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Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

January 2008

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line

Goodwill

RICK HILLES, PRESIDENT

Like everyone I was shocked and saddened by the club house fire. The visual impact of seeing the damage inflicted on our beloved meeting place brought many members to tears. So many of the things destroyed were irreplaceable artifacts that symbolized turning points, milestones and good times shared over the history of LBCC.

Yet, over the past week we have already shaken off the impact and sprung into action. We have a resilient club blessed with incredibly talented and resourceful members. We have tremendous support from the fly fishing community world wide. We have a long-standing partnership with the city. Your club has an experienced board dedicated to the best interests of LBCC. We will rebuild and restore the clubhouse to its former glory while preserving its sense of history. We will do it quickly and we will do it while maintaining the ongoing operations of the club.

Yes, that's a tall order, but we have the capability to make it happen and we will do it. I have every confidence we will succeed because we have a secret weapon: Goodwill.

This holiday season reflects the spirit of goodwill. I would be remiss not to offer all of you my best wishes and hopes that you had a happy, fulfilling time with friends and family.

As a casting club with a commitment to education, LBCC has provided lots of good works to members, the Long Beach community and the general public through our programs: casting clinics, fly tying workshops, on the river clinics, rod building and most recently, Project Healing Waters. Over the years, the club has touched thousands of people and they remember us fondly. So when we went to meet with the Long Beach Manager of Business Operations it turns out that he recently participated in the fly casting clinic. He was just another novice trying to learn to cast but he, like others, remembers us well. We have lots of people—members and non members—who have goodwill and who have expressed their desire to help.

When we sent out the email to you announcing the fire, many of you responded. Here is a sample of some of your replies:

Leader's Line continues on page 4

Fly Tying Class in a Tangle

THE FLY TYING COMMITTEE

The Fly Tying class was the first scheduled activity that fell victim to the fire. Immediately, we began looking for an acceptable venue to hold the remaining sessions ten plus sessions. What at first seemed to be an ideal location wasn't available on Tuesdays, didn't have AV equipment and would have drained \$60 per meeting away from the funds needed to rebuild the clubhouse. That option seemed counter productive to continuing the high quality tying program LBCC is known for.

Until further notice, the classes remain cancelled. But if a location does become available, an announcement will be posted on the website and the non-members students will be contacted by phone.



The Theater is Dark

BOB GRAHAM, MEMBER

Due to the fire, we'll cancel the showings of videos and the Saturday Seminars until we have the use of the clubhouse and our activities return to normal. In the meantime, please take the opportunity to stop living vicariously and get some experience on the water!

Tight lines.

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The "A" Team

**CAROLE KATZ,
VENISON STAG COORDINATOR**

Thanks to the help of a lot of generous people, the 2007 Venison Stag Holiday Dinner was quite a success, with 88 prime rib meals served in a festive clubhouse. It was an opportunity to socialize and get to know club members a little better while enjoying a delicious meal. Putting on a dinner like this involves the help of a lot of volunteers who should be recognized.

Preparations began on November 10 when the clubhouse was cleaned by Ann Hurley, Rick Hilles, Jeff Katz, Frank Kropacek, Stephen Lim, Dennis Martinez, Alan & Judy Ross, Bettye Swart and Howard Uller. There was a bumper crop of dead bugs in the light fixtures this year, so those who cleaned the lights were easily identifiable by the dead bugs and other debris that fell on their heads and shoulders.

On Friday, November 30, we set up the tables and decorated the clubhouse. Stan & Patti Holden, Ann Hurley, Dennis Martinez, Alan & Judy Ross, and Jeff & Ann Sadler all pitched in. The big day arrived on Saturday, December 1, and the final set-up was accomplished by Bettye Swart, Jeri Vaillancourt, and Jeff Katz.

Shauna Barton, John Lincoln, Burt Labowitz and Bruce Takenaka did a marvelous job preparing the meal. The doorman, decked out in Mickey Mouse ears on a Santa hat (go figure) was Mark Flo.

Our capable serving staff included Ann Hurley, Gary Donahue, Jeff & Ann Sadler, Randy Teeple, and Mick & Terry Woodbury. And, last but certainly not least, the after dinner clean-up crew included far more helpers that I am aware of or can mention. Those I do know of were Jeff Katz, Frank Kropacek, Gary McDonough, Dan Rivett, Alan & Judy Ross, Jeff & Ann Sadler, Bettye Swart

and Jeri Vaillancourt. Lots of others helped with the cleaning up—all your efforts are so much appreciated.

Many others assisted in some way. Larry Albach made the knife for the annual volunteer recognition raffle. Mick Woodbury emailed reminders to the entire club, and Keith Pomella arranged for delivery of dumpsters. Stan Holden had the kitchen drain cleaned out prophylactically. Marv Dworzak tended the fire. Ed & Merle Hower loaned punch bowls in which Rick & Lillian Hilles made the punch. I've probably missed a few names, so please forgive me.

Once again, thank you so very much to those of you who helped. Thank you, also, to those of you who came to enjoy the evening and the meal. One of the glorious things about Long Beach Casting Club is the way so many members contribute to make things happen. You just seem to come out of the woodwork with a smile on your faces, willing to chip in with whatever needs to be done. Thank you all.

Unfortunately, as you all know by now, the clubhouse was on fire 17½ hours after the end of the Venison Stag. We will rebuild, and we will have a Venison Stag next year, the first in our new and improved clubhouse, and we will have much to celebrate.



Leader's Line continued from page 1

"I'm a computer specialist so if the club needs assistance with anything relating to computers, scanning pictures of past presidents to preserve them (if any are left), or anything else you can think of, let me know! — Jason"

"So sorry about the fire. We helped on the remodel and will help on the repairs. Let me know. We have our own crews for elec. and demo. — Jim"

"Feel free to call on me for any kind of help—painting, clean-up, dealing with claims adjusters, etc. that is needed. Best regards, Howard"

"I am heartbroken. I spent many years at the club and many years on the board. Too many fond memories up in smoke. Like many of the past members who have gone before us, the memories are with me forever. Regards, Dino"

"Thanks for the update. My profession is home building and I have done major fire restoration on several buildings including a 400 year English walnut mansion that had been torn down in England and shipped to the US around 1908. I restored it in the late '60s and then took it apart and reconstructed it piece by piece in the mid '70s. I am a volunteer for any position you might need to fill. — Joe"

We have gotten off to a decent start to our recovery but we will need to be flexible, adaptable and innovative in adjusting our ongoing operations. The LBCC website will become a focal point for dissemination of current information about the club. It should be the first place you check when you have questions.

I'm always impressed with the diversity of talent in the club. When we have challenges, people who have the expertise that's needed seem to just appear to help out. They are like guardian angels. So as I stood there on Monday morning at 8:00 AM looking at a wrecked club house covered in soot and with 3 inches of wet ashes on the floor, I joined a small group of members who also gathered to see the damage. The fire inspectors soon arrived to continue their work. As I wondered what to do, one of our members offered guidance: how to work with the fire

inspectors, how to get the insurance company moving, how to get approvals for quick clean up, and what kind of contractor to call in for disaster clean up. What are the odds that just at the right moment, a member shows up who is a fire captain specializing in hazmat clean up? Another member called in to offer help with clean up refer me to a contractor who could be there in 48 hours. That afternoon at 2:00 PM we began initial clean up to save the floors with a team of 12 members who shoveled wet ashes into wheelbarrows for the next 3 hours. And on it goes. It's hard not to get emotional.

The fire represents a dark moment in our club's history. The story of our recovery may represent one of the highlights. Be there to write it with me.



It's Show Time

PAUL BURGNER, MEMBER

Be sure to mark your calendars now and plan on attending The Fly Fishing Show, in Pasadena at the Pasadena Center. This is the show's sixth year and it will provide you with numerous programs designed to improve your fly fishing ability. It was a great show last year.

The Fly Fishing Show hours are:
Saturday, March 1st from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM
Sunday, March 2nd from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Also, don't forget the Fred Hall Show which will be held on March 5th–9th at the Long Beach Convention Center. If you would like to volunteer to work any of these shows, please call Paul Burgner @ 562-634-1515.

Long Beach Casting Club Programs for 2008

JEFFREY SADLER, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

NOTE: Meeting nights are changed to the last *Friday* night at 7:00 PM unless informed otherwise. Refer to the club website updates or changes.

NOTE #2: Meeting location has changed to RECREATION PARK COMMUNITY CENTER unless informed otherwise. This is a park building directly across 7th Street from our clubhouse—west of and across the parking area of “Little Rec” Golf Course—at the opposite corner of 7th and Federation. Brick front building with entrance facing 7th Street.

January 25: **Joe Libeu: “NO WADERS REQUIRED”**

Our own Joe Libeu will guide you through the wonders of the fishing the flats. Joe has a tremendous amount of experience fishing in “skinny water” and this will be a great way to find out more about it. As we all know Joe is an LBCC Past-President, Sunshine Committee member and a leader of many LBCC activities. Joe is also a Master Certified Casting Instructor and member of the FFF Fly Casters Board of Governors. This last year he was awarded the FFF’s first “Mel Krieger Excellence in Casting Instruction” Award.

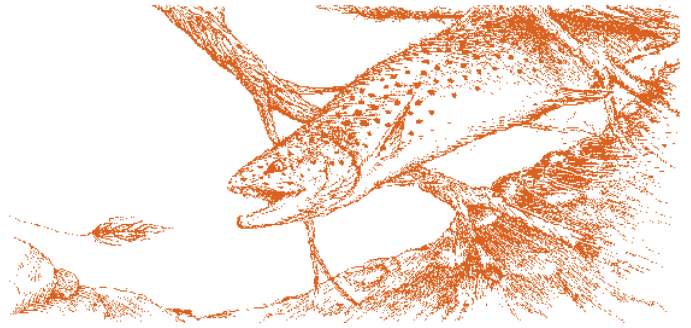
February 29: **Jeff Sadler: “HIC SUNT DRACONIS”**

March 28: Past President’s: **“JOHN TAVENNER ON THE SAN JUAN RIVER”**

April 4: **LBCC Annual General Meeting**

May 30: **John Van Derhoof: “MOST WONDERFUL PRESENTATION”**

June 27: To be determined, but hopefully a House Warming Party.



A Rusty Tip

BOB GRAHAM, MEMBER

I considered washing my car this week so it rained. I assume everyone knows about the adverse affect water has on flies. Some hooks rust quite quickly. Indeed that is why it is often safer and more humane to the fish to just cut off a fly that is too difficult to remove without doing additional damage to the fish. The hook just rusts away in short order.

But moisture in the fly box can quickly infect all of the flies with rust, causing them to lose their hooking ability in a short time. I carry one of those desiccant cylinders I find in aspirin bottles in each of my fly boxes. It's not that I am prone to falling in the river (although I have and then I'm prone) or even fear falling out of a drift boat (NO ONE does that). But I often fish in inclement weather in either rain or snow and no matter how quickly I decide on which is the next fly to tie on, some moisture gets into the box while it is open. So my little desiccant is there like a tiny hair dryer for my flies!

I mention this only because I noticed in one of the recent fly-fishing catalogs of more stuff I that can't live without that one manufacturer is including a little desiccant material in its new line of fly boxes. Seems like a good idea to me.

Fishing with Murphy and His Law

E.A. "ED" THOMAS, PAST PRESIDENT

Before taking off on a fishin' trip, you assemble everything you need and, almost invariably, a lot of things you will never need and meticulously pack them all into the car—with the exception of one thing—an antidote for Murphy's Law. As near as I can ascertain Murphy's Law states: *"What can happen, Will happen"*.

Jack Duge and I were slated for a trip to Lake Mead, bass fishing, and we were going in my '48 Plymouth sedan. We were sailing along quite nicely when, near Victorville, I noticed that the car was behaving a bit queerly and stopping to check found a low tire. We were close to help and got there just in time. The tire was so bad that a new tire was needed, which was put on, and we were off. Within another 50 miles—the same thing—this time we had a nail in the new tire! We had to put on the spare and stopped in Las Vegas to have the tire fixed and then off to Temple Bar Landing.

OFF TO THE HAYSTACKS

We arranged for a boat, loaded our things into it and started across the lake. Before we left the bay we had to turn around and come back. The boat was leaking so bad we couldn't keep the water from our gear. We secured a new boat and changed our gear over to it and took off again. This time we made it and chugged across the lake to the area known as the Haystacks, which look just like haystacks downstream from the Temple. We picked a nice bay with a lot of throwing sized rocks for our camp and got everything ashore and set up.

You may ask about throwing rocks. These are for the wild burros that wander into camp in the night and you reach down from your cot and heave the rocks at them. Of course you don't go back to sleep right away because of all the braying—but you do get used to it—finally. They are very inquisitive and when the camp is quiet they will come right into the area. They also drop calling cards.

NOT SO SWEET DREAMS

Both of us were sleeping peacefully when it felt as though someone or something had hit me in the stomach! That was the morning that they fired the first atomic bomb test at Yucca Flats and we *really* felt it at Lake Mead. Both of us came out of the sack and looked at each other and wanted to know "what was that?" We didn't find out till we got back to the marina. Incidentally, I don't think the bass liked it much either—we never got a hit all morning!

Going back after lunch, we got about 3 or 4 miles from camp and my 1950 5 hp Johnson outboard quit. So we rowed back to camp. We had some tools so we began looking for the trouble and finally traced it to the outlet from the gas tank. Taking out the filter we found that it was clogged and the gas just wasn't getting through. The tough part was getting the fitting apart to clean it, which happened to be soldered in place. We had to heat it up until it came loose and voila—the motor ran! That evening we fished the cove where we camped and took some nice fish. Next morning we packed up our gear and headed back to the marina. On our way home ran into a roadblock with the officials looking for (illegal) aliens and we had to unpack all of our gear. A little further on, we were stopped again for doing 60 mph in a 55 mph area!



I am sure that *can* and *does* apply, so beware and be ready.

Ed Thomas was a LBCC Past President, many time National Casting Champion and a member of the ACA Tournament Casting Hall of Fame. He was one of a select few that really has made the Long Beach Casting Club what it is today.



100th ACA National in San Francisco

MARK LIPE, MEMBER

The Oakland Casting Club and the Golden Gate Angling Casting Club are hosting the 100th ACA National Tournament August 4th–9th, 2008. This centennial tournament will be held in Golden Gate Park of San Francisco at the GGACC's Angler's Lodge and Casting Pools with the distance events at the nearby Polo Fields. The Angler's Lodge and Casting Pools were built in 1938 and is regarded as one of the finest casting facilities in the world.

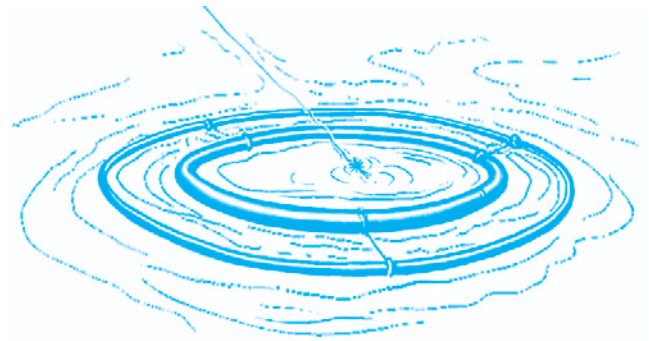
When you receive your 2008 Fly Fishing Calendar, make sure you circle the dates of August 4th–9th and plan on attending this historical and wonderful event. Witness some of the best casters in the country and plan on participating yourself! Tournament casting is a wonderful sport and a great opportunity to improve your casting skills, meet new friends, and enjoy the camaraderie associated with tournament casting. For more information, log onto www.americancastingassoc.org

Membership Requests

MICK WOODBURY,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Please welcome LaMoyne Addleman of San Francisco and Art Ward of Seal Beach to our club. As new members we wish you good times and improved fishing. Your membership kits will be ready for the January meeting.

If you have any questions about your membership or corrections to your address, telephone or email, please contact me at 714-840-5649 or email me at mick@rwmktg.com.



Notes from the Pond

MARK FLO, CAPTAIN

Because of the fire to the clubhouse and damage to casting gear we have canceled all casting activities through December. If we have recovered enough to begin casting in January then we will have two casts starting with one on the 6th of January and followed by one on the 20th at 9:00 AM. Breakfasts will be suspended until the clubhouse is restored.

Please check with our club website for more up to date information on casting games.

Fly of the Month: Super Bug

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

When was the last time you saw a bluegill that was large enough to fillet? Have you ever seen one that large? We're not talking about the fish at El Dorado Park—the ones that you occasionally launch on your backcast with your 4 weight when you set the hook. No, I'm talking about bluegill where you go out after them using a 7 weight.

Not too many years back, the February club trip was to Lake Morena in San Diego County. This trip helped to fuel its own special spring fever for many of the club's members. Not only is there the lure of monster bluegill but there are trophy bass inhabiting the lake. In fact the IGFA Fly Rod World Record Largemouth Bass (13 lbs., 9 oz.) was caught in Lake Morena on 8 pound test from a float tube by Ned Sewell of the San Diego Flyfishers and the lake record is 19 lbs., 3 oz. Both the bluegill and the bass provide their own brand of excitement. Sadly Lake Morena, part of the San Diego Lakes system which provides drinking water to the area, has suffered from repeated near drainings resulting from the drought conditions over the last 20 years. However, I understand that the lake is slowly coming back.

In years past, the unanimous fly of choice back then was the Super Bug. Created by LBCC club members Larry Stoner and Allan Rohrer, this fly is great for a large variety of fish and not just bass and bluegill. In Larry's book LAKE FLIES FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, he writes *"Of all the flies Allan (Rohrer) and I have fished with this fly has been the greatest surprise to us."*

This fly was originally tied on a keel hook, which is no longer readily available. I have switched over to a Tiemco 200 hook tied bend-back style virtually eliminating snags. This is a marvelous pattern that does deserve a place in your fly box, *especially* if your going to Lake Morena.

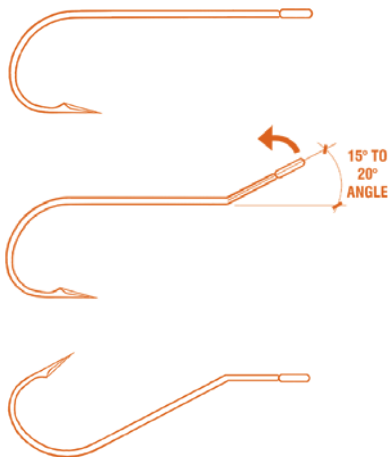
Materials for the Super Bug:

- Hook: Tiemco 200 in sizes 16 to 8
(have lots of #14's for Lake Morena)
- Thread: Black 6/0 or 8/0
- Weight: 6 to 12 wraps of .015" lead, depending on the size
- Tail: The center tip of a black marabou plume, 2-4 strands of pearl Krystal Flash
- Body: Extra fine chenille—1/3 black, 1/3 emerald green, 1/3 black
- Hackle: Black poor quality dry fly over the black chenille



Instructions for tying the Super Bug:

1. Holding the hook with a pair of pliers about two headspaces behind the eye, bend the eye portion up about 10 to 15 degrees in relation to the shank. Place the hook into the vise with point up and wind on the lead down toward the bend. Attach the thread at the headspace and wind down to the bend of the hook.



2. Tie in the marabou tail. It should be about the length of the hook and be sure it is not too thick. Place a couple strands of pearl Krystal Flash on either side

of the tail. The Krystal Flash should extend slightly beyond the tail

3. Select a hackle with the barbs about 1½ times the length of the hook gap and tie it in on the far side of the hook. Tie in the black chenille and wind down 1/3 the length of the shank and tie it down. Wind the hackle about 1½ turns and tie off. Keep the hackle sparse so don't wrap too many times.
4. Tie in the emerald green chenille and advance the thread forward over the black chenille and the hackle. Wind the emerald green chenille down the next 1/3 of the shank and tie it off. Stand up the black hackle and wind the remaining black chenille over the final 1/3 of the shank and tie it off. Wind the black hackle over the last section of black chenille another 1 ½ to 2 turns and tie it down. Wind a small head and whip finish.

SIERRA PACIFIC FISHING ADVENTURES

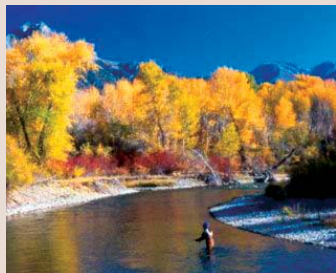
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Yellowstone in the Fall Do It Yourself

Join Sierra Pacific Fishing Adventures on September 16th to the 21st 2008 for 4 days of fishing in the West Yellowstone area: the Madison, Henry's Fork, the Firehole, Ashton Bridge or wherever's hottest and 5 nights of lodging. We will be staying at a Ranch with lodging in the main house plus a cabin. The trip is set up as a "Do It Yourself". We will fish on our own without the use of guides. This time of the year you will hear the bugling of Elk, the start of cooler days and nights and the area is less as crowded.

The trip includes transportation and lodging only, we will do our own cooking. There will be long days and short nights and a lot of getting to know each other around the dinner table.



The trip is limited to 13 people; the cost includes transportation and lodging. I will create and cook, with the help of everyone, a menu for each night. Cost of the trip is **\$700 per person** including transportation to and from Idaho Falls.

To secure a spot or for further information please contact Joe Libeu at Sierra Pacific Fishing Adventures, 310-749-6771 or email at Fishlqf@ix.netcom.com.



Lower Owens Extravaganza

JEFFREY SADLER, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

On January 11–13 the “A Team” (Danny Rivett, Yash Iseda, and Jeff Sadler) bring you the LOWER OWENS EXTRAVAGANZA.

- ❖ Secret spots revealed (Carole’s, Jeff’s, Bob’s and if he doesn’t show, 3 Joe Libeu hot spots).
- ❖ Master nymph rig techniques (Yash)
- ❖ Soft hackle & streamers (Danny)
- ❖ Dry flies (Jeff)

This is a premier LBCC trip for fishers at all levels. On Saturday the wily old pros will help out the rookies and the arcane revealed. Gustatory delights include Amigo’s (Thursday), Japanese (Friday), and Pizza Factory (Saturday). Bishop is 3/4 of a tank north in the beautiful Eastern Sierra and winter fishing can be spectacular. The weather can vary from peeling off layers of clothing to horizontal sleet. The Owens flow is currently at a very fishable rate.

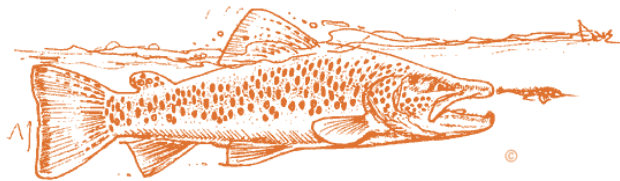
Attend the Pre-Trip Meeting for maps, information, etc. on Friday, January 4. Meeting location changed to RECREATION PARK COMMUNITY CENTER unless informed otherwise. This is a park building directly across 7th Street from our clubhouse—west and across the parking area of “Little Rec” Golf Course—at the opposite corner of 7th and Federation. Brick front building with entrance facing 7th Street.

FUTURE CLUB TRIPS:

February 16, 17: Lower Owens again led by the indomitable Mark Flo. After the January trip and meeting the Lower Owens ought to be a piece of cake.

March 22: Newport Bay Bass Tourney led by Captain Matt Rickerd.

April 6: Carpinteria Surf Festival led by Carl Laski



Maggie Merriman Entomology Workshop

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

On Saturday, March 29, 2008 join Maggie Merriman at the Long Beach Veterans Administration Hospital Campus for her 10th Annual BASIC ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP FOR FLY FISHERS.

You will learn how to “Match the Hatch” and how to select the correct fly for a given situation. Maggie stresses the use of common English names and not the biological “Latin” names many associate with entomology, so you can leave your *Acroneuria californicas* at home.

The class will begin around 9:00 AM and run until 12:30 to 1:00 PM. The cost for the workshop is \$45.00 and includes samples of insects, corresponding flies and an extensive handout. Bring a snack, note pad and some fly boxes to look at and compare the insects.

You must Pre-Register for the workshop by mailing the fee to: Maggie Merriman, 19791 Coastline Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Or you can call her with any questions you may have at 714-969-5829. You will receive an exact map of the location upon registering.

Calendar of Events

January

1	Tuesday		Happy New Year!
4	Friday	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
			Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower Owens
6	Sunday	9:00 AM	Casting Games
11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night: Casting and Tying
11-13	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens #1
20	Sunday	9:00 AM	Casting Games
25	Friday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Joe on the Lower Owens
27	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond Cleaning

February

1	Friday	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
3	Sunday	9:00 AM	Casting Games
8	Friday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower Owens #2
10	Sunday	9:00 AM	Casting Games
15-17	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens #2
24	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond Cleaning
29	Friday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Jeff Sadler, "Hic Sunt Draconis"

March

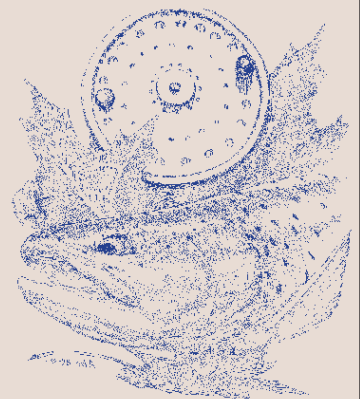
1-2	Weekend	9:00 AM	Pasadena Fly show
5-9	Wed./Week	9:00 AM	Fred Hall Show
7	Friday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
9	Sunday	9:00 AM	Casting Games: Director's Handicap
14	Friday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Newport Bay Bass Tournament
14-16	Weekend		Marriott's Simon Gawesworth Workshop and Clinic
21	Friday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Carpenteria Surf Trip
22	Saturday		Club Trip: Newport Bay Bass Tournament
25	Tuesday		Merry Christmas!
28	Friday	7:00 PM	Club Meeting: Past Presidents Meeting
30	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond Cleaning

Special Note: Due to the fire many the club's activities have been decreased or curtailed entirely until the club has been repaired and is once again functioning. Until such time as the club is back to normal operation the Club's website will be of primary importance in keeping you up to date with club functions and activities. Be sure to double check all dates and times on the website. The Club's website can be found at: www.longbeachcastingclub.org.

2008 Southwestern Tournament

MARK LIPE, MEMBER

The 2008 Southwestern Tournament scheduled for February 9th and 10th has been cancelled due to circumstances related to the fire at the Long Beach Casting Club's clubhouse. Access to our clubhouse and commitment from the membership has played a pivotal role to the success of the tournament. With the tournament only a month away, we felt that our emphasis should be on the clean up and restoration of the clubhouse and that we cancel this year's tournament.



We apologize for any inconveniences and look forward to hosting this popular event in 2009.



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