

FINNY FACTS

August 2021

San Diego Fly Fishers

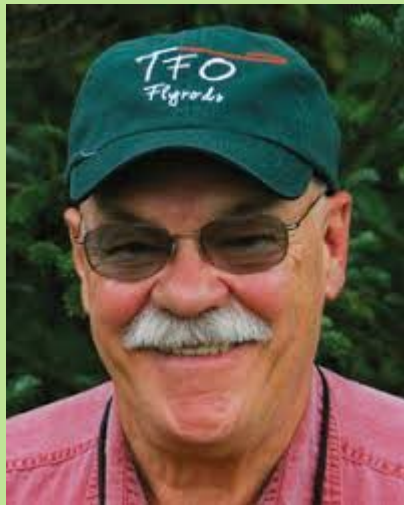
Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 44 No. 08

Next Club Meeting!
August 2nd 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern Yacht Club

Bob Clouser

BASS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM



Access the Club Calendar [SDFF Calendar](#)

Follow all the action on the Club's [Facebook page](#)

Club Meeting [Zoom Link](#)

Please join San Diego Fly Fishers!
See "**Membership**" link

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Please send submissions to
editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com

President's Message



Jim Castelluzzo
August, 2021

president@sandiegoflyfishers.com

While SWYC remains open without restriction, we will continue to meet for our general meeting. Stan Perry and Mel Ochs stepped up to assist with the September 13 meeting yard sale and silent auction. We uncovered some new and slightly or rarely used gear including special fly rods of such exceptional quality that we will place them in a silent auction with minimum opening bids. **The Yard Sale will run from 4pm until 7:15 pm, Monday, September 13.**

I met with Jack Duncan who kindly inspected the F.R. Thomas 3/4 wt. bamboo rod and determined that it was of exceptional quality with a replacement value of \$800. We will open the bid on this rod at \$300. The purpose of the yard sale and future fundraisers is to both provide great gear to club members at a very reasonable cost, but also to raise funds for our important conservation work. Every dollar you spend will go to conservation projects so please attend and buy gear for yourself, friends and family.

The extraordinary heat wave in the north west, northern California, and the Rockies have impacted the fisheries. High water temperatures limit the time you should play and handle your fish. The hoot owl restrictions in parts of SW Montana have closed fishing at 2 pm daily in some rivers. Our trip to the Hat Creek and Fall River, graciously hosted by our Erik Helgason, was an opportunity to practice drag free drifts with small dries to rising fish. We fished Hat Creek, Fall River, Baum Lake. The McLeod River was blown out due to run off. We caught some fish, Erik landed a nice Hat Creek rainbow, but generally the bite was slow due to very little insect activity on the water. I was surprised this was due to high water temperatures. We had temps above 100 degrees most days. We look forward to fishing this area again when the conditions improve.

A few of our members (not named Mark) have had great luck landing some good sized Corbina. I have yet to see the numbers I typically see and have only had a few shots at fish in the feeding lanes thus far. I expect conditions will improve as the water warms. I did meet up with a friend of Glen who said the beans were numerous on a recent outing to Santa Monica Beach. A boondock trip up the coast may be in order. While I walk the beaches it seems I am always followed by a small bat ray and of course my spirit bird, the Osprey, who leads me to fish working the shallows.

Excerpts:

"They say you forget your troubles on a trout stream, but that's not quite it. What happens is that you begin to see where your troubles fit into the grand scheme of things, and suddenly they're just not such a big deal anymore." — John Gierach

"Don't tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish." — Mark Twain

"Somebody just back of you while you are fishing is as bad as someone looking over your shoulder while you write a letter to your girl." — Ernest Hemingway

Join us!

Speaker Programs

Monday, August 2, 7:30 pm

**In-person meeting at
The Southwestern Yacht Club**

Bob Clouser

Bob's presentation will be carried live via Zoom! [Zoom Link](#)

Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough Street, San Diego, CA 92106



One of the most widely known and respected names in the world of fly fishing, Bob Clouser will be presenting a program on August 2, 2021. While it is true that we are in-person at the usual venue, Southwestern Yacht Club, Bob will be broadcasting from the east coast. If all goes to plan, attendees will be able to interact with Bob. For those who cannot attend in person, the meeting will be zoomed (see link above)

See more about Bob here: <https://clousersflyshop.com/about-us-1>

Know of someone who would be a good candidate for speaking to the club?
contact either [Jim Castelluzzo](#) or [Tim Huckaby](#)

Happenings

Reopening of Monthly Club Meetings! Our club meetings are back in person at the SWYC, Monday, August 2nd, meeting at 7:30 pm, with a zoomed in presentation by Bob Clouser.

September 13, Fly Tackle Yard Sale at SWYC!

SDFF fundraisers support our conservation and outreach programs. Please collect and donate your gently used fly fishing gear and bring them to the July or August meetings. You can also drop them off at Strouds Tackle or directly to Jim (The Prez). Contact him at President@sandiegoflyfishers.com, or text 858 291-2323.

Casting Instruction has resumed at Lake Murray on Sundays



The SDFF Board of Directors supports the following proposed change to the California fishing license regulations.

<https://ccacalifornia.org/california-assemblymember-jim-wood-introduces-ab-817-to-establish-a-365-day-state-fishing-license/>

Please send news, updates, reports, suggestions to be shared on this page. We want this media to serve the club in any way it can.

Editor: editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Happenings

Kern River Trail Restoration Forks of the Kern, June 18-22

By Tim Huckaby

"Wait what?! You got to fish the Forks?! But, it's closed..."

The San Diego Fly Fishers Club (SDFF) got to fish the Upper Kern by the way of the Forks of the Kern Trail in June of 2021. Technically the only people legally allowed to fish that stretch of the Upper Kern for over 2 years until the trail re-opens in the Spring of 2022. But my God we earned it. We worked our asses off fixing up the Forks trail.

A group of 6 of us worked with 2 members of the Western Divide Ranger District to do trail repair on the first 2 miles of the trail: from the trailhead to the confluence of the Little Kern River and the Main, North Fork of the Kern River 1000 feet and 2 miles below.

It was physical work in hot conditions with hand tools over a long weekend. The trail had not been touched in 17 years and the fire most certainly didn't help it. I have been using that trail well beyond that 17 years and I can tell you I have never seen it in better shape as a result of the work. You can practically roll a baby stroller up and down it now. Unfortunately, no one will not be able to use it until Spring of 2022 when Western Divide reopens the area.

In addition to the trail repair, hand sawing felled trees off the trail, and trash removal, my 5 years of frustration to provide the western divide ranger district the financial resources to replace the "welcome to the golden trout wilderness" sign on the forks of the Kern trail is over. The sign didn't succumb to last year's largest fire in California History. It succumbed to vandalism around 5 years ago. Hands down that sign was the most photographed on the entire Forks Trail. Well, the SDFF club funded the new sign. I personally was honored to carry it a mile down the trail where we installed it.



The SDFF and Western Divide Forest District Group with the newly installed GTW sign. from Left to Right: me, Daniel, Brooke, Evan, Kevin, Steve, Marty, Warren

A huge thanks to Evan Topal, a fairly new hire of the Western Divide Ranger district. Evan handled all the bureaucracy and red tape behind the scenes to make this first of its kind project happen. Evan succeeded where I had failed navigating for years. Evan also figured out how to pave through the red tape and legal indemnification to provide hands on the ground for the trail repair. I cannot tell you how nice it is to have a "doer" in a so poorly under-funded and under-resourced group protecting our forests. We are in talks about the San Diego Fly Fishing Club "adopting" the trail and what that might mean in terms of financial and hands on resources. Execution of that would please me intensely.

I personally picked up and carried out over 30 pounds of cans and bottles accumulated over 20 years that were exposed when the trail and surrounding areas burnt. And I felt like I was working half as hard as my buddies who were using picks and shovels and hand saws. It was the logical job for me. The lord didn't give me much, but he did give me the "goat gene". I climbed up and down about 100 feet max off trail from above and below the trail to retrieve cans, bottles, and a variety of other junk (i.e. a 20 year old white gas lantern, mangled jet-boils, etc.) that survived incineration in the fire.

(continued on "Happenings" next page)

Happenings

Kern River Trail Restoration Forks of the Kern, June 18-22

(continued from previous page)

Btw, I am working with Evan Topal to do another foray into the Forks Trail to fix up the next 2 miles of trail in the fall. Being that said the 25% snowpack year in the Southern sierras is a much bigger concern. The upper kern is only flowing less than 130 CFS as of writing this. that is the lowest I can remember for this time of year; lower than I can remember in the 4 drought years. And it is just July. We could see disastrous low flow conditions in sept and oct. I may have to self-inflict "hoot owl" restrictions like they do in Montana when rivers get too low and too warm. At a certain point it is just too dangerous to catch and release the fish in low, warm conditions. You end up killing them. And no fly fisher wants that. Only time will tell. But if you are interested in helping; either with hands on the ground or financially then please do send me an email. Let me tell you that the fly fishing makes the tax of the work completely worth it.

Honestly, I have zero expertise in the science of Forest Fires: the recovery, patterns, etc. but, I have been reading up on it and it's fascinating stuff. This area badly needed a burn. So, let me tell you right off that the entire area is already showing recovery... green where it looked like the moon. Trees recovering and growing back. So much plant growth so that I'm confident when we all get back in there next year we'll have to look hard for the signs of the fire on the ground.

And yes, the biggest fear from most fly fishers was that the fire would poison the river. Let me tell you it did not. It fished better than I can remember it in years. It's the simple fact (and irony) that this drought year did not produce rain or runoff conditions that pushed ash and mud into the river. It's still as crystal clear and pristine as it ever was. And because of the new growth from the ashes, we will not have mud slides. Of course, the fish not seeing an artificial fly for over a year also helped.

What shocked me first and foremost was seeming contradiction of the areas that barely burnt, the areas that did not burn and the areas that were scorched like the moon. For instance, a huge area right at the confluence didn't see fire at all. Even though it was surrounded by burn in all directions including across the river. There must have been a sudden wind shift (or firefighting) that prevented it. Yet in other places on the Forks trail it still looked "Nuked"; like the moon.

I have good news for you "Huck-site" fans. The Huck Site Survived. It burnt all right. But all the tall pines trees on the plateau survived and were green on top when I got there. Most of the wooden "benches" around the campfire ring burnt to ashes. But all the trees down at the river's edge did not see fire at all. Even the tree swing survived. Marty and I both quickly caught and released a couple fish right at the Huck Site after surveying it.



The Huck Site intact. Green trees at the river. The pine needles fell from the charred, but alive pine trees on the burnt ground after the fire went out.

See Tim's full story:

<https://fly-fishing-blog.timhuckaby.com/category/fly-fishing-report/>

Feature Article

First Corbina! by Tim Garcia

I have been a fly fisher since I was 14. self taught and started with a Walmart Shakespeare combo when I lived in northern California. I came back to San Diego when I was 16 and have fished the lakes for bass for as long as I can remember. Until one day I came across the Fly Stop where I met some wonderful people who opened my eyes to salt water fishing. I couldn't believe that San Diego has one of the best salt water fisheries! My very first outing that started it all was with the Wednesday group where I met Mel and a few other club members two years back. They helped me fish from a float tube and the first fish I ever caught was a whopping 6" spottie!

I was hooked.

I spent any given chance to be in the bay and at the Fly Stop talking to everyone and admiring the stories, until one day a close friend (Dave Leak) that I talked to daily showed me this beautiful fish. I asked "what is that?! It's beautiful!" and he responded "it's called a corbina" and he told me about the surf, and what it's like sight fishing them and it triggered something inside to press forward and chase this elusive fish. I met up with other club members at one of the local beaches where I had no idea what to do. so I watched them and tried to replicate what they were doing. I failed at casting since at that point in time I never knew how to double haul. So after a few outings of being skunked, I joined a friend on a kayak outing (Kyle Faust) who had shown me the generalization of a double haul and after that day I went home and practiced. Every day I spent at least an hour or two practicing casting and getting gear specific for the surf. I went back and continued to hunt *beans*, but never knew where to look or what they ate.

So the past year I have dedicated my studying to the croaker family, with a lot of help and guidance from other members and especially Steve Piper for constantly pushing me to tie better or give me ideas. Over the two years I have hooked up on plenty of beans but never been able to land them. Two summers ago I had one of the fishiest days I ever had in the surf. I had lost 14 flies that day to break offs or bad knots because I rushed tying them or never let the fish run, and made so many mistakes by myself, but in the end I was able to show people who have tried to surf fish and I shared all the knowledge I had with them.



Feature Article, cont.

During the times of covid, as I was not able to work, I looked up all and any more information I could possibly find on croakers. I've gone to Birch Aquarium, and any book store and library that could hold any new info for me. The past year I have talked to one gentleman consistently on the beach and he was so kind and always gave me a tip here and there. I never knew who he was other than a really cool guy! The day Steve Piper did the pints and flies featuring Jon Nakano I was excited about hearing he was part of the original corbina patrol as I knew about Al Q. and watching Glenn Ueda's stories and posts. When I finally "met" Jon in person he then pointed out to me that he watched me fish almost all year whether he was fishing or surfing, and that boosted my confidence in surf fishing! Over time I've had trials and errors.



On July 25th, Stephen Jordan and I decided to go hit the surf for a bit, just to go outside and talk and just appreciate our friendship. On our way to the beach, we passed by Jon and his surfboard and he said the water was nice and the surf was great for fishing. We were stoked even on days that water was prime, I never had any luck, but that didn't stop me from trying. We were getting close to the water and once we saw it, I said "Stephen, today is the day, I have a goood feeling!" Once the surf was in my sights, I had a rush of adrenaline, and goosebumps.

We went to the first hole which was nice and shallow but saw nothing so I waded about 20 feet away from the water's edge and Stephen went higher up on the hole casting to a different point. My gear that day was a 4wt echo shadow II euro nymph rod that was 10'6" and an echo ion reel with a 4wt full sink. This setup was an experiment since my other rods and lines would slap the water so hard that it spooked the fish more than anything. This was the lightest presentation I can think of trying and it worked for me.

Not five minutes of waiting, I saw three small beans cruising so I dropped my fly and casted... Nope, too far forward, but did not spook the fish. The second cast landed in the sight window, it turned. I felt the pin but missed the set, fly popped out of the water, fish still cruised, I adjusted my position and third cast I saw the tail slap the surface and I did a bump, bump, bump, stopped! I set the hook! I felt it on and watched the fight as I kept quiet and said to myself, please don't pop off! Please don't pop off! I got to the water and the fish was in my hand. I shouted in excitement! I cried with tears of joy. I finally did it! He was a little guy, maybe 16-18 inches long, but that didn't matter. I caught my first corbina. (Editor's note: most anglers would not consider a 16" corbina as a "little guy".)

After the stroke level went down a bit I moved down the hole a bit as I was thinking what would Jon do? I saw an opening and saw two good sized fish so I prepped my cast and dropped the first cast to it... it was money!!!! he turned and hit the fly and i was fired up and then i noticed he was fighting hard and boom he bolted down the current and it was instant drag pull so i ran with it keeping it tight lined, he was tricky as he turned on me and went up the current and i ran back with him to not lose him. I reeled in him after about 10 minutes but it felt like eternity. and he was thicker and much larger than my first. my first two corbina ever in less than an hour of being on the water. Stephen even got on one too shortly after my first one, seconds apart from being a double up on the surf. hard work, persistence, patience paid off for me.

I will return to the surf for as long as I can to continue this chase.

Planned Trips 2021

Sunday, August 15 Lake Hodges

Email [Kai Schumann](mailto:kai.schumann@sandiegoflyfishers.com) with any questions,

Sept 11 Shelter Island, San Diego Bay

Oct. 3-9 La Ventana, Baja Sur

Oct. 16 Lake Cuyamaca

Nov. 14 Tidelands, San Diego Bay

Dec. 18 San Vicente Reservoir



See Kai about getting your very own SDFF mug!

For more information Please contact **Kai Schumann**

or look for details in *The Indicator*.

Questions? Contact us at outings@sandiegoflyfishers.com



Fly of the Month

The Clouser Deep Minnow



In his 1994 book *The Professionals' Favorite Flies*, Lefty Kreh wrote about the Clouser Deep Minnow: *"I believe that this pattern is the most important and effective underwater fly developed in the past 20 years. During the past three years I have been able to catch 63 species of fish in fresh and saltwater around the world with this pattern!"*

Clouser Deep Minnow

Hook: Mustad 34007 saltwater hook, sizes 1/0 through 8.
Thread: White Danville Flat-Waxed, 6/0.
Eyes: Dumbbell eyes (size to match hook).
Belly: White bucktail.
Flash: Gold Krystal Flash.
Back: Olive bucktail.
Head: Tying thread.
Coating: Cement or epoxy

For tying instruction video, please see the site below:

<https://news.orvis.com/fly-fishing/video-how-to-tie-the-clouser-minnow>

Casting Corner

San Diego Fly Fishers Casting Program 2021

We are pleased to announce our casting instruction program for 2021. 2020 was a challenging year in many respects and as we look forward to this coming year, we appreciate everyone's patience as we have had to make adjustments to our casting programs.

Sunday fly casting instruction is back at Lake Murray with [Alan Thompson](#) at 9:00 am.

In the meantime, if someone has a question or a trip planned and needs some assistance please email me at the email address below to discuss. I am often able to provide private or semi-private instruction.

Casting Skills Challenge Program: The FFI has reintroduced a program they call the Casting Skills Challenge. It is designed for the experienced beginner caster as well as intermediate and advanced fly fishers. It is meant to be a fun way to study, practice and challenge oneself in a progressive fashion. We will be offering this program to SDFP membership in 2021. More information on the program can be found on the FFI website.

Several of our club members have been working on completing the FFI Fly Casting Challenge Program. Recently **Keith Darlington** successfully complete all three levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Also, **Rick Johnson** completed the requirements for Bronze. Congrats to both Keith and Rick!

Intermediate Casting Clinic: I will plan to hold it later in the year. We will limit attendance to ten. Times and dates will be published when determined.

For questions please contact: [John Wylie](#)

Conservation & Education

Fall Fundraiser to support Conservation and Education!
Yard Sale starting at 4:00 pm, at SWYC on Monday, September 12,
before our regular club meeting!



Please continue to support SDFF and our conservation, education and outreach programs with your participation and donations at our fundraising events. You make all this possible.

If you know of a good conservation project that needs some support, please share your ideas with the committee.

Gary Strawn
conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Other Programs

Project Healing Waters

Due to current restrictions, program is dark until further notice

Project Healing Waters (PHW) Fly Fishing is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings. San Diego Fly Fishers (SDFF) is proud to be a local affiliate of PHW. Our San Diego based program, serves veterans locally by providing opportunities to learn fly casting, fly tying and fly fishing. We are a service organization and are pleased to offer opportunities to our veterans to help them find out more about the arts associated with fly fishing. If you are looking for a good way to contribute to our veterans and your Club, please let us know.

Help us find Veterans in Need!

If you know a disabled veteran who would benefit from spending some time with us please contact [Lee McElravy](#)

Please look at our Club's PHW Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/PHWFF.SDFF/>

Rod Building

Stay tuned for when classes will resume

Space will be limited to ensure quality time for each student.
Dates will be announced in the *Finny Facts*.

In the interim, if you are beginning your own project and would like some advice or recommendations, please free to contact [Jack Duncan](#)

Women's Program

Plans are in the works for an all-day fly fishing faire on October 23rd. More information about future events as they become available. It will be posted here and on **Facebook** and **The Indicator**.

Contact Brooke Sargent, [Women's Program](#)

SWCFFI



WANT TO
CATCH

SOME NEW SPECIES?

CHANNEL ISLAND
FLY FISHING EVENTS!

DATES:
July 31 - 1 spot open
August 31 (Tues)
October 30 (Sat)



LIMITED LOAD:
Anglers - trip is limited to
six (6) anglers and the host.

COST:
250.00 per person

CONTACT:
Michael Schweit
SpecialProjects@swcffi.org
818-601-9702

Check out programs on <https://www.swcffi.org/>

The **San Diego Fly Fishers** is affiliated with the **Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International** (SWCFFI). [John Wylie](#), Representative

For more information or to join FFI visit: <https://flyfishersinternational.org/>

Membership

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

**Ready to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers?
Please support your club by planning to renew for 2021**

Regardless of current conditions we still plan an active year with monthly outings
zoom meetings talking about fishing and having fun.

Don't miss out! Join or renew!

You can renew your membership on-line though the SDFF website, or you can renew in person at
our monthly programs; or you can download an application on our website and mail a check to

**SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS
C/O Stroud Tackle
1457 Morena Blvd
San Diego, CA 92110**

[Renew online](#)

Contact: [Alan Thompson](#)

Or Renew at the next Monthly SDFF Meeting

SDFF has four membership levels

Individual.....\$40

Family.....\$50

Individual Military.....FREE (Active Duty Only)

Renew your membership (or your family's). It's simple.

On-line at sandiegoflyfishers.com then follow the instructions.

Thank you,
Alan Thompson
Membership

Volunteers are needed

San Diego Fly Fishers is a service organization.
So please ask yourself...

“What service can I provide to my Club”?

Service Opportunities

Fishing Outings

This is a chance to help run a fishing outing for Club members. We are seeking volunteers to organize a day of fishing on our local waters. It's fun and easy. Pick your favorite water and contact [Kai Schumann](#) and we will help you get started.

- ◆ Pick a local lake
- ◆ Pick a location for the bay
- ◆ Pick a location for the surf

The whole idea is to involve more members in creating fishing events and get us on the water monthly.

Fundraising

- ◆ We need 2 or 3 more volunteers to help serve on the committee
- ◆ Contact: Warren Lew [fundraising](#)

Greeters are needed at our Monthly meetings!

We are planning to have 2 or 3 greeters at each event to help new people into our Club. It's a great way to serve the Club and meet new Flyfishers.

Please contact [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

Project Healing Waters

- ◆ Help with this important program that serves Veterans in need.
- ◆ If you know of a Veteran in need Please let us know!
- ◆ Contact: [Lee McElravy](#) to learn how you can contribute.

Women's Program

- ◆ Please contact Brooke Sargent [Women's Programs](#) for information and way to get involved.

Fishing!

Photos from our Facebook page



Dave with a nice yellowfin.



Kim, checking to see if her nails match her fly selection.



Kai joins the corbina parade!



Woody's Colorado cutthroat.



Mike gets a ladyfish from shore in Florida!



Kenny's barracuda, first fish on the fly!



Jonathan with a first-ever on the fly bean.

Please share a picture of your catch at:
Sandiegoflyfishers.com

Guides and Resources

San Diego Fly Fishers does not endorse or recommend any particular Guide or Business. This Information is intended to provide the reader with known providers of services related to fly fishing in our local area and in California. This is not intended to be a complete list of available services.

Guides

Eastern Sierra:

[Sierra Drifters](#)

[Sierra Troutdoorsman](#)

[Pat Jaeger Fly Fishing](#)

[Kern River Fly Shop](#)

Northern California:

[Acosta Fly Fishing](#) (Steelhead)

[Fine and Far Fly Fishing](#) (Steelhead/Spey Trips)

[Baiocchi's Troutfitters](#)

San Diego Bay/Surf/Lakes:

[Conway Bowman](#)

[Alex Cady @ Fly Stop](#)

Fly Fishing Equipment:

[STROUD TACKLE](#)

[THE FLY STOP](#)

[Flies by Favorite](#)

River Flows and Reports

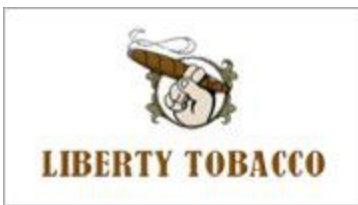
[Dreamflows](#)

[USGS Flows](#)

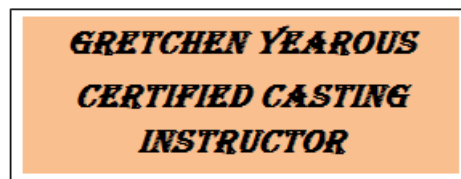
[California Data Exchange](#)

[Lower Owens River](#)

Thanks for supporting San Diego Fly Fishers



Bob Berry Fish Carvings



We need your help getting rid of Carp at Lake Cuyamaca!



CARP ANGLERS WANTED, CONVENTIONAL ROD AND REEL, SPEAR, OR BOW

- KILL A CARP and FISH FOR FREE!

Board of Directors

San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors 2021

James Castelluzzo	President
Vice President	vacant
Andrea Rae	Treasurer
Mel Ochs	Secretary
Alan Thompson	Membership Sunday Fly Casting Communications Coordinator
John Ashley	Youth Programs
Tim Garcia	At large
Bruce Harris	Editor Finny Facts / Indicator
Mark Hedderson	Speaker Programs
Tim Huckaby	Fundraising/At large
Warren Lew	Women's Programs
Brooke Sargent	Outings Coordinator
Kai Schumann	Conservation
Gary Strawn	Casting Program Instruction
John Wylie	SWC-FFI Liaison
	Committee Chairpersons
Jack Duncan	Rod Building
Lucky Ketcham	Fly Tying Congress
Lee McElravy	Project Healing Waters
	Web Master
David Collins	Internet Resources Admin

The Indicator

Emailed twice a month with updates and breaking news!
Make sure you are on the list to stay informed.

Follow SDFF adventures and news our FACEBOOK page. Post your own adventures and pictures.

[San Diego Fly Fishers](#)

The Board meets at 6:30 PM on the last Monday of each month at the San Diego River Park Foundation Office on Pacific Hwy. (Currently held on Zoom.)

For Directions to all Club Meetings, Clinics and Fly tying classes visit our website at:
[Activities Maps](#)



Tailing Loops

First Corbina!

(Still Waiting)

by Mark Hedderson



The author, proudly displaying his most recent catch.

Inspired by the news of **Tim Garcia's** first **corbina** (and, over many summers, by Ed's and Jim's, and Mike's and Kim's and...) I went to the same beach five days later and fished the same fly (well, same type), and I had the same result I've had for the last eight years: Zip. Zero. Nada. I can firmly state that no beans have been harmed because of my actions. Full disclosure, I did hook one in 2013 and unfortunately discovered that the double uni knot is not my friend. Also lost a Picconi Prowler in the process, a fly which is no longer in production. But I'm not bitter (I hate you Tim) and I even wrote what I thought was a hilarious "story" about the topic, (see *Tailing Loops*, March, 2021) although it got even less attention than my pink merkin on a cloudy day. Maybe satire and fly fishing don't mix. Or maybe I just suck at both.

Anyway, I'll keep trying. I'm no quitter. And corbina waters are a background for my favorite response when people ask me, as I walk away in defeat "Any luck?" to which I reply "No, but it's just great to be out here on such a beautiful morning!" On top of everything else, I'm a liar too.