

# FINNY FACTS

## San Diego Fly Fishers

July 2019

Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 42 No. 7

### SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS

#### Note:

There is no general meeting in August.

Instead The Club is hosting a fishing event Monday Aug 5th on Shelter Island  
Details are inside Finny Facts or on Facebook

Join us!

Fishing in the Surf and local lakes has been heating up. Get out there!

Current reports from the Club's trip to Montana's Stillwater River indicate the fishing is amazing. Pictures inside.

### *Currents*

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### **Don't Forget**

Time to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers for 2019.

# President's Message

I feel obligated to mention that the Golden Trout Wilderness trip was a success, on several fronts. We made good progress on the installation of the cattle exclusion fence, along with the usual summer tasks of re-installing and repairing the existing fence that protects the Casa Vieja meadow environment that the golden trout need to survive. I also feel, well, I don't know, a bit feisty, as I have to mention that my husband and I caught seven of those little beauties between us in somewhat less than an hour. They were hungry. But here's what I really want to mention...we were using a Tenkara rod! I'm sure our technique left something to be desired, but it worked fine for us!

Don't forget to sign up for the August local fishing outing on the 5th that will take the place of our regular club meeting. It will be on August 5th, at the Outboard Club at Shelter Island. Sign up so you can partake of the BBQ meal that will be provided.

When I see you at our next regular club meeting in September, I will have some remarks for you on what the regional Southwest Council has been doing, and has plans to do in the future. I got to meet a great group of people at the summer quarterly meeting on July 13th; they are clearly a dedicated bunch of fisher folk. I also have some literature from our national organization that you can peruse or take home. I had the good fortune to visit with them also, earlier this year.

Also, if you are one of our volunteers who teach, will teach, or want to learn how to teach at any of our casting clinics, please make sure to sign up with John Wylie to get the training on the proper technique we need to be providing. He will be scheduling a make-up session, hopefully sometime in August, to catch those of you who did not make the June session.

Now for the really big news! As I have promised you, I am personally working to get a Women's Program up and running. I am talking about a long term program that will remain in place long after my tenure as your President. We are planning for the October time frame, and have already happily received the volunteerism of our resident female Certified Casting Instructor, Gretchen Yearous. It's ok if we start small and grow it slowly. So ladies, we will be contacting you to ask what topics you are interested in learning about. Please send me your input.

And finally, congratulations are in order to Jim Castelluzzo, our new Vice President, who was nominated at our June board meeting, and after giving it some thought for a few days, graciously and enthusiastically accepted the position. Jim gets my recognition as the most energetic board member this year, with hosting and organizing local club fishing outings, participating on the Annual June fundraiser committee, and volunteering to speak about our club to other organizations, and currently doing double-duty as our Programs Chairperson. I'm so happy to have a VEEP!

Wishing you good fishing,  
Sherry Ashbaugh  
2019 President  
San Diego Fly Fishers

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



# August Events

## August Events

Membership meeting

No Meeting in Aug

Club Outings  
Fishing Shelter Island

Aug 5th @ 0600-1100

Project Healing Waters

Aug 6th and 20th @9 AM

Fly Tying at the Aspire Center

Fly Casting At Santee Lakes  
Contact: [Lee McElravy](#),

Aug 17th @9 AM

## Casting Clinics

Basic/Beginners Class

◆ Every Sunday At Lake Murray @ 9 AM

Intermediate Class

◆ First and Third Sundays at Ski Beach on Mission Bay  
◆ **Note: No Intermediate classes will be held in August.**  
Contact [John Wylie](#)

Fly Tying Congress

◆ Every Thursday at San Carlos Rec Center @ 6:30 to 830PM

Contact: [Paul Woolery](#)

**It's Time for U to get involved with your club! Contact any board member for ideas on how you can contribute Sdff is a service organization. Ask yourself What service can I provide?**

# Speaker Programs

## No general membership meeting in August.

Note: The Board has committed to providing at general membership meeting in August Beginning in 2020. Our membership meeting is one of our best products and services and the Board is interested in providing the best service to our members.

In lieu of our meeting for August, Jim Castelluzzo is leading a fishing outing and BBQ on August 5th At 0600. Outboard Motor Club ramp on Shelter Island.

## Upcoming Programs

September: Jake Wells - Yellowdog outfitters Montana - Yellowstone program

October - Alex Cady, Guide topic Fishing Mission Bay

November - Doug Rodricks - Sierra Drifters will discuss new fishing regulations.

December- Yard Sale - Fly Tying demos.

If you know of someone who would be a good candidate for speaking to the club let us know. For information contact [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

We look forward to seeing at our next meeting!

# Happenings

## Shelter Island Outing

Monday August 5th meeting time change :

Monday, August 5 meeting and lunch at the Outboard Boating Club at the Shelter Island Boat Ramp

The Low tide is 8:10 am. High is 1:54.

In the interest of better fishing on the morning bite, I'm changing the times from 0600 -1100, lunch at 1200. Fish slack and incoming tide.

Larz Sorensen is arranging the food along with help from Jim Bixby.

Bring your boat, float tubes or Yaks. If your still on board, no need to respond. Otherwise, Please RSVP to me. We need a head count.  
Thank you.

[Jim Castelluzzo](#)

# Happenings

12 Members of SDFF just completed a Club sponsored trip to The Stillwater Outpost in Montana. By all reports it was a fantastic adventure. Great food and lodging, Epic Fishing and good camaraderie!

Those who participated were:

Tim Huckaby  
Jon Hee  
Linda Swofford-Ten Eyck  
Sam Harvey

Bruce Bechard  
David Collins  
Hal Herritt  
Dale Costanzo

Steve Vissers  
Lynn Ten Eyck  
Fred Marks  
Bruce Harris

Kudos again go to Mike Hylligus for his incredible Team!! Thanks also to Tim Huckaby for making this trip a reality for SDFF members!



Let's  
Fish!!!!





# Volunteers Needed

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

“What service can I provide to my Club”?

## Service Opportunities

We need someone to step up and serve as Vice President. Contact [Sherry](#) for information.

## Fishing Outings

Volunteers are needed to help organize a Lower Otay outing in Aug or Sept. Please step up and give us a hand. Contact [Mike Gilroy](#) or [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

We are also looking for a Club Outing to the East Walker river in Late Sept or Early Oct. Please let us know if you are interested in going. We would stay in Bridgeport and fish the Walker or the lake. Contact [Mike Gilroy](#) or [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

This one is going to be EPIC!!!!

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 [Jim Castelluzzo](#) or [Mike Gilroy](#) 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](#)

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](#) or [Sherry Ashbaugh](#)

## Project Healing Waters

- ◆ Help with this important program that serves Veterans in need.
- ◆ Contact: [Lee McElravy](#) to learn how you can contribute



# Fly of the Month August

## Pheasant Tail & Partridge



This is characterized as a simple fly by Yvon Chouinard. He believes that tying the hackle vertical rather than letting it lay back over the body of the fly gives the fly more action. The Pheasant Tail and Partridge works with conventional gear as well as Tenkara.

Yvon Chouinard is a surfer, kayaker, falconer, climber, and fly fisher. He owns the company Patagonia and is the author of Simple Fly Fishing: Techniques for Tenkara and Rod & Reel. He lives in Ventura, California, with his wife Malinda.

Hook: Dai-Riki #075 or Tiemco 3769 (1X short, 2X heavy).

Thread: Dark brown.

Rib: Copper wire.

Tail: Pheasant tail fibers.

Abdomen: Pheasant tail fibers.

Hackle: Hungarian partridge.

Thorax: Peacock Hareline Ice Dub or Peacock herl.

Begin by crushing the barb.

Lay-down a thread base to the bend of the hook.

Tie in a length of fine copper wire.

Cut a clump of Pheasant Tail Fibers and create a tail, no longer than the shank of the hook.

Rap the Pheasant Tail Fibers around the hook to just past the 2/3 point of the hook and tie off.

Counterwind the copper wire to the 2/3 point and tie off for a more durable abdomen.

Wrap the hackle 1.5 to 2 turns between the body and the eye of the hook.

The thorax is tied last. Push it up against the hackle, keeping it from pressing flat against the body.

Take the thread forward and create a head and tie off.

Note: When wet, the thorax looks a lot like the air bubble of an emerging fly. It's an important improvement over normal soft-hackle flies.

To tie a P.T. dry fly, just use a dry-fly hook. To tie a nymph, add a black tungsten bead in front of the hackle.

For more information contact [Paul Woolerly](#)

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# Rod Building

We will plan another class in the Spring of 2020. Stay tuned.

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.

**JACK'S TIP OF THE MONTH—**

Next tip of the Month will be in September



Contact: [Jack Duncan](#)

Tip of the Month: Coming Soon

## Casting Corner

San Diego Fly Fishers is happy to offer two free clinics each month to help you learn to fly cast or improve your skills. Several of our instructors are certified by the FFI and can help anyone develop the skills that will help you get the most out of your casts.

- **Basic fly Casting Lessons**

This Clinic is best suited for beginners and novice fly casters. The clinic will help you develop the basic techniques necessary for successful casts with a fly rod. No experience is required to participate.

Where: Lake Murray (Kiowa Drive entrance)

When: Each Sunday (weather permitting) at 9 AM

What to Bring: You may bring your own equipment or use rods provided by the Club. No fishing license is required.

- **Intermediate Fly Casting Instruction (No Intermediate instruction in August)**

This clinic is run by FFI Certified Casting Instructors Dennis Panish and John Wylie and is intended to aid fly casters in enhancing their skills and learn to cast efficiently in different conditions. One goal of the clinic is to help fly casters solve problems with their casting strokes. If you suffer from “wind knots”, learning how to “double haul” or increasing your distance this class is for you. Tell our instructors what you want to work on and they will help.

We provide single hand casting as well as basic double hand spey cast instruction.

Where: Ski Beach on Mission Bay

When: First and Third Sundays (weather permitting) at 8 AM (class typically lasts 1 hour)

What to bring: Bring your rod and let's work on your casts!

Questions? Email [John Wylie](mailto:John.Wylie@sandiegoflyfishers.com):

# Casting Corner

## Tip of the Month

Last month we reviewed the 3rd of the of the Five Essentials to Casting; Smooth Acceleration to a Stop.

This month we will discuss the 4th Essential : Casting Stroke Appropriate for the length of line.

This essential is one that I find, really easy to remember....just remember this:

Short Line.... Short Casting Stroke.

Long Line..... Long Casting Stroke.

To understand why this is important we go back to Essential 2: Straight Line Rod Tip Path. Remember it is the weight of the fly line that loads (or bends) the fly rod. If we have a short amount of line, we have less weight to bend the rod and consequently the rod will load or bend less. With a slightly bent rod, to get a straight line rod tip path our casting arc (the angle change of our rod from start of the stroke to the end of the stroke) must be relatively short. A deeper bend in the rod will require a wider casting arc to keep the straight line rod tip path.

Next time you are out practicing your casting try this:

Pull out about 15 feet of fly line and begin casting. Shorten down your casting arc until you have nice tight loops. Notice where your rod is starting and stopping, use something in the back ground to visually mark those points.... A limb on a tree, telephone pole, odd shaped cloud.. anything you see in the background will work.

Now pull out another 25 feet of fly line (you should have 40 ft of fly line and your 8 or 9 ft of leader outside the rod tip).

Repeat the prior drill by false casting and get your loops smooth and tight. Now notice where your stops and starts are relative to the visual marks you made at 15 ft of fly line. Done properly, you will see that your casting arc is much wider with 40 ft of fly line vs 15.

Just remember to make sure we have a Casting Stroke Appropriate for our length of line:

Short Line.... Short Casting Stroke

Long Line.... Long Casting Stroke

## Conservation & Education

San Diego Fly Fishers is a service club with a long history of supporting a variety of conservation, habitat and educational programs. The Club's primary focus is to support projects that serve our local habitats, fisheries and schools. We also support other conservation organizations with projects in California. Our activities are supported by Club members through "boots on the ground" volunteer work and via the donations received at Club fundraising events. We work closely with a number of local, regional and national organizations to support research, improve habitats and foster a conservation ethic for future generations. We are very proud of our work and the ongoing support from our membership. If you wish to join us in this service work please contact the Committee Chair, [Gary Strawn](#)



Our Golden Trout trip June 27-30 was a huge success and a ton of fun. We had a big agenda this year. In addition to raising and repairing the 1 ½ miles of barbed wire, we added ¾ mile of electrified wire and a solar power supply. The fence was built by USFS, TU and SDFF volunteers in 2008 to keep the cattle, that are allowed to graze in this wilderness meadow each summer, from getting into the stream and breaking down the banks. USFS no longer has funding to maintain the fence because the golden trout in this meadow are not considered protected and may be slightly hybridized. SDFF volunteers have maintained the fence for 11 years. Last year some cattle pushed the fence over so this year we electrified the most vulnerable section. We will see how that works before we electrify more.

To handle the extra work, we added more volunteers and an extra day. We also had a U.S. Forest Service Wilderness Ranger join us for the weekend. That young man can carry a heavy load and was a pleasure to have around the campfire. We also had a group of SDSU graduate engineering students and their professor join us. They cooked dinner for us all Friday night. Saturday, they helped with the fence, conducted a Hydrologic Survey of the meadow and then learned to fly fish for golden trout. In the evening they broke out guitars, a violin and great singing voices to provide entertainment around the big campfire.

Continued.....

## Conservation & Education

Our reward over the years, in addition to several letters of appreciation from Inyo National Forest, is that the fishing in Nine Mile Creek where it runs through the fenced area of Casa Vieja Meadow, is vastly improved. This year everyone of our volunteers caught beautiful golden trout. Where 6- and 7-inch fish used to be the norm we are now catching 9 and 10 inchers regularly. That is a big golden trout considering the stream is only a few feet wide and at almost 9,000 feet, it is frozen over 8 months out of the year. They were on the skinny side after the long winter, but bugs were plentiful and they will be fat by October.

I want to thank our guests this year: Professor Alicia Kinoshita and her fiancé Jonathon (a professional violinist), Chad Loflen (our water quality monitoring expert, and excellent fly fisherman) and his daughter Claire, Benjamin Downing ( a hard working new recruit to fly fishing), Matt Barnes (Inyo NF Wilderness Ranger) and six SDSU Civil Engineering students. SDFP is helping to sponsor their hydrologic study of the meadow and we look forward to hearing a report on the study at a future SDFP meeting. I also want to thank our crew of hard-working SDFP volunteers: Dave Gould, Warren Lew, Wayne Johnson, Steve Hansen, Bruce Michael, Scott Penwell and Sherry Ashbaugh, but especially Bruce Bechard. Bruce engineered the electrification project, helped purchase the equipment and then wore himself out leading the installation team. This was a SPECIAL trip. The weather was perfect, the electric fence is working well, everyone busted their butts for two days, we ate well and the fishing was epic.

This is a family friendly trip and each year we get to watch family and friends enjoy our sport in one of its most beautiful settings. This year my 9-year-old grandson Wade made the hike both days and caught 16 beautiful goldens (most on a foam black ant pattern). I think he and 7-year-old Claire Loflen caught the two biggest trout: about 12 inches. Although there are no special restrictions on fishing this stream, all of the trout were carefully released. So, they will be waiting for anyone wanting to make the hike with us October 4, to drop the fence, or again next June to put it back up.



Thank you all for your support of our annual fundraiser, and for letting me lead this important conservation project!

# Conservation & Education



The "not so" Motley Crew



Happy Workers with a reward

## Conservation & Education



**Breakfast Cooks**



**Nine Mile Creek at Casa Vieja meadow.  
Golden Trout restoration project area.**



# Southwest Council FFI

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.

## Southwest Council Fly Fishers International

Who or What is the Southwest Council ?

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](#) our Representative for FFI

<https://flyfishersinternational.org/>



# Project Healing Waters

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.

## Fly Tying

Where: The Aspire Center (in Old Town, San Diego)

When: first and third Tuesdays at 9 AM

## Fly Casting

Where: Santee lakes, Santee CA

When: third Saturday at 9 AM

**Note: All PHW activities will continue as scheduled in August**



# Fundraising

**December is approaching. That's Garage Sale time.**

An Ode to Volunteers

We need volunteers to help run this year's sale.

It's fun and easy work, helping the Club prevail.

Be a Stimulator, not a balanced Leech

Raise your Rod, give us a nod.

Burma Shave!

I promise to stop the prose when we get a team to run this fun event.

Contact Any Board member or email [fundraiser@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:fundraiser@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

# Membership

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR 2019 MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Currently we are more that 220 members strong! Approximately 45 members still need to renew for this year. Please renew and enjoy the full benefits of being a San Diego Fly Fisher

[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)  
Family Military.....FREE (Active Duty Only)

**Please welcome our newest members!**

FAMILY

INDIVIDUAL

[Next update in September](#)

[Next update in September](#)



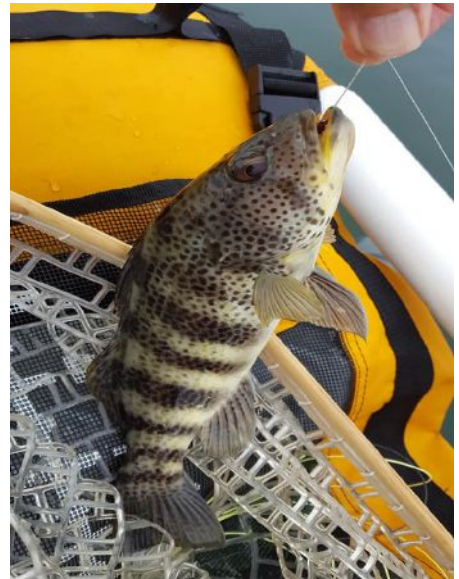
# Feature Article

Next Feature Article will be in September.

# Fishing!!!!



Jim Bixby is the Fisherman of the Month!  
He is getting the Silver Ghost dialed in!



Kim Jones and  
Jennifer Holbrook  
had a great day at  
Barrett Lake



Mel Ochs  
bending a rod  
at Spanish  
Landing



# 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's

[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

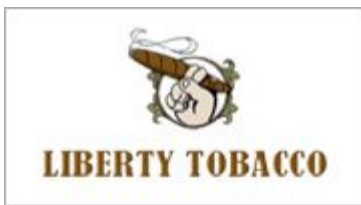
[Dreamflows](#)

[USGS Flows](#)

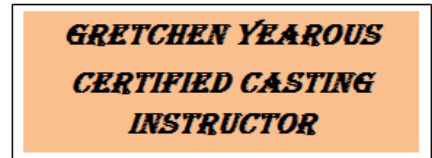
[California Data Exchange](#)

[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!**



# Tailing Loops

## San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors 2019

- Sherry Ashbaugh.....[President](#)
- James Castelluzzo [1st Vice-President](#)
- Bruce Harris .....[Treasurer](#)
- Mark Hedderson.....[Secretary](#)
- James Castelluzzo .....[Speaker Programs](#)
- James Castelluzzo.....[Outings/At Large](#)
- Jack Duncan.....[Rod Building](#)
- Mike Gilroy.....[Media Coordinator](#)
- Warren Lew .....[Fundraising/At large](#)
- Lee McElravy .....[Project Healing Waters](#)
- Gary Strawn .....[Conservation](#)
- Alan Thompson.....[Membership](#)
- Paul Woolery.....[Fly tying/At-Large](#)
- John Wylie.....[Casting Instruction/  
SWC-FFI](#)

### Other Chairpersons

- Alan Thompson .....[Sunday Fly Casting](#)
- David Collins .....[Web Master](#)
- Don Davis.....Video & Library

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.

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

**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](#)

Cut-off date for the Finny Facts is the 15th of each month  
 Send submissions to: [media@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:media@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

