoth #2
11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
13-14	Weekend		Northwestern Tournament: Golden Gate
16	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building: 3rd Night
18	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
19-21	Weekend		Club Trip: Mammoth #2
21	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond Cleaning
23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building: 4th Night
24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Steelhead Trip to Redding
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
26	Friday	7:00 PM	Rick Haefle on Emergers
27	Saturday	9:00 AM	Rick Haefle on Western Hatches
28	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games
30	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: 1st Night Orientation

November

1-5	Thursday		Club Trip: Steelheading in Redding
5	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Techniques & Demonstrations
8	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
11	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games
13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Ant
16	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
18	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond Cleaning
20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Soft Hackle
22	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Chris Helm on Tying with Hair
23	Friday	9:00 AM	Chris Helm Workshop
24-25	Weekend		Marriott's Show
25	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games
20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Boss
30	Thursday	7:00 PM	Happy Thanksgiving!



	CATALOG: This Edition of the catalog has over 32,000 fly fishing items listed – your one source for fly fishing travel, tackle equipment, tying tools and the largest selection of tying materials available.	<p>Located in the Disneyland Area</p>
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