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Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

December 2009

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line ...

Blessings by the Tablespoon

MICK WOODBURY, PRESIDENT

Here's a Thanksgiving dinner tradition that deserves sharing. As you put each portion of food on your plate, think of something you're grateful for. For example: a slice of turkey? Your family. Mashed potatoes? Your friends. Gravy? That the Sunshine Committee never got wind of your rod/car door "incident".

With both a wife and sister-in-law who love to cook, my number of Thanksgiving dishes always exceeds double digits (which in itself deserves gratitude). So many dishes can accommodate a lot of gratefulness, but there are far more thank yous than they'll ever have recipes.

Since this is the club newsletter, let's just talk about club gratitude. I'm thankful we have a pristine clubhouse that is in far better shape today than when I first visited in 2003. I'm thankful for its 85-year heritage and a sterling reputation built over all those years. I'm thankful for our casting pond and its lineage from the 1932 Olympics and beyond.

I'm thankful for all the classes and all the knowledge that is available for free—there's no way anyone could self teach that much information in a lifetime. And I'm thankful that so many people step up and offer their time and share their talents with others. Counting the teachers for fly casting, rod building and fly tying, there must be 10% of our club members who actively contribute in our formal classes.

I'm thankful for the people who come out on Sundays to clean the pond, cook breakfasts, and run the casting games. And for those who make the coffee, wash the dishes, clean the floors and heads.

No Blisters

I'm thankful that we have so many members. In other clubs, membership is the biggest concern. Our numbers continue to grow, effortlessly, month after month. I'm thankful for the Board Members who take on responsibility and do their various jobs for no pay and even less glory. I'm thankful that the current board has four past presidents who contribute their expertise and experience. I'm especially thankful that blisters are rare at LBCC. A blister is something that only shows up after the work is done.

I'm thankful for the opportunity to hold regional and national casting tournaments and to share our facilities with others, who, by the way, are always impressed with the quality of our events and/or are generally impressed with such a pristine meeting place.

Leader's Line continues on page 2

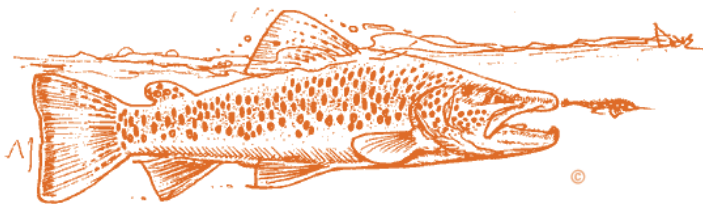
Leader's Line continued from page 1

I'm grateful that the club is where it is, in a beautiful park, in a beautiful city with the best climate in the nation. From here we can travel north and east to fish fresh water or go south or west and fish an ocean.

GRATITUDE, THE ATTITUDE

Psychologists say gratitude is the healthiest human emotion. It actually increases your immunities and makes you more resistant to stress and less susceptible to illness. People who are grateful are happy; people who are ungrateful are miserable. Maybe the latter group just needs to look at how full their glass is; not how empty.

Meanwhile, my list goes on — PHW commitment, our speaker program, the roster, Target Talk, the Venison Stag—you get the idea. I just can't eat another bite.

**Breakfast Chefs Needed**

**JOHN VAN DERHOOF,
SENIOR DIRECTOR**

There has been a long tradition of cooking a hot breakfast before the winter casts. Come and join us for the camaraderie and the great food.

Breakfast is served about 8:00 AM and the casting games start at 9:00 AM.

We still need chefs for the following dates: December 20, January 3, 17 & 31, February 21 and March 7. The chef chooses the menu, does the shopping and impresses the members with his/her or their culinary genius.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact John Van Derhoof at 562-424-7313.

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Venison Stag Holiday Dinner

RICH GARRETT, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

It's that time of year—time for our annual Venison Stag Holiday Dinner on Saturday December 5, 2009. For those members that are new to the club, it might be helpful to mention that no Venison will be served and it that it is not a stag event.

The name carries over from decades ago when the club members annually cleaned out the remaining game in their freezers from the hunting season, which oftentimes included an ample supply of Venison. It was called a Stag because; at this was a time, there were only male members of the club. In fact, back then, all Monthly Meetings were called Stags.

Happily, that is not the case now though, venison steaks do sound tasty...

These days, the menu has shifted to Prime Rib, accompanied by chef's surprises for the other portion of the meal. This year the chef with the surprises will be John Lincoln ably assisted by his wife Sandy, Nani Blyleven and Terry Johnson.

To help them in planning and preparing the dinner we will need an accurate head count. There is a reservation form in this edition of the Target Talk. Please mail your reservation at your earliest convenience. The price is \$18.00 per person if made by reservation and \$25.00 at the door. All members, their families and guests are welcome.

This is the event where we have a drawing for a beautiful, custom made knife made by Larry Albach. For those members that participated in services to the club during the year, such as pond and club cleaning, you should have had a ticket with your name placed in the drawing jar. One of you will be the proud owner of this "One of a Kind" knife.



Social Hour will begin at 6:00 PM with refreshments provided (As the club is on public ground, no alcohol is permitted). Dinner will start at 7:00 PM.

VOLUNTEERS HAVE MORE FUN

Of course, any event like this depends on the help of many members. Please volunteer. We need people to prepare the clubhouse in advance of the dinner when we'll be cleaning the clubhouse, windows, dinnerware, etc.

We will also need your help on the day of the event, in the morning, to do some final decorating table setting and, in the evening, for meal preparation and serving. Finally, we will need a clean-up crew after the festivities.

Please contact me at rgarrettcpa@earthlink.net if you would like to help us out in any way or if you have any questions. Also, there are sign-up sheets in the clubhouse so take a look and add your name the next time you are down there.

New members, please don't be shy about joining us and helping out. This really is a lot of fun and a great way to get to know other club members.

Northern Cal Club Trip

BILL BOEHLERT, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

What could be better than a fall fishing trip to Northern California? Well, maybe a few things—but it has to be somewhere near the top of the list.

The fall foliage was magnificent! The area had already seen some cold storms. Shasta and Lassen were wreathed in snow, and the trees were vibrant in brilliant reds, oranges, and yellows. The weather was spectacular—warm days with crisp mornings and evenings. There were no unpleasant winds to ruffle the waters or tangle your cast.

The LBCC crew was small, but harmonious and well-balanced in terms of skill. Craig Fry and Phil Chik are relative newcomers to the sport and the club, and both hoped to gain skills during the trip. Fortunately, veteran fishermen Ted Sadlowski and Phil Hopwood had the expertise to coach them in the wiles of nymphing.

The fishing started slowly, perhaps due to the torrential rains that the Redding area had received the week before. The runoff from the burned area near Keswick Reservoir made the Lower Sac quite murky. The big bows were there and hungry—they just couldn't see your bug.

The first three nights we stayed in a modest cabin right on the Upper Sacramento. It was a bit snug, but its central location was excellent. We hit the Nature Conservancy section of the Lower McCloud on Wednesday. The luminescent fall colors made up for the slow fishing. The following day we tried the Upper Sac near Castle Crags State Park. The scenery was incredible, and the fishing was productive. October caddis were flitting everywhere, but the fish were not

hitting them. Nymphing was the key to success.

We moved east for the next two nights, and stayed in a luxurious house in Cassel dubbed the Angler's Retreat. It is in spitting distance of several great fisheries, most notably Hat Creek. On the way east we fished the Upper McCloud. Most everyone had their best day here—no big fish, but good numbers. Before checking into our new digs, we hit the Powerhouse Riffle on Hat Creek. The absence of other fishermen was the first clue—it wasn't quite up to snuff. Everyone caught fish, but they were San Gabriel sized. Just before dark, though, Craig Fry hooked up with a beauty.

The next day we tried Baum Lake, which is really just a

wide spot on Hat Creek. There were fish rising everywhere, but they were uninterested in the usual offerings. Finally I found the ticket—a small BWO with a trailing sparkle dun. After a few hours, the two Phils went back to try their luck at the Upper McCloud, whereas Ted, Craig, and I went to Hat Creek for the evening rises catching several beauties.

Sunday was our final day, and the two Phils got an early start on the long drive home. Ted went back to the Upper Sac for a

few more days of teasing trout. Craig and I decided to stop at the Posse Grounds in Redding for one last effort. The river was still a bit murky, but much improved over earlier in the week. Craig hooked a few, but they were uncooperative. I hauled in some impressive (to me) rainbows. No matter what the results, it is always fun to fish the lower Sac in November, with the massive king salmon scudding around like torpedoes through the shallows.

Redding is a long way, but the fishing and ambience make the drive well worth it. If it is on the agenda next year, be sure to join us!



December Road Trip

MICK WOODBURY, PRESIDENT

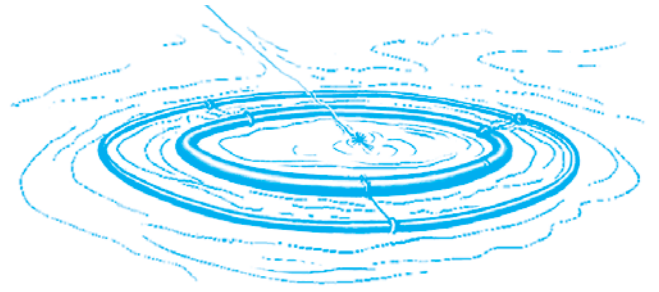
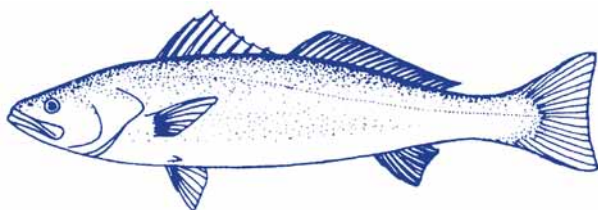
The December 12 Club Trip will offer a new experience to the Club—an insider's tour of one of the most fascinating hatcheries on the West Coast. It will make your Hot Creek and Mt. Whitney visits pale by comparison. We get the chance to visit the Carlsbad White Sea Bass Hatchery to see how biologist are successfully bringing back a species that until a dozen years ago was only fond memories to old timer fishermen.

You'll get to see brood stock that make Alper's trout look like minnows. You'll learn how each fingerling is identified so that years later, when it reaches 50 or 60 pounds, and you catch it, the Department of Fish & Game can tell when and where it was released.

You'll learn why they're moved out of the hatchery and taken elsewhere and cared for daily by volunteer organizations such as ours. You'll be astonished at how successful the program has been. It's a *most interesting* tour and likely will unveil work with other species as well.

The Pre-Trip on December 12 will give you all the necessary details such as time, directions and meeting place. Car pooling is essential—it's a working hatchery and they're not set up to accommodate a lot of visitor vehicles.

So bring your wife, kids or neighbors if you like. They'll have a good time. We do need an accurate head count though, so docents will be available. The tour is intended for small groups, but we can have as many small groups as we want...



Notes from the Pond

DAN RIVETT, CAPTAIN

Thank you to all that helped clean the casting pond, Sunday November 1, 2009. Eighteen people came out early Sunday morning to hose, scrub, rake and shovel debris out of the pond. When I arrived at 7:00 AM to get things out, three members had already started raking and preparing for the hose man—Rod Pabst. I asked if they forgot to reset their clocks for the time change that morning, but they all said no, they were just anxious to get started. Oh well, I can accept that...*not*...

The casting games have had a steady turn-out of about 8 to 10 people. I encourage any of you that have considered coming out to cast but were uncomfortable with the pressure of competition to join us. Prior to this year as Captain, I felt the same way. However, since I have cast in the games all year, my scores and fishing success have improved with the practiced accuracy, and it is a good way to get to know other members.

I am still looking for helpers for the 2010 Southwestern Tournament. You can sign up at the clubhouse, e-mail me at drivett@commercelp.com, or call 562-833-1457. Thanks to those that have responded and I look forward to more contacts.

See you on the pond.

January in Bishop

DAN RIVETT, STREAMKEEPER

Picture this, you awaken in a strange bed, look around for your shoes and open the door to clear blue skies. You look to the west and see Mt. Tom covered with snow; you look to the east and see the White Mountains covered with snow and you realize you are not in Kansas anymore.

However, you are standing at the door without your cold weather gear and it is 20 degrees outside, no problem, get dressed and join your friends for a hearty breakfast at Jack's. Not *Jack in the Box*, but Jack's Waffle Shop, which is located on Main Street in the right in the center of town.

Oh did I forget to mention, you are in Bishop for the Long Beach Casting Club's January trip. This is always a great way to start the New Year, fishing the Lower Owens River. I have done the January trip for the past ten years and probably only had rain or snow two or three times. I'll take those odds, and besides on the years with inclement weather, fishing in the snow can be epic if the blue wing olive mayflies are hatching and they do prefer overcast and cold weather.

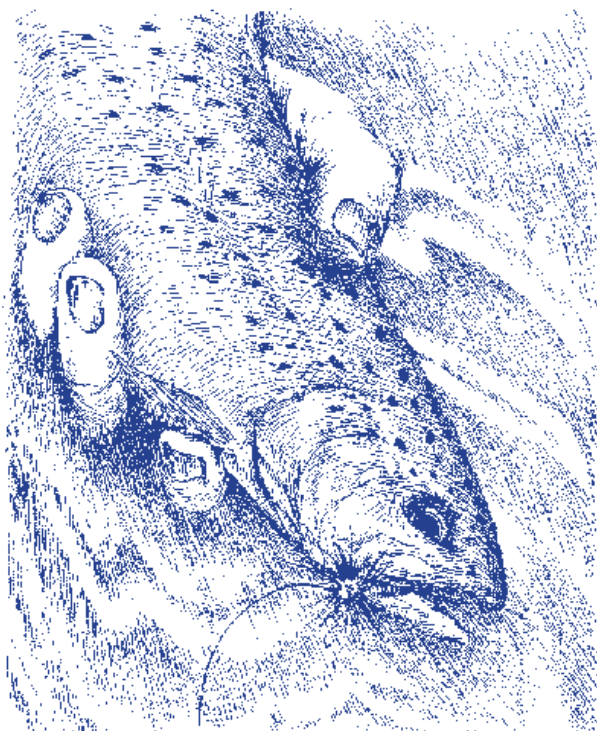
This is a trip that averages 25 people. Some members go up on Thursday, while others drive up Friday morning or evening depending on that nasty thing that tends to get in the way *called work*. If you are new to the area or fly fishing in general this is the perfect trip, because we always meet at Pleasant Valley campground on Saturday morning to group up those that need help with the veterans of the area. This makes for a good bonding experience for club members. So don't hesitate to ask for some help if you are new to the area.

On Saturday at around noon we gather to partake in a 6 foot sandwich and drinks, discuss the morning fishing and then head back out to fish the afternoon. For dinner Saturday night we book a private room for our group at the Pizza Factory in Bishop. For a modest contribution we enjoy pizza, beer, sodas and lots

of stories of the day. This is a social trip that helps everyone build those long lasting friendships.

I hope you can attend the trip at least from Friday, January 8, through Sunday, January 10, 2010. A Pre-Trip Meeting will be held at the LBCC clubhouse Wednesday, December 30, 2009 starting at 7:00 PM. At the Pre-Trip we will have a list of local motels, as well as maps, tips and flies that have worked in the past. It is also an opportunity to get together with other members to work out carpool arrangements to keep down the costs.

The Eastern Sierra is a wonderful place to start the New Year, see you there.



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Long Beach Casting Club Trips for 2009 – 2010

BILL BOEHLERT, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

The first decade of the new millennium is winding up. There is only one trip left before 2010 is here. Be sure to join Mick Woodbury in Carlsbad this month.

We will be starting the New Year with the traditional trips to the Lower Owens under the tutelage of sages Dan Rivett and Yash Iseda. Making these trips should definitely be included in your New Year's resolutions.

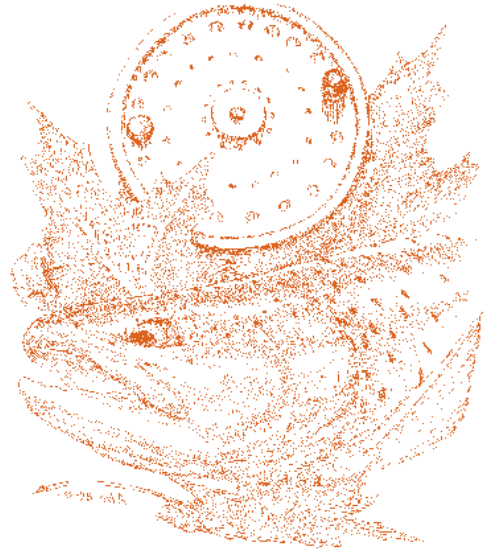
You will notice that there is still a void for the April trip. My inclination is to head for Mammoth—it's so close and the fishing is always good (opening week at Crowley?). However, we go there so frequently that some people might be ready for a change. If you have a suggestion, give me a call. We are going to the Green River in May, so a long trip might not be the best bet, but I am up for anything.

If you have any questions or suggestions about the schedule, be sure to e-mail me at blboehlert@verizon.net or call me at 714-374-6491.

2009–2010 TRIPS TO DATE

DATE	TRIP & TRIP LEADER
December 12	White Seabass Tour Carlsbad with Mick Woodbury: Pre-Trip is TBA
December 30	Lower O. #1 Pre-Trip at 7:00 PM
January 8–10	Lower Owens #1 with Dan Rivett
January 27	Lower O. #2 Pre-Trip at 7:00 PM
February 5–7	Lower Owens #2 with Yash Iseda
March 10	Newport Bay Pre-Trip at 7:00 PM
March 20	Newport Bay Bass Tourney with Mark Tsunawaki
April	Open to suggestions
May	Green River with Jeff Sadler

Come join us!



LBCC New Members

**MARK TSUNAWAKI,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

The Board of Directors unanimously accepted the following application for membership:

- ❖ Jon and Paula Anders of Fountain Valley
- ❖ Steve Blair of Long Beach
- ❖ David Lloyd of Long Beach

Please welcome all our new members at the club meetings.

Also note that in order to receive your Membership Packet with your Badge, Roster and other LBCC items, you must attend a LBCC monthly meeting. There you will be greeted and inducted by our Honorary Sunshine Committee. There are many of you who have joined the Long Beach Casting Club but have not attended a "Monthly Meeting" to receive your packet. Please try to attend and participate in our activities. Isn't that why you joined?

If anyone has membership questions, call Mark Tsunawaki at 714-580-4517 or email at mtsunawaki@yahoo.com.

Rogue River Report

BOB GRAHAM, MEMBER

It was only two hours away by nonstop flight from LAX. The approach for landing into Medford, Oregon was like over flying a New England village. The trees were aflame with reds, yellows and pumpkin (for the season). Actually my seat mate corrected me. It was *better* than New England because the colors were highlighted on a backdrop of dark green from all the firs. The contrast was extraordinary.

We experienced cloudy, overcast days for three days of fishing. We had rain for a half a day. The evenings and mornings were crisp, in the mid-forties and the daytime temperatures rose to the mid-sixties. The morning fog clung to the moss on the resort's power lines and dripped onto the leafy floor below. Your steps did not have the summer crunch on the dead leaves. Rather you squished. And for a change, there was no storm on this trip. In short, it was perfect steelhead weather.

Eight of us stayed at the Morrison's Rogue River Lodge which is sixteen miles downstream of Grant's Pass. Built in 1945, it is situated right on the river and has a two acre grass field for summertime pursuits and outdoor catered receptions, reunions and weddings. It had tennis, badminton, a swimming pool and outdoor exercise area with gym style equipment. It also has an outdoor billiards table. There are four rooms in the main lodge and separate cabins (duplexes) set up on ten foot timbers.

The Hantens purchased the lodge in June of 1964. In December of that year the river flooded and destroyed

all the cabins. The high water mark was once commemorated by a plaque above the fireplace in the lodge showing the water's height. The cabins have been replaced and the first floor of the lodge is used for basement storage. The lodge serves a number of recreational uses and is a central gathering spot for southern Oregonians. White water rafters enter the river from the property.

B.A. and Elaine Hanten acquired the lodge in '64. B.A. was the head guide and in charge of the outdoor activities. Elaine was in charge of the house and played hostess for the family style dinners. Much of the vegetables came from her garden. Bowls of fresh jams were produced in the valley. Some of the wines we consumed came from vineyards just down river. The lodge is known for its food and meals there are anything but light. Each night the hostess would announce the evening's menu. We enjoyed two entrees each night: pork tenderloin and broiled game hens, roasted duck breast and parmesan encrusted perch, prime rib au jus and grilled salmon filet. Each

dinner began with pasta or a creamed soup. Potatoes, risotto, creamy polenta accompanied a vegetable platter. It all ended with a big dessert. The principle ingredients were from major food groups not found on the government's pyramid: butter, cream, white flour, potatoes, cheese, sugar. All to ward off the damp and cold.

My cardiologist would have a heart attack!

But we came to fish, not just eat. The steelhead here are different from the Trinity River steelhead who come up the river to spawn. Those fish travel in pods and rest in well known pools to gather their strength for the journey up river. If you catch one,



you anchor the boat and continue fishing through the pod. The fall steelhead on the Rogue are following the spawning salmon from the ocean and lie below the redds gobbling up salmon roe for protein. Thus they are spread throughout the river and you must search for them individually. They continue up the river later in the year to spawn.

The old method of fishing on the Rogue was “twitching”. Two anglers would sit side by side in the bow of the drift boat. There was no casting but rather you let out 35-40 feet of line and held the rods steady. Then the guide would row the boat from side to side. Actually the guide was doing the fishing and the clients could nap between taking fish. It was great for beginners since you didn’t have to know how to use a fly rod. Only a very few guides still use this method.

Our group spent our days nymphing, either wading or from the boat, or swinging. Swinging involves casting wet flies down and across and then letting the current pull the fly down stream below you. The strikes were violent and noisy. When steelhead are hooked they sprint in all directions; they are fast and powerful fish. The goal is to catch the adults, but the juveniles are no slouches. “Half-pounders” are young steelhead who have not gone to the ocean yet. They usually stay in the river until about two years of age. These fish are also fast and hot. Indeed half-pounders were the favorite prey of Zane Grey who fished frequently for them on this section of the Rogue in the 1920’s.

Judy and Mary Lou started off the first day with big adult fish. I didn’t catch a thing until 3:30 PM and it was my only fish that day. Joe Rosenthal got progressively grumpier for the first two days after catching nothing but the “little” half-pounders. John Yosan tried to comfort him with soothing words such

as “I’m sure you’ll catch big ones *like me* tomorrow.” It didn’t work. But when I went into the lodge for dinner on the third day, there was Joe by the fireplace. He thrust two pictures into my hand with a big smile. He was vindicated with two large adult fish. His third

fish was the largest but it was accompanied by the “clunk” sound of the reel falling into the boat and then the “ping!” of the tippet material letting him know that the fish was lost.

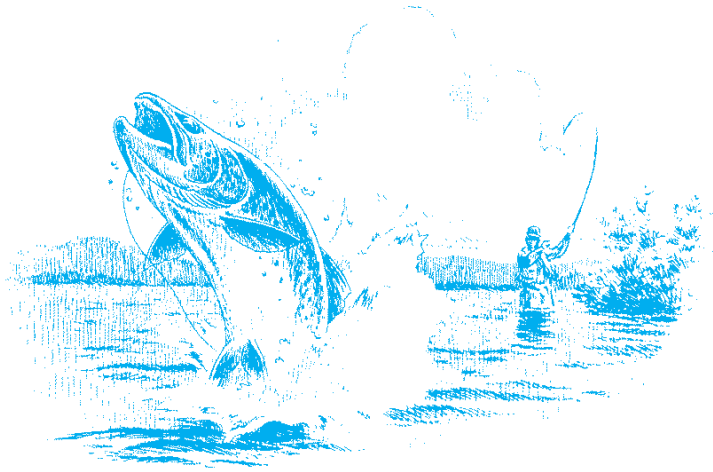
Neither Al Ross nor Tom Camp caught any adult steelhead but Tom did land a beautiful Cutthroat Trout. The

Cut is native to the Rogue and is capable of surviving the warmer water temperatures of the middle and lower river whereas the Rainbows are stuck in the upper sections where the water is much colder. This fish had perfectly bright colors and absolutely no blemishes. Even though it was 13–14 inches, this must have been the first time he was caught!

Rich and Mary Lou marveled after one dinner that the lodge had gone to the trouble to change their bed to a larger queen sized bed. Then they realized their mistake and went back to their own room.

At breakfast on the last day, John wondered whether we had all heard the mournful cries of the wildlife on that foggy, drippy morning (It was still dark). It turned out to be just Dudley the Basset Hound scrounging for truffles. John was clearly concerned for his safety but it struck us as the elephant being afraid of the mouse!

As we left the lodge in the airport shuttle, we agreed to try again next year although all of the guides were also extolling the virtues of fishing the Wood and Williamson rivers just a few hours drive away! They are on my bucket list, so who knows?



For a Good Time, Call Joe

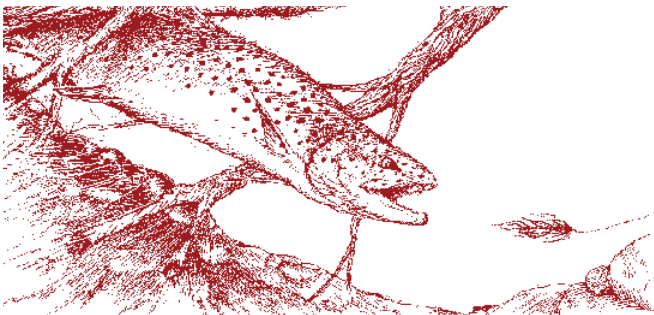
BOB GRAHAM, MEMBER

Ifished with Bob Allen on Joe's Bighorn trip in May. When I reserved my spot on the August trip, I chose the first week. Bob was scheduled for the second week but he wanted to be together again. "You're going to be there. Why not just stay?" Why not indeed. Joe made a space available and the deed was done.

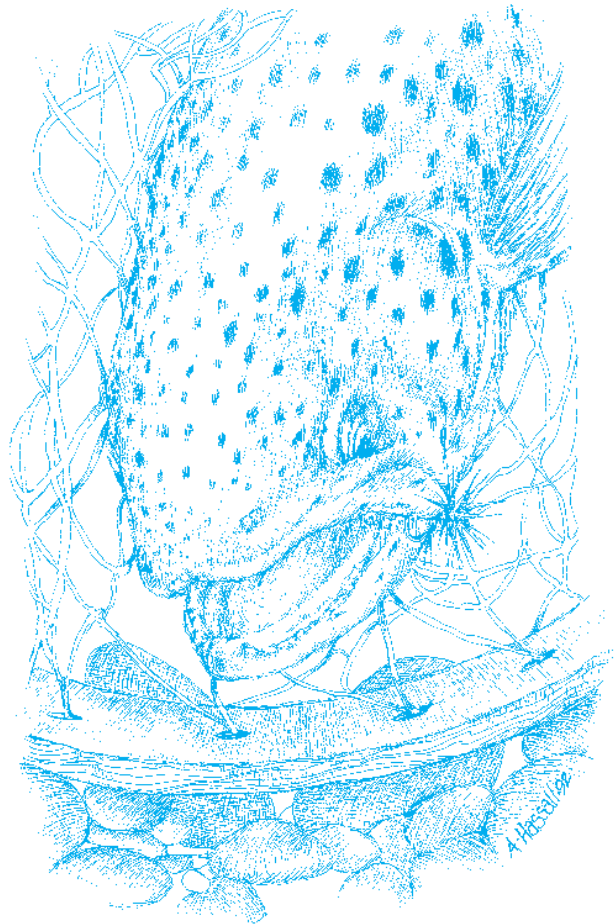
The August Bighorn trip was a 'hopper adventure. I used my nymph rod for about half an hour on the first day and after that the line never got wet. Two weeks of dry fly fishing casting grasshoppers to enthusiastically rising fish! Pure heaven.

In between the two week sessions, Joe invited me to join with him and Kirk Bannerman for some weekend fishing on the Clark's Fork. I, of course, jumped at the opportunity. Plan B would have been doing laundry. Easy decision. Joe drove and Kirk navigated.

We left early and headed directly west out of St. Xavier and past Chief Plenty Coups State Park. We drove for (seemingly) several hours through the Crow Indian Reservation which is simply vast rolling plains. It was sparsely populated by cattle. It takes twenty acres of sweet grass to support a single steer but this country was parched so there were far fewer cattle than, say, in Montana.



The Clark's Fork in Wyoming was roiling and the color of dark chocolate from the storm on Thursday night. Joe immediately changed directions and we were off to Cody, Wyoming to the Buffalo Bill Discovery Center. This is a huge complex of five complete museums,



Buffalo Bill's childhood home, a research library and several outdoor gardens.

We split up and I toured the Museum of Natural History with incredible displays of animals in their natural environment. They were arranged by elevation level and the animals were grouped together much as they would be in the wild. I then saw the Plains Indian Museum with complete dioramas and photographs of life on the Great Plains. You could almost taste the dust. I tried to squeeze in the Buffalo Bill Museum before lunch but it was just too much. Joe and Kirk spent all morning in the Cody Firearms Museum. We all skipped the Whitney Gallery of Western Art.

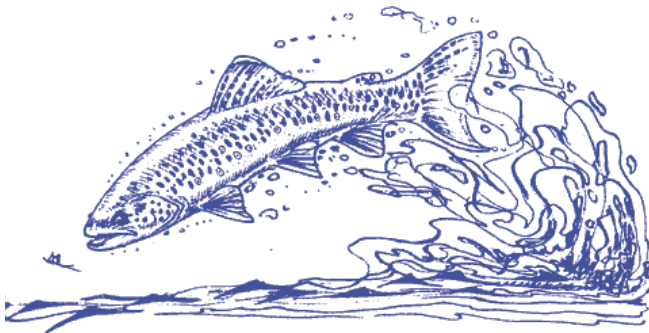
Our late lunch was taken in downtown Cody at a Mexican biker bar. In fact all of the restaurants in August seemed to be biker bars being filled with Harley drivers either on their way to Sturgis or touring the west on the way to wherever home was. And of course Cody is near the east gate of

Yellowstone National Park.

After lunch, we traversed the Beartooth Plateau to the north. It was 11,000-12,000 feet in elevation, above the tree line and occasionally we could look down a few thousand feet to see the upper part of Clark's Fork. Destination: Red Lodge, Montana.

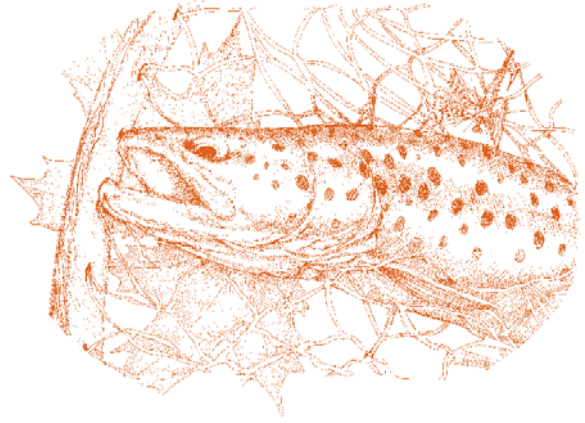
Just outside Red Lodge was the small rural community of Bear Creek. The highlight of the trip was dinner at a steak and rib joint called the Bear Creek Saloon and Steakhouse. On the north side of the winding two lane road going into Bear Creek was an abandoned mine with many large and decaying buildings. The framed newspaper articles in the bar disclosed the story: on February 27, 1943 there was a coal mine explosion and 75 miners perished. Virtually the entire male population of Bear Creek; a complete generation. It is still an open wound in the community.

We proceeded through the bar to the back porch overlooking the pig racing track! Nightly, they have up to twelve pig races to raise money for scholarships. More than \$81,000 has been raised to date. Since gambling is illegal in Montana, the saloon had to develop a system to raise charitable funds and get specific approval from the state legislature. The races are not handicapped but rather you bet on squares similar to Kim Dunbar's.



The five pigs in each race wore numbered tunics (all colored mud and never washed). They crowded together at the chute to enter the oval track and the starting gate. Two fat porkers lay down crowding the chute entrance so the others were nervously pacing. One was doing wind sprints to warm up! When the PA

system began the announcement of the race, all the pigs jammed forward in anticipation, squealing. When they were released, they all dashed immediately to the starting gate. The PA system bugled the start



of the race and they were off! The crowd of about a hundred or so wildly cheered for their favorites.

In the first race, Justa Wiener narrowly edged out Louie Luau by a whisker. In the second, Boarvet smoked Miss Piggy and the rest of the field. Sausagawea beat Hambone by a snout in the third. In the fourth, Raquel Belch easily trounced Arnold Schwartnhogar. Then our table was ready so we had to eat. But like in Vegas, the results are announced inside so you can still play during your steak dinner. What fun!

Joe promised an even better adventure next year: In the small town of Woodruff, Utah on May 29 and 30, 2010, there is a hometown celebration with a ranch rodeo and children's events including sheep racing, barrel racing and so on. The adults compete in team branding and other ranch rodeo contests. There is also a concert of western music to benefit a local boy who has brain cancer. Forty thousand dollars has been raised so far. The highlight, of course, is the Rocky Mountain Oyster Cook-off. My "Big Sky Cookbook" by Meredith Brokaw doesn't have any recipes for them so I won't be competing. This wonderful event is the 9th Annual Black Gold Testicle Festival. I am sure this will fill up quickly so be sure to give Joe a call ASAP. He can be reached at (310) 749-6771.

Fly of the Month: Yash's Zebra Midge

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

The other day at the pond Yash Iseda asked me if I would consider using the Zebra Midge in the next Target Talk. Since the club will be doing several trips up to the Owens over the next couple of months, he felt that this would be a great pattern for those going on those trips to have in their fly box. I can't agree more.

Over the last couple of years, the Zebra Midge has become one of the premier sub-surface and "in the film" midge pattern throughout the country. There are several different versions of Zebra Midges out there and this one happens to be Yash's favorite. If you are going to the Green River you need it. If you fish the Owens River you need it. Frying Pan. Madison. Beaverhead. If you fish anywhere where midges are a large part of a trout's diet you need it!

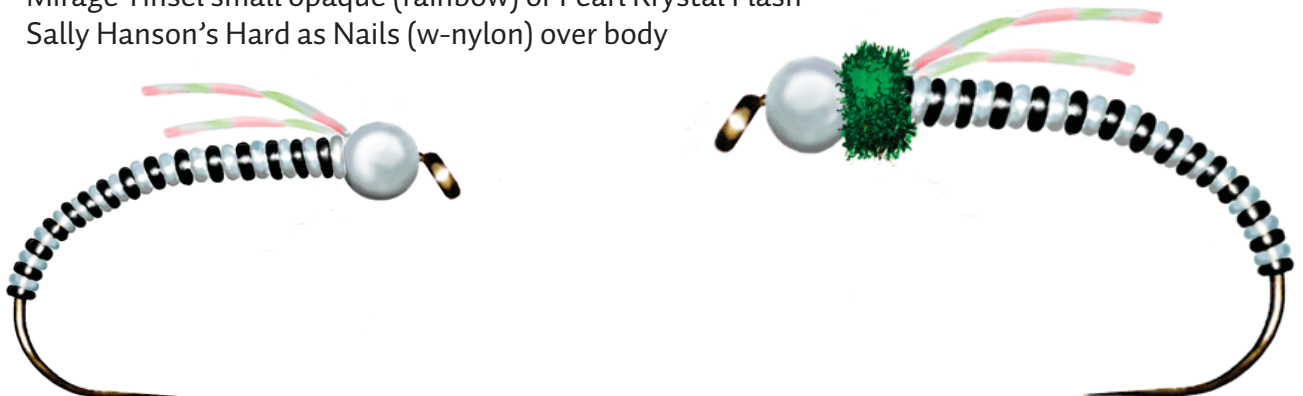
This fly is very simple and quick to tie but, it is done in a slightly different fashion. Normally, we would tie in the wire used for the body at the bend with thread and winding normally back to the bead. Here we will attach the wire at the bend without thread and wind to the bead and use head cement to hold the body in place. This makes the body quicker to tie, smoother and thinner.

Be sure to consider other combinations of body and thorax colors as midges come in a variety of colors and I suggest also having pink, green and red to combine with black wire. Also, you should be aware of and tie a few of Yash's Twin Midge pattern—two Zebra Midges tied nose to tail on one hook. This fly, by all reports, has been incredibly successful this last year.

Of course, the reports all came from Yash...

Materials for tying the Zebra Midge

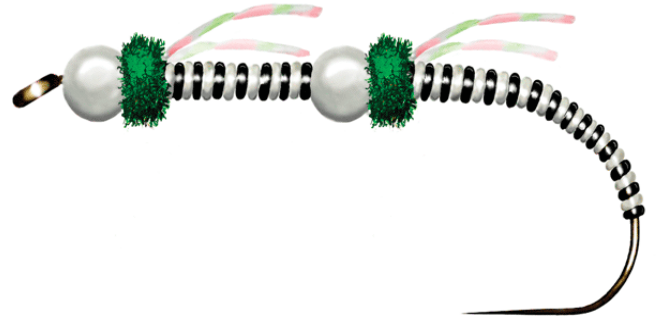
- Hook: Tiemco 2488 Midge style in sizes #18–22
Tiemco 5262 Nymph for Twin Midge # 18–22
- Bead: Glass Bead; color Quick Silver (or Mercury Bead), Silver Brass & Gold; extra small or 1.5mm. Beads are available at canadianllama.com
- Thread: Black or Primrose (pale yellow) 8/0 or clear 14/0
- Thorax: Peacock herl (optional)
- Body: Ultra wire small black & silver as shown (pink, red & green with black)
- Wing: Mirage Tinsel small opaque (rainbow) or Pearl Krystal Flash
- Finish: Sally Hanson's Hard as Nails (w-nylon) over body



Instructions for tying the Zebra Midge

- 1 Flatten the barb and slide the glass bead onto the hook all the way to the eye. Starting at the middle of the hook bend, attach the two strands of wire—without tying thread—just by winding it on. Continue winding the two strands of wire up the shank toward the bead and use the wire to force the bead against the hook eye. Be sure to keep the wire side by side and do not allow them to twist over one another. The body wants to be smooth with perfectly alternating wire colors. Remove the excess at both ends by holding the two strands against the hook bend with the thumb and forefinger of one hand, then wiggle the tag ends back and forth until they break. It's harder to do than using scissors but, you get a clean break that won't cut your thread and it's a lot easier on your scissors. Push the ends against the hook with the back of your fingernail or a piece of scrap plastic so that they don't stick out and apply finish to the body with head cement which will help keep the wire in place. Allow the finish to dry.
- 2 Now attach the thread immediately behind the bead. If you want to tie the fly with a thorax (my personal choice) wind back towards the bend only enough to allow room for the thorax. Cut off one strand of the wing material, fold it in half and tie it in behind the glass bead and trim it to length. If you don't want a thorax simply attach the thread immediately behind the bead, tie in the wing material as directed above and whip finish.
- 3 To complete the fly with a thorax, tie in one strand of peacock herl and wind two to four turns towards the bead, whip finish and the fly is finished.

Notes: If you want to tie the Twin Midge, start by tying a Zebra midge in the manner described above by sliding on the bead beginning the body at the midpoint of the hook shank. Complete the remainder of the fly per the instructions. Then, slide on a second bead and finish the second Zebra Midge from the middle of the hook bend just as described.



Bass: The Movie

So far, everyone I know who has seen it has said it's excellent. Here is some information from the filmmaker, Jamie Howard...

Bass: The Movie is a road trip through California in search of trophy bass.

Bass: The Movie follows fly anglers on the same boat with bass pros in SoCal and NorCal, and let's them compare skills and strategies, while also visiting world record holders in the fly and conventional world. The results are not only unexpected, but the teamwork was as well...

Viewers will see footage of record fish and gorgeous fisheries from helicopters, jeeps, boats and underwater. It is the largest production for bass fishing to date (it previewed on ESPN).

The film shows what's possible with a fly rod and how addictive big smart bass in clear waters and on the surface can be. It also shares the history of how the Florida strain bass got to California, and how its legendary Delta was formed.

Bass: The Movie can be found at www.HowardFilms.com

Bass: The Movie full-length trailers in SoCal and Norcal can be found at www.HowardFilms.com under "trailers".

Calendar of Events

December

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Scud
2	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: White Seabass Hatchery Tour in Carlsbad
3	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
5	Saturday	6:00 PM	Venison Stag Social Hour
		7:00 PM	Venison Stag Dinner
6	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: 1/4, TF, BB, TFD, 1/4D
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Hare's Ear
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
10	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
12	Saturday		Club Trip: White Seabass Hatchery Tour in Carlsbad
15	Tuesday	7:00 AM	Fly Tying: Pheasant Tail
17	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
20	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: 3/8, 5/8, DF, WF, 5 wt Combo
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Clouser
25	Friday		Merry Christmas!
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Crazy Charlie
30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower Owens

January

3	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: 3/8, TF, BB, SHD, 1/4D
4	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Woolly Bugger
7	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
8-10	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Muddler Minnow
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
14	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
17	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: 1/4, 5/8, DF, WF, 5 wt Combo
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Elk-Hair Caddis
21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
24	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond and Clubhouse Cleaning
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Adams
27	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower Owens
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be determined
31	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: Open, TF, BB, SHD

February

1	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
2	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Parachute Adams
4	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
5-7	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens
9	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Humpy
10	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
13	Saturday	9:00 AM	Southwestern Tournament: TF, BB, Open, 1/4, 1/4D & SHD
14	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast hosted by the Sunshine Committee:
		9:00 AM	Southwestern Tournament: DF, WF, 3/8, 5/8 & 5/8 Team
16	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Royal Wulff
18	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond: Spey Casting
20-21	Weekend	9:00 AM	Pasadena Show
21	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Casting Games: 1/4, 3/8, 5/8, TF, DF, BB
23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying: Second Session Begins
24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	On the River Clinic
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be determined
28	Sunday	8:00 AM	Pond and Clubhouse Cleaning

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Christmas Island 2010

Wake Up, Wake Up...no its not a dream, you are there, walking along the flats ankle deep in the blue Pacific, wind and sun at your back on a incoming tide. Your dream has come true; you are fly fishing for Bonefish and GTs on Christmas Island.

From the moment you first viewed Christmas Island, you dreamed of this—making your first cast to the silver ghost, watching the sudden rush to your fly after a couple of slow strips and then setting the hook. The sight of 125 or more yards of your backing screaming off your reel.

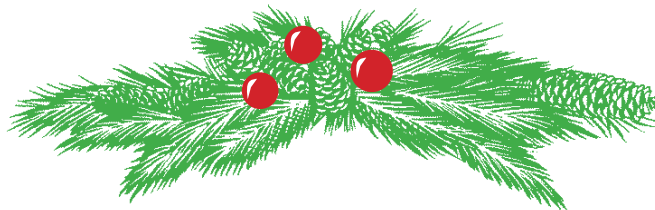


Join Sierra Pacific Fishing Adventures on a 7 day, 7 night package from June 27 to July 8, 2010 for a week of fishing for Bonefish and Trevally. We will arrive in Honolulu on June 27 and return to the mainland on July 8, 2010. All Meals, fishing license, applicable taxes and ground transportation, air transportation to and from Christmas Island are included. Not included is airfare to and from Honolulu, 2 nights lodging/meals in Honolulu and tips.

The trip will be limited to 8 people with the cost per person at **\$3290** per person double occupancy. A deposit of 50% is required upon booking.



SierraPacificFishingAdventures - 3901BraytonAve., LongBeach, CA90807 - (310)749-6771 - www.joelibeflyfishing.com



VENISON STAG RESERVATION

Saturday, December 5, 2009

❖ Social Hour: 6:00 PM

❖ Dinner: 7:00 PM

Reservations are due by November 19, 2009

Name: _____

I will attend the Venison Stag on Saturday, December 5, 2009

I will bring _____ adults. Total number _____ @ 18.00 = _____ Total Enclosed:

I will bring _____ children. Total number _____ @ 6.00 = _____ = _____



Yes, I would like to help!

Please call me at this telephone number

() _____ - _____ . (cut out and return by 11-19-09)

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