

FINNY FACTS

November 2021

San Diego Fly Fishers
Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 44 No. 11

Next Club Meeting, **Monday, November 1**, 7:30 pm
at the SWYC, with Guest Speaker

Carol Ann Morris



How to Capture What You See
Fly Fishing Photography 101

**Renew your membership to the
San Diego Fly Fishers!**
Membership

Access the Club Calendar [SDFF Calendar](#)

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

Club Meeting [Zoom Link](#)

Send your submissions to
editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com

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President's Message



Jim Castelluzzo
November 1, 2021

president@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Our club is managed on a day to day basis by your Board of Directors. We are all volunteers and take the job of overseeing the mission of San Diego Fly Fishers seriously. Our goal is to promote and share the art of fly fishing with the public and protect our critical natural resources which support healthy fish habitat both in our rivers and our oceans.

Almost two years ago I was asked to fill the President's position by Warren Lew. I've been a club member for some 35 years. I started fly fishing in the Catskills in 1973, before the movie! I joined when the club was meeting at the National Guard Armory in Kearney Mesa around 1984. My young family had just moved back to San Diego from Los Angeles by way of Atlantic City New Jersey, where I was working on the design of a new Casino for the Golden Nuggett Corp. I was directed to the San Diego Fly Fishers after meeting Bill and Eileen Stroud at Stroud Tackle. To my amazement, I was surprised to find a group of fellow fly fishermen and women in San Diego.

Over the years I joined the likes of Bill Stroud, Jack Bentley, Heinz Heineke, Pat Case, Bernie Fink, Lucky Ketchum, Bob Pharoah, David Collins, and many others on epic trips to the Eastern Sierra, the Green River, the Big Horn, Lees Ferry, the Gunnison, and the San Juan River to name a few.

I continue to learn something new every day. I'm happy to serve the club for one reason. I'm paying it forward. I owe a lot to the guys mentioned above and all the past Presidents. It's important to keep this club and our good work moving forward, to continue to teach, protect our resources, and share our passion for our sport with all newcomers.

If you have an interest in joining the board or would like to nominate someone, please contact me; [President SDFE](#). We have a vacant Media Coordinator, Fundraiser, and Vice President position open. We also need a web site manager as David Collins would like relief after his generous service to the club for over 20 years. I have requested nominations for Board of Director positions for 2022 and have yet to receive any nominations. Most of the 2021 Board of Directors have generously agreed to stay on in 2022 . We will have a vote on the new board at our November Meeting.

Excerpts:

Of course, now I am too old to be much of a fisherman, and now of course I usually fish the big waters alone, although some friends think I shouldn't. Like many fly fishermen in western Montana where the summer days are almost Arctic in length, I often do not start fishing until the cool of the evening. Then in the Arctic half-light of the canyon, all existence fades to a being with my soul and memories and the sounds of the Big Black-foot River and a four-count rhythm and the hope that a fish will rise.

—Norman Maclean

Ultimately, I learned that fly-fishing is not about what you catch, but what parts of yourself you can leave behind. That may be different for each person, but the process of self-emptying is a hallmark of the pastime.

—Elizabeth Marglin

Join us!

Speaker Programs

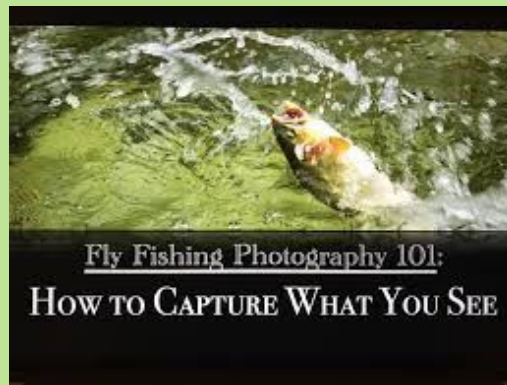
November 1, 7:30 pm

Carol Ann Morris

Carol Ann Morris is a fly-fishing photographer, speaker, videographer, and artist/illustrator, and she partners with her husband, fly designer and author Skip Morris, on his fly-fishing books, articles, and instructional videos. Her Etsy store, [CarolAMorrisFlyFish](#), features photos, artwork, and custom pieces that reflect her love of fly fishing. Prior to being self-employed as a full-time artist and photographer, Carol worked as a small animal veterinarian (both as a practice owner and relief vet), and is now retired after 30 years.

Over the past two decades, Carol's photographs and paintings have not only appeared in most of her husband Skip's 21 fly-fishing and -tying books, but also on the covers and interior pages of such magazines and books as Grey's Sporting Journal, Fly Fisherman, Yale Angler's Journal, American Angler, Fly Fishing & Tying Journal, and America's Favorite Flies.

She has performed her PowerPoint show "Fly-Fishing Photography 101: How to Capture What You See" all over the West--in Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, California, New Mexico--and in the East--Michigan, Ohio--at fly-fishing clubs and sportsmen's shows and fly-fishing expositions.



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

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

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

Happenings

Join us for the annual **Annual Holiday Party and Service Awards** on Monday, **December 13th** at the Southwestern Yacht Club. Please register for the event, cost is \$15, which includes a **special club cocktail**, heavy (as in not your auntie's veggie plate with artichoke cheese dip!) hors d'oeuvres, and **door prizes!**

Celebrate a challenging but eventful year with the club!

[Dinner Details Link](#)

Please RSVP



If these guys show up, let's hope they bring their better half!

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](#)

A reminder that CDFW is requesting anglers voluntarily **avoid fishing after 12 p.m. on select waters throughout California**. This approach directs anglers to focus their angling during the cooler "hoot owl" periods of the day when water temperatures are lowest. These voluntary angling recommendations will be triggered by ongoing monitoring of select fisheries across California. As conditions change, CDFW will post updates on the ["Hoot Owl"](#) information page.

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

Fly Gal Saturday

Saturday, October 23

Knots, Casting, Fly-Tying, Yoga, and much more!



We'll run a full report next issue...

Club outing at Lake Cuyamaca, October 16th

"None of us Flyfishers caught anything. A few strikes reported. The lake was full of fishers and nearly all the RV spaces and lots of camp sights occupied, but no big catches for them either." — Gretchen

Well, as Mel says "hope springs eternal!"



Kai stakes out a super spot for the club on a busy weekend in the mountains.

Feature Article

Fly Fishing, Fall Foliage and Favorite Fish By SDFD "Fossils"

Sam and Mona Morebello

Many of you will remember a SDFD Zoom Meeting featuring fly-fishing in Beaver, Utah, followed by a trip of several of our members last May.

As a much needed, non-mask, get away, we too went to Beaver and fished with Cody Prentice, owner of, *Lost River Anglers* followed by several days in Loa with Mike James, owner of *Quiet Fly Fisher*. Both guides, know each other and do an outstanding job of getting you on fish. Each day was a different stream. They were both sensitive to our ages, skill level and wading abilities.



Mona and Cody



Sam and Mike



Fish Lake, Utah

Feature Article, cont.

We were lucky enough to catch seven different species: lake trout, perch and kokanee salmon in Fish Lake; rainbow, brown and Bonneville cutthroat in Clear Creek and the Beaver River; and brook trout in the Fremont River. Mona's best catch was an 18-inch, 3-pound salmon. The salmon were jumping out of the water getting ready to go upstream to spawn. Very exciting! Sam's most colorful fish was a 12-inch brookie.



This part of Utah is beautiful with several National Parks close together. We spent a day in Capitol Reef National Park, perfect day to give our casting arms a rest! The Petroglyphs made us feel younger.



Contact Information:

Cody Prentice @ Lost River Anglers Cell: 435-590-1444

Mike James @ Quiet Flyfisher Cell: 435-616-2319

Planned Trips 2021

November 14, 7:00 am Tidelands, San Diego Bay



**See Kai about getting
your very own SDF
mug!**

Dec. 18 El Capitan Reservoir

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

Polish pheasant tail nymph



Recipe

- Hook:** Fulling Mill Ultimate size 20
- Thread:** Uni 8/0 Fire Orange
- Tail:** Natural brown cock or hen fibres
- Tag:** Fire Orange thread
- Rib:** Extra small copper wire
- Body:** Cock pheasant tail
- Thorax:** Black Peacock Diamond-Brite
- Head:** 1mm gold tungsten bead

[Tying Instructions Video](#)

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 SDFF 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.

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

SDFF Golden Trout Recovery Project

We just got back from dropping the cattle exclusion fence at Casa Vieja Meadow in the Golden Trout Wilderness, and I'm excited to report how well the meadow and the golden trout are surviving the drought.

USFS has "grandfathered" the rights for a cattle ranch near Olancho CA to graze a specified number of cattle in Casa Vieja Meadow between July 1 and September 30 each year. SDFF volunteers have been maintaining this barbed wire and electric fence for 15 years. The fence is designed to keep the cattle out of this sensitive alpine meadow and fragile Nine Mile Creek which is a small tributary to the Kern River. Each June we repair the posts and reattach the barbed wire and then drop the wire before the snows in October. Some years the cattle break through the fence and the cowboys are slow to move them out. The damage grazing cattle have done to these High Sierra meadows and the small trout streams running through them is appalling.



Sometimes when we are struggling back up the trail or making the long drive home it is easy to wonder whether it was worth it. This year, with the drought and the fires, we were concerned that the creek may have dried up or the fish suffered. Driving in on a Friday morning, we found Sherman Pass Road above the Blackrock Ranger Station closed due to fires and the sky clouded with smoke. Even the road to the trailhead was closed, but the ranger let us through. When we hiked down to the meadow we found the fence, grass and stream inside the fence, to be in surprisingly great shape. Most of the area outside the fence are barren dirt covered with cow pies, but inside the grass was high and thick. Even though the grass was getting dry and brown there were still many marshy areas and the stream was running well. The grass is thick and the stream is narrow so in many areas it was difficult to cast a fly to the water. But wherever my fat #14 caddis got to the stream a golden would come up from the deep undercuts and take it for a ride. These beautiful trout are still healthy and hungry. YES, all of our hard work was worth it.

USFS Ranger Rachel Leiterman joined us working in the meadow, and wanted me to pass along USFS thanks for all our Club's efforts. With just two Rangers managing the thousands of acres in the Golden Trout Wilderness they can't possibly succeed without a lot of help from volunteer groups, and they say "SDFF is the best!"

These photos show the depth and density of the grasses inside the fence compared to the heavily grazed area outside of the fence. To see the difference that the fence has made, especially in this tough drought year, is heartening. I just wanted to pass this good news along to brighten your day and thank you all.

Gary Strawn, your conservation chair.

If you know of a good conservation project that needs support, please share your ideas with the committee.
Gary Strawn conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Women's Programs

SDFF Fly Gal Saturday!

Thanks you to all of the amazing instructors and volunteers who made it happen. Thank you for all who attended, it was better than I could have ever imagined!

Brooke Sargent



We will have a more detailed review next issue!

Project Healing Waters

Project Healing Waters

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing is a nationwide non-profit dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education, classes and outings. The Program has been in existence since 2006. Our San Diego Program is one of 200+ such programs in the U.S. Each Program is organized and maintained through a local fly fishing club, in our case the San Diego Fly Fishers. Our San Diego Program first started in 2009.

WHEN: The first and third Wednesdays of every month at 5:00 p.m.
Next class is Wednesday, November 3rd.

WHERE: Santee Historical Society Edgemoor Barn, (The White Barn),
9200 North Magnolia Avenue, Santee.

WHAT: Classes on fly tying, fly casting and general fly fishing information.
Some fishing outings are planned as conditions permit.

WHO: All disabled military, active duty or retired, are welcome to join us. No prior fly fishing (or any fishing) experience necessary. No charge. All fly fishing and fly tying equipment and material available free of charge.

Please RSVP to our San Diego Program Lead, [Lee McElravy](#)

We are happy to address any questions you may have to help you get started.

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

SWCFFI



Check This Out!

[Fly Fishers International's Virtual Expo](#)

We have lots of live events planned for 2021-2022 and are excited to add a new event to the calendar this year, the Fall FlyBuy. It will be everything you love about the regular FlyBuy but with a few new twists. Here's what we have planned for 2021 - 2022. We hope you join the fun!

- Fall FlyBuy - Saturday, November 13, 2021, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Long Beach Casting Club
- Trout Rodeo - February 19, 2022. Michael Schweit (specialprojects@swcffi.org)
- Riptide Rendezvous 2022 - Date TBD
- Fly Buy (Winter) 2022 - Date TBD

Women's Programs - Cat White ([Women's Programs](#)) continues to introduce new programs to the coun-

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 2022!**

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 through 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!

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

John's Dorado!



The Prez with a Ladyfish!



Mel shares a rare photo that shows more fish than fly!

Steve with a beautiful Gallo!



Guides and Resources

San Diego Fly Fishers does not endorse nor 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](#)

[Wild Fly Anglers](#)

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

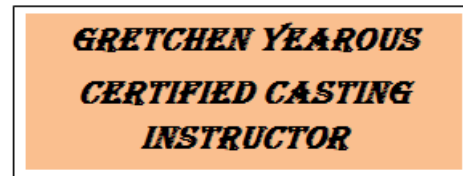
[Dreamflows](#)

[USGS Flows](#)

[California Data Exchange](#)

[Lower Owens River](#)

Thanks for supporting San Diego Fly Fishers



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! Or, TENT CAMP FOR FREE!
PROOF REQUIRED!

LAKE CUYAMACA NEEDS YOUR HELP! KILL A CARP!

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 |
| John Ashley | Communications Coordinator |
| Tim Garcia | Youth Programs |
| Bruce Harris | At large |
| Mark Hedderson | Editor Finny Facts / Indicator |
| Tim Huckaby | Speaker Programs |
| Warren Lew | Fundraising/At large |
| Brooke Sargent | Women's Programs |
| Kai Schumann | Outings Coordinator |
| Gary Strawn | Conservation |
| John Wylie | Casting Program Instruction 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

Name That Species!



Tim Huckaby: "I don't know what the hell this fish is."

Can you identify this fish taken during the club's trip to Estero Coyote, Baja?



Diplodus sargus

This sargo looks similar, but is native to the Mediterranean, so unless it was a very motivated swimmer...



Anisotremus davidsonii

This sargo is occasionally caught in San Diego waters. A member of the grunt family, but probably not the fish in question.



Haemulon sexfasciatum

The greybar grunt is found in Baja waters south of *Guerrero Negro*, so it could be our mystery fish.

And the winner is... **Justin Jackson!** Who guessed that the fish in question is a **sargo**. Well, maybe, But regardless, he wins because he submitted the only answer and therefore gets a beer (or beverage of choice) at the next club meeting!

My guess is a greybar grunt, yet the caudal fin (tail) on the mystery fish doesn't really match. Here's the problem: Tim's picture fails to show the fish in full profile. In fact, Tim's picture is probably lacking on many fronts, and we can get Carol Ann Morris to confirm this. The good news is that on this occasion Tim did not drop his phone into the water while taking the picture!