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# Target Talk

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

August 2015

[www.longbeachcastingclub.org](http://www.longbeachcastingclub.org)

(562) 433-9408

## Leader's Line...

## Welcome ACA!

YASH ISEDA, PRESIDENT

**T**he Long Beach Casting Club welcomes all participants to the 107th ACA National Casting Championships. As host to these championships, we hope all of the participants find your zone and do your personal best here in Long Beach. Looking back at the history of these tournaments, we can see that many contributions to casting were made by these participants.

Tournament casting started in America in 1860 with rods made with split cane and steel. The National Casting Club held their contest on the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool in Washington D.C.

In the 1940s and '50s, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Miami and other towns became very active casting clubs with large tournaments. Casters competed in places like Madison Square Garden. In the Midwest, they used Chicago and in the west they competed at the Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club in San Francisco, which is still used today.

From the 1800's through the 1940s, you heard manufacturer's names like Hardy, South Bend, Abercrombie & Fitch, and Heddon, Leonard, Powell and dozens of others promoting tournament casting. Sunset Line & Twine invented tapered lead core shooting heads and experimented with vinyl coating.

Scientific Angler later patented both the plastic

tapering technique and the use of glass spheres. One example was Jon Tarantino's work with Winston, Scientific Angler, and Hardy Brothers to develop the new rod tapers and Jim Green introduced the first graphite rod marketed by Fenwick in 1973.

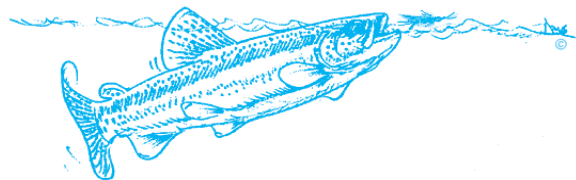
Women began to participate in competitive casting as early as 1945. Molly Light opened the door for women and became an ACA National Champion. Then, a tap dancer, turned fly casting champion, turned fly fishing legend, Joan Salvato Wulff, helped turn women's tournament casting upside down. In 1947 she set a world distance record here at our pond and went home with a teardrop trailer to boot!

This year we are lucky to have some very notable participants from all over the country. These include 10-year old Maxine McCormick, Larry Allen, Chris Korich, Rene Gillibert, Henry Mittel, Glen Nagumo, Steve Rajeff, and Bobby Spears.

**Welcome ACA!... Leader's Line continued on page 2**

**Welcome ACA!... Leader's Line continued from page 1**

I encourage all members to come out and see a great casting competition. Also, don't hesitate to help out in the operation of the tournament. The Long Beach Casting Club is well known for running great tournaments and it's our club members and volunteers that make it happen.



## Southwest Council News

### **WELCOME THE SWC'S NEW CASTING DIRECTOR!**

Mark Allen (Long Beach Casting Club) is an IFFF Certified Casting Instructor, and loves helping others improve their casting and fishing skills. When Mark is not in the Eastern Sierras fishing, he is constantly working on improving his fly casting. Look for the SWC to earn the title of IFFF council with the tightest loops!

### **CUTTHROAT TROUT RECOVERY PROJECT 2015**

Join us again this summer as we champion the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout via assisting with a survey on Slinkard Creek and "addressing" invasive species on Silver Creek. Volunteers are sought on the following dates:

#### SLINKARD CREEK

- August 6 through August 9
- August 20 through August 23
- September 3 through September 6

#### SILVER CREEK

- August 6 through August 9
- August 20 through August 23
- September 3 through September 6

Consider this a neat way to complement your summer Sierra jaunt with a little "giving back". There are standby spaces so do not be discouraged if a preferred date is full!

To sign up or for more info check out this web address:  
<http://southwestcouncilfff.org/lahontan-project>

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# Fly Fishing Yosemite with Rick Mazaira

STEVE GONZALEZ, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

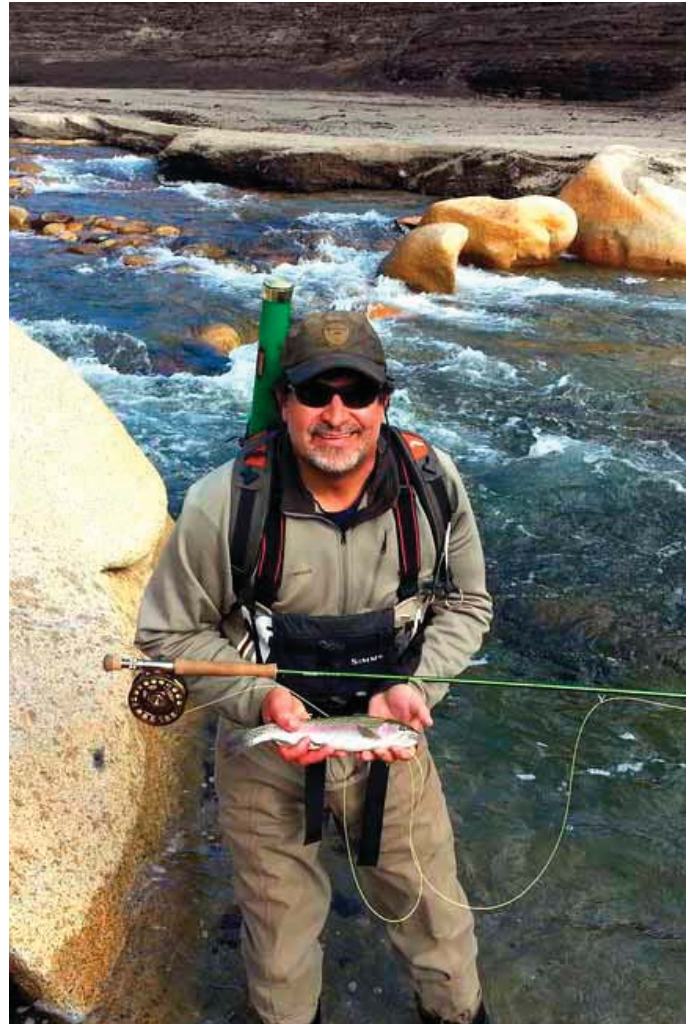
**Y**osemite is a magnificent place to visit but how many of you have spent any time fishing there? Well, this month's speaker will give us all some excellent information about doing just that.

Rick Mazaira has been fly fishing since 1984 and has been a professional guide since 2008. Living in the Yosemite region has exposed him to the varied waters of this region from creeks to alpine lakes, streams to rivers. Guiding with the Yosemite Outfitters he is known for his patient and easy going demeanor while passionate about seeing people learn and advance as anglers and to always leave people with a great experience.

Representing Yosemite Outfitters, Rick will talk to us about guiding in Yosemite and fly fishing the surrounding waters. He will explore with us the beautiful fishing locations that the Western Sierra Nevada Mountains have to offer. He will also discuss the beautiful Yosemite National Park, its hiking trails, the Merced, and the mighty Tuolumne River, the seemingly endless Stanislaus River, and the stately Mokelumne River.

Rick's presentation will provide all of us with the information needed for us to take advantage of fly fishing opportunities in Yosemite and the surrounding areas.

I look forward to seeing you there!



## Our New Members

GARY KOSAKA, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

**A**t July's Board of Director's Meeting, applications were approved of the following new members:

- ❖ Bob Brady of Huntington Beach
- ❖ Alan Kernik of Long Beach

Please greet and welcome our newest members at the club's next Monthly Meeting. Here's wishing them a lifetime of healthy hatches and tight lines.



Our Fly Fishing Faire is for every level of angler,  
from complete beginner to the expert.



The introductory classes will teach you to cast, select the  
right fly and get you on the water to  
catch your first trout on a fly.



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Take classes on Entomology, fly tying, fly casting and  
outdoor digital photography



Raffles and giveaways

International Fly Fishing Film Festival



***Registration opens on-line August 14***



# Brookie Bash Wrap Up!

MARK FLO, CAPTAIN

**W**e had 16 participants at the Mosquito Flats Trail head (elevation 10,000 feet!) on Saturday morning. Under sunny and clear skies, we headed up the trail at 8:30 AM for some great views of this High Sierra cirque basin's lakes and streams. This is one of the prettiest hikes in the Sierras and great for photography and fishing.

The afternoon was the usual Sierra summer weather: the clouds started to roll in about 2:00, and by 3:30 we had rain and hail. By 5:00 it was all over. As they say in the high country, *"If you don't like the weather, just a wait a minute or two, it will change!"*

Sandeep Sasi won the MOST FISH AWARD with sixty fish caught on Saturday alone. Everyone reported that the lakes were a little slow, but the wandering streams (Rock Creek) were full of eager Rainbow and Brook trout. Tom Tatham won the BIGGEST TROUT of the day with a 12-inch Rainbow.

Three people won the coveted FIVE TROUT SPECIES AWARD of the Eastern Sierra trout: Brook, Rainbow, Cutthroat, Brown and Golden. The winners are Sandeep Sansi, Susan Vestermarck, and Chris Finch.

We had a festive dinner at Grumpy's Saturday night and several people reported that the draft beers were great. I have a personal affinity for their world famous Arnold Palmer.

This is always one of the best trips of the year and we hope see you next year!



## Romancing the Trout by Joe Humphrey

STEVE GONZALEZ, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

**T**he Long Beach Casting Club was very fortunate to have Joe Humphreys speak to us at our general monthly meeting on June 25, 2015. Mr. Humphreys has taught fly fishing for more than forty years, including directing Penn State's angling program for nineteen years. He was inducted into the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame in 2013.

Joe Humphreys demonstrated his passion for fly fishing and shared his knowledge and casting skills with us. He narrated DVDs showing his fishing techniques in eastern wooded streams. His narration was sprinkled with humor that all of us could relate too.

He then moved his presentation to the lawn in front of our Club House. It was obvious that he got the attention of all our club members when he personally showed us his casting techniques on the front lawn. He made it look so easy with our club members surrounding him like the heavy brush on the banks of a narrow Pennsylvania stream.

His presentation **"ROMANCING THE TROUT"** certainly made us think of ways to enjoy nature and our surroundings as we fish. We hope to see him again soon at our clubhouse.

## A Tribute to Al Ross

BOB GRAHAM, MEMBER

**A**l and Judy Ross joined the Club in 2004. It was serendipitous that they were having a holiday dinner with family and friends somewhere in the remote reaches of the Midwest when they admitted they wanted to try this fly-fishing thing. They were already avid bikers and kayakers, and Al participated in Alpine skiing and played a lot of tennis. They were searching for new horizons. So a friend asked, "Is Redondo Beach anywhere near Long Beach?" To all Mid-Westerners, California is one long beach.

Thus they arrived at the pond one spring looking for basic fly casting instruction hiding among the 120 other novices. I had the privilege to work with them during the April classes that year. Judy, of course, approached fly casting with grace, rhythm and fluid motions. Al, on the other hand, relied on muscle power and testosterone. Every cast appeared to be an effort to launch the rod, reel and rigging as far as possible and then hope that the fly may be drug along.

They became the ultimate volunteers, fixing breakfast for the winter breakfast casts and organizing and selling the logo merchandise for the National Casting Tournament that LBCC hosted. Al even photographed the samples for the brochure. Initially Judy was the model but, fearing nepotism, they ended up using Rick Hilles. During the rebuild after "THE FIRE", they organized the pot luck dinner for the Awards Banquet at the Lawn Bowling Club Facility. Al devotes a substantial amount of time and energy supporting Project Healing Waters teaching fly tying and providing fly casting instruction for the veterans. Most recently, they organized the table decorations for this year's Venison Stag Dinner: long fronds of greenery accented by gold ornaments and the

obligatory poinsettias. At great personal risk, Al strung miniature lights from every available ceiling structure to brighten the Holiday mood. They have also shared their knowledge of fly casting at both the beginner's and intermediate classes. And who could forget Judy's glowing recommendation for Al to receive the JA Award a few years ago!

They took the beginner's fly tying class twice to ensure that Mark Tsunawaki knew his stuff. Then they organized and taught a Saturday seminar in burning turkey quills for use as fly tying materials. In short, if there is a Club event, the Rosses can be found volunteering in some capacity with smiles on their faces and a mischievous twinkle in Al's eyes.

They have put their new found skills to use on the stream, although Al, being the perfect gentleman and an accomplished photographer, usually ends up taking the pictures of Judy's trophy trout. Thus it was that in October we were on the Rogue River for a little steelhead fishing. After dinner and dessert one night, our group was enjoying a second cup of coffee while listening to the rain beat on the dining room windows. After a contented silence by all of us, Al began to tell the story of "The Search".

Having taken Joe's Advanced Nymphing Clinic which covers Czech Nymphing, Al decided to tie some authentic Czech Nymphs. The pattern he found required the use of red condoms for the material comprising the back of the fly. Use of red condoms must be quite prevalent in Europe. I know sailors and pilots advocate slipping a red condom over the end of the flashlight on night trips to preserve night vision when referring to navigational charts.

Well, gentleman Al began his search at the local pharmacy. His first encounter was with a 17 year old, cute (he says) sales lady who took him over to the condom display rack where they located several



brands, several sizes but, alas, no red. At a second drug store, Al was attended to by an older male. The clerk was clearly trying to determine if Al posed a threat to himself or others. He was measuring Al for a straightjacket. When he inquired “Why red?” Al explained his intended specialized use of the condoms. Apparently, this discourse ended with the salesman turning away in disgust and frustration.

Left on his own, Al went to the trusty laptop and focused his search in West Hollywood where he knew adult films are made. He didn’t reveal how he obtained such knowledge! Al wisely thought it would be better to inquire by phone rather than a personal visit, fearing the paparazzi. The customer service representative wheezed into the phone and Al surmised whatever air was entering the body came through the multiple body piercings into an all-body tattoo. But the result was the same: no red condoms.

Back at the laptop, Al widened his search to distributors. Of course the first hit was the Las Vegas supplier boasting the largest selection of adult novelty products in the US. Fortunately, they were open 24/7 so Al got someone’s attention immediately. Referring to the computer inventory, the sales rep was able to assure Al that they had in stock and ready for shipment, all nature of condoms and condom-related products: ripples, ridges, spikes, rolls and feathers in both lubricated and non-lubricated materials. They also had an ample supply of more exotic devices which can’t be shared in this publication. There were four colors available: clear, white, brown and pink. Still, no red.

In a singular stroke of insight, Al asked for the name of the manufacturer and he was directed to a company in Florida. He called immediately. The elderly lady with the heavy Brooklyn accent patiently listened to his request and to a brief recital of his now lengthy search. He was ultimately rewarded for his persistence: she in fact did have red condoms in inventory! But of course,

since they were a manufacturer, they had to sell their products in large lots. Al immediately ordered his precious red condoms. He explained the proposed use of the condoms but this elderly grandmother cut him short, “Yes, honey, we sell lots of our products to fishermen.”

So if you have need for specialized fly tying materials for your Czech Nymphs, Al has a supply of 50 dozen red

condoms for you. And one is all you need for 24 flies! They stretch you know. I think that’s right, but I was laughing so hard I’m not sure I have all the details correct! And Al would never exaggerate!



*(First published in March 2010, I have had several requests—those individuals will go nameless Al—to reprint this fun story by the late, great Bob Graham. Al, I apologize for putting this out there again but, it really is funny!—ed.)*

## Club Trips for 2015

TERRY KOMISAK, 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

**H**ere are the Club Trips for the next couple of months. Join us!

### 2015 Trips:

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
Jul. 22	Backpacking Pre-Trip by Jim Garvey; Trip: September.
Aug. 15	Alamitos Bay; Pre-Trip to be determined.

Trip locations and dates are subject to change so monitor Target Talk or the Web Calendar for the latest information. Pre-Trip Meetings are held at the clubhouse starting 7:00 PM. Please contact me if you have any suggestions or questions at tk\_nsp44@yahoo.com.

# Fly of the Month: Beadhead Wiggle Bugger

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

**A**s we make our way towards late summer and fall the Bead-Head Wiggle Bugger is a great pattern to search the undercut-banks of the Owen's River—both Upper and Lower—in search of “*braggin’ sized*” trout. It also serves as a great introduction into the world of flies with hinged or articulated bodies.

Articulated bodied flies offer one huge advantage to flies with a conventional body and that is movement. The additional joint adds a natural motion and undulation that really helps induce a strike by the fish. Not only does it help add a sense of realism to a standard streamer pattern such as the Woolly Bugger, like we are doing here, but also with slow water mayfly nymph imitations like *Callibaetis* or especially larger mayfly species like *Hexagenia* (Great Yellow Drake), *Ephemera* (Brown Drake) and *Siphonurus* (Gray Drake).

What really makes this fly even more attractive to fish is adding the bead to the head which enhances the undulating motion of the fly. with every strip of the retrieve the fly climbs up in the water column and then drops as soon as you stop and the fish love it.

The Beadhead Wiggle Bugger can be tied in a wide assortment of sizes and colors. Because you are using two hooks be careful of what size it is you are trying to tie. To help out just place a conventional hook of the size you want on the table and use this to serve as a guide.

As far as color is concerned there are several that I would recommend: 1) olive body and tail with black hackle; 2) peacock herl or peacock Ice Dubbing body with black tail and hackle; 3) all black; 4) all purple. There are of course many other options but these are the colors I have had the greatest success with over the years. So next time you need to add a few more streamers to your box then invest in the small amount of extra time it takes to tie up some Bead-Head Wiggle Buggers and go out after your next lunker.

## Materials for the Beadhead Wiggle Bugger:

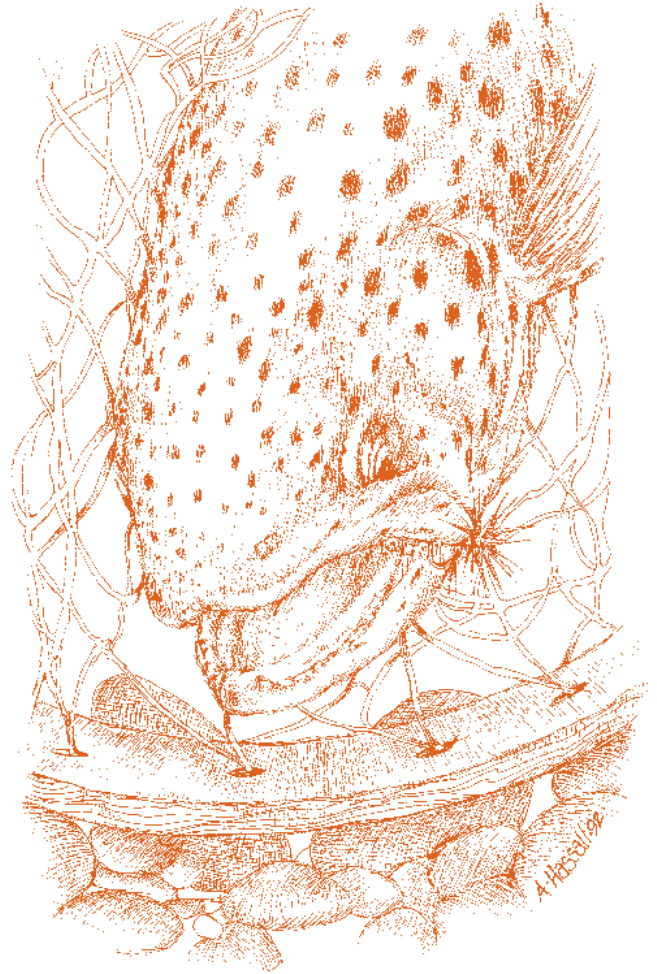
- Hook: Main—Mustad 9671 or equal in sizes #8 to #2.  
Rear—any ring-eyed hook (Mustad 9674).
- Head: Appropriate sized brass or tungsten bead or cone.
- Loop: 3"–4" length of 20 lb. monofilament.
- Thread: 6/0 in a color to match the fly.
- Tail: Marabou plumes (with pearl Krystal Flash—optional)
- Body: Medium to large chenille (depending on the overall size of the fly). I have also been tying this with a 50%–50% mix of Olive and Caddis Green Ice Dubbing.
- Hackle: Large, poor quality rooster dry fly neck.





## Instructions for tying the Beadhead Wiggle Bugger:

1. Place the rear hook in your vise. Determine how much of the hook will be used. This amount should be about  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of the main hook shank. Attach your thread to the shank and wind down to where this point would be and whip finish. Select a good quality marabou plume and tie it in so that its length is the same as the shank of the main hook.
2. Select a hackle for the rear portion keeping mind that this is the rear of the fly and the fibers should be shorter than the one you use for the front half of the fly. My personal preference is a poor quality dry fly neck instead of a saddle. The reason for this is 1) a greater selection of sizes and 2) the barbs on each feather taper from short at the tip to long at the bend, which creates a much nicer, tapered appearing body hackle when wound. A saddle feather, especially the generation ones, offers neither of these qualities. Tie in your hackle by the tip and tie in your chenille. Wind the chenille forward to the headspace and tie it off. Wind your hackle forward 3 to 4 turns to the headspace plus one complete turn at the headspace and tie it off. Form a small head and whip finish. Remove the rear hook from the vise and with a pair of cutters carefully remove the left over shank and bend and **BE CAREFUL OF FLYING HOOKS!**
3. Slide the bead over the point of the hook, place the main hook in your vise and attach your thread behind the bead and wind a jam of thread to keep the bead in place against the eye of the hook.
4. Thread the 20 lb. mono through the eye of the rear hook and align the ends of mono. Measure the length needed to attach the mono to the main hook plus  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch and cut off the excess. Melt the ends (the extra  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch) of the mono to create a small ball or jam that will help keep the mono from being pulled out. Tie the mono onto the main hook shank being careful to keep well away of the bead. Apply some head cement or Zap-A-Gap to the thread before continuing.



5. Tie in the main hook's hackle by the tip. Next, tie in the chenille and wind it forward to a point just ahead of the bead. Wind the hackle forward about 4 to 5 turns to the bead plus about 2 to 3 turns at the bead and tie off forming a very small head. Whip finish the fly and apply head cement to both heads as well as the end of the rear portion of the fly.

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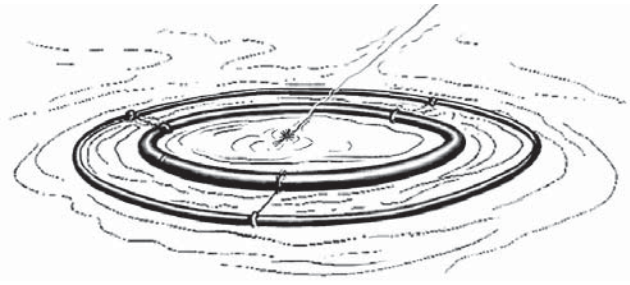
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BISHOP, CALIFORNIA

## News from the Pond

MARK FLO, CAPTAIN

**S**ummer Casting continues every Tuesday night at 7:00 PM through the end of August. We have a variety of casting games to improve your accuracy. Fishing is more fun when you can present your fly exactly where you intend! If you've never tried casting games, this is a no pressure way to prepare



yourself for the next ACA Tournament...or just enjoy the fellowship on the pond and improve your casting ability and, more importantly, your fishing.

### YACHT SALES

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**2015-2016 Dates:** October 31–November 1, 2015; December 12–13, 2015; February 5–6, 2016; March 5–6, 2016.

**ADVANCED ON THE RIVER CLINIC:** You will be introduced to the increasingly popular Czech and other European nymphing techniques. You will learn both short and long-line methods and how to tie these rigs. You will be amazed at how effective these methods of subsurface fishing are, and your understanding will help you improve in other areas of fly fishing.

**2015-2016 Dates:**

November 14–15, 2015; February 5–6, 2016; March 19–20, 2016.

Both clinics are limited to a maximum of 6 students. A **\$300** tuition includes two full days of on-the-stream instructions and stream-side lunch. Not included are lodging, tackle, other meals, licenses and transportation. Dates are subject to change based on local conditions.



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# Calendar of Events

## August

3	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
4	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
5	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
11	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
12	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
15	Saturday	7:00 AM	Club Trip: Alamitos Bay
18	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
19	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
25	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
26	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
27	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Fly Fishing Yosemite with Rick Mazaira

## September

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
2	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
16	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
23	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
24	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Joel Stewart "BAGDAD FLY FISHING CLUB" (tentative)
30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum

## October

1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
5	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
7	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
14	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
21	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
22	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Art Strauss (tentative)
27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class: Orientation
28	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum



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