

# FINNY FACTS

January 2021

## San Diego Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 44 No. 01

**Monday, January 4th, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Join us for our next Club Meeting**  
**Featuring:**

**Joel Stewart**



***There's Still A Fly Rod in My Sea Bag***

Time to renew your membership with  
**San Diego Fly Fishers for 2021**

Club Meeting: [Zoom Link](#)

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

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Please send submissions to  
[editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

# President's Message

This was a year like no other. We started with an excellent dinner and award banquet at the Admiral Baker Club in January. We had some new board members and prospects of an exciting year with plans for a couple of fundraisers and some exciting fishing outings. Within a few short months our world changed.

I have always evaluated the success of a team, not by how well they perform in the good times, but rather how they perform in the face of conflict and unexpected change. I am proud to have had our 2020 San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors (BOD) on my team this year. Your board has stepped up and sustained our club during this difficult year. I was pleased to recognize each board member with a custom fly fishing shirt with our club logo for their contributions during an extraordinary year.

We kept our BOD meeting schedule and monthly general meetings and speaker presentations using the zoom teleconference platform. **Tim Huckaby**, **Mike Gilroy** and **Dr. Mel Ochs** made this happen. This was essential in keeping our club alive without in person meetings. **Bruce Harris** kept our finances in order; Dr. Mel Ochs also served as our board secretary and helped with the Thursday fly tying congress hosted by **Lucky Ketchum**. Mel also ran **Bob Pharoah's** Wednesday outing group. **Gary Strawn** kept us engaged in the conservation work with his work in the Golden Trout Wilderness; **Alan Thompson** kept track of our membership and collecting essential club dues.

Tim Huckaby, our programs chair, is now developing a twice monthly speaker presentation; **Kai Schumann** organizes our monthly outings and made great lunches while maintaining safe health practices at all times. **Lee McElravy** serves as our legal advisor and Project Healing Waters representative; **John Wylie** kept our casting program going with small group meetings at ski beach since Lake Murray was closed. **Mark Hedderson**, continues to produce our excellent Finny Facts and Indicator; **Sherry Ashbaugh**, past President, was in charge of fundraising and starting our women's group, and **Warren Lew**, member at large, was also helping with fundraising. Mike Gilroy, our communications coordinator, worked closely with our web master David Collins and Editor, on our club messaging. Mike also helped out with club outings and will organize a grand re-opening feast when we can reconvene our in person meeting.

Mel Ochs, Bob Pharoah, Mike Gilroy and Tim Huckaby received a **Paul Woolery** special handcrafted fly plate for their outstanding contributions to the club this year. Bob was recognized for his contribution to the club for organizing along with his sidekick Lucky Ketchum, spectacular DIY camp out trips to the Green River and the Big Hole over a period of many years. Bob embodies everything special about being an avid adventurer and special trip organizer for the club.

I had the pleasure of joining Bob and Lucky on two of these trips. I traveled from Italy to Montana to meet up with them and my pontoon boat on one trip. We are lucky to have mentors like Bob Pharoah and Lucky Ketchum in this club.

I am pleased to announce four new board members for 2021. **Andrea Rae** will serve as Club Treasurer, **John Ashley** will be our communications coordinator, **Brooke Sargent** will be our women's' program coordinator, and **Tim Garcia** will be our Member At large developing our Youth Programs.

The year 2021 looks bright and full of promise. We have the team to grow and move this club forward. There are some great destination trips planned to Montana and Mexico this year, along with our outings and monthly programs planned for this year. I would also like to thank our **Erik Helgeson** who generously offered the use of his house to club members on the Fall River in the northern California. This is in the middle of several trophy trout streams near Mt. Shasta and the upper Sacramento River. I hope we can plan something with Erik in 2021. I also have some ideas for new adventures in the works and I am always open to suggestions.

Join us on **January 4th, 2021, 7:30 PM** for our General Meeting Guest Speaker our own **Captain Joel Stewart** with his talk " There's Still A fly Rod in My Sea Bag." We may all want to join up after we see this program!

Let's get it done in 2021!

Jim Castelluzzo  
January 1, 2021

[president@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:president@sandiegoflyfishers.com)



# Join us!

## Speaker Programs

# Zoom!

**Monday, January 4, 7:30 pm**

### ***Joel Stewart***

Joel's presentation will focus on fishing an Indian Ocean atoll with access limited to assigned military personnel and support staff. Species available include giant, golden, and blue fin trevally; Indo Pacific permit, bonefish, emperor fish, trigger fish, barracuda, and anything else that will bite a fly.

Capt. Joel Stewart grew up in Great Falls Montana where he was immersed in an outdoors culture. He learned to fish about the time he learned to walk, began to tie flies at age six, and was tying commercially at eight. As a teenager, he worked summers in a tackle store and winters in a taxidermy studio. He spent one summer as a custom fly rod builder's apprentice.

His career in the Navy has allowed him to fish on six continents and catch dozens of species of fish, mostly on a fly rod. He served in Iraq in 2005 and founded the Baghdad Angler's Club and School of Fly Fishing. He wrote the book, *A Fly Rod in My Sea Bag*, about his time in Iraq and the club he started up to support service men and women far from home. In service to our country, he has spent 35 years in uniform, 21 of those years at sea, including command of the amphibious transport dock ship, USS ANCHORAGE (LPD 23). He remains on active duty and is currently stationed on Diego Garcia as the commodore for a squadron of supply ships. Aside from his duties he holds a fly fishing class for all comers every Wednesday evening.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting :**

<https://zoom.us/j/97836563051?pwd=QXJHT05wejdWM3dRZnB5ZHIhK3AyZz09>

Meeting ID: 978 3656 3051 Password: SDF-4U

A few ground rules so that this call will be enjoyable, Please review the following before you login:

- Please test your camera, speakers and microphone before joining the meeting to be sure they are working on your end.
- Everyone who connects to the call will have their audio muted by default. The moderator will control the audio and unmute your microphone when you are going to ask a question or make a comment.
- If you wish to ask a question please send a message to the moderator using the chat function or raise your hand using the participants function (this can be done at any time). The Speaker and moderator will coordinate on responding to anyone who wishes to ask a question.
- We will wait until the end of the presentation to allow people to ask questions and comment. We will call on you and allow you to speak.

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

# Happenings

**SDFF president James Castelluzzo meets at Shelter Island on a chilly day with the board to present some gifts of appreciation, embroidered fishing shirts and framed flies.**



Mike Gilroy, Alan Thompson, Gary Strawn, Jim Castelluzzo, Kai Schumann, and Mel Ochs

John Wylie and the Prez



Mel and Mike with custom fly plates.



# Happenings



The board, in turn, shows their appreciation of the president with a lovely gift that's sure to please the lady of the house.



Custom fly plates created by Paul Woolery.



Tim Huckaby



Sherry Ashbaugh



Mark Hedderson

# Feature Article

## Fly Fishing Kauai for Bluefin Trevally from Shore

By Tim Huckaby

*I saw the flash, but it was a good 60 feet away....*

There are so many ways to fly fish the saltwater of Kauai. In this article I will be focusing on just one of the ways: hunting the predator gamefish from shore.

This was a last-minute trip my wife Kelly and I pulled off on points. We snuck it in between the closing of the Hawaiian Islands in the basically three week period that the islands were open in 2020 because of COVID-19. We own a timeshare in Poipu at the Marriott Waiohai.

20 plus years ago I was totally against buying it, but was talked into it, unwillingly, by my Kelly. I was totally wrong. It was the smartest thing we have ever done. We go every September, travelling on points, after the kids go back to school and the island is less crowded. But Covid-19 cancelled this year's September trip. With Kelly going stir crazy at the house and a government regulated testing program in place we snuck in a weeklong trip.... And we were lucky. With "no one" on the island it was easy to be covid safe. The islands locked down again just a few days after we left.

The good news was that the island of Kauai was pretty empty of tourists because of the rigorous requirements of passing governmental covid testing and the short notice of the openings and closing of the islands. I am confident I will never ever again experience the beaches of that island so empty. I always worry about my back-cast hitting a curious tourist walking up behind me; not on this trip. The bad news is the Hawaiian economy, almost solely dependent on tourism, is decimated. So many businesses and restaurants closed. The people of Kauai are suffering...or will be when governmental aid runs out. The business owners are definitely suffering. Even the Hyatt itself in Poipu has closed indefinitely. That is a huge, wildly popular resort that is even frequented by the rich and famous. Such difficult times.

### The Fishing

Ok, let's get to the fishing. I did well. I caught around a dozen bluefin trevally over four 2-4 hour fly fishing sessions. So it's not like it was steelhead fishing slow in terms of lack of action. But, it wasn't like it was crazy nuts getting struck on every cast trout fishing. Typically what happens when we visit Kauai is that we pick a new adventure every day. The "battle" between Kelly and me is that we are on one of the, if not *the*, nicest beaches on the island in Poipu, so leaving that beach just feet from our condo is hard for her; understandably so. Since I can't sit still I will typically snorkel or fly fish or find something else to keep me busy. Or she'll just put a rum drink in my hand to keep me from being fidgety. Rum does work to slow me down.



## Feature Article, cont.

### The Bluefin Trevally

The bluefin trevally was the fish I was hunting. Two Septembers ago I caught a few special ones, after figuring out how to fish them and that changed me forever. I now dream about fishing for bluefin trevally. They are an amazing gamefish predator to battle on a fly rod; very special. They fight like hell. I (remember a) monster bluefin trevally I lost many years ago at Mahaulepu that will haunt me forever. Also, one of my favorite stories from a few years back is fishing bait on conventional gear with my son, Mark. I bought a cheap \$20 trout rod for him at the Walmart on the island. We were on top of the cliff at secret beach in Mahaulepu. He hooked and landed a large marbled hawkfish (called a piliko'a in Hawaii). The hawkfish looks poisonous it has so many spines. And you can't grab them because of those spines. We had trouble releasing it with forceps, so I told him to give it a breather in the water and we'd try again after it breathed a bit. While the fish struggled on the top of the water column, clearly tired, a three foot long Blue Trevally came from nowhere like lightning and swallowed it. It took off like a gun shot and started peeling six pound test mono from that cheap trout rod... for about two seconds when that cheap reel couldn't keep up and the line just snapped. We both looked at each other in shock. I simply said, "that was the blue trevally." He said, "Oh my God...."

One of the Bluefins I caught on this trip was special and has a story. More on that in a bit. I did catch a handful of predator reef fish in the mix. It was not crazy every cast getting struck upper Kern River or Clark Fork River crazy like us trout fishermen sometimes experience. I did have to work for the fish I caught. Frequently I had to work an area for 30+ casts before getting a strike.



One of the obstacles to avoid when fly fishing Kauai: the endangered Hawaiian monk seal.



Another not so endangered species to avoid tripping over: the green sea turtle.



How'd ya like to pull the fly out of the face of this beast?

## Feature Article, cont.

### Keys to Success

To be successful fly fishing the bluefin trevally (and other similar predators shore-fishing in Kauai) there is a prescription for success. I am not claiming to be an expert, yet, by any stretch. But, every hour on the water; every year gets me closer: You have to be able to double haul a cast more than 50 feet, frequently into the wind. So, this is the type of fly fishing that is just not for beginners.

- You have to be able to do that double haul while standing on lava or rocks or sand getting pounded by waves. I never do anything too crazy that it's unsafe, but it is annoying when you get pounded.
- You aim for the back of the wave; not in front of it. If you have snorkeled you have seen fish follow the waves, not get pounded in the chop by them. It's easier to keep a tight line in the back of the waves too.
- You have to be willing to lose flies. Anything can happen with that wind and surf that will allow your fly to sink and catch the reef.
- I use a Temple Fork Outfitters (TFO) TiCr2 9'0" 4pc. 300-400GB Lefty Kreh 10 weight with a Rio Outbound short tropical line. TFO has replaced the TiCr2 with the Bluewater SG. With that super fast retrieve I'm fishing the top of the water column so there is no need for casting heaving sinking lines.
- You have to strip as fast as possible. Because of that fast retrieve the take to landing ratio is really good. You rarely miss a fish when you are stripping so fast. Well, except for those damn foot long needle fish that nip at the tails of your flies all the way in.
- You're aiming for deeper water that has structure close. Some of my success is simply hunting where they hang out while snorkeling. Then going back at where they are with a rod. On this trip I was very surprised to run into a school of 20 or so of them in 20 feet of water with a sandy bottom at Poipu beach, though.
- Flies? Well, who knows. My success came on a number of different flies, including bonefish flies (which makes very little sense). For that reason alone it seems that presentation, placement and stripping speed are a lot more important than the fly itself. But, what I was most excited about was catching them on an Avalon Permit fly that my buddy and co-inventor of the fly, William from Cuba and now working at RO Drift boats in Bozeman tied for me.

### Catch and Release

In Hawaii the bluefin trevally is called the Omilu. The Hawaiians not only eat them but consider them a delicacy. If I were offshore in a boat railing tuna I wouldn't have a problem keeping a fish. But, as a tourist, I just don't feel comfortable harvesting fish from shore. There are a lot of local Hawaiians that fish from the shore (netting, spear fishing and bait fishing) every day for simple sustenance. I just don't feel good about being their competition, so I let everything I catch go unharmed. And yeah, I sure do get some strange looks and even some comments when people see me let fish go after catching them.

Other fish I caught on this trip included the marbled hawkfish – piliko'a, and a big ol' wrasse or parrotfish that I had trouble releasing (being careful not to harm it) so I didn't take a picture.



## Feature Article, cont.

### My favorite Takeaway Story of the Trip

There are some things we do every time we visit Kauai. One of them is what we call "the north shore" – Kee beach at the very northern part of the island where the road ends at the Kalalua trailhead. Officially it's called Hā'ena State Park and you have to reserve in advance and pay a fee because it is so popular. I like that. I assume those fees are going to the conservation of that magical place. It's a huge trek from Poipu where our condo is on the southern part of the island in Poipu. It's an all-day thing. It's 51 miles and frequently takes longer than an hour and a half to get to. The interesting thing truly unique about Kauai is that the road doesn't go entirely around the island; not even close. A full third of the island is completely undeveloped jungle. I like that a lot. Anyways, my point is it is a very popular place and normally I have to walk for over a mile to get space to cast. Not on this day, though. No one there. So, I got to hunt.



**I saw the flash, but it was a good 60 feet away.** The wind backed down just long enough for me to double haul my TFO 10 wt. TiCR2 into the zone. Whack! At first, I thought I caught the reef... until the reef started peeling line away. That rod is a single hand rod designed by the Lefty Kreh, but it is a beast with two handles and the fighting butt of a spey rod. The fly was an Avalon Permit fly tied by the William of Cuba, one of the designers who currently works at Ro in Bozeman. That fish gave me everything I had in the fight. Picture little ol me with two hands on the rod and line peeling away. I was using a 20 lb. flouro leader and actually worried about it at points in the battle. Those Bluefins fight so hard. Well, after what seemingly took forever and was probably just a few minutes I had it tired out and on a shelf with water so I could release it. I wanted to do it as quickly as possible so as not to harm the fish. A couple Hawaiians watched in shock as I let it go.

### Epilogue

I still have not caught a bonefish on Kauai. I thought I did two Septembers ago, but one of you readers pointed out that the fish I caught was a related species, but not an actual bonefish. On this trip I did not see a single bonefish so I never got a chance to try. Of course, the way I fished for Trevally is totally contrary to the way you'd fish for bonefish; hunting in shallow water from the beach with pinpoint accurate casts and slow retrieves.

For the full story plus links, see Tim's web page: <https://fly-fishing-blog.timhuckaby.com/>

# Planned Trips 2021

**January 9, 2021**

**7:00 a.m.**

**Bahia Point, Mission Bay**

Start the new year right!

Get your license and

**Renew your membership to SDFF!**



For more information Please contact **Kai Schumann**

or look for details in *the Indicator*.

Questions?

Contact us at [outings@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:outings@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

# Sdff Women's Program

## Attention Lady Fly Fishers!

Happy New Year! I know we are all looking forward to a better 2021.

While COVID-19 placed major restrictions on the in-person plans we had for 2020, I am hoping for more opportunities to meet in 2021. Having said that, we also have topics we can learn about via on-line platforms during the coming years. Please stay tuned, as we develop our plans for 2021.

In the meantime, if you receive the Southwest Council newsletter, you may be interested in the FFI Women Connect fly tying session scheduled for **January 5th at 5:30pm** led by Dutch Baughman; the newsletter contains a link to their Facebook page. This session is one of 3-part series.

You can also find some info on the web site for our national organization, International Federation of Fly Fishers, and search for the Women Connect program.

If you have any suggestions or topics you would like to discuss or learn more about, please don't hesitate to let me know!

Sherry Ashbaugh  
Women's Program Coordinator



More information about future events as they become available. It will be posted here and on Facebook and the Indicator.

Contact Sherry Ashbaugh, [Women's Program](#)

# Fly of the Month

## Flash Surf Fly

Photos and recipe by Tim Garcia.

This has been good for surf perch.

Size 6 hook  
XS or small dumbbell eyes  
Pearl Flashabou  
Orange Krystal flash  
Buck tail (any color)  
Black 210 thread  
Thick UV resin



1. Apply dumbbell eyes use a little more thread to make a lump on top and bottom of wraps.
2. Use about 10 or more strands of pearl Flashabou and tie right behind the eyes, trim excess by eyes if any. wrap thread completely to cover shank from eyes to beginning of the bend. Leave about half inch of Flashabou as a tail.
3. At the bend of the hook use the same amount of Flashabou and lock it into start wrapping pearl all the way to the eyes.
4. Secure wrap with thread behind eyes rotate the fly hook point up.
5. One piece of Krystal flash make four strands and fold over thread. Start wrap right behind hook eye and wrap to the front of the thread lump on the eyes.
6. Pick a small chunk of buck tail and measure to match the length of the orange flash. **\*\*NOTE\*\*** (I use the under coat for finer hairs) Tie buck tail to nose and wrap back to the lump applying a little pressure to flare hairs out a little **\*IMPORTANT\*\***
7. I apply resin along the last thread line to bind thread and buck at meeting point. From side to side as seen in picture.
8. Flip fly and tuck material under the jaws to lay low. Apply a nice line of resin from nose threads to the beginning of the bend of the hook in an even amount.
9. Throw it in the water for fish!



For more information contact [Lucky Ketcham](#)

# 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](#)

Rod Building help is an important benefit of being a San Diego Fly Fisher. In the coming editions of *Finny Facts* and on the Website look for "Tips from Jack" to help those who want to build their own rod.

*"The greatest 5 weight of all time... that will never be matched in 100 lifetimes, which has literally bagged hundreds of trout in its short 9 month lifespan.... has the words "Tim Huckaby" painted on the butt section and was built on Winston boron III LS blanks by the world famous Jack Duncan."*

Contact: [Jack Duncan](#)

# 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.

**Lake Murray** will continue to be on hold, likely through the first half of the year. We will keep everyone updated when we believe we can restart that program safely.

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.

I will be taking indications of interest the next several months and intend to hold an introductory ZOOM meeting in February to kick the program off.

If you have an interest, please email me at the email below.

**Intermediate Casting Clinic:** I will plan to hold it later in the year. We will limit attendance to 10. Times and dates will be published when determined.

**Contact John:** [flycasting@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:flycasting@sandiegoflyfishers.com)



For questions please contact: [John Wylie](mailto:John.Wylie@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

## Conservation & Education



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](mailto:conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com)



## **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!

Our Club has an exceptional team of dedicated volunteers who commit time to helping disabled Vets learn about fly fishing, tying and casting. Over the course of the past year our program has struggled to gain reliable access to Vet's from the VA, etc. Currently the program leaders are working with local VFW's and American Legions to let people know about this service.

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/>

Join in and help the Club support our PHW program. Lee McElravy is now running this page and has indicated he will be doing regular updates. Share it to any one you know who may benefit from our programs or would like to help. Contact: Lee McElravy for more information

### Fly Tying

PHW leaders are revisiting the fly tying location and time. Expect a new schedule when available to include an evening tying session.

### Fly Casting

Where: Santee lakes, Santee CA  
When: third Saturday at 9 AM





# Southwest Council FFI



The first ever **Trout Rodeo** will be held in Bishop, California on **February 20, 2021**. This catch and release tournament is a challenge to ALL anglers to see who comes out on top. The event is open to fly and conventional anglers and we have made it easy to be a part of it.

### Target Species:

Rainbow trout  
Brown Trout  
Carp  
Largemouth Bass

**Scoring:** All anglers MUST register and use the iAngler Tournament mobile app

- 1 point per inch from nose to fork of tail
- Round to nearest inch
- No limit on number of each species as this is catch and release.

### Hours of event:

Due to current crowd and gathering conditions set by the Health Department, we will only be available by phone before and during the Tournament. Michael Schweit 818 601-9702, Graham Day 562 221-9340. **You MUST be signed into iAngler before the start time of 9 a.m. so please plan accordingly.** Before the event, you will need to download and install iAngler. Once you are signed in to the event, you are responsible for taking photographs and measurements.

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. - head out and fish your favorite area! Feel free to move around but be sure not to crowd other anglers.

Cost is \$25 per angler. See full details at [www.ianglertournament.com/troutrodeo](http://www.ianglertournament.com/troutrodeo)

**The Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International** represents all of Southern California and Nevada. Fly Fishers International is a 54 year old international non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the sport of fly fishing through Conservation, Restoration and Education. Fly Fishers International and its Councils are the only organized advocate for fly fishers on an national and regional level.

For more information Contact [John Wylie](mailto:John.Wylie@flyfishersinternational.org) our Representative for FFI

<https://flyfishersinternational.org/>

<https://www.swcffi.org/shop>

San Diego Fly Fishers is affiliated with the Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International (FFI). Look for more happenings in the SW region in future editions of Finny Facts.

# 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 lot's of opportunities to fish and have fun. December, Chula Vista Bayside Park; January, Mission Bay.  
**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](http://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: [Sherry Ashbaugh](#), or Warren Lew [Fundraising/At large](#)

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

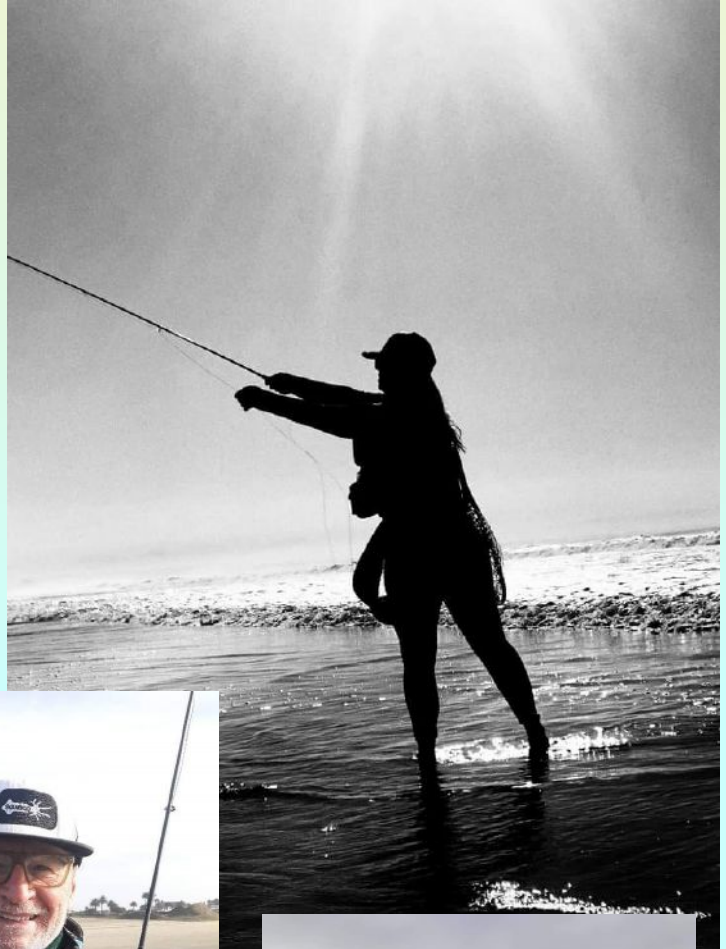
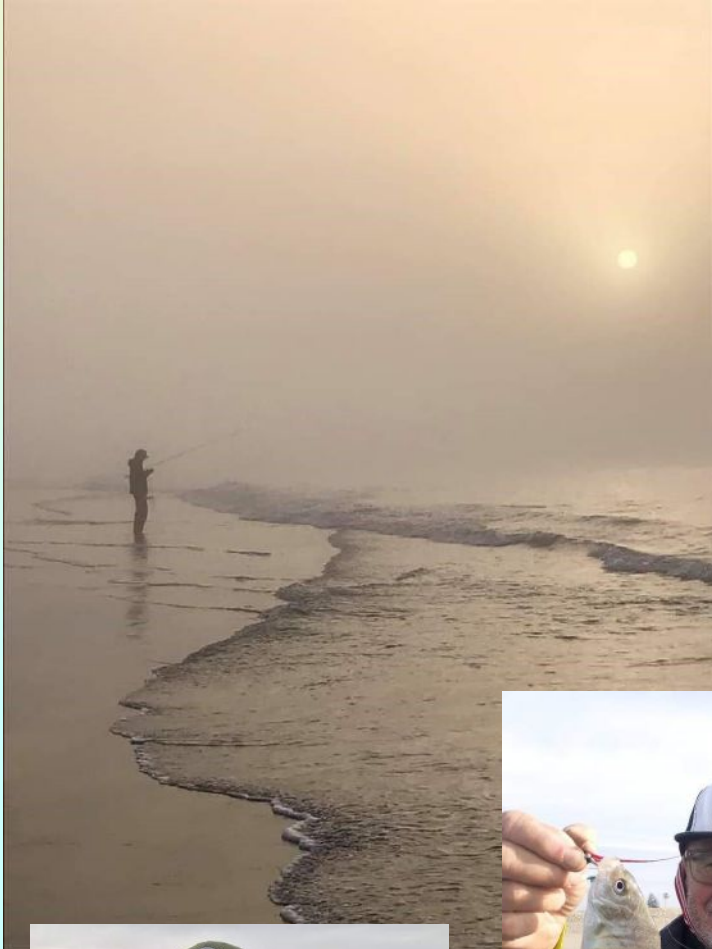
- ◆ Help with this important program that serves Veterans in need.
- ◆ If you know of a Veteran in need Please let us know!
- ◆ Contact: [Lee McElravy](#) to learn how you can contribute

### Women's Program

- ◆ Please contact [Sherry Ashbaugh](#) for information and way to get involved

# Fishing!

Photos from the SDFF Facebook Page



Winter and spring are great times for perch! And there are some bigger models out there too! Be sure to check out this month's pattern on our fly-tying page.

Tidelands

# 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](#)

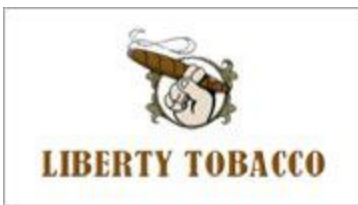
[USGS Flows](#)

[California Data Exchange](#)

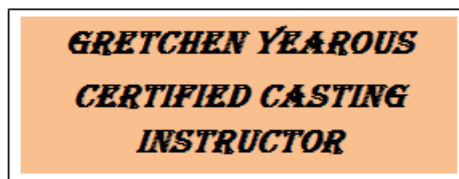
[Lower Owens River](#)



# 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

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## The Indicator

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

Follow SDFE adventures  
and news our FACE-  
BOOK page. Post your  
own  
adventures and  
pictures.

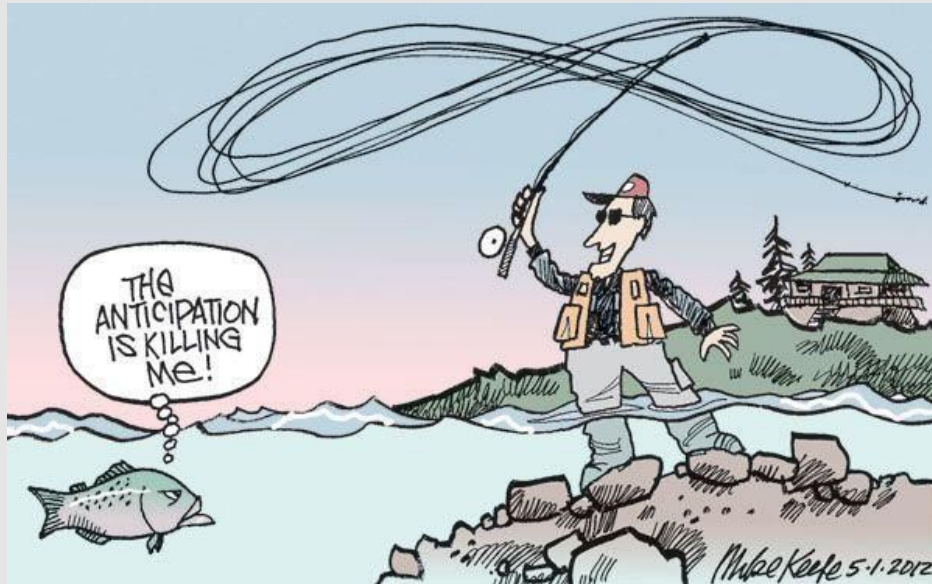
[San Diego Fly Fishers](#)

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



I've just finished my first year as the Finny Facts newsletter editor. It's been great fun and I appreciate the club giving me the opportunity to learn on the job. The year's health restrictions have caused many of us to embrace newer, sometimes intimidating technology. My approach to this format (Microsoft Publisher) is one of trial and error, with the errors (and frustration) occurring frequently.



*The Classic Mel Shot.*

One thing I've learned is to incorporate pictures from emails or Facebook. A few months ago, I was teasing Mel Ochs because his fish pictures were mostly net, glove, and gaping mouths. "Mel," I asked during a Zoom meeting, "how come you can't give us a view of the whole fish, maybe in the water, with some background?" The good doctor was quick to reply "*Because I'm taking pictures of the flies they ate!*" My presumption that he didn't know how to take a good fish picture was just that, a presumption. And so a lesson learned; we capture the image, or the information, that's important to us.

Coincidentally, our guest speaker in November was Carol Ann Morris, professional photographer and fly fisher. I'm not sure if Mel submitted any of his photos for critique, but now that I understand his purpose, I trust that Ms. Morris too would appreciate the genius of his work.

*Mark Hedderson, Editor*