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# Target Talk

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

JUNE 2016

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(562) 433-9408

## Leader's Line...

## Mustaches and Peanuts

YASH ISEDA, PRESIDENT

If you were one of the forty-one people who were lucky enough to go to The Green this year, you understand mustaches and peanuts. For those of you who didn't, you need to go to find out what that means. This year was the largest group that LBCC has taken on this trip in its 15 years. It included a recorded 8 ladies. It was estimated by one guide that the group from Long Beach caught over 3000 fish during the five-day trip.

We arrived on Sunday to snow covered ground left by four previous days of storms. It was a beautiful site. That night, all forty-one people were able to get together for dinner at Red Canyon. It gave everyone a chance to get acquainted and talk fishing. The next day the sun came out and melted the snow and for the remainder of the week we had great weather.

Fishing started off slow due to the weather change, but got better each day. As the week went along, the catch for beginners and old-timers increased.

Carol Katz joined four vets from Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. Carol had been to the Green before but this was her inaugural trip with the Club. Each of the vets appeared to have a great experience and learned a lot about fishing the river. Most commented that they wanted to make the trip again next year.

On the last night we all got together again at Flaming Gorge Resort to have dinner, tell jokes, share fish stories along with the traditional silliness and award some fabulous prizes to the following: Lisa Ornelas won the

prize for the Most Fish caught in a day with a whopping 51 fish on her last day of drifting. Joann Bosowski caught two fish, a 24-inch Rainbow and 24-inch Whitefish. Lawrence Diggins also won the prize for the Biggest Fish. Andy Brooks and Mark Flo both took a dip in the river and won the prizes for PFD (Personal Flotation Device), and Sandy and Keith O'Donnell won for Most Fish for a Newcomer. Great job, ladies...and gentlemen!

Ninety-one year old Ray Burns caught his biggest fish at Antelope Flats section of Flaming Gorge Reservoir and was able to keep up with all the drifting during the week. We all hope to be in such good shape and fishing at that age. Shirley Sakaguchi caught a double while drifting and Don Huseman caught his personal best of a 22-inch Rainbow. Dan Rivett and Cecil O'Dell walked the river for 5 days and successfully caught fish. Dan caught a 20+ inch Brown along with many more fish. Armando Palomares and Mark Bonvoulair talked their guide into fishing the 'B' Section and had a great day even though only half of the river was fishable because

... Leader's Line continued on page 2

**Mustaches and Peanuts... Leader's Line continued from page 1**

Red Creek was pouring brown, muddy water into the Green.

On our way to The Green this year, we took a side trip. Just 30 minutes outside of Vernal is Dinosaur National Monument. This is an impressive site of dinosaur bones in the mountainside and enclosed in a 2-story building. We're not talking about one or two bones here—we're talking about hundreds! There is also a 24-mile drive tour that includes hiking trails, Petroglyphs and Pictographs. It is really worth making the stop. We also took a tour of Flaming Gorge Dam which was very interesting.

This year there was an abundance of wildlife to see around Dutch John. There were plenty of deer, some antelope, marmots, muskrats, beavers, rabbits, eagles, ospreys and beautiful birds. Really makes you appreciate nature. So why did the ram fall off the cliff? *Because he didn't see the Ewe turn!*

We as a group want to thank Cathy at Marriott's, Old Moe Guide Service, Red Canyon Lodge and Flaming Gorge Resort for making this trip a huge success. Hope to see you all on The Green next year.

**FYI:** *For those driving to The Green, a stop at the new Sportsman's Warehouse in Vernal will provide you with the largest selection of dry flies and nymphs all for one dollar each.*



## The White Elephant is Coming...

**MICK WOODBURY, PAST PRESIDENT**

**D**on't forget to start setting aside those things you never use anymore. Contributing them to the White Elephant Sale will give you more space and help the club. The date is October 27 and all proceeds will go to the Endowment Fund.

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# Fishing the Eastern Sierras with Noel “Koby” Kobayashi

STEVE GONZALES, MEMBER

**K**oby is a longtime friend of the Long Beach Casting Club with his first introduction to the LBCC many years ago. According to Koby, he was introduced to a group of Lady LBCC members that needed tips on how to catch fish in the Lower Owens. He spent an evening in Bishop giving them a lesson on his technique on how to fish the Lower Owens. They learned well and were so successful the next day that they drove up from Bishop to his hardware store in Mammoth to thank him.

Now, let's fast forward several years...

While on a trip to Mammoth, it was suggested to Yash Iseda by a fellow club member to stop at the Elm Hotel in Bishop and buy some flies called the “Koby Killer”. The owner of the Elm was out of the flies so he called Koby on the phone who in turn invited Yash to his home. After two hours of instruction on how to fish with soft hackles, Yash left Koby’s home with a handful of Koby Killers. This was the beginning of a lifelong friendship between these two fishermen.

Koby started fishing in Bishop at the age of ten while visiting his Uncle. He began fly fishing soon after at the age of fifteen. As an adult, He moved to Bishop where he taught the fifth grade in Bishop for ten years. He later owned two hardware stores, one in Mammoth and one in Bishop.

During the forty years that Koby lived in the Owens Valley he developed his technique on how to fish the streams along the Eastern Sierra as well as where and when to fish them. Being a teacher, He also gave classes on fly fishing while living in Bishop. He now lives in Torrance where he teaches



mentally challenged adults. Koby truly is a teacher at heart.

We are very fortunate to have Koby Kobayashi with us Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss his methods on how to fish the streams around the Bishop and Mammoth area. He will explain his philosophy of fishing to us including “catch and release”. Koby will also show us the flies he has developed and successfully used in these streams and how to fish them. His objective tonight will be to prepare us for our up and coming “Brookie Bash” trip in July.

See you there!

## New Club Members

WAYNE SAKAGUCHI,  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

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

- ❖ Francisco Reyes
- ❖ Dave Sorenson

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.

## East Fork of the San Gabriel Update

ROB PETERSON, MEMBER

Many of you are familiar with the “Bridge to Nowhere”, about 4 ½ miles up the trail on the East Fork of the San Gabriel. One day, years ago, I was fishing the pool below the bridge with my dog Odie, when something a little unexpected happened.

My attention was on my Parachute Adams, turning circles in a back eddy. Odie, who had the attention span



of a baloney sandwich, was probably daydreaming about Snausages or Liv-a-Snaps or something. Suddenly, I heard a prolonged, wailing, Daffy Duck-style yell from the bridge. I looked up and was eyeball to eyeball with...a bungee jumper. There was a sound very much like “Boing!” and he disappeared, only to show up again about twenty feet to my left. I looked at Odie, who was regarding the bungee jumper with his head cocked to one side, like that “His Master’s Voice” dog on the old RCA Records logo. And that was how I found out that people bungee jump from the Bridge to Nowhere.

That was many years ago. I’m a lot “*longer in the tooth*” and Odie has long since gone on to water that big fire hydrant in the sky, but I still have that very fond memory of the “Bridge”.

Unfortunately, I have subsequent memories of the East Fork that aren’t so fond: river boulders covered in graffiti, mounds of garbage, hearing a gold prospector telling a group of wayward hikers to get the [expletive deleted] out of his campsite because “*I have a gun and I WILL use it.*” The East Fork is just a little too close to Los Angeles for its own good.

A report written in the year 2000 by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board estimated that 8,000 people visit the East Fork *per weekend day* in the summer. These people leave the equivalent of 400 32-gallon bags of trash. The Forest Service does trash sweeps and collects roughly 200 32-gallon bags each weekend day. A brief application of my third grade math training suggests that half the trash left on a summer weekend doesn’t get picked up at all, leaving such a mess that the Control Board’s report characterized the East Fork as an “impaired waterway”. The impairment? Garbage.

It’s 2016 and not too much has changed. However, help may be on the way. The San Gabriel River is now part of the newly-minted San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, which means that the National Park Service is now involved in its ongoing “care and feeding”. They are already making plans for improvements. Their first project addresses the 2.5 mile stretch of the East Fork road between Camp Williams and the Heaton Flats Trailhead.

I attended a meeting on the subject on January 29<sup>th</sup> in Eaton Canyon Nature Center. The project manager, Rob Romanek of the Watershed Conservation Authority, walked us through the initial plans for the



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stretch of road between Camp Williams and the steel bridge at Cattle Canyon. The idea is to concentrate picnicking, swimming and other more family-oriented activities in the lower canyon and leave the upper canyon to the hikers (and hiking fly fishers, of course).

Improvements to the area include defined parking (currently people park on the shoulder of the road), better restrooms, berms along the roads, and defined trails down to the water. According to Rob, there are 67 trails to the water on these 2.5 miles of road! The plan calls for 417 paved parking spots, 16 improved access points and stops for high-occupancy shuttles. Non-native vegetation plantings will be phased out in favor of native plants. Signs will be posted, educating visitors about minimizing their impact on the environment. The project team will be working with the public to refine its plan, which should be completed somewhere around the end of 2016. The parking spots and shuttle service should be especially helpful. It's estimated that 250 cars park in that area on a typical weekend day in the summer. The Forest Service often has to close the road on weekends.

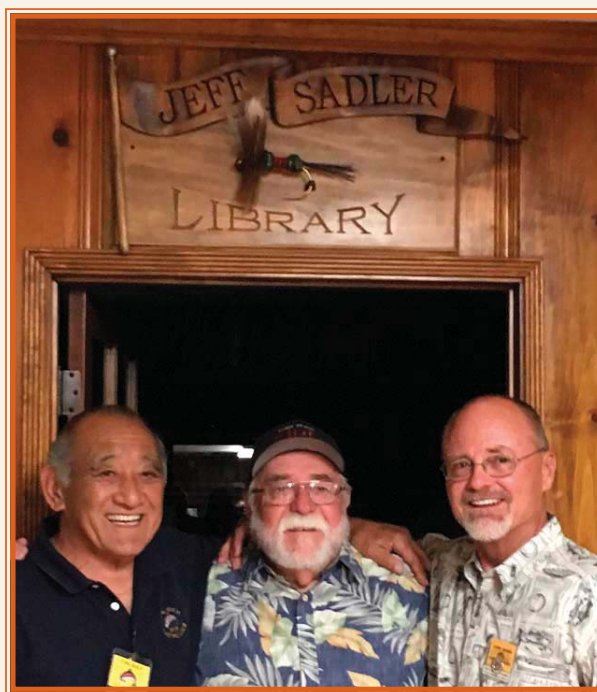
I was impressed by what was presented at the meeting. However, there were some noticeable omissions. For example, nothing was said about preventing the illegal practice of gold prospecting in the river. There was also nothing said about enforcement in general – a key issue on the East Fork.

Overall, though, this is a step in the right direction. The East Fork will be a much nicer place to fish, and

to experience nature, once these improvements are in. Now if it could only get some rain...

*Note: During the meeting, the term "anthropogenic pool" was used. I'm offering a hand-tied fly to anyone who can correctly guess what that term means (answer in next month's Target Talk). Unfortunately, the fly is hand-tied by yours truly, so don't knock yourself out – Rob.*

## Check Out the Club's New Library Sign!



**Thank you Dave Holden!!!**

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# Green River Rodeo!

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

**N**ow that thirty plus members have just returned from the club's Green River trip, I thought I should describe my annual Green River exploratory expedition from the week before the club's trip. Every year I sacrifice myself—for the sake of the LBCC of course—to suffer fishing this river just so I can bring back useful information to those attending the club's trip: weather; water flow; hatches; flies; all the usual suspects. Never mind that the fishing is anywhere from very good to phenomenal and that I also go over to Idaho Falls and tie at a great fly tying show; I prostrate myself before the altar of the Long Beach Casting Club just to bring good info for those who follow. This year was no different...

I left Long Beach Sunday at midnight and drove to Dutch John via Spanish Fork, Price, Duchesne and Vernal arriving at Flaming Gorge Lodge a little after 1:00 PM. One thing about this part of the world in the springtime is the weather. While most of the time you can claim, if you don't like the weather "wait a minute; it will change" this trip it didn't for three days. It snowed and snowed and snowed and while it was cold, it didn't affect driving and it really helped the fishing!

The good folks at the lodge let me check in early and had a good chuckle at my expense when I walked in to the lobby wearing shorts and a T-shirt in the middle of a snowstorm. Californians... I chucked my clothing and non-fishing bags in my room, put on some appropriate clothing and headed to the river.

I rigged up using a two-fly nymph rig and hit the river right below the ramps at Little Hole. On the fourth or fifth cast I hooked my first fish: a beautiful 20"–21" brown replete with hooked jaw on my favorite fly ever,

the Halo. I caught several more and finally started to see fish rising so I clipped off my nymph rig and tied on 6 feet of 6x and a size #20 Upright BWO Cripple. I didn't get as many as I had hoped but I did land 3 nice ones and raised or pricked several others.

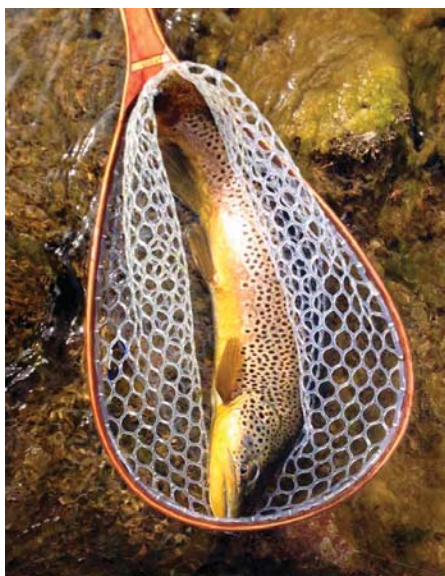
Monday brought more snow and more fish. I split my time working on my Euro style nymphing technique with some success and then switched back to a normal two-fly rig. After lunch and a beer at the car,

I headed out with my 3-weight Micro Spey rod and did some two-handed casting and swinging with soft hackles and landing 4–5 fish.

I spent the rest of the evening hunting rising fish with my little Upright BWO Cripple. The real defining moment of the evening was an appraising glance at the rocks along the river's edge. For those of you who have never witnessed a heavy mayfly emergence, you cannot believe the number of insects on the water until you see it firsthand. Blue-Winged Olives love to come out when it seems like the

weather can't get any worse. Snow, rain, hail, cold; they love it and they were on the water that evening in numbers I can't begin to fathom!

Tuesday brought a float on the 'A' section, more snow in the morning and slow morning fishing. Turns out that the State of Utah decided to electroshock fish and as a part of the process they bumped the flow of the river from 800 cfs to 1800± cfs at night then back to 800 cfs in the morning. It was the guess of my guide, Dano Bolton with Old Moe Guide Service, that while the extra water didn't really affect the fish, the water coming into the river was colder dropping the river's temperature a couple of degrees making the fish sluggish until the day time temps warmed things up. Of course, if it's snowing, it's not going to warm up all that quickly. Fishing improved gradually throughout the day as the snow changed to rain. We had some reasonably good dry fly fishing in the afternoon but





frankly, we stayed too far upriver through the day and missed the best part of the hatch.

Every fishing trip has one fish that either highlights and/or defines it. My final day on the river was sunny and warm—finally—it also brought me my “fish of the trip.” It brought me the largest rainbow trout (not including steelhead) I have ever LANDED south of the Canadian border. Please note that I said LANDED...

The fish were still sluggish on the ‘A’ section in the morning but the action got better much earlier than the day before as the sun seemed to heat things up. Just before lunch we got to a heavy water flume adjacent to a very large back eddy. Another guide and his clients were in the back eddy repairing their rigs and Dano asked permission to fish the run. With permission granted, Dano rowed us up to the very top of the heavy water and I tossed a cast right into the soup. The two-fly rig hit the water and within five seconds, maybe less, the indicator went down. While I was setting the hook I remember thinking it had to be a rock because there had not been enough time for my flies to get deep enough. The heavy tugging on the rod told me I was very, very wrong and that I had, in fact, a very large fish on the line.

The fish raced down the fast water and we maneuvered it into the back eddy and could easily tell it was a rainbow. The ‘bow fought very hard and it took a full



five minutes to get it to a point that we felt we could land it. Of course that was when everything went sorta’ sideways... As I pulled the fish towards the



net something was very wrong—I couldn’t get the fish close enough! I looked at my indicator which was where it had been the whole morning; right at the tip top of the rod and six inches from the beginning of the fly line. We hadn’t had any problems landing a half dozen fish or more before then but now, we couldn’t get this fish within two feet of the flippin’ net! We tried four or five more times to land the fish with both of us almost falling overboard on opposite sides of the boat—Dano straining forward with the net and me leaning backwards trying to get the dang thing closer. I finally got it to surf over the surface with enough momentum to carry it into Dano’s net. The other guide and his clients had watched this circus of events and were laughing themselves silly. With the fish finally in the net Dano muttered “what the hell?”

My rig was a Halo on top and Dano's purple and silver Zebra Midge on the bottom with my weight below that. The fly in the fish’s mouth was a black and silver Zebra Midge. From that fly there was 12” to 15” of tippet to a dropper loop and a fly-less tag. The tippet continued another 12” to 15” to a second fly. My two BB sized split shot had “bolo’d’ around that upper section of tippet and created a jam knot against the fly not hooked in the fish’s mouth. I had never hooked the fish, I only lassoed the tippet material and second fly that some other angler had lost him on. The fish was a beautiful 23”–24” deep bodied and thick rainbow trout with a spectacular reddish pink strip and gill plate spots.

So the next time you want to do a trout fishing rodeo, I highly recommend the Green River. Not only can you catch fish fair and square the easy way with a fly and line but you can also try to land them the hard way—by lassoing the fish or, the more challenging lassoing of a broken off bit of leader with a couple of flies still attached to the poor animal. Either way you can’t miss on this amazing piece of water!

# Flies of the Month: Green River Fly Re-Cap 2016!

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

So, like last year, I'm going to try something a bit different this month. Rather than "One" Fly of the Month how about a few more than that? As many of you know (or at least just read on the previous pages...) I just got back from the Green River and fishing was great—again. A lot of that fishing was guided and a lot was on my own—just walking and wading. The one thing I noticed and, while it might not be that surprising to many of you, is that the flies I used on this trip weren't a heck of a lot different than what I would use on the Owens (upper and lower), Hot Creek or any one of a dozen other rivers closer to home!



BEAD-HEAD  
HALO

Now, while I did try other flies during the trip, there were only six truly effective flies. First and foremost was the Halo. I know most of you think I ram this pattern down your collective throats on an all too frequent basis but this fly has seldom, if ever, failed me over the last 30 years. It's a bit tougher to tie than a regular ol' Pheasant Tail but a lot more effective so the extra effort is well worth it. This year's version was size #18–#20, sported a black tungsten bead, Krystal Flash at the thorax but a single strip of pearl mylar for a wingcase coated with UV curing glue giving it a greenish hue and making look like a split-back mayfly. It was very effective as the top fly in most of my two-fly rigs!

Number 2 on my 2016 Hit Parade is a purple thread body, silver wire rib and silver bead-head #16 Zebra Midge tied by Dano Bolton, my guide for two days floating. It was the bottom fly winner for two days.



PURPLE ZEBRA  
MIDGE

The third fly is a version of Walt's Worm—tan body with a ton of weight and a Chartreuse Ice Dub collar "hot spot" right behind the bead. I used this as my bottom fly in a two-fly Euro style nymph rig with either a Halo or WD-40 as the top fly.



WALT'S WORM  
VARIANT

My fourth and final nymph was my attempt to replicate a #18–#16 purple bodied nymph that worked well last year and tied by Doug Roberts—owner of Old Moe Guide Service. Pheasant tail for the tail; UV Black Ice dubbing mixed with a little bit of UV Red and UV Purple Ice Dubbing for the body and ribbed with red wire; Peacock Black Ice Dubbing for the thorax, pearl mylar wingcase and a red tungsten bead.



DOUG'S PURPLE  
NYMPH

As mentioned in my earlier article, I used a soft hackle that originally came from the vises of Shirley and Wayne Sakaguchi. Rather than me giving away their pattern I'll let you ask them but let 'em know it's the one with the blue in it. I did however, include a very reasonable likeness of it here...

Finally, we get to the only dry fly that worked on a consistent basis; just like it did last year: an Upright BWO Cripple. You can find the pattern in the March 2015 edition of Target Talk. It is the version of the fly in the top right corner of page 11 and I added a ribbing of extra small Chartreuse Ultra Wire, closely spaced. This fly has been amazing on the Green, the Owens and on Hot Creek in sizes #20 to #26—yes,



SAKAGUCHI SOFT  
HACKLE



size #26 and you can actually land a 20" fish on it.

While fishing by myself I used only the Upright BWO Cripple but when I was in the boat with Dano, we tied it to the hook bend of a #18 Parachute Adams with 6"–8" of 6x tippet. Fishing by myself, I could make a much closer cast and the tiny fly was much more visible and easier to track. However, fishing from the boat often required much longer 40' to 60' casts and the Parachute Adams was much easier to see allowing both of us to better track the fly and drag. While the Adams was intended to only be a visual, we still had one fish eat it in a spectacular, slow motion rise and take! The fish, a foot from the bank and boardwalk, was 20" and its head, back and dorsal fin came slowly out the water to eat the fly. It's what we live and fish for!

Everyone of the patterns that I have described here are ones that I have used successfully over the years—



WD-40

especially the Halo and the Upright BWO Cripple. What this should tell you is that, regardless of where you fish, patterns that you know and use all of the time inspire confidence in their use. Simply put, I think we all fish a hell of a lot better with flies we've had success with in the past.



UPRIGHT BWO  
CRIPPLE

Go out and try some of the patterns that I have mentioned here. I have added the most recent editions of Target Talk where most of these patterns can be found. Just go to the Club's website and download them from the Target Talk archives:

HALO in size #18–20:

April, 2012

WD-40 in size #18–20:

February, 2012

UPRIGHT BWO CRIPPLE in size #20–24: March 2015

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## Club Trips for 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
June 11	Kern River with Terry Komisak (Pre-Trip: May 24 at 7:00 PM)
July 16	Brookie Bash w/ Terry Komisak (Pre-Trip: June 27 at 7:00 PM)
August 15-20	Frying Pan Trip w/ John Lincoln (Pre-Trip: August 3 at 7:00 PM)
August 20	Yards & Inches w/ Mick Woodbury (Pre-Trip: August 10 at 7:00 PM)
September 18-21	Lee's Ferry w/ Terry Komisak (Pre-Trip: September 7 at 7:00 PM)

Trip locations and dates are subject to change so

monitor Target Talk or the Web Calendar for the latest information. Pre-Trip Meetings are usually held at the clubhouse starting 7:00 PM. Be sure to check here or the club's website calendar to confirm the time.

Please contact me if you have any suggestions or questions at tk\_nsp44@yahoo.com.



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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

## June

1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
6	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
		7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
8	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
10–12	Weekend		Club Trip: Kern River
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
		7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
15	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building Class
		7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
27	Monday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Brookie Bash
28	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
29	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
30	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Koby Kobayashi & Fishing the Eastern Sierras

## July

5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
6	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
11	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
15–17	Weekend		Club Trip: Brookie Bash
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
20	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
27	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: TO BE ANNOUNCED

## August

1	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
2	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
3	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Frying Pan Trip
9	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
10	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Yards & Inches Trip
15–20	Week		Club Trip: Frying Pan Trip
16	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
17	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
20	Saturday		Club Trip: Yards & Inches
23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: TO BE ANNOUNCED
30	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Summer Casting Games
31	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum





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