

## Highlights

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# Target Talk

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

February 2016

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

(562) 433-9408

## Leader's Line...

### January on the Lower Owens!

YASH ISEDA, PRESIDENT

Even though there was thunder, lightning and showers on Wednesday night, it did not deter our determined group from heading to Bishop for the January trip. As we headed up the freeway, it was like going through the \$12 car wash and stuck in the rinse cycle. However, once we hit Highway 14 it was smooth sailing all the way up to Bishop. So, don't let the weather reports influence you.

Our group consisted of 25 members with no new members attending this time. Fishing was tough with the water at 41 degrees. Fish were caught, but not at the normal rate we are used to. Even though, most of the fish caught were on nymphs and dries.

Thursday night dinner was at Amigos for their Special. After dinner the group met in the Creekside lobby for a golf tournament organized by Dan Rivett along with Rum tasting. Not sure who was the winner of golf...

On Friday, after trying several fishing spots, and the cold moving in we gave up early and went back to the hotel. We did have a few hardy souls that continued to fish. That evening we had a Japanese dinner at Yamatani's with 20 people. We have found that Bishop has some very good restaurants that happily accommodate our large and sometimes noisy group.

On Saturday, we met as usual at the campground to see if any new members had arrived and needed help.

No new members, so Dan organized the First Annual Jeff Sadler One Fly Fishing Contest. Rules were to use only one fly. Count your fish caught on that fly only. If you lost the fly for any reason, you are done. Entry fee was \$5.00, with the winner taking the pot.

The weather Saturday was picture perfect with sunny skies, clear and no wind. Fish counts were low, and the winner with three fish and one LDR was Yash. Yash and Dan provided a six foot sandwich for lunch.

As usual, Saturday night was the gathering at the Pizza Factory. We had 23 people for pizza, beer, soft drinks and salad. We also celebrated John Lincoln's birthday. Later in the evening John paid tribute, along with several others, to Jeff Sadler. Jeff has been a part of our Owens trips for many years. John asked if there was anyone else who would like to speak about their memories and experiences with Jeff. As usual, we all had our memories. Below are some excerpts from what was said:

... Leader's Line continued on page 2

**January on the Lower O!... Leader's Line continued from page 1**

"I could hear Jeff yell "Lift" every time I missed setting the hook. On the third time, I finally figured out what he was telling me and I caught the fish." (Ken)

"He took me aside and worked with me all day, and didn't even fish." (Nobuo)

"Jeff always said that he was shy, but we know that Jeff never met a stranger. He always enjoyed talking to everyone." (Dan)

In all of the hundreds of miles we travelled, Jeff always had historical knowledge of places that we visited and readily shared all of that with us. On the lighter side, Jeff and I had a conversation of how toilet paper comes off the roll. He always said that it had to come off from the top. So, on many of our trips I would purposely change the roll so it came off the bottom. I could hear him yelling, "Yash, you turkey." (Yash)

"On a trip to the Big Horn one year, at dinner Jeff was talking about a famous artist in Washington who commissioned a painting of the Battle of the Big Horn and Custer's Last Stand. The artist was instructed to paint the picture from the view of General Custer. At the viewing of the painting in Washington the audience was aghast at what they saw..." (... to find out why, you will need to hear the rest of the story from Tony Smith—this is a family newsletter!)

We finished the evening with another round of golf, more refreshments and laughter. Hope to see all of you in February on the Owens!



# OFFICERS

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# Fly Fishing the SoCal Surf with Gary Bulla

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

**G**ary Bulla grew up near the beaches and waters of the Southern California coast. Living near the beach he found it natural to combine his long-time love for the ocean with his passion for fly fishing. He quickly began to use his knowledge of tides and tidal life to not only chase down surf perch, but also corbina, halibut, and sea bass.

It seemed to him that there was a fishery right along the shores of Southern California that would provide a great recreation with some awesome challenges for the fly fishers of the area who would otherwise have to make a long drive to the Eastern Sierra or elsewhere.



California Corbina were the biggest and most interesting challenge. They were visible in the surf and a difficult challenge to the fly fisher. Over the years, he spent his early mornings and late evenings patrolling the beaches trying to develop presentations and flies that could bring to hand the corbina on a consistent basis. He began guiding others and holding seminars on surf fishing.



Gary also began cruising the kelp beds in his kayak and developed flies that would attract the many varieties of fish found on the Southern California coast. Idylwild Flies named him a “Signature Tier” and launched their saltwater line of flies using his proven patterns. The “Gremmie” surf fly was also featured in California FLYFISHER magazine.

In 1989, and for 18 years afterwards, he began accompanying his wife Theresa, a teacher, on trips with her middle school children to camp at Baja’s Magdalena Island to experience the gray whales and their young. He brought a fly rod and he was astounded at the incredible variety of fish that were available in the waters of Baja. Thus began a second quest and more years of experimentation that have led to his being one of the most active fly fishing guides for Baja waters and one of the more knowledgeable salt-water fly-fishers from Point Conception to the Sea of Cortez.

He now spends over 100 days guiding in Baja and provides totally catered trips for groups of 7 to 11 anglers between April and September during the fly fishing season for Baja. He has a highly trained family of captains he has fished with since 1991. All of the boats have been adapted for fly fishing.

On February 25 at our club’s monthly meeting, Gary will share with us his knowledge in Southern California surf fishing as well as talk to us about his experience and trips in Baja California.

I look forward to seeing you here!

## 2015 Teach the Teachers

### SOUTHWEST COUNCIL, IFFF

**C**ome and join other SWC casting instructors for 12 hours of continuing education on how to improve your teaching skills!

Those of us who teach fly casting should always be striving to improve our teaching skills. Whether you teach at the IFFF national meeting, the SWC Faire, or your local club, the skills you learn in this class will help you understand casting, understand learning challenges, and relate better to the students you instruct.

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual TEACH THE TEACHERS series has been scheduled from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon on January 9, 23 and 30, and February 6, 2016. The January 30 class will be held at the Long Beach Casting Club in conjunction with the Southwest Council's **FlyBuy** event. All other classes will be held at the Pasadena Casting Club.

TEACH THE TEACHERS is a comprehensive course designed to teach casting instructors, or those

wanting to become casting instructors, step-by-step techniques for teaching the basic casts, as well as techniques to diagnose and fix the most common casting faults. Emphasis will be placed on developing a "clear and concise" delivery for teaching fly casting.

For more information or to register for the class, contact Tim Lawson by phone at (323) 303-7438 or by e-mail at [tlawson11@hotmail.com](mailto:tlawson11@hotmail.com). The cost for the four class series is \$65.00 for IFFF members and \$85.00 for non-members. Please make checks payable to IFFF Southwest Council and mail to: Tim Lawson, 1675 Kaweah Dr., Pasadena, CA 91105

We look forward to seeing all of you at the valuable and entertaining event!

## New Club Members

### GARY KOSAKA, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

**T**he Club's Board of Directors approved the following new members. Please welcome them at your next opportunity:

- ❖ Chuck Honeycutt of El Dorado Hills, CA
- ❖ Leigh Ann Swanson of Altadena, CA
- ❖ Lyman Yokoo of La Mirada, CA

Membership renewal for the 2016–2017 membership year is January through March for the membership year April through March of the following year. You can log on the LBCC site: [www.longbeachcastingclub.org](http://www.longbeachcastingclub.org), click on membership, then on the Renewal Membership Form.

Also, I would like to remind you to remember to send updated address, email or otherwise, to the LBCC attention Membership Secretary. There are many of you not getting the club's email blasts called the "REEL NEWS" with activity announcements.



**January 30, 2016**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

*Great Buys on New and Used Tackle*

*Benefits the Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers*

**Fly Tying Demonstrations ❖ Garage Sale**

**Casting Instruction ❖ Silent Auction**

**Lunch & Admission \$10 for IFFF Members,  
\$15 for Others**

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**4901 East 7th Street Long Beach, CA 90804**



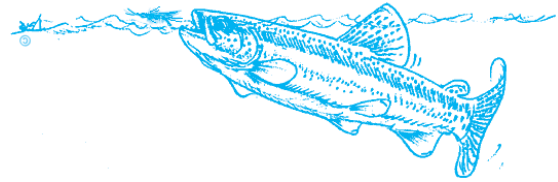
# Nominating Committee

**DENNIS KONG,  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

**W**here has the year gone? It's already time to look towards a new board of directors.

The nominating committee this year: Dan Rivett, John Van Derhoof, Shirley Sakaguchi , Ed Madrid, John Lincoln (five members, at least two of whom shall be past presidents and none of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors).

If you are interested in serving on the board, or if you have a suggestion of someone who would be a good board member, please contact one of these fine



individuals.

Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting held in April. Forty five days prior to the election, the nominated slate will be placed in the hands of the Corresponding Secretary. The membership shall be notified at least 30 days before the election.

Any ten members in good standing can nominate other candidates for office from the floor of the annual meeting. Said nominations shall be made in writing and signed by said members and delivered to the Corresponding Secretary before the election.

## Southwestern Tournament 2016

**MARK FLO, CAPTAIN**

**T**he Southwestern Tournament is coming to the Long Beach Casting Club! Our once a year Casting Extravaganza!

We are holding our annual Southwestern Tournament at the LBCC clubhouse and pond on Saturday, February the 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm and on Sunday from 8:00 am till 1:00ish in the afternoon. There will also be one of John Lincoln's amazingly prepared dinners on Saturday night!!!

Come down and help or just watch some of the best casters around. Volunteers and helpers, please call me, Mark Flo at 562-743-7434 or email him me mark.flo@verizon.net.

See you on the pond!

## Club Trips for 2015 & 2016

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

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

### 2016 Trips:

#### TRIP DATE TRIP & LEADER

Feb. 4-7	Owens River with Yash Iseda
Mar. 10-13	Owens River with John Lincoln
Apr. 10	Dana or San Diego Harbour
May 1-6	Green River, Utah trip
Jun.	to be announced
Jul. 15-17	Brookie Bash with Mark Flo

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.

# The Lower "O" Season

## THE LOWER "O" BOYS

**T**his traditional season of winter trips has morphed into a truly great experience for beginning fly fishers as the old pros spend Saturday and part of Sunday on the shoulder of rookies teaching them to read the water, rig their rod, and catch pretty trout. The schedule is:

January 7–10; Pre-Trip is Sunday, January 3 and led by Dan Rivett

February 4–7; Pre-Trip is Sunday, January 31 and led by Yash Iseda

March 10–13; Pre-Trip is Saturday March 5 and led by John Lincoln

Some comments from prior beginners:



*"The Lower O is the best stream...**EVER**", Ernest H.*



*"The fish are **HUGE** on the Lower O", Zane G.*

The Pre-Trip Meetings are a combination of trip info and a class telling you everything you need to know about from when you step out of your car in jeans and sweatshirt until you step into the river in waders and boots and your rod ready to rock-n-roll. The class stars at 9:00 AM and goes until you are exhausted.

- ❖ Secret spots revealed (Carole's, Jeff's, Bob's and if he doesn't show up, 3 Joe Libeu hot spots!).
- ❖ Master nymph rig techniques (Yash)

- ❖ Soft hackle & streamers (Danny)
- ❖ Dry flies (Danny)
- ❖ How to dress (John)
- ❖ These classes are worth your while even if you can't make the trips.


Gustatory delights include Amigo's (Thursday), Japanese (Friday), and Pizza Factory (Saturday).

**PLUS**, the home made 6, yes six foot, sandwich on Saturday for lunch (free).

Bishop is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a tank north in the beautiful Eastern Sierra and winter fishing can be spectacular. The weather can vary from peeling off layers of clothing to horizontal sleet. The Owens flow is currently at a very fishable rate.

The best part is the camaraderie of old and new friends and the sharing of arcane secrets.





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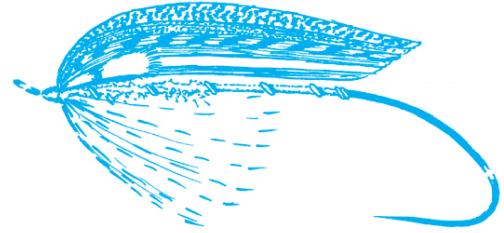
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## Fly Tiers Forum... Some Great Tiers will be Coming Soon!

DAVE BOYER, FLY-TYING CHAIRMAN

**E**arly this year we are having some great tiers (all Buszek Recipients) coming to the club house to give us some “pointers” on tying. We have had our own John Van Derhoof show us a steelhead/salmon fly and hope to have him back for some more wisdom.

The end of January, the 29<sup>th</sup>, we have Wayne Luallen coming to show us how to do better thread and material control. February 27<sup>th</sup> we have Steven Fernandez coming to show us some of his unique fly tying techniques and then the end of March, Bill Blackstone the master of realistic flies will show us some ways (and materials) he creates his beautiful flies.



All four of the local Buszek recipients are experts in handling materials on a hook each in their own way, and I know I have learned a lot from all of them, so can you. We will be doing an RSVP so we know how many copies of handouts we need to create, so if you are interested please contact Dave Boyer @ dboyer@glodesigns.com

We continue to have our Wednesday night Tying Forum. So if you need some help on a particular fly, want to learn some new techniques, or some come down for some friendly conversation, all are welcome.

Tight lines!

## Brookie Bash 2016!

MARK FLO, TRIP LEADER

**T**he Brookie Bash will be July 16 in Little Lakes Valley this year. Also, this year we will be getting a condo—just like the old trips. That means we need to get an early head count from you if you wish to stay in one.

Please contact Mark Flo at mark.flo@verizon.net with your reservation. I will need a deposit, from anyone coming on the trip that is planning on staying in the condo by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Remember the immortal words of Jeffrey Sadler:

***Rookies and Brookies  
are Made for Each Other!***

## Free Admission for Working the Fred Hall Show

RICK LONG & JOHN STINE, MEMBERS

**T**he Fred Hall Show will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center starting on Wednesday March 2, 2015 through Sunday, March 6, 2015. Volunteers are needed each day to help work three-hour or four-hour shifts in the morning, afternoon or evening and, if you volunteer to work the show, you will get in free!

Please contact: Rick Long at 310-375-6900 or by email at vglong1@gmail.com or; John Stine at 562-431-2817 or by email at jmastine@verizon.net

# Fly of the Month: Griffith's Gnat Emerger

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

**T**is the season...to be midging! With the club's first trip of 2016 to the Lower "O" I felt it would be a good idea to add another fly to arsenal. If the weather is cold, raining, snowing and a bit breezy, then not too many insects (like humans...) will want to venture outside to play. Those that do are hardy and, unfortunately, small. So let's talk about an effective and easy fly to tie that the fish will eat: the Griffith's Gnat Emerger.

Midges and a few hardy mayflies like Blue-Winged Olives (there are multiple genus and species of these so be careful as to your identification) are about the only insects for fish to prey on during the winter months. Midge hatches, like Blue-Winged Olives can trigger exceptional feeding opportunities for trout. With large emergences, they can become an easy meal but, can also lead to very picky eating habits by the fish. The fish more often than not want to see something that very closely mimics the Real McCoy in terms of size, color/value/hue and a natural drift. They also want to find an easy meal—one that won't fly away while they try to eat it.

The Griffith's Gnat is very familiar to many anglers and is actually an imitation of midge mating cluster or "midge ball"—several midges all clumped together trying to procreate and make more midges all while literally rolling across the surface like a ball. Sizes for the "Gnat" can range from a small of #20 up to #12. The bigger the midge or greater the number of midges trying to mate, then the bigger the midge ball. These midge balls do not usually occur at the same time as a midge hatch so the Griffith's Gnat may not be the best choice of fly.

The Griffith's Gnat Emerger is intended to be used during the hatch and in particular, a midge that is still attached to its nymphal shuck and having trouble or is unable to fly away. This is a fairly simple fly to tie and especially in small sizes and I usually have Size #20–#24 with me when fishing in the winter and early spring (yup, keep that in mind Green River anglers!). I usually tie them in three color combinations: 1) olive thread with dark olive and silver rib, pale olive shuck and dark peacock Ice Dubbing thorax (shown); 2) tan thread with dark copper rib, orange/gold shuck and hare's ear Ice Dubbing thorax and; 3) black with silver rib, dark dun shuck and black Ice Dubbing thorax. The hackle remains grizzly for all.

Tie some up for your next trip to the Lower "O" and for the Green. You will like the way they perform!

## Materials for tying the Griffith's Gnat Emerger:

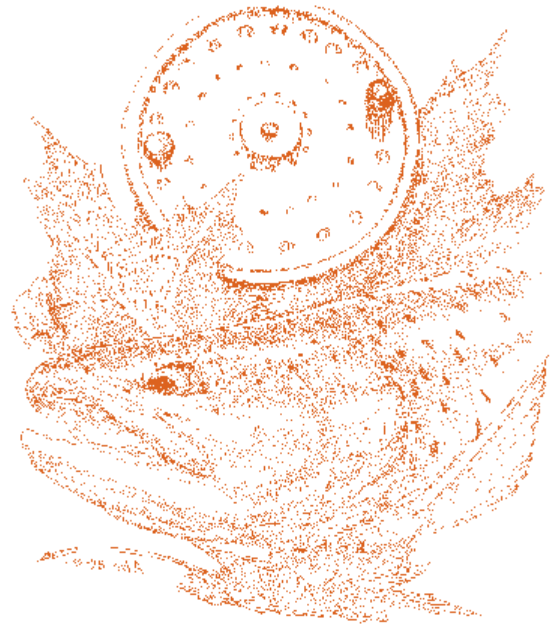
- Hook: Tiemco #101 ring eye in sizes 18 to 24
- Thread: Olive Veevus 12/0
- Tail: Pale Olive Darlon or Zelon, sparse
- Body: Thread with dark olive and silver extra small Ultra Wire ribbing
- Thorax: Dark Peacock Ice dubbing
- Head: Grizzly over the thorax





## Instructions for tying the Griffith's Gnat Emerger:

1. Before we get into the pattern let's talk about hook choices. I use a ring eye hook for all of my flies that are size 18 and smaller. Why? It's simple and yeah maybe a bit old school but what the heck—I'm old... The ring eye (straight eye) gives the hook more gap and in my opinion leads to better hooking ability in small sizes. Not really an issue in larger sizes. Why not use an up turned eye? First, I can't stand the way they look and second, I actually think their hooking ability is diminished because when the hook is pulled tight the point of the hook rolls away from the fish—the exact opposite of a circle hook. Now, on to tying...
2. Place the hook in the vise and attach your thread at the headspace. Wind smoothly to the bend of the hook and select a sparse clump of Darlon or Zelon for the shuck. Tie in the shuck so that it points slightly downward. Remove a length of both the dark olive and silver wire rib and tie it in low on the war side of the hook.
3. Now wind the thread smoothly up the shank of the hook toward the beginning of the thorax. Taking care not to cross the two strands of ribbing, wind them forward to the thorax and tie both ends off. The ribbing wants to be equally spaced as shown in the illustration. Select a nice grizzly hackle and tie it in slightly into the area that will be occupied by the thorax and with the dull side of the hackle facing forward.
4. Almost done. Apply the thorax dubbing to your



thread very thinly and then wind the dubbing forward. Make the first turn of the thorax dubbing is behind hackle and the next in front of the hackle. Wind the dubbing forward to the headspace.

5. Wind the hackle with evenly spaced turns to the headspace and tie off. Depending on the size, this should require only 3 to 5, maybe 6 turns of hackle. Form a neat head and whip finish the thread. If you want the fly to sit lower in the film, which may be more natural but with less floatability, trim the hackle by cutting with the scissor points going into the hackle from the front of the fly leaving the hackle slightly "V'd" and not straight across the bottom.
6. Attach the fly to your tippet and proceed to catch fish!

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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

## February

1	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
2	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
3	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
4-7	Weekend		Club Trip: Owens River #2 with Yash Iseda
9	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
10	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
13	Weekend	9:00 AM	Southwestern Casting Tournament
16	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
17	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: GARY BULLA AND SURF FISHING
27	Saturday	8:30 AM	Special Fly Tying Forum with Steven Fernandez

## March

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
2-6	Week		Fred Hall Show
5	Saturday	9:00 AM	Pre-Trip & Workshop: Owens River #3 with the Lower "O" Boys
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
10-13	Weekend		Club Trip: Owens River #3 with John Lincoln
12	Saturday	9:00 AM	Double Haul Ball: Surf Fishing
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
16	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
19	Saturday	9:00 AM	Maggie Merriman Entomology Class
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
23	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
24	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: TO BE ANNOUNCED
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Clinic: Orientation with Middo & Van Derhoof
23	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum

## April

4	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Clinic: 1 <sup>st</sup> Night on the Pond
6	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
7	Thursday	7:00 PM	Annual General Meeting
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Clinic: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Night on the Pond
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
17	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Casting Games
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Clinic: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Night on the Pond
20	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
23	Saturday	9:00 AM	Pre-Trip & Workshop: Green River, Utah Trip
24	Sunday	7:00 PM	Awards & Installation Dinner
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Clinic: 4 <sup>th</sup> Night on the Pond
27	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum



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