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Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

November 2011

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line ...

Time to Count our Blessings

BILL BOEHLERT, PRESIDENT

At times during the year it is altogether too easy to get caught up in squabbles, pettiness and politics. Criticism and complaints can darken the mood and sour the soul. But now, autumn is upon us, and quite soon we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. This is a particularly good time to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for (pardon the bad grammar).

I am absolutely thankful for the LBCC. I have learned so much and had so many great experiences that would not have occurred without the club. It has been instrumental in making fly fishing my favorite activity. Between the trips, the fly tying lessons, the casting lessons, the breakfast casts, the great friendships, the dinners, the rod building, and so much more, LBCC is becoming a home away from home. Being an old retired guy, the club gives me an excellent way to fill up my time in between trips.

I am deeply grateful for the people who make all these activities possible and so enjoyable. Thanks go to all the board members who spend a great number of hours to complete their tasks (look at the job descriptions sometime for a better appreciation!). It is easy to assume that the club just runs itself, but nothing could be further from the truth. Between organizing the meetings, dreaming up interesting trips, paying bills, setting up banquets like the Venison Stag (also coming soon!), booking interesting speakers, preparing for club casts, maintaining a solvent treasury, and keeping track of

the membership, the tasks are endless.

Long Beach is also blessed with active participation of so many talented former presidents, who keep the current Board on its toes and maintain so many club traditions. Most of them also head up many of the club's committees and direct many of its trips. Without their expertise and help, the club would be unable to provide its current broad range of activities.

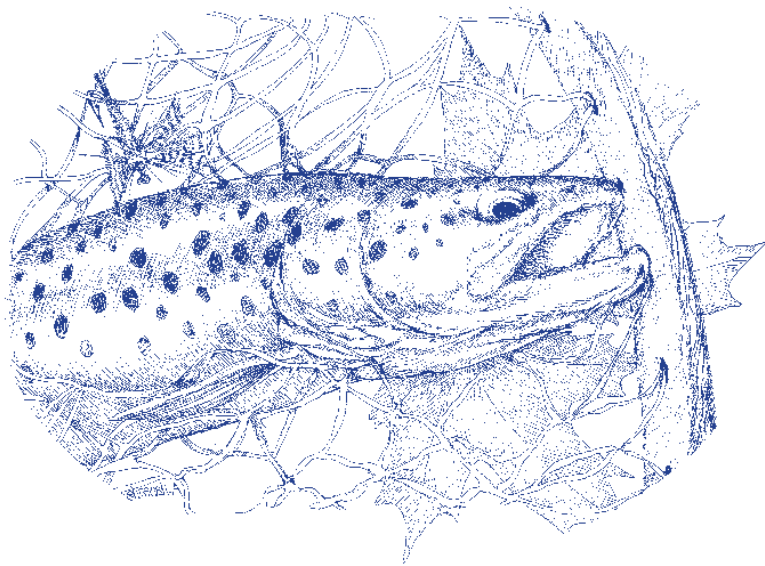
Speaking of committees, I am thankful for the members who volunteer for these jobs. All of them require a lot of effort and time. Whether it be the audio visual, building maintenance, fly tying, the endowment fund, the website, the newsletter or the twenty-two other committees, the committee chairs do a superb job of keeping our club activities alive, varied, and professional.

We should also be grateful to all the members who

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bring new ideas to the club. Jim Thomason brought our meetings into the 21st century with Powerpoint. He also pioneered the monthly flotilla trips for tubers, kayakers, and pontooners. Furthermore, the noon group has been opening the clubhouse for several hours each weekday, providing tips and lessons in fly-tying, casting, two-handed casting, as well as occasional meals and constant repartee (thanks, George!). This has brought a whole new dimension to the club's offerings, and has enticed several people to join our club.



I appreciate the exceptional altruism of the membership. Carole Katz and the volunteers who put so much time into Project Healing Waters have brought new hope to many disabled veterans, as well as great accolades and recognition to the club. Chuck Moore and the others who toil on the East Fork of the San Gabriel each month fulfill our club's commitment to conservation. Their hard work helps preserve one of the rare pieces of wilderness in the LA area.

So despite the shortening days (fewer hours for fishing), colder temperatures (more layers under those waders), and the constant hustle and bustle of the season, don't lose sight of our incredible luck. We participate in fly fishing, one of the world's greatest pastimes, and we belong to one of the foremost organizations dedicated to that sport.

See you at the pond.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

BILL BOEHLERT
(714) 374-6491

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

JIM THOMASON
(626) 357-6050

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

EDDIE MADRID
(562) 537-9618

RECORDING SECRETARY

JOSEPH AUSTIN
(310) 325-0925

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

HOWARD ULLER
(310) 548-6408

CAPTAIN

JEFF GROSS
(562) 496-2435

TREASURER

JOSEPH GUSTAFF
(562) 405-2924

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

NANI BLYLEVEN
(714) 345-4654

SENIOR DIRECTOR

MICK WOODBURY
(714) 840-5649

JUNIOR DIRECTOR

RICH GARRETT
(562) 422-9696

TARGET TALK EDITOR

JOHN VAN DERHOOF
(562) 424-7313

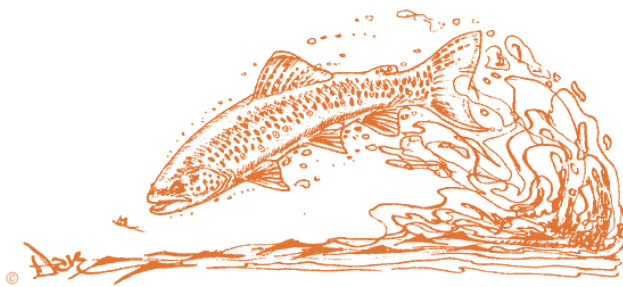
The Kern River with Guy Jeans

JIM THOMASON, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

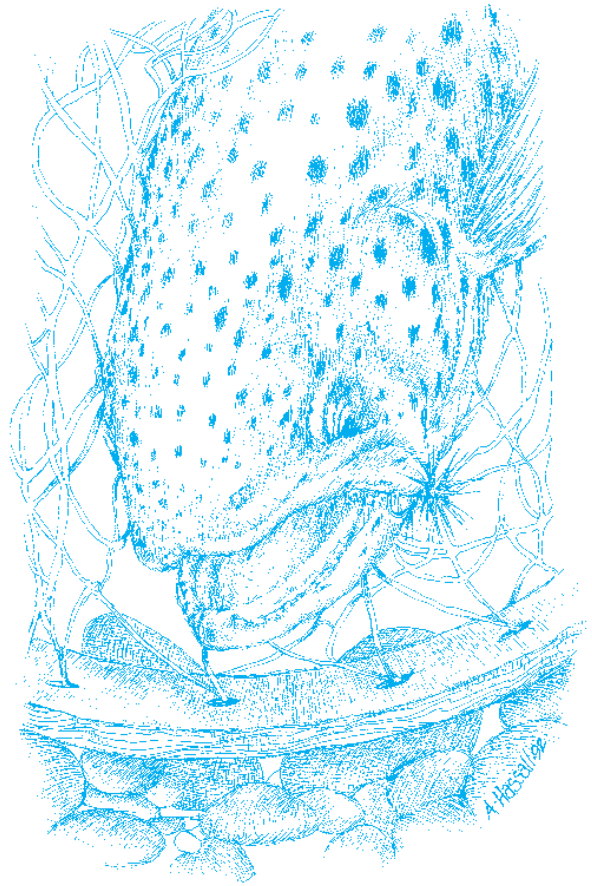
The Kern River is the club's closest big water. It's a very diverse river covering everything from remote backcountry fishing for Kern River Rainbows and Little Kern Goldens to miles of roadside pull-outs fishing for both wild and stocked rainbows (with occasional browns and salmon being caught as well) and even smallmouth bass in the lower sections. It even has a 4-mile catch and release section.

However, the river has a reputation for being difficult to fish. Our speaker this month would like to dispel that rumor and give you the information you need to make your next trip there successful.

Guy Jeans will be our guest speaker this month and he will be discussing how to fish the Kern River. Guy is the owner/guide/instructor of The Kern River Fly Shop. He is a FFF Certified Casting Instructor, has over 30 years of angling experience and has been fly fishing the Kern River for over 25 years. He guides over 250 days a year all over the Southern Sierra, Sequoia National Forest, Golden Trout Wilderness, Domeland Wilderness, and Southern Sierra Wilderness.



Guy has fly fished all over the US and Canada and loves to catch all species of fish on a fly. He is also host of the critically acclaimed show and DVD "Sierra Fly Fishing" and writes articles about fly fishing for magazines and newspapers throughout the west. He is also a contract



fly designer for Solitude Fly Company and his Kern Emerger pattern is used and sold internationally.

Guy will focus primarily on the 20 mile Upper Kern section above Lake Isabella with a brief explanation of the other opportunities available to those looking to hike or pack. He will detail the best times of the year to fish there and the various methods to deploy based on water flow and conditions. If you've stayed away from the Kern River due to stories of unsuccessful fishing (yours or someone else's) come find out how to make your time there more productive. It's a wonderful fishery and once you know when, where, and how to fish it you just might find yourself heading up to the West Side a little more often.

The meeting is Thursday, November 17th at 7:00 PM at the Long Beach Casting Club Clubhouse.

NOTE: the meeting is one week earlier than normal due to Thanksgiving.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

CAROLE KATZ, PHW NATIONAL TRUSTEE

Much has been happening in the PHWFF program in Long Beach! We've had classes on tying, casting, lanyard making, fishing knots, and nymph rigs, and we've had some pretty interesting fishing trips.

Twelve disabled veterans from the Long Beach VAMC and the Sepulveda Vet Center traveled to Ft. Smith, Montana, for three days of fishing in September. The ten men and two women stayed at the Leaning Tree Lodge and the Anglers' Roost. After arriving on September 13, pairs of veterans fished with a guide each day.

Two benefactors donated two Sage rods that were to be awarded to the veterans who caught the largest fish. Karl, who caught a 21 inch trout, and Frank, whose fish was 20 inches, had big smiles during the presentation. Both are relative newcomers to fly fishing and will surely enjoy their fine rods.

Outfitter Mark Stroda and Chef Rachel Stroda did a fine job in organizing the guides and preparing all the food. Rachel cooked breakfast and lunch for the 12 vets, 2 volunteers, and 7 guides every day, and then dinner for all the vets, volunteers and guests each night. She does an amazing job of preparing so much good food with such delightful ambiance.

It would be hard to surpass the Big Horn in terms of consistent fishing practically year round, and its exceptional guides. That, coupled with the generosity of Montana Fly Fishers and the Big Horn Trout Shop, makes for a truly memorable experience. Thank you to everyone who made this happen.

Film producers Steve and Russ Hasty spent two days with us filming for their upcoming documentary about PHWFF. On September 28, they filmed fly tying classes

at the clubhouse, followed by some casting practice on the pond. They also interviewed all the veterans and volunteers, as well as two administrators from the VAMC. On the 29th, we all went to the San Gabriel, where Chuck Moore escorted us to the West Fork for a day of fishing. Steve and Russ filmed every vet, did some more interviews, and were really surprised by the beautiful river so close to LA. There are a number of videos by Steve on YouTube if you'd like to see the work he's done about PHWFF to date.

One of the veterans in our program just returned from a trip to the Blue Valley Ranch in Colorado, owned by Paul Jones (of Dow Jones) and known for its trout in the 30 inch range. This trip was a prize for the rod he entered into competition this year. Check out the picture of Jesse with his big fish.



Another one of our vets was selected to go to the Flint Rainbow Club in Michigan mid-October. The club, which was started by the wealthy generation that formed General Motors and other corporations in Flint, owns about three-quarters of a mile of the legendary Pierre Marquette River frontage. The clubhouse dates to the 19th century and was an officers' barracks at Fort Custer during World War I. The building was disassembled and moved by railroad to the bluff after the first clubhouse burned down in 1920. These are just two of the exciting trips to great fishing destinations that generous donors have made available to Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing.

Fish Gods Pay the Piper (Steve that is!)

MICK WOODBURY, PAST PRESIDENT

The Fleet was on full alert for the 4th Annual Yards & Inches Tournament. Fifteen anglers in kayaks, pontoons, canoes and small boats covered the waters of Huntington Harbour searching for inches. It was picture-perfect, the first calm and clear sunrise in over a week with little boat traffic and a 6-foot tide that would be incoming the entire morning.

One of those anglers was Steve Piper. Up at 3:00 AM to drive from San Diego, he met up with Carl Laski and the pair fished together. Steve's first catch was at 6:47, just minutes after sunrise, and by 9:00 he had already logged 98 inches, just 13 inches shy of Kevin Green's 111-inch record the year before. It looked to be a record-setting day. Steve already had half a dozen calico and spotted bay bass in the log book and there were still three more hours to fish.

FISHING IN A RED STATE

As the clock ticked forward, things changed. It not only turned worse—it turned red. The rising current brought an inflow of red tide as the toxic microscopic plankton poured in under the bridge, completely shutting down what started as a healthy bite.

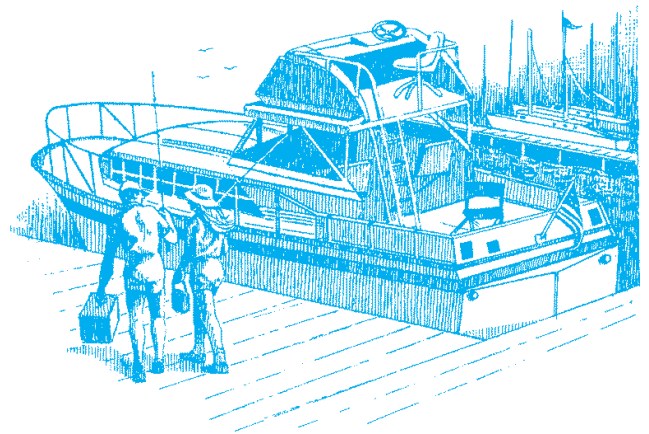
Those who were on the board early managed to save face. If you were late, there was no catching up. Fishing was finished. But in total 300-inches of fish were logged in. That's twenty-five linear feet! And it happened in no more than three hours. Kevin turned in another good performance with 42-inches for second place and new to the salt, Gary Runnells caught a respectable 41 inches for third.

Steve was gracious in sharing what was working. His Liberace Clouser was the go-to fly, with a few

caught on the Surf Worm. (See www.fliflicker.com for the recipes.)

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

By noon, the fleet had retuned to the launch area and drowned their sorrows about the shortened day with Mick Woodbury's Y&I posole and cold beer. A surprise addition to the feast was Carl Laski's tasty quesadillas cooked fresh to order. A pretty good day after all!



Notes from the Pond

JEFF GROSS, CAPTAIN

Hello Campers. I would like to thank the following members for their help in cleaning the pond; Andy Stillittano, John Jones, Eddie Madrid, Jerry "Fly Boy" Phan, John "Pass The Bleach" Lincoln, Gil Alonzo, Rodney "Hoseman" Pabst, Carl "El Guapo" Laski and Bill "I'll Be Fish'n" Boehlert.

Sunday morning breakfast/casting continues with breakfast at 8:00 AM and casting at 9:00 AM. Come on down to the club for some grub and a cuppa joe. Then get a line wet & sharpen your casting skills.

See you at the pond!

The California Coho (Silver) Salmon are on the Edge of Extinction

DALE DAY, MEMBER

Population estimates range from 500-3000 in all natal streams in California. The Scott and Shasta, tributaries of the Klamath River, and Lagunita Creek, a stream north of San Francisco hold the last of their species.

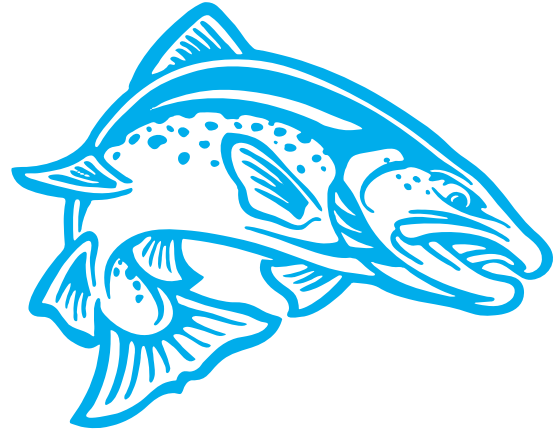
These depressed numbers may require a captive breeding program. This is dependent on a sufficient number of returning spawning pairs to propagate the species.

The Coho are born in the headwaters and migrate down river to the Pacific Ocean and then as adults return in a three year cycle to spawn. Their migration instinct drives them to ascend into streams in search of the perfect habitat of spawning gravel, and water quality.

Why are the Coho Salmon so important? It's a basic symbiotic relationship; the river cannot survive without the forest and the forest cannot survive without the salmon. Pacific Salmon do not feed after they enter fresh water and die after they spawn. Their carcasses are an essential nutritional source for all the flora and fauna in the riparian zone.



This is the same reason while all five of the Pacific



salmon species are so essential to the Alaskan ecology and environment. Without the salmon there would be few if any larger tree and plant species, no reason for bears to be there, little for the trout, char and grayling to feed on. Without the salmon there would be little need or desire for sportsmen to go to Alaska—few trout, few char, few bears, few moose, minimal riparian forests—just tundra...

A concerned human population is the coho's greatest hope, says National Marine Fisheries Biologist Charlotte Ambrose. "In Marin County you have a community of people who care. We need that across the range. The time is now to find hope, and find out what actions need to be taken."

NMF (National Marine Fisheries) is releasing a much-awaited Salmon Recovery Plan..., with the priority to "increase the probability of survival for every individual," says Ambrose. "For instance, we're asking, 'What can we do for the fish at each life stage? What can we do for adults? What can we do to decrease the likelihood of incidental catch by steelhead fishermen? What are the needs of the fish at each stage of life? What does increasing water release do for each age group?'"

The real story, she says, "is as the population decreases, you have a decreased ability of the individual to survive the pressures of the environment, both natural and human. Fewer survive to spawn, and the decline feeds on itself. The coho are in an extinction vortex."

Club Trips For 2011

EDDIE MADRID, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

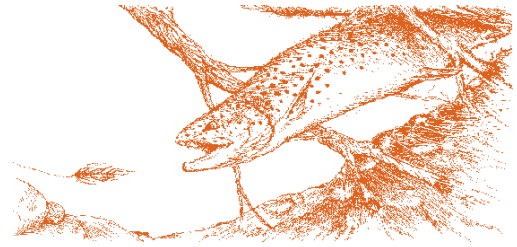
The November outing will be a weekend trip to Deep Creek in the San Bernardino mountains hosted by Paul Burgner.

PRE-TRIP ACTIVITIES:

Trip leaders; please make an effort to identify 2 to 3 flies that would be useful for the trip. In additions consider having a fly tying session on Thursday after the Pre-trip meeting.

If you would like to host any other future outing, please contact Eddie at 562-537-9618 or netboy3@verizon.net

Trip locations and dates are subject to change. Please monitor Target Talk for the latest information. Pre-Trip Meetings held at the clubhouse at 7:00 PM.



2011 TRIPS

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
November 5-6	Deep Creek, with Paul Burgner (Pre-trip Oct. 26)
December 10	Irvine Lake, with Eddie Madrid (Pre-trip Nov. 30)
January 14-15	Owens River, with Dan Rivett (Pre-trip Jan. 4)
February 11-12	Owens River, with Yash Iseda (Pre-trip Feb. 1)
March 10-11	Owens River, with John Lincoln (Pre-trip Feb. 29)
April (TBD)	Green River, with Jeff Sadler (Pre-trip TBD)

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Fly of the Month: Sar-Mul-Mac

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

This month's fly is Dan Blanton's famous Sar-Mul-Mac. The name Sar-Mul-Mac stands for "Sardine-Mullet-Mackerel" and by changing the colors you can faithfully imitate not only the bait fish for which it is named but any other bait fish in the sea. It is primarily used in deeper water applications and particularly near structure. But, if you want something new to toss at all of those surf species then this pattern has worked for me on several occasions. This a classic, and old saltwater pattern that still works well today

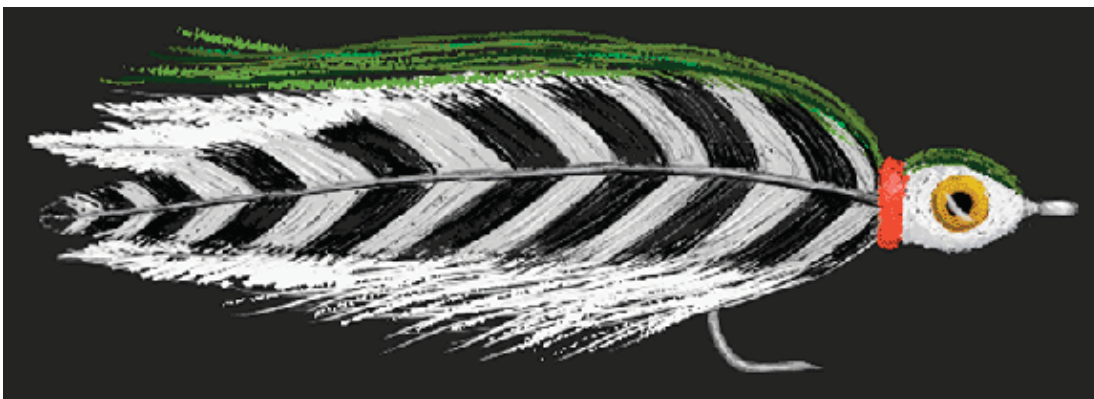
The Sar-Mul-Mac and the Whistler, also by Dan Blanton, are renowned in San Francisco Bay for striped bass. The original fly utilized glass taxidermist's eyes and these add weight that helps the fly to sink quickly through heavy tides, currents and the surf as well as imparting an enticing action on the retrieve.

The original pattern uses only the white saddles for the tail to imitate a sardine. The version shown here is the mullet imitation and by using yellow or yellow dyed grizzly saddles you will produce the mackerel version. If you want to fish it in the surf start using by tying the pattern with fewer saddle feathers for the overwing. I have found that two grizzly saddles on the inside with one white saddle one each side over the grizzly works well. I also keep tie the fly from about two to four inches in length.

I have used this pattern for years all over the salt. In the surf locally and offshore for bonito. In Mexico for dorado, yellowtail, cabrilla and some school sized tuna. On Christmas Island I have cast this off some of the drop-offs in the lagoon and hooked trevally, small grouper and dozens different types of snappers.

MATERIALS FOR TYING THE SAR-MUL-MAC:

- HOOK:** Stainless steel or cad-plated saltwater style in sizes 4 through 4/0
- THREAD:** White monocord or Flymaster Plus
- UNDERWING:** White bucktail or synthetic hair (FisHair)
- OVERWING:** 6 to 10 white saddles with 1 grizzly saddle on each side of the white saddles and with 4 to 8 strands of pearl or silver Krystal Flash per side between the white and grizzly saddles
- TOPPING:** 6 to 12 strands of dark blue bucktail or synthetic hair with 8 to 15 strands of peacock herl over the top
- EYES:** Amber or clear taxidermists glass eyes
- COLLAR:** Red chenille (for the gills) and medium white chenille



INSTRUCTIONS FOR TYING THE SAR-MUL-MAC:

1. Attach the thread to the hook at the head space and wind back to the mid-point of the shank. Tie in the white hair underwing (about two dozen strands depending on the size of the fly) at this point on the underside of the hook.
2. On the top side of the hook, tie in the white saddles sandwiched between the grizzly saddles. Tie the white saddles in with the concave sides facing each other and the grizzly saddles with concave side out. Tie in the Krystal Flash along both sides of the hook between the white and the grizzly saddles. It is actually easier to tie it in after the saddle feathers and then pull it down between the white and grizzly saddle feathers.
3. Tie in the dark blue hair on top of the saddles and tie in the peacock herl on top of this but do not trim the butt ends of the peacock herl.
4. Tie in the red chenille and wind 2 turns to simulate the gills.
5. Tie in the glass eyes by first bending their attachment wires at right angles about 1/8" down from the eye. Remove the remaining wire at a point about 1/8" down from the bend by bending the wire back and forth until it breaks. This will make a smooth edge that won't cut your thread. Tie the eyes down to the hook by wrapping over the wires at the right angle bend. Place a piece of 40# or 50# monofilament in the space between the two eyes and wind thread over the mono and the wire stems of the eyes.

If you wish to fish this pattern in shallow conditions it is suggested that you use glue on doll eyes to cut down on the weight. If you want to make the fly heavier, position the eye about 1/16" from the shank and then smoothly wrap the wire around the hook. Repeat this with the second eye. You may need pliers to accomplish this if the attachment wire is not soft enough to do this with your fingers.
6. Tie in the white chenille next to the red chenille and wind the white chenille down to and around

the eyes continuing on to the head space and tie it off. Pull the butts of the peacock herl forward over the top of the chenille and tie down. Form a smooth, small head, whip finish and apply the head cement.



Kern River Trip Report

EDDIE MADRID, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

We had a good turn out for this trip, with the following attending: Craig Bond, Tony Haffner, John Lincoln, Eddie Madrid, Evan Morgan, Rob Peterson, Julie Peterson, Gary Runnels Sr., Gary Runnels Jr., Jim Thomason, Howard Uller and his son, and Chris Visconti.

Howard Uller and son used the services of Guy Jeans (owner of The Kern River Fly Shop) on Friday and both had good fishing experience and spend quality time together. Eddie and Evan hiked into the wild trout sections above the Johnsondale Bridge on Friday and got a good work out with only one fish between them. Jim and Craig were successful using nymphing technique during the weekend. I received positive reports from the rest of the crew.

On Saturday evening 12 of us had dinner at the Pizza Barn in Kernville, shared fish stories and complained about the 90 plus degree weather. Despite the heat everyone had a great time so don't miss out on our next trip.

Calendar of Events

November

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 1 st Night
3	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
5-6	Weekend		Club Trip: Deep Creek with Paul Burgner
6	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Club Cast
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 2 nd Night
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
10	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 3 rd Night
17	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Guy Jeans on the Kern River
19	Saturday	9:00 AM	Club rented by SWC FFF
20	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Captain's Handicap
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 4 th Night
25	Thursday		Happy Thanksgiving
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 5 th Night
30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Irvine lake

December

1	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity/Spey Night at the Pond
3	Saturday	6:00 PM	Venison Stag
4	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Club Cast
5	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 6 th Night
8	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity/Spey Night at the Pond
10	Saturday	7:30 AM	Club Trip: Irvine Lake
13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 7 th Night
14	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
15	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
18	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Club Cast
20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 8 th Night
22	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
25	Sunday		Merry Christmas
27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 9 th Night
29	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond

January 2012

2	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
3	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 10 th Night
4	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower Owens #1 with Dan Rivett
5	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 11 th Night
11	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
12	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
14-15	Weekend		Club Trip: Lower Owens #1 with Dan Rivett
15	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Club Cast
17	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 12 th Night
19	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
22	Sunday	8:00 AM	Breakfast
		9:00 AM	Club Cast
24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 13 th Night
26	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be announced
28	Saturday	8:00 AM	SWC FFF Fly Buy
31	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: 14 th Night

Venison Stag Holiday Dinner

JIM THOMASON, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

The Venison Stag is almost here and it's time now to reserve your spot for this year's festivities. This is the club's biggest social event of the year. The date for this year's extravaganza is Saturday, December 3. Social hour will begin at 6:00 pm, with refreshments provided. Please note that since our clubhouse is on city property, no alcohol is permitted. The dinner will begin at 7:00 pm.

For new members, a little history is in order. The first Venison Stag was in 1941, and has been an annual event ever since. Originally members (who were often hunters as well as fishermen) would clean out their freezers and bring their game to share for the dinner. Sixty years ago, the menu included two deer, two antelope, a bear, half an elk, and half a moose—all barbecued on a spit. Since the membership was exclusively male, it was called a Stag. Those traditions are long gone, and now we dine on delicious prime rib with all the fixings cooked by our very own master chef John Lincoln.

An accurate head count is necessary to plan and

prepare the dinner. There is a reservation form below. The cost this year is \$20 per person if made by reservation or \$30 at the door. Of course, all members, family, and guests are welcome. Please send in your reservation as soon as possible.

For an event of this magnitude, we depend on the membership for help. Please volunteer to serve on one of the committees. We need people to clean the clubhouse, set up decorations, assist the chefs, and to do the final cleanup. You can contact me or sign up on the lists on the bulletin board in the clubhouse.

If you are able to help, please e-mail meatjathomason@mail.com or call me at 626-357-6050. For our new members, it is a great opportunity to get to know the membership and traditions of our great club. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar. Once again, it's Saturday, December 3.



VENISON STAG RESERVATION

Saturday, December 3, 2011 ❖ Social Hour: 6:00 PM ❖ Dinner: 7:00 PM

Reservations are due by November 18, 2011

Name: _____

I will attend the Venison Stag on Saturday, December 3, 2011

I will bring _____ adults. Total number _____ @ 20.00 = _____ 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 11-18-2011)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
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