

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

SEPTEMBER 2010

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 15, No. 9

September Meeting

Fly Fishing Our Local Kelp Beds



Our speaker for the September Membership Meeting is well known local guide and fly shop owner, **Peter Piconi**. The last time we saw Peter he was describ-

ing fishing for Steelhead on the Klamath. On September 13 he will show us the great saltwater fishery that we can see within a couple hundred yards

continued on page 7

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, September 13, 2010
7:30 PM

Sequoia Elementary School
4690 Limerick Avenue
(See map on back page)

REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for this meeting
(report at 6:15 PM)

**Les Schultz and
Jack Fletcher**

Thank You, Mona Morebello

FISHIN' 'ROUND HERE

Gretchen Yearous

Years back, **Eileen and Bill Stroud** offered a prize for the flyfisher who caught the biggest fish for the year. Surprisingly, or not, **Dennis Ditmars** caught a monster bass at Poway late March. Not to give up hope, **Kim Jones** and I went in search of a larger fish – a monstrous carp. That led us to discover many of our local lakes in search of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Needless to say, we didn't best Dennis' bass but we had fun trying. Soooooo - I am reliving this adventure with the goal of fishing lakes that I haven't fished in many years or lakes I have never fished. Let me know if anyone wants to join me in this quest. We might even catch fish. Our choices are more limited due to some lakes' ruling of not letting us float tube or wade. No float tubing at Poway, Jennings, Henshaw (no wading allowed there either).

I have had different experiences so far. I had double hookups with crappie at **Cuyamaca** and 5 trout on the same day in June. Hit **Sutherland** twice in July. Kim and I hit that years ago and I caught nothing. This time, caught an 18" carp which drug me all over and was hard to get up to the surface, some bluegill, and saw amazing animal



and bird wildlife roaming. I saw a long shoreline between the dam and the boat dock that could be waded so I thought maybe a ladies day outing could work. I went back for an afternoon/evening bite to check it out. I chose not to wade there because my backcast would have hooked a long-horn Brahman bull or an Angus or a Hereford or the strangely marked long-horned Bessie bovine who came over the hill where I was tubing a cove. She looked like a dalmation. Couldn't wait to see her calf that was calling her. I did however learn how the wadeable shoreline was sloped. **The shoreline was gently sloped and was about bovine belly deep as some cattle were wading.** I saw carp cruising the shoreline by the parking lot in the middle of the after-

continued on page 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: SEPTEMBER 2010

I trust all of you are enjoying the fly fishing on our local waters. A huge lesson I have learned, over the last eight months, is that the opportunities are endless...get out and cast a line.

More than thirty members and family enjoyed an evening on Shelter Island. Fish were caught and we all enjoyed a BBQ pot luck and a beautiful sunset on San Diego Bay. My gratitude and thanks go out to

Jim Castelluzzo and the staff of Outboard Boat Club. Their organization and hard work made our evening a total success.



LARRY SORENSEN

Once again we have the pleasure of working with the Boy Scouts. Their Powder Horn outing is planned for 4 September. If you would like to

teach fly tying or fly casting to these Scouts, contact **Bob Pharoah**.

Soon we will be heading back up to the Golden Trout Wilderness. If you are interested in some special fishing and **WORK**, contact **Gary Strawn**. I know I will

not miss the trip.

Plans are working for another Day at the Beach. Arrive early, cast on

the surf, and enjoy a hot breakfast. Day, time, and place to be announced soon.

As always, I want to thank those members who constantly work to make my job easier. It seems though to be the same names and faces. If you would like to get involved, work on planning an outing or event or devote time to a club cause, contact me or any member of the Board of Directors. Contact me direct at

or phone:

See you all at the next monthly meeting.

Here's a tip that'll make using the SDFD forum a lot easier: **—Automatic Log In—**

Note: do not use this tip on a "public" computer only use it on your private computer.

The next time you visit the SDFD forum (<http://www.sandiegoflyfishers.com/forums>), when logging in, click the checkbox that says —Log me on automatically each visit. Having enabled auto login, never click on the Logout link to leave the forum. Instead, simply use your browser to go to a different web site ... or ... exit your browser. (Your browser is the application, such as Internet Explorer, Firefox or Safari, that you use to access the internet). The next time you visit the SDFD forum, you'll be logged on automatically. (Even if your computer has been completely turned off). This is particularly true if you are subscribed to one of the subforums and you receive an email notice that the subforum has new messages. Simply click on the link that is in the email notice and you'll be taken directly to the new message without having to log in.

After enabling automatic log in, it is still possible for you to be required to log in using your login name and password. Here are the things that may cause this to happen.

- you explicitly log out from the forum using the log out link
- you erase browser —cookies—
- you log into the forum using a different browser than the one you used to enable automatic login.
- you log into the forum from a different computer than the one you used to enable automatic login.
- (rare) the forum administrator has updated the forum software.

Should you be required to log in (after having enabled auto login), simply recheck the —Log me on automatically each visit— checkbox and future logins will again be automatic. Please - if you use a computer that other non-family members use, do not use auto login and ALWAYS explicitly log out when finished using the forum.

Your SDFD Forum Administrator
David Collins



LAST CHANCE



Attention!

The following people have won one or more prizes that are still unclaimed. The September meeting will be your last chance to claim your prizes. After the September meeting all unclaimed prizes will become the property of the club.

John Collins	\$25 Gift Certificate
Tom Garcia	Lake Jennings boat/permits 4 people \$25 Gift Certificate
Geroge Gates	Morning Star Lanyard
Scott Shenk	Guide Book, Tom Loe flies and Under-Cators, Western Outdoor News
Clint Williams	2 Mel Krieger DVDs, Subscription to Western Outdoor News
Mark Stuvetraa	Journal, subscription to Western Outdoor News and a Calendar

FLY OF THE MONTH

BTA CRANEFLY By Jack Dennis

Thread:	brown 6/0 Gudebrod thread
Hook:	Dai-Riki 730
Wing:	pearlescent Krystal Flash or Rainbow Thread
Legs:	medium brown sililegs
Back:	brown fly foam
Belly:	light tan fly foam
Thorax dubbing:	Arizona Crystal rabbit or similar in light brown color
Rib:	gold flashabou or small gold mylar (optional)



TYING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut two pieces of foam, one of each color about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch across and taper toward one end.
2. Hold the two pieces of foam with the tan color on top and tie in at the middle of the shank of the hook tying them in at the wide spot on the foam and leaving the thinner end of the foam extending toward the rear. It can be helpful to put a drop of super glue gel at the tie in point before you tie in. That will keep the foam from slipping on the hook.
3. Holding the foam up in your left hand, advance the thread toward the rear of the fly. Put enough pressure on the thread to make a ribbing on the body of the fly. This will make segments. Leave a little foam at the end which will form the tail.
4. Advance the thread forward ribbing the body in the same places as you did when you tied toward the rear. Your thread should end up at the tie in point at the middle of the fly.
5. Clip off the brown foam and leave the tan foam intact.
6. Advance the thread forward over the tan foam to the eye then back to the middle of the hook.
7. Cut out a bundle of Pearlescent Rainbow Thread or Krystal Flash. This bundle should be about 3 inches long.
8. Tie in the Krystal Flash midway down the shank of the hook. About 2 inches of this should extend toward the rear of the fly and the rest toward the front. It often helps to put a small drop of super glue at the tie in point to keep things from slipping and to increase the durability. Make a few wraps of thread forward.
9. Make a few wraps of thread in front of the Krystal Flash then stand it up and circle it with wraps of thread to form an indicator.
10. Cut out a piece of brown foam about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch across and an inch long. Cut it down the middle for about a half an inch.
11. Tie the brown foam piece in just behind the indicator with the split end extending toward the rear.
12. Dub a few turns forward then tie in the legs, one on each side of the body. You can use either one or two sets of legs.
13. Continue dubbing forward both in front and behind the legs until the abdomen has been dubbed. You should end up just behind the eye of the hook.
14. Pull the brown foam forward around the parachute post. Tie it down in the front just behind the eye. Trim and whip finish.

Fly of the Month ONLINE

David Collins, our San Diego Fly Fishers website webmaster, says the Fly of the Month is now online. Check it out at: <http://www.sandiegoflyfishers.com/fotm/>



FISHIN' 'ROUND HERE

continued from page 1

noon. Got broken off the last time on the brim fly. Want to go back there when the water levels are lowered. The bass will bite better so I was told or try to wade the shoreline for cruising carp..

Hodges fishing plan was a bad outcome first week of August. Decided to experiment by launching at the boat launch late afternoon and letting the white cap winds troll me back around the point to the stickup areas by the boat rental bay. Got a strike by the off shore boat dock and another later by the stickups. No evening topwater action. Should have launched by the Hernando's Highway because the wind wasn't very bad over there. Do-over and take mosquito repellent.

Seniors can rent a boat weekdays at **Morena** for a nominal fee of (I think) around \$9. I want to do that and literally comb the entire lake. There is so much of that lake that I have never fished. Sometimes during the hot shallow water conditions, the fish hold in the top ten feet due to no oxygen at lower levels. Top of the list adventure there.

Have never fished **Henshaw**. Called up there after the Club's carp program and was told by the concession that wading wasn't allowed nor were float

tubes. She put me in touch with Vista water district who told me that float tubing wouldn't present any health hazard for the drinking water up there. The business (insurance risk) decisions were left up to the concessionaire. Heard that Peter and his friend were asked by lake monitors in a boat to get out of the lake when they were wading this year. I think maybe we as a club might want to consider getting involved with discussions with the concessionaires. I got the explanation that they didn't want any drownings via waders filling up with water or pontoons capsizing. **Anybody want to join me in engaging discussions up there?** I would sign a waiver to fish there.

Wohlford – ah yes. We were advised that big carp lived there. Kim and I were very hopeful this would be our trophy fish to best Dennis. So We fished the cove opposite the boat dock and caught a few very small catfish that poked a hole in my floattube. When it went flat, we relocated to the far end past the quaint restaurant and lodging. She waded the tules in search of carp, battling knee sucking mud while I waded the shoreline below the parking lot where I caught 2 large catfish that fought like bass. Float tube launch sites are restricted. I have heard that carp are also down by the dam buoy lines.

Santee Lakes – I hear there are large carp over there this time of year. I know it is a private lake situation. More investigation needed. Some tubing is allowed.

Lower Otay – we did that one too but the bass tournament boat racing style kept the fish down for us. Heard in July about a spot on the lake where there is a nice drop off for all the fish. Worth checking out. Already fished Upper Otay and caught a 20" bass and a few bluegill. Others have done much better early season.

Haven't done Lake Elsinore, Diamond Valley Lake, or Perris Lake. Sonia and I fished Laguna Nigel in early 09 and saw and caught very big steelhead. It is private so expect to pay up.

Streams -Would love to get back up to the **San Antonio** which runs through Mt. Baldy and especially the upper section above the Ice House. Louie Zimm and I checked that out 15 years ago. It was pretty and okay fishing. Not interested in revisiting Lytle Creek. Shelley and gals – do you remember that was the coldest day we ever fished? **Deep Creek** has water but haven't fished that for years either. Anybody been up there this year?



An Evening on the Bay

Our Club held an afternoon and evening of fishing and dining on San Diego Bay. About 30 members and guests gathered at the Outboard Boating Club on Shelter Island the afternoon of August 7th. Members provided side dishes and desserts, the club provided the ribs and chicken. The weather and fish cooperated for a wonderful afternoon.

Kudos to **Jim Castelluzzo** for providing the great venue and Larry Sorensen for his culinary skills at the Barbeque. Thanks guys for a super time.

See photos on page 6.



AN EVENING ON THE BAY



Soft Hackle Techniques

Revised notes by Lucky Ketcham, SDFE Feather Benders
January 20, 2009

1. A full soft hackle is tied in by the fine tip, folded and wrapped 1.5 times, then try it fuller with 3 wraps of hackle.

2. One half the hackle is tied in by the fine tip and wrapped 1.5 times, then try it fuller with 3 wraps. Try to look at the curve of the feather and strip the side that will have the quill to the hook. Remember, concave, dull side to the rear, convex, shiny side to the front. (Charles Jardine style)
Sparse legs are usually better.

3. Full soft hackle, sized and tied in by the base or quill, wrapped 1.5 times. The dubbing is tied in after the hackle is tied in. The hackle is wrapped after the body and thorax are formed.

4. One half the soft hackle, tied in by the base or quill, wrapped 1.5 times. (Dave Hugh's style) Dave likes this one because the tip pulls

out or breaks too easily. The dubbing body is made after tying in the hackle and the heavy quill is covered. The hackle is wrapped after the body and thorax are formed. The fluff at the base of the feather is stripped off and the barbs are stripped off up to the desired length of the legs. This trick helps you from making nymphs with legs that are too long. It works best on larger patterns like the 16, 14, 12, 10 versions. It is hard to grab on to the tips of very small feathers with your hackle pliers without breaking them.

5. **Paint Brush Style** - This method depends less on finding very small soft hackle and lets you use up some of the hackle that was too big or too long. I just learned this method. Mount the hook and start the thread with a jam knot in the position of the legs, two hook eyes back from the eye. 7/8 of the hook shank. Wrap a thread base to the point of the hook and back to the leg position. Let the bobbin hang down. Pull the fibers of a hen or partridge soft hackle to the side of the quill to make a group of 10 to 12 approximately the same length. Pinch the barbs with your finger tips while cutting them close to the quill. Carefully position the barbs over the top of the hook with points extending forward. Determine the size of your legs by having the points at the eye and the butts just over the point for a Mayfly nymph and over the bend of the hook for a Caddis pupa. Remember, caddis pupae will now have very long legs. The recipes that call for

legs 2 hook gaps long or 1 shank length are usually imitating caddis patterns.

Anyway hold the little bundle over the hook to size the length. Now slide the bundle forward to your 7/8 shank tie in point. Make two soft pinch wraps of thread to secure the soft hackles. Take your finger nails and spread the barbs evenly around the hook. Check the length of the legs and make minor adjustments before you make the tight thread wraps. When you are satisfied that the legs will be the desired length when folded back, make a few tight wraps of thread right on top of each other. You want to make a sharp shoulder and take care not to make wraps forward. Lift up the butts of the hackle and make three cuts to help form a tapered. Cover the butts with thread as you wrap back to the bend. With this technique the dubbing or silk is added after the hackling. The first four techniques usually dub the bodies and thorax before the soft hackle.

The body can be many different types of material. The thin tapered body could be peacock herl, goose or turkey biots, rabbit, goat, cat, dog, Larvae Lace micro tubing, silk, or floss. Wrap the body with a cigar shape for the caddis and more tapered for the mayflies. Pupa bodies are shorter than larval bodies. Many soft hackle bodies only go to the point of the hook, not the bend. Many patterns will have a slightly larger ball of darker dubbing for the thorax. The ball will help

Fishing Our Local Kelp Beds

continued from page 1

along our coast. Since kelp harvesting stopped a couple years ago this forest of food greenery has grown to cover nearly the whole Pacific coast. Peter will show us what he has learned armed with a 6, 8, or 10 weight rod. Desirable structure, retrieval rates, water and fly colors, and seasons for different fish will be shown for impressive hookups and possible fresh fish for the dinner table.

Gary Farrar

continued on next page



Soft Hackle Techniques

continued from previous page

hold out the soft hackle from the body. Charles Jardine said he likes to keep his bodies smaller and does not normally use a larger ball of dubbing. He takes great care to wrap his quills one in front of the other and ties them down without twisting. He wants to form a small umbrella, or Umbel of sparse legs.

With the Paint Brush Method, the dubbing is brought up to the that sharp shoulder of thread only. The thread is worked through the hackle without trapping fibers. At the same time all the soft hackle is folded back. Carefully make a thread dam of wraps in front of the umbel. On small patterns the thread is used to form a head and whip finished behind the eye. On larger patterns you may need to add a little thorax colored dubbing and then the thread head whip finish.

The Paint Brush method can be fairly difficult on small 18 and 20 patterns, but it may be the only way you can find the proper length hackle legs without the hackle feathers being so delicate that they break on you with other techniques. Also if you do not buy your partridge and grouse on a skin, it will be hard to find small feathers in those bulk bags. Many of the feathers will go to waste if you do not learn a trick on how to use them.

Lucky

Selected Soft Hackle Patterns

notes by Lucky, SDFP, January 2009

Notice most of these soft hackles are tied on curved scud hooks. The heavier wire, 2X Heavy, help provide weight on the nymphs.



Starling and Herl Nymph



Yallerhammer Soft Hackle – a PMD pattern, in 16 and 18



Grey Soft Hackle and Herl Nymph



Yellow Cat and Partridge – a PMD pattern in 16 and 18



Blue Quill Wet Fly – Blue Dun (Grey) with a slip of duck quill for a wet fly swing.



Hot Spot Tups – for Pale Evening Dun emergers, in 16 and 18
Remember the pink /orange “Tups color” was originally from urine stained rams wool, shaved from the testes of a breeding ram. The yellow dubbing is probably wool, fine Angora goat or rabbit.



Recipients of the
Stroud Award

- 2004-Jim Brown
- 2005-Allen Greenwood
- 2006- Hugh Marx
- 2007- Mike Rivkin
- 2008- Bill Van Wulven
- 2009- Larry Bottroff



EILEEN STROUD CONSERVATION FUND



Donations are gratefully accepted
Make checks payable to Eileen Stroud Conservation Fund

Mail to:
Stroud Conservation Fund
1457 Morena Blvd
San Diego, CA 92110

All funds collected in Eileen's name will be donated to fresh water fish conservation or research programs in San Diego County.

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For unselfish and outstanding service
to the flyfishing community

- | | |
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| 1995-Bob Wisner | 2005-Jim Reeg |
| 1996-Gary Hilbers | 2006-John Kasten |
| 1997-Jack Bentley | 2007-Lucky Ketcham |
| 1998-Gordie Zimm | 2008-Louie Zimm |
| 1999-Gretchen Yearous | 2009-Warren Lew |
| 2000-Tom Smith | |

Cutoff date for **October FINNY FACTS**
articles---**Friday September 17th.**

Send articles to:
Rose and Roger Yamasaki,
5415 Lodi Place
San Diego, CA 92117

You can E-mail at finnyfacts@gmail.com Thanks!!

Send change of address information,signup for
electronic version of newsletter, or Club mem-
bership renewal to:

Lucky Ketcham



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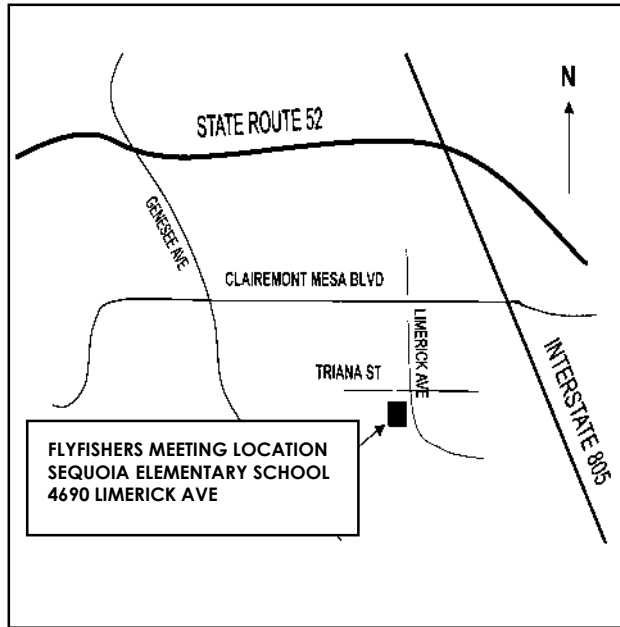
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Meeting Place for Workshops
 San Carlos Recreation Center near
 Lake Murray. (We no longer meet
 at the Lake Murray Water Training
 Facility at Lake Murray). The address
 is 6445 Lake Badin Ave. To get there
 from Hwy. 8, take the Lake Murray
 Blvd. exit just like you were going to
 the lake. Instead of turning into
 Kiowa, keep going on Lake Murray
 Blvd. another 1.6 miles. When you
 come to Lake Adlon Drive, (first
 corner past Jackson Dr.) turn left. Go
 down three blocks and the recre-
 ation center will be on your right. It
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