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NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

JANUARY 2017 WWW.LONGBEACHCASTINGCLUB.ORG

(562) 433-9408

### Leader's Line...

## **My Library**

### YASH ISEDA, PRESIDENT

s I go back to the beginning of my fly fishing journey, I look at all of the books that influenced my world of fishing. I started with L.L. BEAN FLY-FISHING HANDBOOK by Dave Whitlock. It was my first reference guide to fly-fishing and is still full of valuable information. Most of my first years were focused on fishing the Sierra. Books by Ralph Cutter, Sierra Trout Guide, and Fly Fishing Mammoth by Mark Heskett and John Barbier's Angler's Guide to the Eastern Sierra from Bridgeport to Bishop, were very useful.

About this time, I took a Beginning Fly Tying class and needed references. I chose a book written by Jack Dennis that was recommended to me titled, WESTERN TROUT FLY TYING MANUAL. From there I collected a handful of books by Dave Hughes like HANDBOOK OF HATCHES, to NYMPH FISHING. I still refer to these books today.

Another series of books by Dave Hughes and Rick Hafele on insect hatches such as WESTERN HATCHES, have helped me to understand bugs on the water. They are a good resource for anglers at all levels.

In my collection, I also have books by well-known authors of fishing: A.K. Best, Scott Sanchez, Landon Meyer, Craig Mathews, Sylvester Nemes, John Barr, Gary La Fontaine, Charles Jardine and Joan Wulff, along with many more.

Recently, I added books by Rick Takahashi. I always find it interesting to read his methods of tying and presentation on the water.

As you can see, these books have enriched my fly fishing and tying over the years. I think all of these are valuable resources for anyone who wants to improve their skills.

Another great resource that I subscribe to is an English magazine called FLY FISHING AND FLY TYING that I receive once a month. It gives me another viewpoint on fly fishing.

Reading is a great way to improve your fishing skills and learn techniques. Through these books you will receive insight into creating and tying new flies and fishing different methods to add to your success. We are lucky to have many of these books in our Jeff Sadler Club Library for you to check out.

"I cannot live without books"... Thomas Jefferson

Wishing everyone a

Happy New Year!

### **LBCC Conservation Committee**

### **ROB PETERSON, MEMBER**

The Long Beach Casting Club is forming a Conservation Committee, and we are looking for one or two more members. The goal of the committee is to increase the club's awareness of and involvement in, local, regional and national fly fishing-related conservation efforts.

We'll do this by representing the LBCC and reporting back to the club on conservation topics, with an emphasis first on local streams like Piru Creek and the East and West Forks of the San Gabriel River, second on the Eastern Sierra (Hot Creek, Owens River, Mammoth Lakes, etc.) and finally on other streams of special interest to the membership (e.g., the Green River, Frying Pan, Klamath and Trinity). We'll maintain ties with local conservation groups, including other fly fishing groups like the Pasadena, Deep Creek and South Bay clubs and organizations such as Cal Trout, the Southwest Council IFFF, the US Forest Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. We'll also make the membership aware of local conservation efforts such as trash pickups and stream restoration efforts.

Duties include attending occasional meetings, occasionally writing short articles and contributing your ideas, your energy and your enthusiasm to the group. If you're interested in participating, contact Rob Peterson, Jim Garvey or San Sasi.



January 28, 2017 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

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# January Speaker: Jim Cox on the John Day River

### **ROB PETERSON, MEMBER**

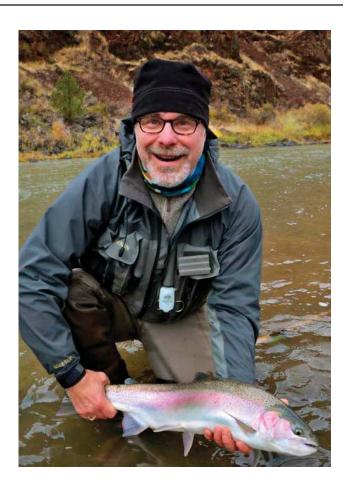
If you're fly fishing in the summer, get a heart-stopping strike and don't know whether it's a huge summer steelhead or a trophy smallmouth bass, chances are you're on the John Day River in Oregon. The John Day is the second longest free-flowing river in the West, and is world-class for both smallmouth bass and wild steelies. There are no hatchery fish—the river plays host to one of the last completely wild runs of steelhead.

Somewhere in my dusty library of fly fishing videos there is a vignette with Jack Dennis and Pete Erickson (Pete did a presentation on European nymphing at the LBCC a couple of years back), on the John Day. As they stalk a pod of gently rising trout, Pete makes the very apt comment: "trout just don't live in ugly places, do they?" The John Day is beautiful.

We are privileged to have Jim Cox come back to the Club at our monthly meeting, Thursday January 26<sup>th</sup>, to share with us his experiences on this magnificent river. Jim is Director of Donor Relations for Western Rivers Conservancy, and the presentation is entitled "FLY FISHING OREGON'S WILD AND SCENIC JOHN DAY RIVER."

Since 1988 Western Rivers Conservancy has protected lands on more than 55 rivers in eight western states. The program will provide a few short updates on WRC's current conservation projects, with a major focus on fly fishing Oregon's Wild and Scenic John Day River. WRC was instrumental in helping create Cottonwood Canyon State Park on the John Day, the second largest state park in Oregon. It has recently purchased another major ranch on the John Day in an effort to protect Thirty Mile Creek, a major cold-water sanctuary for wild steelhead.

A few notes on Mr. Cox: Jim joined Western Rivers



Conservancy as Director of Donor Relations in 2011. He has more than 25 years of experience working professionally in the nonprofit sector. Jim is a past steering committee co-chair of the Nonprofit Association of Oregon, and is an active member of the Northwest Planned Giving Roundtable and is also a member of Trout Unlimited, Flyfishers Club of Oregon, IFFF, the Native Fish Society, and The Freshwater Trust among many other conservation groups. Jim holds a Bachelor of Theatre Degree from Willamette University. In his free time, you can find him fly fishing and hiking along the outstanding rivers of the West.

Please join us at our January meeting to learn more about fishing this world-famous river. Also note that he's planning to reprise his last presentation to the club, focusing on the WRC's efforts to save Blue Creek, a tributary to the Klamath, at a different venue, the day of the 26<sup>th</sup>. The details are in another article in this issue of Target Talk.

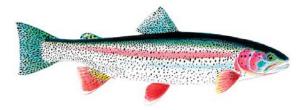
# Jim Cox's Blue Creek Presentation at Space Park in Redondo Beach

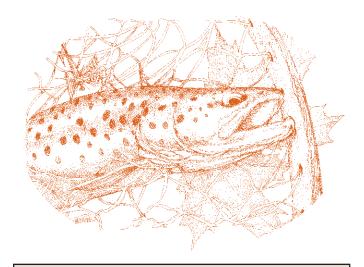
### **ROB PETERSON, MEMBER**

Some of you (one or two at least) may recall my article in the March 2016 Target Talk, on my experience fly fishing for steelhead on the Klamath River at Blue Creek. I don't remember whether I estimated the number of salmon and steelhead I caught that day, but the word "gazillion" leaps to mind—not the usual experience when angling for the "FISH OF A THOUSAND CASTS".

In the article I mentioned that Jim Cox of Western Rivers Conservancy did a presentation on Blue Creek at our February, 2015 monthly meeting. It was fascinating, especially so for me after my experience fishing that stream. I enjoyed it so much, I invited him to do it again where I work: the Northrop Grumman Space Park facility in Redondo Beach. Jim will reprise his presentation at 12:00 noon, January 26th, the same day he'll present on the John Day River at the LBCC monthly meeting (he'd better plan to bring throat lozenges). The presentation is entirely open to the public, so I'd like to invite anyone from the LBCC (and their friends) to attend. Note that if you can't make it in person, I'm working to put together a call-in number and make the presentation available through the internet, so you'll be able to call in and check out the slides on your computer.

If you're interested in attending, please let me know. If you'd like to attend in person, I can send you precise instructions for where you need to go. If you'd like to phone in, I can send you those instructions. Thanks and hope to see you there!





# **Club Trips 2016 & 2017**

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

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

### 2016 & 2017 **Trips**:

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
January 5–8, 2017	Lower Owens #1 w/Yash Iseda
	(Pre-Trip: December 31)
February 2–5	Lower Owens #2 w/Dan Rivett
	(Pre-Trip: January 29)
March 9–12	Lower Owens #3 w/John Lincoln
	(Pre-Trip: March 4)
April 1–2	Kelsey Bass Ranch w/Terry Komisak
	(Pre-Trip: March 22)
April 30–May 5	Green River #1 w/Yash Iseda
	(Pre-Trip: April 26)
May 7-12	Green River #2 w/Paul Burgner
	(Pre-Trip: April 26)

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.

# Venison Stag 2016 a Huge Hit!

### MARK FLO, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

ur Annual Christmas Party, the Venison Stag, was a great success. The preparation started early on November 19 with Evan Morgan, Steve Gonzales, Rick Hilles, Abisai Garcia, Don Lee and Eddie Madrid. We cleaned the floors, vacuumed the drapes, swept and mopped the kitchen and bathrooms, and put everything away.

Al and Judy Ross did an outstanding job with the setup volunteers getting the clubhouse decorated and looking festive for the season as well as setting the tables for the dinner. See Al's future article about our decorating volunteers.

Our master chef John Lincoln started prepping the racks of prime rib for the oven early in the day. John and daughter Thea continued preparing the other dishes for the dinner including the amazing appetizers.

Kitchen helpers Colin Kumabe, Wayne and Shirley Sakaguchi, Rich Hilles, and servers Mick Woodbury, Keith and Sandy O'Donnell, Don Huseman, Nobuo Masuya, Jim and Brenda Thomason and Linda Davis... we thank you for your service to the Club. If I have forgotten any of our outstanding volunteers, please forgive me.

John once again arranged for a fabulous group of Hawaiian musicians to play for us this year, along with delightful dancers, and everyone really enjoyed the entertainment.

At 7:00 PM we moved to the dining hall for a delicious prime rib dinner, and great fellowship with other Casting Club members. The evening ended with everyone helping to clean up, to make it a great group effort.

Thanks to all of you who participated!



### **New Club Members**

### WAYNE SAKAGUCHI, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

The Club's Board of Directors approved the following new members. Please welcome them at your next opportunity:

- Abisai Garcia
- Allan Grosdidier
- Tracy Holland,
   son Michael
   daughter Paige
- Iames Nelson
- John Shanahan

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.

# The Lower "O" Season

### THE LOWER "O" BOYS

This 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 5–8; Pre-Trip is Saturday, December 31 and

led by Dan Rivett

February 2–5; Pre-Trip is Sunday, January 29 and led

by Yash Iseda

March 9-12; Pre-Trip is Saturday March 4 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 <sup>3</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub> of a tank north in the beautiful Eastern Sierra and winter fishing can be spectacular. The weather can vary from pealing 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.





# A Great Year for the Fly Tying Forum

### DAVE BOYER, CHAIRMAN

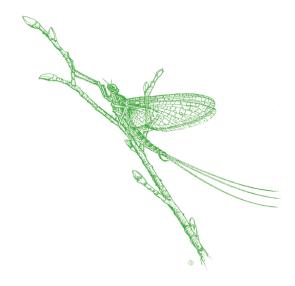
ast year was great for Fly Tying. For the Wednesday Night Forum, we have had some great tiers come in including our own John Van Derhoof, Art Strauss, Howard Uller, Jun Watanabe, Cecil O'Dell, and others in addition to Wayne Luallen, Steven Fernandez, Bill Blackstone, and Naomi Okamoto. I'd like to say "Thanks" to all that have contributed and are making the Wednesday night sessions such a success.

This year we want to continue with having not only our own great tiers show us different flies and techniques but, to continue with having some "System Boxes" for the various mayflies, caddis, and other species so we can be armed with the best the club has to offer to catch those wily critters that swim the depths.

We will be having Dave Valadez and Adam Perez of the Calico Syndicate coming is to show us some great salt water flies. We are also considering negotiating with Charlie Craven of Charlie's Fly Box to come out and give us a couple of sessions. If we can pull that off, I would like to have other notable tiers come and give us some lessons.

Finally, this year's group of new tiers with the Beginning Class are great. The instructors are having a hard time determining a fly that is the "best" from each session for the shadow box





next to the kitchen door. We will also have our phenomenal young tier from last year, 12 year old Charlotte Harriman, teaching the Elk Hair Caddis. The Elk Hair Caddis that currently sits in the class's shadow box is hers. I would also like to thank Eddie Madrid, Wayne and Shirley Sakaguchi for all their help in the class, makes it much easier on me.

I look forward to another great tying year, come on down and join us.

# Free Admission for Working the Fred Hall Show

### **RICK LONG & JOHN STINE, MEMBERS**

The Fred Hall Show will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center starting on Wednesday March 1, 2017 through Sunday, March 5, 2017. 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@aol.com or; John Stine at 562-431-2817 or by email at jmastine@verizon.net

# Fly of the Month: Scotty's Midge

### JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

 $\mathsf{T}\mathsf{APPY}\;\mathsf{NEW}\;\mathsf{YEAR!}\;\mathsf{It}\;\mathsf{is}\;\mathsf{the}\;\mathsf{season}\;\mathsf{to}\;\mathsf{keep}\;\mathsf{a}\;\mathsf{bunch}\;\mathsf{of}\;\mathsf{midge}\;\mathsf{patterns}\;\mathsf{in}\;\mathsf{your}\;\mathsf{vest!}\;\mathsf{For}\;\mathsf{all}\;\mathsf{of}\;\mathsf{you}\;\mathsf{who}\;\mathsf{in}\;\mathsf{i$ are planning making one, two or all of the club's trips up to Bishop and the Lower "O" this year, winter is the season to present some midge patterns to those rising trout you see during midday. Scotty's midge is one more to add to your fly box and is an easy one to tie.

I first learned about this pattern a few years ago talking to some friends who fish both in the Sierras and in the Rockies during the winter and early spring. I was intrigued by the look and the simplicity of the tie and was eager to give it a try on the Green the last few years as well as the Lower "O" and, oh yes boys and girls, it works!

Midges inhabit every type of water and are available year around. However, because of the prevalence of larger or more abundant insects like mayflies, caddis and others both aquatic and terrestrial, they don't become a prime source of food until that time of year when most self-respecting bugs are staying warm winter. They are found in a variety of colors but, primarily, they are black (think Yash's Twin/Zebra Midge), red-brown (my choice would be a \$3 Dip) and olive—Scotty's Midge. Scotty's Midge, because of the way it is tied, does a good job of skittering and nervously moving across the water's surface. If you would like some variations to this consider the following: Black thread body with a silver rib, a red thread body with a silver rib, a dark olive body with chartreuse ribbing and pink thread with a red rib.

Sooooo, when fish are rising and there isn't a Blue-Winged Olive to be seen anywhere, then you better be considering a midge imitation. Scotty's Midge would be an excellent choice!

### Materials for tying Scotty's Midge



### **Instructions for tying Scotty's Midge**

- 1. Insert the hook into your vise and attach your tying thread behind the headspace. Wind smoothly down the shank about 1/3 the way down the bend. Select a clump of red Zelon and tie it in. It shouldn't be too heavy and its length should be about 2/3 the lengths of the body. If you are going to add a rib, tie it in along the back side of the hook shank now.
- 2. Smoothly advance the thread forward to the thorax area-remember, the thread IS your body. Rather than fighting with your thread take the time to occasionally counter spin it to keep it flat like floss. I have demonstrated this technique to club members a thousand times and yet I see very, very, very few who actually do this. It keeps your thread wraps smooth and allows you to control where your thread goes when tying materials in, doing loose loops and even makes whip finishing easier. It makes tying so much easier so do it-right-handers spin counter-clockwise and lefties, go clockwise.

- 3. If you were tying the fly with a rib, wind it forward now with nice even spacing. Apply the thorax dubbing to your thread and wind on a bulbous and slightly shaggy thorax. Leave the thread in the middle of the thorax.
- 4. Almost home... Select a clump of Comparadun quality deer hair for the wing and stuck wing shuck. The deer hair should be fairly soft, wellflaring with short tips. Stiff, dense hair that does not compress should not be used. Stack the hair and tie it in with the tips forward over the eye of the hook. The tips should be the length of the shank of the hook. The tie down point is the middle of the dubbed thorax. Tying the wing in here, the dubbing will force the tips and the butts upward. You are not trying to stand up the wing like a dry fly; rather let them angle up at about 20°-30° angle. This is what allows the fly to skitter and dance a bit on the surface. Trim off the butt ends to they extend about 1/4 of the way over the body. Pull back the wing tips and whip finish behind the eye of the hook. The fly is complete and you need do is add water...and fish.



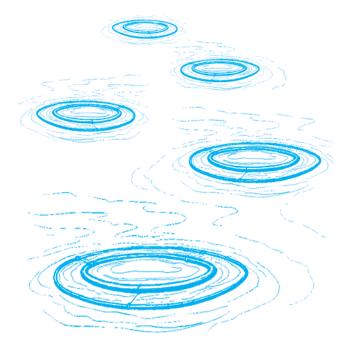
## **Notes From the Pond**

### **COLIN KUMABE, CAPTAIN**

The Long Beach Casting Club is hosting the Southwestern Tournament on February 17 and 18 (Friday and Saturday) and volunteers are needed to help with set-up, tournament registration, score keeping, clean-up, cooking, serving Saturday lunch and dinner. Volunteers, please sign-up in the LBCC Clubhouse, or email me at ckumabe@hotmail.com.

Interested in improving your casting for saltwater fishing? Come on out to perfect your casting ability at the pond. In saltwater, a proper casting stroke that produces line speed for distance and cutting through wind with the least amount of effort, will keep you on the water all day long. Whether using shooting heads or sinking lines, the same principles of good back casts, a smooth forward acceleration and an abrupt "stop" at the end of the stroke apply

to the long casts often required for saltwater fishing. Preparations for your next fishing trip start with improved casting techniques, see you at the pond!



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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**

Janu	ary 2	2017		
	2	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
	3	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
	4	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	5-8	Weekend		Lower Owens Trip #1
	10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
	11	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
			7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	17	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
	18	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
	13 8 6	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum	
			7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Carpenteria Surf Clinic
	24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
	25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	26	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Jim Cox on the John Day River
	28	Saturday	9:00 AM	FlyBuy 2017 for the Southwest Council of the IFF
	29	Sunday		Club Trip: Carpenteria Surf Clinic
	J //		9:00 AM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower "O" Workshop #2
	31	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
Fohr	uary			esgg. ty tyg etase
TENI				Els Tring Famor
	1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	2-5	Weekend		Lower Owens Trip #2
	6	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
	7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
. 0	8	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
<b>6</b>	1 11 11		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
	15	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
		11.97.8/AT /AX	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	17–19	Weekend		Southwestern Tournament
	21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
	22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	23	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be announced
	28	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
Mar	ch 🖊			
	1-5	Week	7:00 PM	Fred Hall Show
	1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	4	Saturday	9:00 AM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Lower "O" Workshop #3
	6	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
	7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Class: Orientation Night
	8	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
			7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	9-12	Weekend		Lower Owens Trip #3
	14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Class: 1 <sup>ST</sup> Night of Casting
	15	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Nooner Lunch
.5		•	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	18	Sunday	9:00 AM	Director's Handicap Tournament
	21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Class: 2 <sup>ND</sup> Night of Casting
	22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		,	7:00 PM	Kelsey Bass Ranch Pre-Trip
	28	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Casting Class: 3 <sup>RD</sup> Night of Casting
	29	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
	30	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be announced
	J -		, ==	,









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