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Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

May 2010

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line ...

Your LBCC Bucket List

RICH GARRETT, PRESIDENT

Remember the movie THE BUCKET LIST? This is a movie Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson star in as two terminally ill cancer patients that decide to live the rest of their lives to the fullest. In doing so they each create their own "Bucket List" (a listing of all the things that they would like to do before they "Kick the Bucket").

After seeing the movie, Mary Lou, I and a couple of close friend thought it would be a great idea to compile our own "Bucket Lists". Although becoming President of Long Beach Casting Club was not exactly what I had considered as a candidate for my list, I very much appreciate the confidence and trust that the membership has extended to me.

In a way, being a member of LBCC has inspired the inclusion of numerous "Things to do" to the list. As participation in the activities of the club over the past 19 years has progressed, I have come to find that fly fishing destinations have become a predominate part of the list.

Going to the destination is the finalization of the item on the list; however it also adds numerous other items to the list that are prerequisites to the trip. For example, learning the casting skills for the area, the type of flies, presentation considerations, and at my stage in the hourglass of life, what physical conditioning needs to be done prior to the trip.

Another approach to the "Bucket List" could be to consider membership in LBCC as a separate and distinct Bucket. The club provides almost endless opportunities for things to do and learn as a member. Usually, the first step is learning to cast. Once the basics are learned, it can become a lifelong learning process all by itself. If this does not satisfy your quest for knowledge, there is the art of tying flies or building your own rod. Finally, we have source for building great friendships based upon a common interest and working together. Consider becoming active in the day to day operations of the club and your horizon will expand even further.

I think that if each of you would put together your own "Bucket List" you would be surprised at the role fly

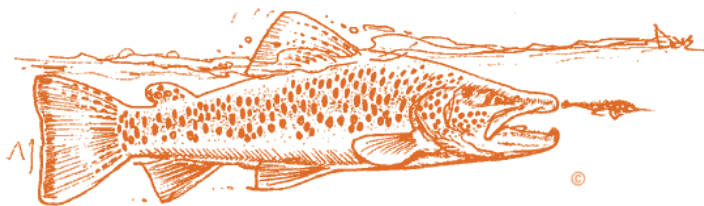
Leader's Line continues on page 2

Leader's Line continued from page 1

fishing contributes to your overall list.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve the club for the coming year and enhance my personal bucket.

Join the Bucket Brigade and I look forward to seeing more of you at the club this year.



Norman Rockwell at the Clubhouse

MICK WOODBURY, SENIOR DIRECTOR

Boy Scouts from Troop 14, Long Beach, touched many hearts during the four weeks we helped them work on their fly fishing merit badges. After a one-night introduction to fly fishing presented by Jeff Sadler, the troop visited the clubhouse for three consecutive Mondays spending one night each on casting, fishing knots and fly tying.

Thanks to leaders Joe Libeu, Dan Rivett and Mark Tsunawaki and a host of volunteers, every minute of the hour plus sessions was crammed with as much training as possible.

Always well mannered, the Scouts also proved to be classy with a special appreciation gift, a framed Norman Rockwell signed by each of the Scouts. Nicely done guys.

Special thanks, too, to club member Crain Haines, a scout merit badge counselor, who offered to be our liaison for future scouting activities.

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Dry Fly Fishing—Is There Anything More Enjoyable?

RICH GARRETT, PRESIDENT

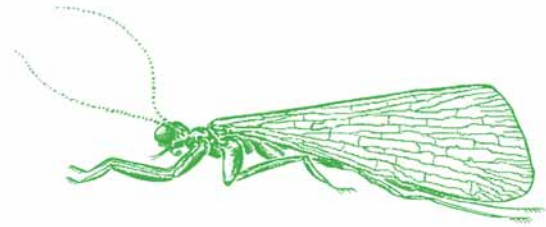
Well he's back – that would be Dennis Tsuyuki, with an updated program on everything you need to know about successful DRY FLY FISHING.

When I asked him what I should say about the content of his “New and Improved Program”, he said to tell you that it is a dry (no pun), boring, mundane and a senseless program that you should not bother wasting your time on. Knowing Dennis that means he will probably blow your socks off with the new presentation, but does not want to brag.

If you were fortunate enough to see his last presentation, you know he has a serious in depth knowledge of the art. He has spent many years on Hot Creek and other very challenging rivers and has learned from the masters while giving them valuable information of his own.

If you have been able to attend his half day workshops, you have seen the thoroughness of his command on the subject. For the May 27 meeting he will cover the spectrum from equipment and leader design, knots, casting techniques and drag free drift (so what is micro-drag ?)

There is a lot of valuable information to be obtained. I hope someone will be there to take notes for me, because on May 27 I will have the “Gone Fishin’” sign out .



AGM 2010: Short and Sweet

MICK WOODBURY, SENIOR DIRECTOR

The Annual General Meeting was well attended and brief, as promised.

Official business transactions:
2009 AGM minutes. Approved.

By-laws change whereby active veterans in the Project Healing Waters program can become members of LBCC at no cost. Approved (sweet).

Election of a new slate of officers for 2010/2011.
Approved.

Your new board is:

Rich Garrett,	President
Bill Boehlert,	1 st Vice President
Jim Thomason,	2 nd Vice President
Thea Lincoln	Corresponding Secretary
Frank Kropacek	Recording Secretary
Nani Blyleven	Membership Secretary
Joseph Gustaff	Treasurer
Danny Rivett	Captain
Mick Woodbury	Junior Director
Rick Hilles	Senior Director

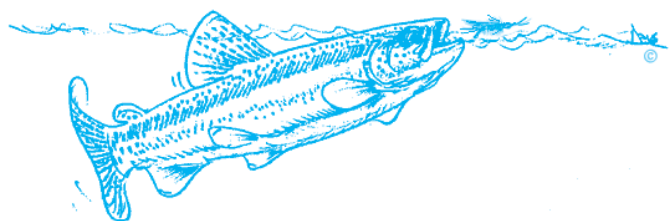
Congratulations Board members!

These are all fine, responsible individuals, well proven and capable. All but two are returnees from previous Board participation and those two are equally capable. The bench is deep; I can pass the torch with complete confidence.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

CAROLE KATZ, NATIONAL TRUSTEE

It has been a very busy year for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing both locally and nationally. We've grown to 87 programs in VA and military hospitals in 42 states. Fund-raising continues to be very strong from corporate sponsors and individual donors, up 82% more than last year, and the national staff now includes four full or part time employees.



Our ratio of program expenses as compared to administrative expenses is an admirable 81:19. Publicity is still very good, with shows on ESPN, CNN, Larry King Live, Fly Rod Chronicles and Fox News, as well as articles in major magazines.

Our local program has been in the spotlight also. The February 2010 issue of CALIFORNIA FLY FISHER had a story about Project Healing Waters programs in the state and featured the LBCC program. The March issue of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE had a six-page article about PHWFF including news from the Long Beach program. Of great significance, VANGUARD MAGAZINE, the official magazine of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, March/April issue, carried a story about PHWFF and our program.

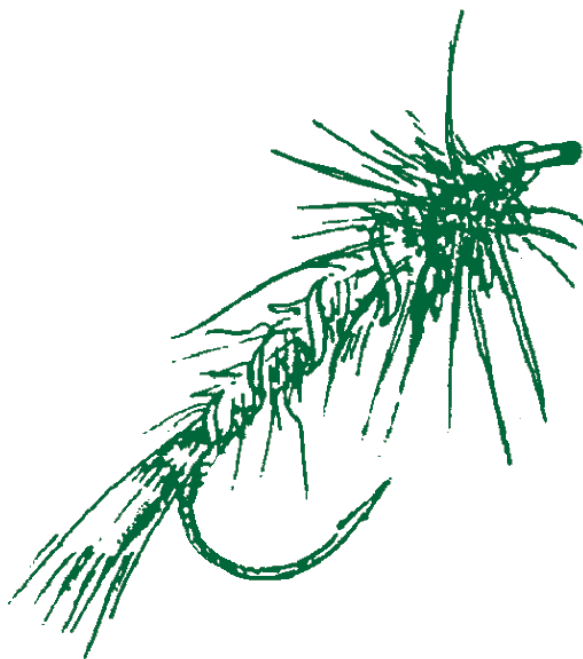
As we approach the third anniversary of the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing program at the Long Beach VAMC, it is appropriate to reflect on what we've done during the last year.

❖ In the last twelve months, volunteers from Long

Beach Casting Club have contributed 3200 hours, which equals \$63,712 dollars in labor value using the government's index for value of volunteer services.

- ❖ We worked with 24 disabled veterans. Some of them are helping to teach their colleagues.
- ❖ We taught two series of rod building classes, a series of fly tying classes, fly fishing basics, and several series of casting classes. Everything is provided to the vets at no cost.
- ❖ We went on two three-day trips to Bishop, in April and October, and several local day trips to the San Gabriel River and El Dorado Park.

We staffed a booth at the Bob Marriott Fly Fishing Fair and Pasadena Fly Fishing Show, and received the highest amount of donations ever. The vast majority of those who stopped to talk had already heard about PHW. Each day of the Pasadena Show, an active duty soldier came, they said, to look us in the eye, shake our hands, and thank us for what we are doing for the men and women of the armed forces.



Donations from the Pasadena Show have been earmarked for a trip to the Big Horn River in the



fall. Leaning Tree Lodge has donated four nights of accommodation and all meals for eight disabled veterans. This trip will be open to PHW participants from the Southwest Region, but half the slots will be reserved for those from the Long Beach VAMC. We are raising money to pay for airfare, guides and licenses for the eight, and have already received \$4300. If you would like to make a donation to help send these veterans on the fishing trip of their lives, you can give me a check payable to PHWFF, send a check to headquarters, or donate through the national website. Please make sure to mark on the memo line that the donation is for the Big Horn trip.

March 22 was the last day of rod building at the Long Beach VAMC for fourteen disabled veterans and rods have been sent for judging in the national rod building contest. Last spring, Long Beach participants won three of the top six awards, and I'm sure that this year the other 110 contestants will be gunning for us. Prizes are free trips to a choice of great fishing destinations.

We'll be practicing casting on Mondays for the next several weeks before we go fishing as guests of the owner of Jess Ranch and Hi-Desert Fly Fishers in Apple Valley. Afterward, we will start another series of tying classes. If you are available on Monday mornings and would like to help, please contact me at Katzhogan@cox.net.

This has been an extraordinary experience for those involved. Long Beach Casting Club's program remains at the forefront in the country, largely because of the selfless dedication of a core of remarkable volunteer instructors, and a great deal of support from the staff of the Long Beach VAMC.

Notes from the Pond

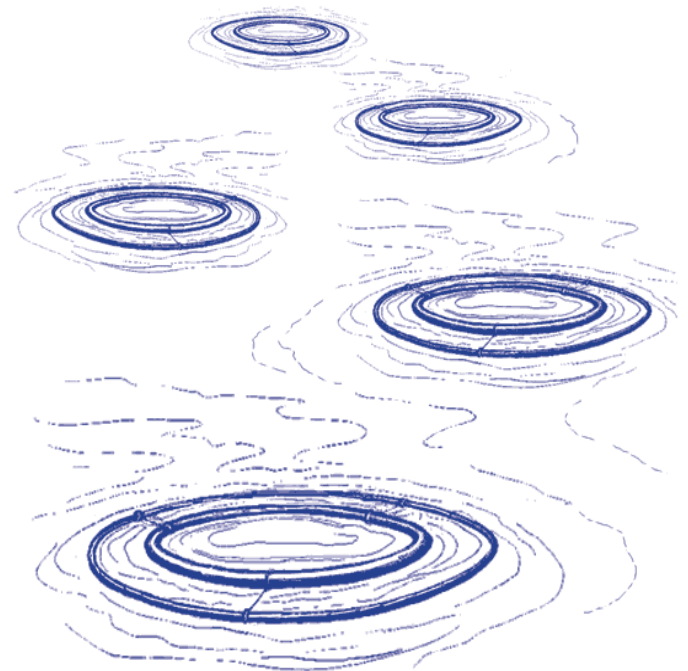
DAN RIVETT, CAPTAIN

The casting tournaments for 2009 & 2010 are over and by the time you read this the Awards & Installation Banquet will also be history. Casters that capture the top three places in the tournaments are awarded pins with different colors and symbols, which are passed out at the Banquet. If you would like some of your own come on out and participate.

This year's tournaments will begin in May with the Tuesday evening casts which will immediately follow our annual Beginning Casting Clinic. The start of the season is a great time to come out and get involved with accuracy and distance casting with both fly rods and plug rods. The casters, judges and scorekeepers will be happy to walk you through the rules.

I will have a recap sheet available for your use or you can access the American Casting Association website for the full rules text. Check the LBCC website for information on casting game dates.

See you at the pond.



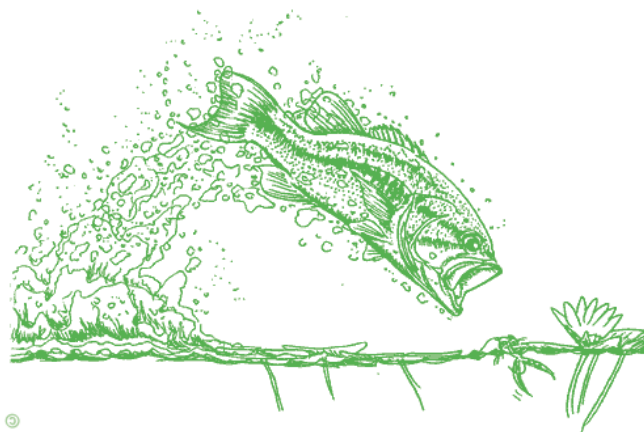
Tejon Ranch Bass & Bluegill

JIM THOMASON, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

The club outing this month will be a bass and bluegill adventure to Tejon Ranch. We'll be fishing their small, secluded 40 acre private lake located just over the Grapevine (not be confused with their large lake visible from I-5 at Tejon Pass). We'll have the lake to ourselves so no need to worry about getting run over by those big bass boats with the 200 hp motors or dodging Powerbait rigs shooting over your head like other Southern California lakes.

It's full of medium sized bass and large bluegill. While it can be fished from shore, it fishes best from out on the water and they allow float tubes, pontoon boats, kayaks, and canoes. If you've ever wanted to try bass fishing with a fly rod, this is a great place to start.

The outing will be on Saturday, May 22, 2010. We'll meet at the Subway at 7:00 AM just off the Laval Road East exit on Interstate 5 North near Lebec (approximately 2 hours from the club). The gas



out to the lake. Warning: don't completely fill your tube at home before the trip due to the elevation change going over the pass.

We may have a camping option Friday night so attend the pre-trip or contact me for details. If you have a spare float tube, please let me know in case there are any beginners that want to try stillwater fishing for the first time. Also, if you have a pop-up shade tent we can use, let me know.

The fee is \$35.00. Bring cash or a check made out to "The Tejon Ranch Co.". The lake has no facilities so bring your lunch, water, chair, etc. Carpooling is encouraged and I'll be compiling a list to assist you. We'll go over the basics of Bass/Bluegill fishing and equipment requirements at the Pre-trip Meeting on May 12 at 7:00 PM at the clubhouse.

I need to have some idea of how many people are going so if you're interested, please contact me at (626) 357-6050 (home) or email me at jathomason@mail.com to confirm or ask questions.



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Club Trips for 2010

BILL BOEHLERT, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

By the time this issue is out, Jeff Sadler's Green River extravaganza will be history. There are several great trips coming up, so be sure to mark your calendars.

Jim Thomason will be leading a bass trip to Tejon Ranch on May 15th. Salt water guru Joe Austin will be taking us to San Diego Bay in June, and the ever popular Brookie Bash will be in July once again.

Our new Second Vice President is Jim Thomason. He has great ideas for new trips this year. If you have suggestions or questions for him, drop him an e-mail at jathomason@mail.com.

DATE	TRIP & TRIP LEADER
May 12	Tejon Ranch Pre-Trip
May 22	Tejon Ranch with Jim Thomason
Jun. 2	San Diego Bay Pre-Trip
Jun. 12-13	San Diego Bay with Joe Austin
Jun. 30	Brookie Bash Pre-Trip
Jul. 9-11	Brookie Bash with Jeff Sadler
Aug.	to be announced
Sept. 1	Yards & Inches Pre-Trip
Sept. 11	Yards & Inches with Mick Woodbury

The fish are calling. Come join us!



2010 Outings Planning Session

JIM THOMASON, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

As your new 2nd Vice President I'll be in charge of arranging club outings and I need your help. I've been busy collecting ideas from anyone willing to offer them about where they want to go and what they want to fish for. Before I finalize the calendar for the rest of the year, I'd like to hear from the rest of you. I'll be having an outings planning session Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 PM at the clubhouse. If you want to have some input not only on where we go but when we go, please attend. If you can't make the meeting, please call or email me with your suggestions.

I would also like to form a contact list of float tube/pontoon/kayak fishers and schedule regular informal outings (freshwater and saltwater, moving and still). If you would like to be on the list, please contact me.

I can be reached at (626) 357-6050 or jathomason@mail.com.

Fly of the Month: Bead-Head Bird's Nest

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

If you are like me you are always looking for a pattern that is quick to tie and also very effective. Cal Bird's Nest fits nicely into this category. It has been around 30 years or more now and, like a lot of Cal's patterns, it seems to get more popular as time goes on.

This fly's effectiveness is probably the result of it being quite generic in shape and materials. When tied with a shaggy and spiky body it has a lifelike and buggy quality that seems irresistible to fish. It is suggestive of mayfly, dragonfly, damselfly and stone fly nymphs depending upon the size or color that you tie it in. It is also a very popular steelhead pattern on the American, Klamath and Trinity Rivers just to name a few.

The fly materials listed are the originals as best as I can determine. I have added the bead head, which I prefer, to a leaded body as I think it fishes better. Do not hesitate to change colors or materials to fit your needs. If you do not have any Australian opossum then a hare's mask will work very nicely and the same can be said for the wood duck vs. dyed mallard or even partridge.

I think you will find the Bead Head Bird's Nest a great addition to your fly box. It is a versatile pattern, easy to tie and tough on fish.

Materials for tying the Bead Head Bird's Nest:

- Hook: Standard nymph hook similar to Mustad 3906B in sizes 16 to 6
- Head: Gold metal bead in a size to match with the hook
- Thread: Tan or brown 6/0 or 8/0
- Tail: Wood duck flank or dyed mallard flank to match
- Body: Australian opossum with guard hairs or hare's mask
- Ribbing: Copper wire
- Hackle: Wood duck flank or dyed mallard flank to match
- Thorax: Australian opossum with guard hairs or hare's mask.



Instructions for tying the Bead Head Bird's Nest:

- 1 Flatten the barb on the hook and slip the bead onto the hook and slide it forward to the head. Attach the thread to the hook just behind the bead create a small jam to anchor the bead and wind smoothly back to the bend. Remove 3 to 8 fibers from a wood duck flank feather and tie them in and binding the butts down along the length of the shank. The number of fibers depends on the size of the hook and they should be the length of the shank or a little less. Attach a length of copper wire at the point where the tail is tied in.
- 2 Remove the dubbing from the hide being sure to include the guard hairs and apply it to your tying thread. Wind the dubbing forward forming a body that is a little thicker than normal. The body should end leaving a small space between it and the bead head. Wind the copper wire forward in the reverse direction of the body about 4 to 6 turns and tie off.
- 3 Remove 12 to 20 fibers from your wood duck flank feather and carefully wrap them around the shank with your winding hand. They should be a little shorter than the body. Switch hands so that you are now holding the hackle with your off hand and bind them down using the loose loop method anchor them securely.
- 4 Apply a small amount of dubbing to your thread and wind a couple of turns forward the remaining distance to the bead thus forming the thorax. Whip finish and apply a small amount of thin head cement to the wraps.
- 5 Using your dubbing needle, pick out the body and the thorax creating the buggy, spiky look to your fly that makes it fish so well.



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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.



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Welcome Our New Members

MARK A. TSUNAWAKI,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY 2009-2010

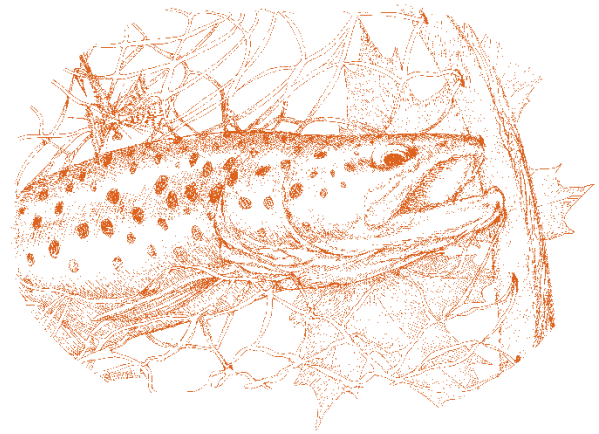
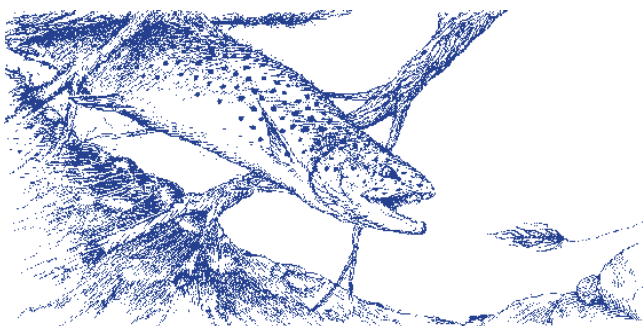
The Board of Directors unanimously accepted the following applications for membership:

- ❖ Ted Gates of Seal Beach, CA
- ❖ Cecil O'Dell of Long Beach, CA
- ❖ Mitch Rickerd of Cypress, CA,
- ❖ Tom Sakai of Irvine, CA
- ❖ Larry Wood of Las Vegas, NV

Please greet and welcome all our new members at LBCC functions. Encourage them to volunteer with many of our activities throughout the year. 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 officially inducted by the Sunshine Committee (Joe Libeu, Jeff Sadler, Mark Tsunawaki, and Dan Rivett).

As of the printing of this Target Talk, if you have not renewed your membership for the 2010-2011 year, you are no longer an active member and will have to re-apply as "NEW MEMBERS".

If anyone has membership questions please read the Bylaws in your Roster, then you can call (or not) Mark Tsunawaki at 714-580-4517 or email at mtsunawaki@yahoo.com.



Calling All Pictures...

NANI BLYLEVEN,
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Well, maybe not all pictures, but how about LBCC club or member related photos you may have snapped so far this year, or will take by the end of the year? The idea is to put together a slide show of our members and others enjoying any aspect of the casting club or fishing. Another idea is to put together photo albums of different events such as classes, tournaments, or other gatherings. The photo album idea will require volunteers who are more creative than I (me being one who is satisfied arranging photos in shoeboxes, if I ever get around to developing or printing them).

So, please send me your photos by either mailing them to our P.O. Box to my attention, by leaving them at the clubhouse, or by email (nablyle@aol.com) along with your contact info. If you have pre-2010 pictures you want to send in, please do so!

And as long as I am asking, if you or someone you know is handy with photo albums, individual album page making, or has computer skills with slide shows, let me know. You can help as little or as much as you like, the more the merrier!

Calendar of Events

May

3	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
4	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Clinic: 4th Night on the Pond
5	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fort Tejon Pre-Trip Meeting
6	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
11	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Clinic: 5th Night on the Pond
13	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
15	Saturday	7:00 AM	Fort Tejon Bass & Bluegill Fishing with Jim Thomason
18	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
20	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
25	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
27	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Dennis Tsuyuki on Dry Fly Fishing

June

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
2	Wednesday	7:00 PM	San Diego Pre-Trip Meeting
3	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
12-13	Weekend		San Diego Bay Trip with Joe Austin
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
18	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
24	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be determined
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Brookie Bash Pre-Trip Meeting

July

1	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
5	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
7	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Casting Instructor's Clinic
8	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
9-11	Weekend		Brookie Bash with Jeff Sadler
13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
14	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Green River Pre-Trip Meeting
15	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night at the Pond
27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Casting Games
29	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be determined



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