

FINNY FACTS

December 2020

San Diego Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 43 No.12

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

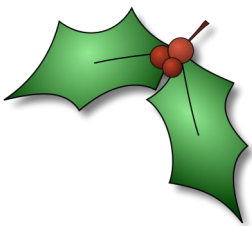
Nick Buckmaster



**Heritage and Wild Trout Waters in
the Eastern Sierra**



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](#)

Access the Club Calendar: [SDFF Calendar](#)

[President's Message](#)

[Speaker Programs](#)

[Happenings](#)

[Feature Article](#)

[Planned Trips 2020](#)

[Women's Program](#)

[Fly of the Month](#)

[Rod Building](#)

[Casting Corner](#)

[Conservation & Education](#)

[Project Healing Waters](#)

[Southwest Council](#)

[Membership](#)

[Volunteers are Needed](#)

[Fishing!](#)

[Resources](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[Board of Directors](#)

President's Message

As I mentioned last month, three of our Board members will be moving on next year. Our remaining board members graciously offered to remain on the Board in 2021.

I am proud to stay on as your President in 2021 until my impeachment process runs its course. I hear this could take a couple of years! Since we continue to battle with Covid, the work of this board is more important than ever.

While we have curtailed group meetings, school outreach, and group casting instructions; our board work and our mission continue. The business of running this club includes the work of Treasurer, Fundraising, Secretary, Editor of Finny Facts and the Indicator, Media Coordinator, Speaker Programs, Project Healing Waters, Monthly Outings, Conservation, Membership, Casting Instruction and the Fly Tying Congress. We also support community outreach activities such as the Youth Fishing Derbies, the Boy Scouts fly fishing merit badges, the women flyfisher group, our Wednesday bunch outings and specialty destination fly fishing trips.

There is much work to be done even during this pandemic. My mission is to seek out the next generation of board members who will carry this club forward. There is only one requirement to be considered: A Passion for all things fly fishing! If you are interested in getting involved and joining our board, please contact me

Most folks have tired of the doomsday drum beat on the evening news, we want to get outdoors and fish! Last I heard when you are outdoors, away from people, in the fresh air, walking along a stream or beach, paddling on your float tube or Kayak, or motoring your skiff; you are in the safe zone. Our board and new board members will continue this mission.

I'm pleased to announce that Tim Garcia, fly tyer extraordinaire and proud Dad, will be joining our board as a member at large next year. I'm also seeking a woman to coordinate our women's flyfishing group.

Our board meets once a month, via the Zoom platform, on the last Monday of the month prior to the first Monday General meeting. Kai Schuman's Saturday December 12th club outing has been moved to Chula Vista's Bayside Park, 999 Bayside Parkway. We will strictly follow the latest county health guidelines. We asked for RSVP. Rather than a "Group" gathering, individual rod benders will be getting out on the Bay to fly fish from their tubes or yaks. Participants will be set up at least 6 ft apart on the grass. Please check in with Kai at the SFFF banner. Arrangements will be made to distribute Paella to our members and guests starting at 11:30.

Our Monday December 7th general club meeting program speaker will be Heritage and Wild Trout Biologist for the Sierra, Nick Buckmaster, of Cal Trout. This will be a great program highlighting the critical trout conservation work of Cal Trout.

For those interested in the Oct 4, 2021 trip to La Ventana, La Paz, Baja Sur, December 30th is the deadline to get your discount and 50% deposit into La Ventana. E mail: contact@palapasventana.com

Fish On!

Jim Castelluzzo
December 4, 2020

president@sandiegoflyfishers.com



Join us!

Speaker Programs

Zoom!

Monday, December 7, 7:30 pm
Nick Buckmaster
Heritage Trout in the Eastern Sierra

Nick is the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Heritage and Wild Trout biologist for Inyo and Mono Counties. Based in Bishop, California, Nick is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys hunting, fishing, trail running, and backpacking in the Eastern Sierra. Nick has bachelor's degrees in Geology and Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Biology, and a master's degree in Ecology from the University of California, Davis. He was born and raised in Descanso, CA, and spent his formative years hunting and fishing in East County.

Join Zoom Meeting :

<https://zoom.us/j/97836563051?pwd=QXJHT05wejdWm3dRZnB5ZHlhK3AyZz09>

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

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

- Find a place to participate where there will not be lots of background noise or activity. Please be sure that you have a good connection to the internet.
- Please test your camera, speakers and microphone before joining the meeting to be sure they are working on your end.
- If you want to share your image have a light source in front of you rather than behind you.
- If you do not wish to share your image just turn off or cover your camera.
- 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.

Mike Gilroy,
Media Coordinator

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

Happenings

Lake Murray, Club Outing, November 15

Kai, Master Chef of the shore lunch, served up tasty pulled pork sandwiches, much to the delight of Mel, who always seems to be in a good mood even when the fish don't cooperate!



There were three fish caught. Kai: *"I was fishing the arm straight across from the launch, a very slight breeze gave me a slow drift up the arm. Not getting any bites close to the reeds so I peddled back out to the main lake and drifted back up the middle of the arm in deeper water. I was fishing a size 14 copper bead head nymph, olive with sili legs with a sink tip section on my floating line, no indicator. About mid-way into the drift, I started getting bites. Of the 6-8 bites I got (one of them a really big one that didn't stick) I picked up two sunfish. Across the lake a bass was caught, but I don't know on what."*

Feature Article

Clark Fork Montana

Photos by Jack Gibbons

Club members Tim Huckaby, Fred Marks, Steve Vissers, Tom O'Connell, John Wylie, Tom Rundlett, and Jack Gibbons converged in Montana for the annual club trip to the Clark Fork River Outpost for three days of guided fishing from drift boats with Missoula's best guides. Located in the middle of nowhere 60 miles north of Missoula on the fabled Clark Fork River, this year's trip did not disappoint. 40-60 take days dry fly fishing were common. The food and drink prepared by master chef, outfitter and lodge owner Mike Hillygus was spectacular, and based on these shots, so was the scenery.



Feature Article, cont.



Feature Article, cont.



Planned Trips 2020

The Final Outing Planned for 2020:

December 12

Saturday, 7:00 a.m. Tube/Kayak at **Chula Vista Bayside Park**, Spotted Bass, Corvina, and Halibut with a slack, then falling tide, 6:50 am high 7.2'; 1:52 low -1.0'

January 9, 2021

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

Sdff Women's Program

Lady fly fishers of San Diego Fly Fishers:

Given the current situation we now find ourselves in, I'm looking for ideas on how we can get together, perhaps virtually, to share news and information, as well as plan future events.

If you have suggestions, feel free to email me at: womensprgram@sandiegoflyfishers.com and let me know your preference for events we can plan for the remainder of the year. I have some ideas we can discuss via Zoom. Looking forward to hearing from you soon!



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



A bright red bag of Crunchy Cheetos was the inspiration for this English Buzzer midge.

Recipe: Hook TMC200R size 16 or 14
Thread: 8/0 black and 200 denier for under body.
Rib: fine gold wire
Cheeks: Thin triangles cut from the Cheetos bag
Coating: Loon Thick UV cure resin.

I used two thread bobbins in making this fly. The thick flat waxed nylon makes a good underbody to create the midge pupa shape without wasting my 8/0 black thread. Wrap the underbody and tie in 4 inches of gold wire at the bend.

Begin wrapping the black thread to completely cover the red thread. Spiral wrap the gold wire to form segments. Tie off wire at the 3/4 shank mark.

Now cut two small thin triangles from the bag, about as wide and long as a goose biot. They must be narrower than the thorax of the midge. Tie in each triangle by the points on each side, wide part of triangle to the rear. The bright red color should be against the body. It will be exposed when you pull it forward and tie down behind the eye. Trim any excess bag. Whip finish.

Now use Loon Thick UV resin to clear coat the body. Use the UV Flashlight to cure.



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



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

Conservation & Education

In early November we were camping at Lake Cuyamaca and I checked in with Butch Paddock, the managing ranger at the Lake to see how his hatchery project was going. A couple of years ago Butch was frustrated with the high cost of stocked trout from California DFW. Traditional levels of stocking "catchable" size trout had become cost prohibitive. So, a closing tackle shop in Lakeside donated their old fish tanks, and Butch set them up in the Lake's old boathouse to raise some fingerlings. It worked out pretty well. SDFP donated \$1000 to support the project and our volunteers built a feeding pen to grow the fish before release. Butch soon realized that buying eggs was much cheaper than buying fingerlings, and had great success raising them. 38,000 pounds of healthy trout have been added to the Lake each year.

When I was there most of the tanks had been emptied to the feeding pens and prepared for a new batch of trout. 25,000 fertilized eggs arrived on Nov 12 from a commercial hatchery in Washington State and placed in the "McDonald Hatching Jar" you see in the picture (right). Water flows up through the eggs, so when they hatch, the baby fish can swim up and out the chute into the tank. That should happen within 7 to 10 days. The baby fish called "alevin" live off of the nutrients in their attached egg sack until they begin feeding in about 2 weeks. If you would like to learn more, when things get back to normal, join us on our Trout in the Classroom project and watch trout hatch while you help the students learn about trout and clean waters.



On a recent vacation Butch visited some other hatcheries and brought back 900 Florida strain largemouth bass fingerlings and some baby crappie. He is raising them in another tank for release next spring/summer. Our local DFW lake fisheries biologist Matt Lucero, who spoke with us at our October meeting has been very supportive of Butch and his Lake Cuyamaca hatchery project. Like us, he is very pleased with the results. We plan to continue donating financial and volunteer support for this project.

If you would like to see your conservation \$\$\$ at work, take the scenic drive up to Lake Cuyamaca. If one of the staff is available around the boat house, tell them you are from San Diego Fly Fishers and ask to see the hatchery. You may also walk down on the boat rental dock and see the feeding pens. Then go catch some fish!



Gary Strawn
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

Southwest Council Fly Fishers International



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/>

<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 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](#) 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: [Sherry Ashbaugh](#)

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



Brooke on the Bay



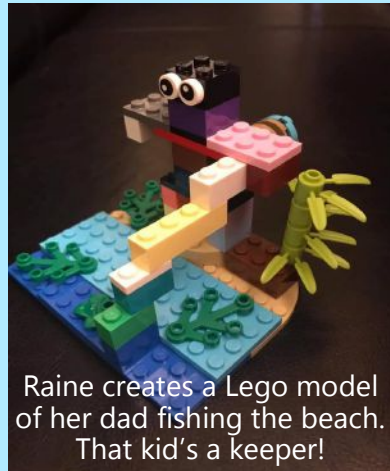
Brooke on the Beach



Mel's double at Baypark



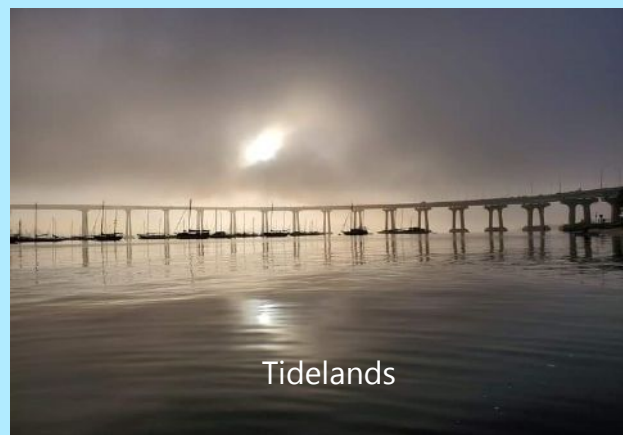
Tim with a butterfly ray



Raine creates a Lego model of her dad fishing the beach. That kid's a keeper!



Kai worked the south bay from a skiff



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](#)

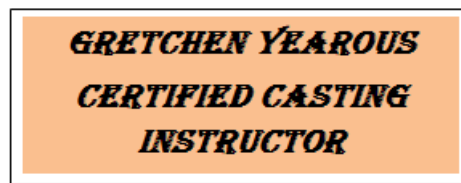
[Lower Owens River](#)



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

San Diego Fly Fishers
Board of Directors
2020

James Castelluzzo [President](#)
Bruce Harris [Treasurer](#)
Mel Ochs [Secretary](#)
Tim Huckaby [Speaker Programs](#)
Kai Schumann [Outings Coordinator](#)
Mike Gilroy [Communications Coordinator](#)
Sherry Ashbaugh [Fundraising](#)
Mark Hedderson [Editor Finny Facts / Indicator](#)
Lee McElravy [Project Healing Waters](#)
Gary Strawn [Conservation](#)
Alan Thompson [Membership](#)
John Wylie [Casting Program Instruction](#)
Warren Lew [Fundraising/At large](#)

Other Program Chairs

Lucky Ketcham [Fly Tying](#)
Jack Duncan [Rod Building](#)
Alan Thompson [Sunday Fly Casting](#)
John Wylie [SWC-FFI Liaison](#)
Sherry Ashbaugh [Women's Program](#)
David Collins [Internet Resources Admin](#)

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 20th of each month

Please send submissions to
editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com



Board of Directors

SDFF Membership: I am pleased to submit your 2021 San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors. Please submit your vote of approval on your new board via email to: president@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Thank you,

Jim Castelluzzo

President

Proposed 2021 SDFF Board of Directors

James Castelluzzo	President
Vacant	Vice President
Bruce Harris	Treasurer
Mel Ochs	Secretary
Warren Lew	Fundraising/At Large
John Ashley	Media Coordinator
Mark Hedderson	Editor Finny Facts/Indicator
Tim Huckaby	Speaker Programs
Kai Schumann	Monthly Outings
Gary Strawn	Conservation
Alan Thompson	Membership
John Wylie	Casting Instruction
Tim Garcia	Member At Large
Brooke Sargent	Women's Program Support

Committee Chairpersons

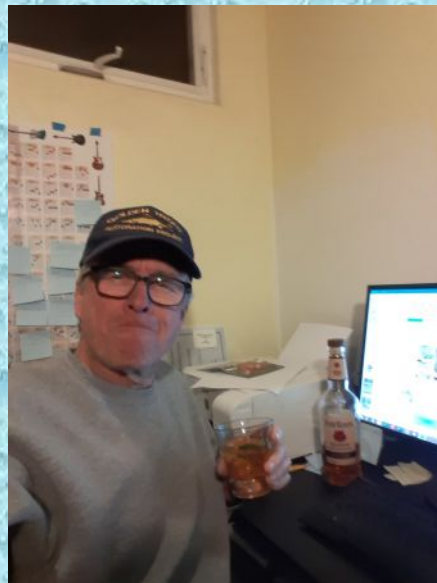
Lee McElravy	Project Healing Waters
Sherry Ashbaugh	Women's Program
Jack Duncan	Rod Building
Lucky Ketchum	Fly Tying Congress

Web Master

Web Site Manager- David Collins



Tailing Loops



Your humble editor, hard at work, missing another deadline!