

Highlights

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Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

September 2013

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line ...

It's Not Too Late!

JIM THOMASON, PRESIDENT

September marks the end of summer which means the kids will be heading back to school and the weather will start cooling down. This adds up to smaller crowds on our favorite rivers, lakes, and bays. It also means an increase in the activities at the club. Now that the summer lull is over, we have a host of things to do.

Our Tuesday night casts switch to Sundays starting on the 15th. Those of you that couldn't make it during the week will be able to enjoy leisurely casting all morning. Our special Tuesday sessions ("Danish" games, double-haul, single handed Spey) have proven so successful, we're looking into doing more. For those of you that have taken the beginner casting class or are ready to improve your skills, Larry Berg will be heading up our Intermediate casting class starting September 4th.

Our Rod Building class gets underway this month led by Al Ross with the Orientation night starting on Tuesday, September 3rd. While you can't always save money building your own rod (the more expensive the rod, the greater the savings), it is a great way to learn about rod construction and tailor your components and styling to your liking. The class provides equipment and instruction for free and you supply the material. If you're proficient at casting and know how to tie flies, this is a great next step and, of course, neither of those two skills is required however.

Our outing this month is a trip to the local surf of Huntington Beach on Saturday, September 7th. We have something nearby that most of the country does not have and that is very fishable beaches. It can be a little tough in the summer with all the beach goers unless you're out there very early but with the diminishing crowds of fall the chances of hooking a bystander are greatly reduced. If you've been wondering whether surf fishing is for you, this is a fun and inexpensive way to find out.

After taking a hiatus during the summer, the monthly Noontime lunches return this month Wednesday, September 18th. I haven't seen the menu yet but it's always scrumptious. It's a wonderful way to socialize with other members and catch up on the happenings. If you can't make the lunch but frequently have some free time during the day, consider coming out and casting. In addition to improving your skills, you can contribute to solving the world's problem at the same time.

Leader's Line continues on page 3

2013 Fly Fishing Faire Hosted by the FFF Southwest Council

Most fly-fishing shows are held in convention centers or hotels. When the clubs of the Southwest Council FFF planned their first Fly Fishing Faire, they took it to the very heart of California's fly fishing country: Mammoth Lakes. The Faire will be September 20–22 at Cerro Coso Community College and will feature programs, demonstrations and hands-on lessons by writer, photographer and champion fly-caster Brian O'Keefe.



Program highlights include:

- ❖ Switch it Up, a class on "switch" rods by Hutch Hutchison
- ❖ Improving casting distance, O'Keefe
- ❖ Introduction to Spey Rod Casting, John Van Derhoof
- ❖ Presentation and Accuracy, Steve Osterman
- ❖ Tying Woven Body Flies, Cheryl Moore
- ❖ Tying the Muddler Minnow, Steven Fernandez
- ❖ Extended Body Flies by Naomi Okamoto
- ❖ Learning to casting with either arm, Marshall Bissett
- ❖ Fly Fishing Hot Creek, Owens River, Lake Crowley, and the Walker River Basin and Wildlife photography.

Fly Fishing Faire admission is \$15 adult or \$20 per family; ages 16 years and younger are free. Select classes and seminars have additional registration fees. For on-line class and seminar schedules, class fees and lodging options and advance registration; club members should visit www.SWC-FFF.org/faire or phone (818) 200-1499.



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James Park & Fishing California Hidden Gems

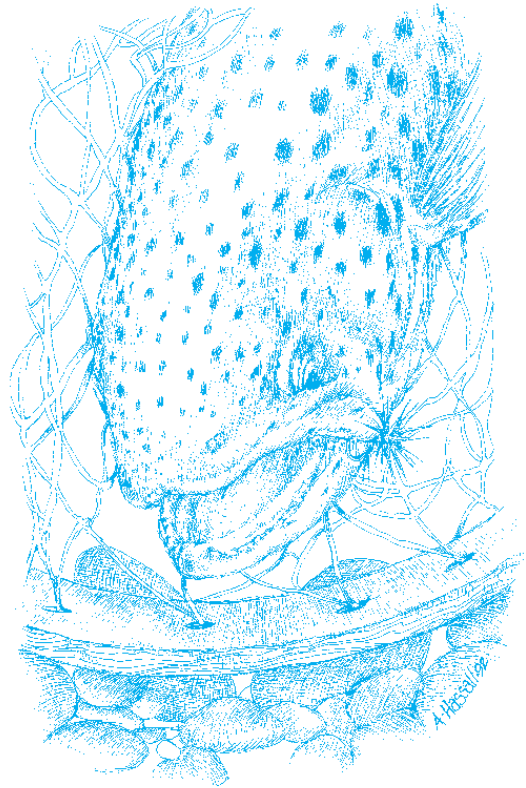
PABLO GRABIEL, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Our speaker for September is James Park of Leland Fly Fishing Outfitters and Red Truck Fly Rod Co.

James has fished and guided in Northern California for the last 5 years. As a reformed lure and bait fisherman, James first tasted fly fishing on the Little Truckee River. Since then he has been hooked and never looked back. Hailing from Southern California, James often comes back to visit but can't wait to return to some of his favorite Northern California spots.

He will be bringing to us his knowledge of steelhead fishing up north and share with us the hidden gems for trout. James will also share a few videos of the exciting action in California waters. If you are looking for new waters to fish, want to know what some of the proper techniques for northern streams work best, or just want to understand what seasons are most fruitful to fish, then by all means come and pay close attention to James on Thursday, September 26th.

As a representative for Leeland, James will be bringing along a selection of their rods and reels and will set up prior to the meeting so that members who are not familiar can try out some of their offerings on the pond. Keith Westra, another southern California native and co-worker with James will assist in the presentation and subsequent question and answer period.



It's Not too Late!

Leader's Line continued from page 1

Finally, the Southwest Council of the FFF is hosting the second annual Fly Fishing Faire in Mammoth Lakes from September 20–22. This is a great excuse for an outing to the Eastern Sierra's. They have a complete array of classes and workshops for all levels of fly fishers. Classes include beginning fly fishing, all kinds of casting, numerous fly tying options, entomology, photography, conservation, rod building, various fishing techniques, guides to local waters, and women's only courses. And of course, you can even do some fishing while you're up there.

The downside of September is that we're already 75% of the way thru the year. If your goals this year included learning to cast better, fishing more, or getting more involved in the club, and you haven't made much progress yet, now is a great time to start.

Intermediate Casting Class

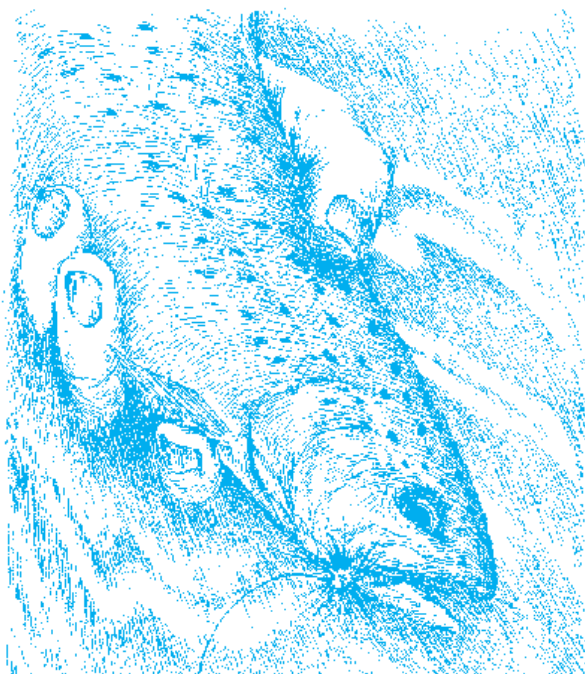
LARRY BERG, CLASS CHAIRMAN

This year's Intermediate Casting Clinic will begin on Wednesday, September 4, and will run for three consecutive Wednesday nights (September 4th, 11th, and 18th). The classes will start at 7:00 PM and wrap-up about 9:00 PM.

The clinic's theme this year will be "Put a haul on it," and the curriculum will include: controlling loop formation (tight loops to wide loops, as all loops have their place and time), exploring fishing and presentation casts (reach mends, aerial mends, slack line casts, curve casts, constant tension casts) and increasing line speed and distance (tight loops, single haul, double haul).

This class is intended for those who have taken the Beginning Casting Clinic and who want to take the next step to improve their casting and fishing skills... and have some fun in the process.

If you have any questions, please send an email to me at wlberg@cox.net or call me at 949-212-3620. If you are planning to attend, please click the following tinyurl link <http://tinyurl.com/int-casting> and complete the very simple form. Knowing how many of you want to participate will help me better meet your needs.



Club Trips for 2013

RIX & YUMI GANO, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Here are the Club Trips for the next couple of months. Join us!

2013 TRIPS:

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
Aug. 24	Yards & Inches at Huntington Harbour by Mick Woodbury (Pre-Trip on August 14)
Sep. 7	Surf Fishing by Kevin Green (Pre-Trip August 28)
Oct. 5	Redding by Pablo Grabiell (Pre-Trip September 25)

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.

Please contact us, Rix and Yumi Gano, if you have any questions at 310-291-3963 or rgano1@yahoo.com.

Brookie Bash XV

JEFF SADLER, PAST PRESIDENT

*Lions and tigers and bears, oh my!
Well bears anyway...*

Bob Buss was fishing in Weir Pond on South Fork Bishop Creek with one other fellow a ways away. All of the sudden the other guy yells: "GET OUT OF THE WATER." Bob was about to tell him to get lost when he looked up and not too far away was a huge black bear, in the water, with a trout (bigger than the ones Bob caught) in his mouth. Bob meekly backed to shore.

Mark Bonvouloir and Armando Palomares were trying for cutthroats on McLeod Lake when they decided to pick up their packs and head home. However, between them and their packs was a (purportedly) 400+ pound brown bear with a fish in-mouth. Oops. But before they started around the lake to out-fox the bear to their packs, the bruin retreated. All's well that ends well.

The Brookie Bash on Saturday ended not only well but better than usual because it didn't rain until we were driving home. The weather was absolutely perfect. Shorts and shirtsleeves were appropriate all day. The best part was because of the dry year there were no mosquitos. All of that is the good news. Not so good news is the fishing was problematic. The brookies weren't crazy but actually somewhat cautious. Also, there were a much higher percentage of rainbows and browns versus brooks versus prior years. But it was really fun to walk the mile or two up the canyon and run into 40 of your closest LBCC friends.

A lot of us consider this a hilarious social event interrupted occasionally by those irritating trout tugging on our lines.

A record 12 fishers achieved the High Sierra Slam of five species of trout on the trip. First timers included Marc Bonvouloir (caught all five on an Iron Blue



Dun), Rob Peterson, John and Thea Lincoln and Gary Runnels, Jr. who finally caught his nemesis, the rainbow. Repeat performances by Dan Rivett, Jim Fisher, Ernie Ertley, Steve Ludwig, Gary Runnels, Sr., Gary Charles and me. Maybe I'll expand the rules for six species as I saw a fellow catch a huge chub (formerly known as the politically incorrect squawfish) on Hot Creek.

Speaking of Hot Creek, Dan and I really were humbled. We fished it for three half-days and landed 5 fish between us. We are good and experienced on that creek but the trout laughed at us. Nobody else caught any either so it was the conditions: full moon, pressure front, extreme heat, no bugs, and low water (10 CFS).

We were making the Yash tradition of stopping on the way home for a chocolate shake at McDonald's in Mojave and as we were walking in John and Nicole Van Derhoof are walking out and John says: "We blew by you guys in Pearsonville." Hmmmm I say, with a little basic algebra we can see how fast they "blew by us." So, I Google-Map the distance and it's 58 miles and Dan had his cruise control set at 72 mph so it took us 48 minutes. Now if the Van Derhoofs jumped quickly into the restrooms and out for 5 minutes they did 58 miles in 43 minutes or 80 mph. If they stayed for a three course "Cheeseburger Royale", fries, soda and Strawberry swirl and it took 15 minutes they must have driven at exactly 100 mph. So, John Van Deredretti, exactly how long were you and Nicole in Mickey D's??? (For certain undisclosed remuneration for this missive will not be forwarded to the CHP)

Summer School Can Be Educational and Fun: Guide School on the Bighorn River

STEPHEN BEATON, MEMBER

I read an article several years ago about a fly fisher who frequently thought about the life of a fly fishing guide including the skills needed to become a good one, and decided to enroll in a guide school to find out. I kept the article and reread it several years later as I contemplated the wisdom of continuing to live and work as a litigation attorney in Southern California. Like the article's author, I eventually enrolled in a six-day guide school in contemplation of a career change and to improve my fishing and rowing skills. Several club members questioned me about the school following my enrollment, and I thought that a brief review of the class might be interesting to other club members as well.

PREPARATION

I initially researched the various guide schools in Southwest Montana and ultimately enrolled in Sweetwater Travel's because of my schedule, the article, a recommendation from the principal of Backcountry Angler in Dillon, Montana and Sweetwater appeared to be the only school that offered jet boat training (for those seeking to guide in Alaska) as part of its curriculum.

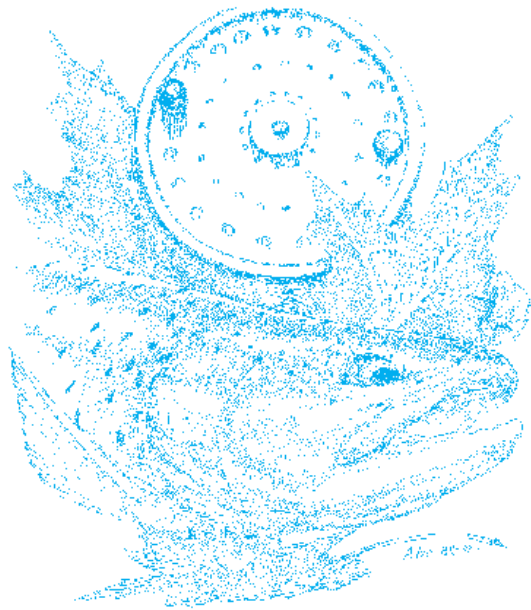
Sweetwater describes the purpose of its guide school as "...to provide you with the fundamental skills necessary to obtain your first guiding job" and opens its school to all levels of fly fishers. This means that

very little preparation or skill is required to attend the school, but I believe that a certain amount of knowledge and/or skill is preferable since it enables the student to focus their attention on "guiding" instead of learning fly fishing basics. I therefore obtained my Casting Instructor certification, First Aid, CPR, AED and BLS certifications. Then I practiced knot tying to improve my speed, and obtained some drift boat training on the Yellowstone River before class commenced, and felt reasonably prepared especially considering my familiarity with fishing in Southwest Montana.

BIGHORN RIVER

The Bighorn River forms near Thermopolis, Wyoming, and continues north into Montana where it bends slightly east where it fills Bighorn Lake Reservoir. The Bighorn flows out of the reservoir via Yellowtail Dam and continues northeast through the Crow Indian Reservation joining the Little Big Horn River near Hardin, Montana, and joins the Yellowstone River another fifty miles downstream. The Bighorn reportedly holds 3000 to 5000 wild rainbow and brown trout per mile in the upper reaches (the 15 miles below the Afterbay Dam access), but fewer in the more scenic and lesser-fished lower section.

Bighorn weather is typically sunny and hot (90 degrees plus) in July, and that proved to be the case except for a couple of hail storms that chased us off of the water and into the protection of nearby trees and shrubs. Accompanying high winds also knocked over several Cottonwood trees including one that collapsed onto a nearby cabin. Water temperature ran between 43 and 50 degrees, but the relatively low flows (1800 to 2000 CFS) and water clarity resulted in significant amounts of moss. I suppose an upside of



the moss is that it forced me to practice the “Bighorn slap” as a means of removing it from my fly.

CLASS OVERVIEW

Class commenced on Sunday afternoon at which time the three instructors and nine students introduced themselves, and then discussed the school’s curriculum which covered fly tying, knot tying, CPR and First Aid training and certification, fishing skills, drift boat training, jet boat training including engine repairs, casting instruction, entomology, and guide role-playing. The instructors also provided each student with a student handbook, a comprehensive fly fishing book, and nice shirts and caps. The introductory meeting concluded with the class watching a DVD on drift boat basics.

The class schedule initially consisted of classroom training in the morning and river training in the afternoon, but transitioned to all-day river training later in the week. The school concluded Saturday morning at which time the instructors privately met with each student and evaluated their guiding and angling skills, and handed out First Aid and CPR certification cards and Sweetwater’s certificate of completion. Not surprisingly, nobody appeared anxious to leave including those with planes to catch.

Accommodations consisted of a large, but modest structure named “the condo” which everyone shared including the well-stocked pantry and kitchen. Each student was responsible for packing their own lunch and stocking the appropriate ice chest each morning. The instructors graciously cooked dinner on the nights that the Texas grill-master did not, and everyone else helped clean.

The dorm-style living and class diversity proved beneficial since it forced everyone to interact with people with different backgrounds, personalities, and skill just like a guide. For example, two students were from Arkansas and primarily fished for warm water species, two students were Chilean guides with minimal English skills and one student from Pennsylvania fished small spring creeks exclusively and had never fished from a drift boat. One student was an Iraq veteran/retired firefighter who works for a saltwater fishing shop in the Florida Keys, but had little trout fishing experience, one student was a biologist from North Carolina with no experience fishing large and windy western rivers, but he could identify virtually every bird along the river, one student was a part-time construction worker from Houston, Texas with minimal fishing skills, but was highly skilled at grilling steaks, ribs and burgers and me!



Class diversity also reminded me of the need to fish for species other than trout to become a more well-rounded angler (I have never heard so many people rave about carp fishing!), and reinforced my belief that fly fishers tend to be friendly, courteous and good-natured. For example, even those who disliked guide role

playing took it in stride and were able to laugh-off their gaffes such as allowing the net to float away in the current as they knotted on a new fly.

The school provided a Clackacraft 15-foot LP and a Clackacraft 18-foot MB for the drift boat training and an 18-foot johnboat with a 55hp motor for the jet boat training. A knowledgeable Livingston Fire & Rescue Captain (Ret.) named Doug Lobaugh taught the CPR and First Aid course and provided us with numerous “real world” examples of the problems

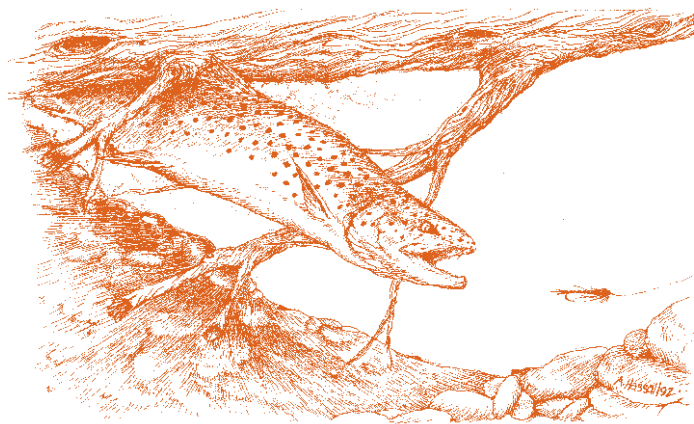
that guides may encounter during the day, and helpful suggestions for responding to them. A well-regarded guide and casting instructor named Molly Seminek, MCI and CBOG taught the casting instruction portion of the school, and graciously allowed me to assist her. Molly commenced the lesson by sharing her extensive guiding and casting instruction experience with us, and then taught the students various methods and techniques for teaching beginners to cast. The lesson concluded with Molly and I helping the students improve their own casting and everyone expressed appreciation for their improvement.

LESSONS LEARNED

I am certainly no expert, but it is probably safe to say that there is no single way to successfully guide a client. However, guide school reinforced my belief that good guides possess the following traits:

- **FUN** - A good guide is friendly, upbeat, and enthusiastic, and does everything possible to ensure that clients enjoy their day. This usually means asking the clients what they would like to do, and providing them with appropriate options. For example, some clients may want to spend part of the day wade fishing instead of floating a longer stretch of river. Likewise, some clients may want to spend a majority of the time sight seeing, photographing the flora and fauna, learning about the area's history, or working on their casting and mending skills instead of non-stop fishing. Of course, "fish-counters" are at the opposite end of the spectrum and good guides will work just as hard for "fish-counters" as they do for others since "it's the client's day."
- **SAFE** - Clients will quickly forget about their great fishing if they are injured in the course of doing so. Therefore, a good guide will scout an approaching

stretch of water if they are unfamiliar with it and/or if water conditions dramatically change overnight, avoid obstructions, and limit wading to shallow water. A good guide will also discreetly ask their clients about any pertinent injuries, illnesses, medications, allergies, etc. before launching their boat, and know whether cell service is available in the area, the location of nearby medical facilities, the location of designated boat launches and emergency evacuation sites along the river. There is no excuse for allowing a client to become dehydrated or suffer heat exhaustion.



- **PREPARED** - A good guide will prepare for the day by checking weather reports, water conditions (flow rate and temperature), and reliable fishing reports (on-line or other guides). A well-prepared guide will also carry all necessary boat parts and safety equipment such as a spare oar, flotation devices, plastic bags with toilet paper and hand sanitizer if facilities are not available along the river, a well-stocked first aid kit, and will have extra rods rigged-up and ready to go in the event that a client's rod is damaged or needs re-rigging.

I received a stern reminder of the need to "prepare for the worst" when I left my SST jacket at the cabin on a clear and hot morning only to find myself freezing after being soaked by a sudden hailstorm a few hours later. School instructors also taught us the importance of continually checking the client's equipment by surreptitiously tying knots in our leaders, snipping off flies, and loosening ferrules and reels. I thought the sabotage approach was highly effective and entertaining although it eventually led to a classmate blaming me for every problem with his tackle. Despite my denials, I am not sure that he completely believed me although my laughing

probably did not help the situation!

- **PROFESSIONAL** - A good guide is well-groomed, alert, and sober, and keeps their vehicle and boat in clean condition. A good guide is also prompt. Meeting the client at 7:00 AM means that the guide should be there no later than 6:45 AM.
- **CONFIDENT** - Some of the best anglers are the worst guides. A good guide projects confidence, but not arrogance.
- **KNOWLEDGEABLE** - A single fishing method/tactic seldom remains the best method/tactic for the entire day. Therefore, a good guide is knowledgeable about various dry fly techniques, nymphing techniques, retrieval techniques, streamer fishing, etc. A good guide will also know where fish hold, the particular water's geology and biology, and the area's history, flora, and fauna. This knowledge will allow the guide to exhaust all options for getting the clients "into fish" and facilitate conversation during slow periods.
- **KEEPS THE LINE IN THE WATER** - A good guide is able to tie quick and reliable knots maximizing available fishing time. This means that the guide may need to cut and re-tie instead of trying to unravel a knotted mess, and there are no curly Q's on the tippet following a break-off.
- **INDUSTRIOUS** - Clients spend their hard-earned money on a guide and want to know that they got their money's worth especially on a tough day. This means that the guide should thoughtfully change flies, weight, fishing location, and/or technique when the current method is unsuccessful. The boat is nothing more than a platform from which to cast. Therefore, a good guide maintains the smoothest and straightest course possible so the clients can cast a fixed length of line, and performs



all necessary back-rowing, pushing, crawling, row-arounds, and hoping out of the boat and walking it back upstream so clients can cover the water from the best angle. An industrious guide also rows the boat to the bank if a client is more comfortable landing a fish from there, runs to net a client's fish, walks the boat to the clients instead of vice-versa, and keeps the clients fed, hydrated and protected from the sun. Last, good guides spend more time with a client who is having a slower day than the other client. This hopefully enables both clients to have a good day instead of one having a great day and the other having a bad day.

- **DOES NOT FISH** - Clients hire a guide to help them catch fish and fulfill their daily goals. This means that the guide should never fish unless specifically requested to do so, or to demonstrate a particular fishing technique.
- **INTERESTED** - Good guides express interest in their clients and are able to "read" them. For example, a good guide is able to determine whether a client is talkative, quiet, enjoys constant interaction, or prefers to be left alone. A good guide avoids over-guiding and under-guiding.
- **COURTEOUS** - Like small towns, word spreads quickly about the guides at a particular fishery. A good guide is honest, helpful to other guides, and has their boat ready for immediately launch after placing it in the water. Additionally, good guides do not brag about a good day in front of other clients, avoid discussing the number of fish caught, and avoids crowding wading anglers and other boats.

CONCLUSION

Guide school was unquestionably educational and fun, and I highly recommend it to anyone wanting to work as a professional guide, improve their fishing skills, or those who are simply looking for a new adventure.

The 2013 PHW/CFR Raffle



The Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club is happy to announce the 2013 Raffle to benefit two fantastic charities: Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery. Thanks to your generous donations the 2012 Raffle saw each charity get a check for \$1730. This year the plan is to blow that number out of the water.

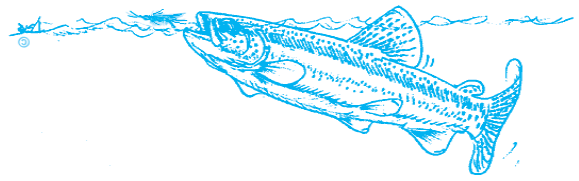
This raffle package consist of a custom Epic fiberglass rod of the winner's choice, color coordinated lanyard, custom net, Orvis CFO limited edition reel, Maui Jim sunglasses, fly line, backing, leader and flies. All the winner will need to do is supply the fishing license. Want to buy this package in the store and you are looking at approximately \$1800 to \$2000.

So how much are tickets? \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00.

When is the drawing? September 29th.

Go to: <http://www.renaissanceflyrods.com/1/post/2013/08/2013-phwcfrraffle.html> for all the raffle details.

Good luck and thanks for supporting **"PROJECT HEALING WATERS"** and **"CASTING FOR RECOVERY"**.



October Northern California Fishing Trip

PABLO GRABIEL, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Ah, fishing northern California waters where wading and drifting opportunities abound. Great fishing is available solo or through guides. Fishing will be from Thursday, October 3 through Sunday, October 6. We will be meet for breakfast each morning to meet with our guides or for those not using guides to pair up and set off on our day's adventure. Come to the Pre-Trip meeting on September 25th at 7:00 PM to learn of the options.

For those wading there are several options among them Hat Creek. Well known for its selective trout, the creek is thick with insect life. A short river Hat Creek is considered one of the West's best spring creeks. Then there is the McCloud River; home to the famous McCloud Red Band, which can exceed 20". The resident browns average 16" but can grow much larger. Finally, the Upper Sacramento River, or "Upper Sac" has hard fighting rainbows averaging 12" but can grow to over 20".

Drifters have tough decisions to make as well. The Lower Sacramento River can be full of salmon and the resident rainbows average from 16" to 20". The Trinity River steelhead runs are from October through March, so we will be hitting the early part of the run. Let's hope for an early bump in the fish run or we can hit the Klamath where steelhead are again the trophy fish.

So gear up, clean your waders, bring your flies and casting skills on our trip up north!

Yash's 3-In-One Rig

YASH ISEDA, MEMBER

Over the years, I've watched fisherman spending a lot of wasted time rigging up their rods and re-tying tippet when they could be spending more time on the river. I like to think of ways to make things easier and more efficient. After researching many books on fly fishing, I came upon the book *FISHING TANDEM FLIES* (Headwater Books, 2007) by Charles Meck. In it, he shows and discusses a dropper rig that has been around for over 50 years. I adapted his idea to create the 3-In-One Rig.

First, make the leader the length of your rod with three dropper loops at designated spots as shown on the diagram. Next, make 4-inch long tippet tags with a perfection loop on one end out of your favorite tippet material. A good way to store these tags is by putting them on a medium sized safety pin and attaching them to your vest for easy access. Finally, attach the tags using a loop to loop connection on the pre-made leader.

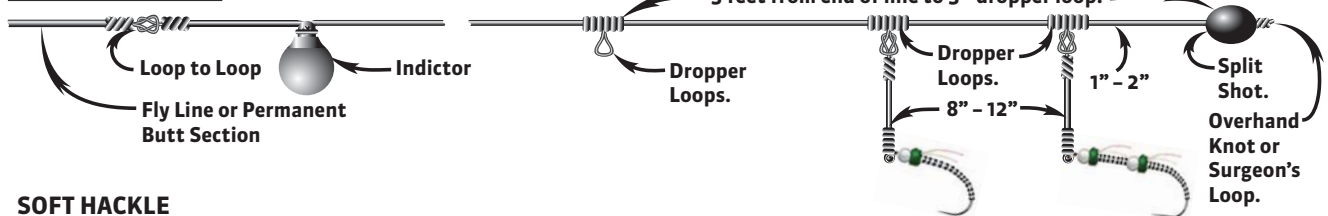
If you are having trouble tying flies on your tippet, then one of the benefits of this rig is that you can pre-tie your fly on these tags and connect them to your leader as needed. You can also store them in plastic bags or your fly box, so here's to simplicity!

(Editor's note... There's really not too much new in fly fishing and this article helps to prove that fact. Many people claim that they invented one rig or technique like the "New" European style nymph setups when, in fact, they have been around for years. Yash points out Charles Meck describing this rig from 50 years ago. Well, to further drive the point home I learned about this same style of setup from Cyril Ball in 1968 or 1969.

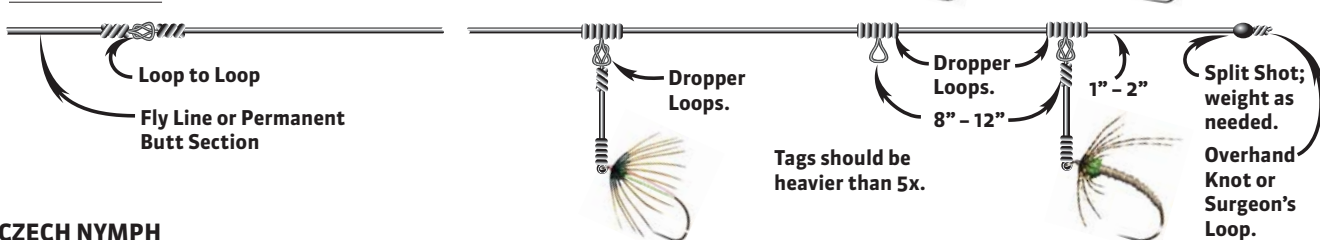
Cyril was a member of the Long Beach Casting Club and he and Johnny Frank owned Ball & Frank Sporting Goods on Long Beach Boulevard. These are the guys that STARTED our Fly Tying Class back in the '30s! Cyril, born and raised in England, described this rig to me all of those years ago and explained that this had been used in the UK and Europe "since he was a kid"—Cyril was in his 50s at the time so conservatively this takes this rig back to the '20s or '30s. We will call it Yash's rig but, as Yash points out, it's just his improvement of something really old!)

Yash's 3-In-One Rig

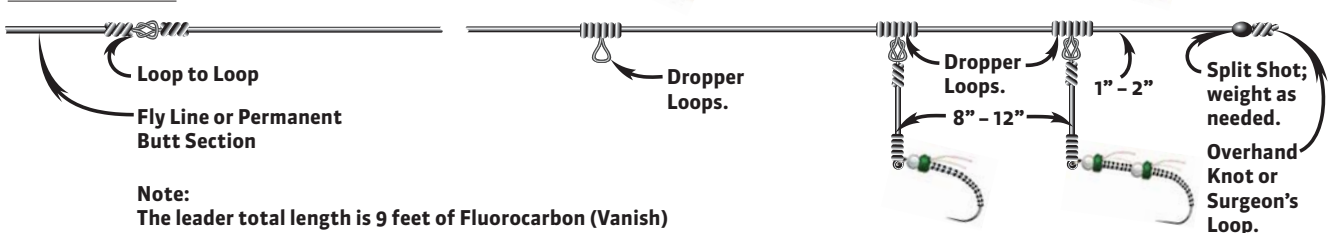
STANDARD NYMPH



SOFT HACKLE



CZECH NYMPH



Note:
The leader total length is 9 feet of Fluorocarbon (Vanish) with 3 Dropper Loops on it. You can switch from one Set-Up to another without changing the leader.

Fly of the Month: Wide-Body Stone:

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

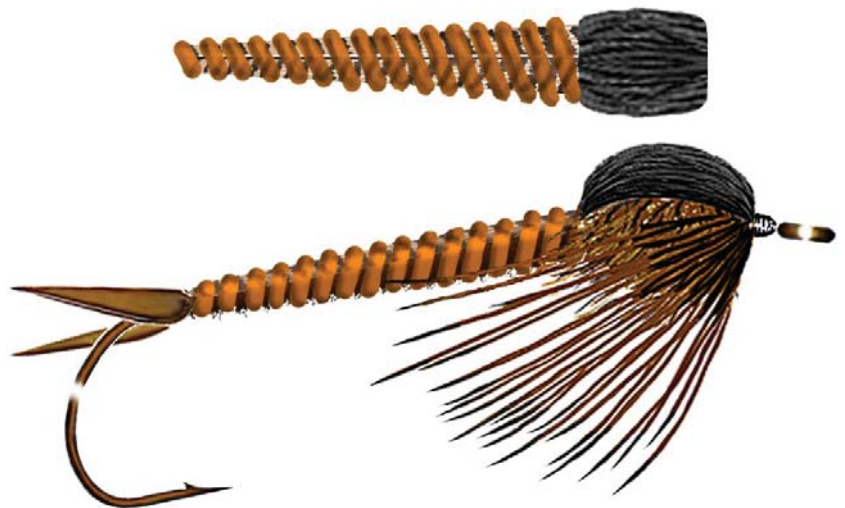
I love stoneflies and I love to fish them; especially when they are going through one of their seasonal emergences from nymph to adult. The Wide-Body Stone is a fun way to try something a bit different with classic and effective fly pattern.

Stoneflies inhabit all water types from spring creeks to freestone rivers like the Madison or the Big Hole. Both of these last two rivers are famous for their hatches. Every year thousands of anglers wait on the edge of their seat for news that the hatch has begun; especially the giant 2" long *Pteronarcys californica* (also known as the Salmon Fly or Willow Fly). It is interesting to note that, on both of these locations, the hatch begins on the lower river/elevation reaches and moves upriver a small amount each day as the river warms up. The Wide-Body Stone is best used imitating our California Golden Stone which inhabits a lot of our west slope of the Sierra rivers such as the Kern and Kings, as well as Northern California rivers like the Sacramento, McCloud, Pit and Trinity.

I like to tie the pattern in two ways; with a pronounced curve of the body and no weight and a straight or slightly bent body heavily weighted. Why? Because the only time the nymph curls into a fetal position is when it is knocked loose and is floating freely in the current above the bottom. As soon as it touches down it straightens out and crawls and tries keep as flat as possible. When rigging this keep the straight body fly closest to you your weight and therefore on the bottom and the curved fly away from the weight and drifting freely and above the bottom of the stream. Tying this pattern is a great way to try some new techniques and add an outstanding fly to your fly box! So give it a try and take it out for a test run at your favorite river.

Materials for tying the Wide-Body Stone:

- Hook: Partridge Draper or any 3XL hook with a metal or plastic "stonefly" form.
- Thread: Black 6/0 or 8/0.
- Tails: Goose biots; color to match the natural.
- Underbody: Angora goat and Ice Dubbing mixed; color to match natural.
- Overbody: Lacquered Pintail feather over-wrapped with translucent Larva Lace or similar.
- Thorax: Angora goat and Ice Dubbing mixed; color to match natural.
- Hackle: Poor quality Furnace rooster feather.
- Wingcase: Wool yarn to match natural.
- Antennae: (These are optional) Thin Goose biots; color to match the natural.



Instructions for tying the Wide-Body Stone:

- 1 Place the hook in the vise and attach the thread to the hook at the headspace. Wind evenly down to the bend of the hook. Take a very small amount of the underbody dubbing and apply it to the thread and make one or two small turns around the hook at the bend. Select two goose biots for the tail and tie each one in on either side of the hook. I like to tie in the far side first, then the near side. The dubbing ball that you wound first will help separate and splay the tails out.
- 2 Prepare a pintail flank feather by placing a small amount of head cement on the of your index finger then place the base of the feather good side down on top of the head cement. Put your thumb down on top and draw the feather between the thumb and forefinger spreading the cement along its length and then set it aside to briefly dry. Tie in a 4" to 6" length of Larva Lace. Tie in your now dry pintail feather with the good side down at its base with the remainder of the feather pointing to the rear.
- 3 Mix about 50% Angora goat and 50% Ice dubbing of the desired colors and apply it to the thread. Wind the dubbing forward to the beginning point of the thorax. The dubbing should be fairly tight and not too shaggy. Now pull the pintail feather forward straight over the top of the dubbed body and tie it of at the beginning of the thorax. Finally, wind the Larva Lace evenly over both the feather and the dubbing underbody leaving little or no gap between turns. Be careful to not allow the pintail feather rotate around the body as you go.
- 4 Tie in a couple of strands of wool yarn that will become the wingcase at the beginning of the thorax with the ends pointing to the rear. Select one Furnace feather and with the good side up, hold it by the tip and stroke the fibers so they stand out perpendicular to the shaft. Now tie it in by the tip with the good side up. Mix your thorax dubbing using 50% of the Angora goat and 50% of



the Ice dubbing. Apply the dubbing to the thread and wind it forward to the headspace

- 5 Now wind the Furnace hackle evenly 3 to 5 turns (depending on the size of the fly) through the thorax dubbing and tie it off. Gently pull the fibers on top off to one side or the other that they are closest to. Finally, pull the wool yarn straight over the top forming a wingcase over the dubbing and the hackle.
- 6 Almost home! Form a small head and then stop. If you want to add antennae select 2 longer and thinner goose biots than the ones you used for the tail and tie them in on either side of the small head you just formed in the same fashion you employed when tying in the tails. Now, without going in front of the antennae, finish forming the head covering all of the butt ends of the antennae and whip finish. Add a drop of head cement and your fly is ready to take to the stream!

Note:

Not being able to find the Partridge Draper hooks isn't a problem. For years now, tiers have been creating widely tapered bodies by tying lengths of lead wire along the side of the hook. Another very simple and easy way to accomplish this (without adding weight) is to use the soft plastic lid from a coffee can. Cut it into a shape that mimics what you want the body to look like but be sure to leave little tags at both ends to help anchor it.

Simply cut out the shape you want and lay your plastic form on the top of the hook. Apply a couple of wraps of thread in the notch of the bottom tag. Then wind smoothly up to the thorax anchoring that end and wind back down to the bend to start tying the fly. Be sure not to use too much thread pressure or you will bend and curl the plastic.

Stars Who Learned Fly Casting at Rec Park

Jeff Sadler found this article while digging around in some of our club's files. He would love to know if anyone out there knows more about this... Sadly most of our older members are gone now.

LONG BEACH ALMANAC

Stars who learned Fly-Casting at Rec. Park

A few Hollywood stars were Schooled at the casting pond:

1. Jimmy Durante
2. Clark Gable
3. Barbara Stanwyck
4. Robert Taylor



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2013-14 Clinic Schedule: Beginning: October 19-20, November 9-10, December 7-8, February 15-16, March 8-9; Advanced: October 26-27, November 16-17, December 14-15, February 22-23, March 22-23; Annual Women's Clinic: December 7-8

Contact Joe at (310) 749-6771 (fishlgf@ix.netcom.com) for more information or to sign up. For the Women's Clinic, please contact Kathy at (714) 290-6930 (kksdfa@yahoo.com).



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

Calendar of Events

September

3	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class: Orientation
		7:00 PM	Casting Games
4	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Class: Session #1
7	Saturday		Club Trip: Huntington Beach Surf
9	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
11	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Class: Session #2
15	Sunday	9:00 AM	Captain's Handicap
18	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Monthly Noon Lunch
		7:00 PM	Intermediate Casting Class: Session #3
20–22	Weekend		Mammoth Fly Fishing Faire
22	Sunday	9:00 PM	Casting Games
24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class: Session 1 of 4
25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Redding & Northern California
26	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: California Fly Fishing with James Park

October

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod building: Session 2 of 4
3–6	Weekend		Club Trip: Redding & Northern California
6	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors' Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod building: Session 3 of 4
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
13	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod building: Session 4 of 4
16	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Monthly Noon Lunch
20	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod building: Make-up and Catch-Up Night
23	Wednesday	7:00 PM	ON THE RIVER CLINIC for Wilson High: Introduction Night
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: To Be Determined
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: Orientation Night
30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	ON THE RIVER CLINIC: Class 1 of 3

November

3	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
4	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors' Meeting
5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: Class #1
6	Wednesday	7:00 PM	ON THE RIVER CLINIC: Class 2 of 3
10	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: Class #2
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	ON THE RIVER CLINIC: Class 3 of 3
16	Weekend		On The River Bishop Club Trip
17	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: Class #3
20	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: To Be Determined
24	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying: Class #4
30	Weekend		ON THE RIVER CLINIC TRIP for Wilson High



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