

FINNY FACTS

San Diego Fly Fishers

March 2019

Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 42 No. 3



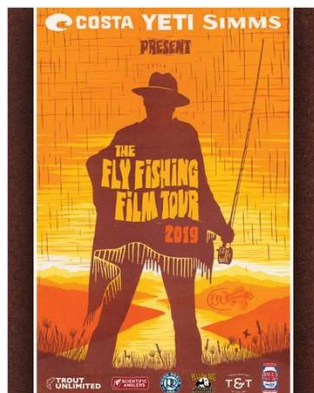
March's Speaker

Mike Hillygus
Montana Outfitter,
Guide, Chef and own-
er High Plains Drifter

Topic: The Stillwater
river and the Club's
upcoming trip to
Stillwater River Out-
post July 27 to July
31st

Free Door Prizes

Come to the Club meeting
March 4th for a chance to
win free tickets to the Fly
Film tour Event April 3rd at
the La Paloma.



Currents

Presidents Message

Events

Speakers

Happenings

Call to Action

Fly Tying

Rod Building

Casting Corner

Conservation & Education

Southwest Council

Project Healing Waters

Fundraising

Membership

Feature Article

River of the Month

Resources

Yuba UPDATE!

Contact Us

Don't Forget

Time to renew your mem-
bership with San Diego
Fly Fishers for 2019.

President's Message

When I was a kid, I learned to fish from my Dad. We would hunt for night crawlers - we called them fishing worms - by turning over rocks. We also went minnow seining with Dad, and loved to scoop up those "little guys" and put them in Dad's bait bucket. I grew up in western Pennsylvania where fishing is just part of the culture. And I'm proud to say that my Dad has passed his love for the outdoors on to more than just me; he's passed it on to his grandsons, several of whom spend a lot of time on the water.

I'm telling you this because I want each of you to think about a couple of things. What types of fly fishing events can we host for you to bring your kids and grandkids out to fish with you? What do you want them to learn and take away for themselves? What kind of an experience are you looking for with them? And the same applies to your wives and significant others. Please let any board member know your thoughts.

As with last month, again in March we will provide you an opportunity to sign up to volunteer for the conservation, outreach, and education programs we participate in. Our club supports several worthy causes you can contribute to.

Your Board of Directors is already busy planning our May Casting Clinic and BBQ, as well as our Annual Fundraiser in June. And don't forget about the two out of town fishing trips mentioned at our last meeting, one to northern California on the Yuba River coming up in mid-March, and another to Montana again this year. We are also discussing local sites where we can plan fishing outings. These outings would be a great time for you to bring family and friends.

Here's something exciting...the Fly Fishing Film Tour, F3T, is back again this year on April 3rd at the La Paloma Theater in Encinitas. If you haven't been yet, it is a must, with great films on what else - fly fishing! The movies are awesome, and there are nice give-aways, too.

Don't forget to return to our usual meeting location at the Southwestern Yacht Club for our next meeting. We have another great speaker lined up for you.

Wishing you good fishing,
Sherry Ashbaugh
2019 President
San Diego Fly Fishers
president@sandiegoflyfishers.com



March Events

March Events

Membership meeting

March 4th @ 7 PM

- ◆ Speaker: Mike Hylligus,
- ◆ Topic: Stillwater River and Fly Fishing Montana

Trout in the Classroom Release

March 8th @9 AM

Contact: [Gary Strawn](#)

Volunteers are needed!!

Yuba River Fishing trip

March 14 to 17th

Contact: [Mike Gilroy](#) @ 425 418 8164

Rod Building Class (In Progress)

March 5th,12th & 19th

Where: San Carlos Rec Center, Navajo Room 6445

When: 6:30 to 9 PM

Contact [Jack Duncan](#) 619-460-1222; jack.duncan@cox.net

Project Healing Waters

March 5th and 19th @9 AM

Fly Tying at the Aspire Center

Fly Casting At Santee Lakes

March 16th @9 AM

Contact: [Lee McElravy](#),

Casting Clinics

Basic/Beginners Class

- ◆ Every Sunday At Lake Murray @ 9 AM

Intermediate Class

- ◆ First and Third Sundays at Ski Beach on Mission Bay

Contact [John Wylie](#)

Fly Tying

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

Contact: [Paul Woolery](#)

Speaker Programs

March 4th at Southwestern Yacht Club Meeting starts at 7 PM

Mike Hillygus...AKA Hilly, Gus

Mike is a California Native originally from Taft. Living in Cali from the age 8 years old until 22 (1968-1982). Growing up, Mike spent two months each summer learning to fly fish while on family vacations to Wyoming's Miracle Mile; Idaho's Henrys Fork the Box Canyon and the Madison River in Montana. Along the way he decided to go to culinary school and became a Chef. When Mike and wife Pam, an accomplished violinist, moved to Missoula in 1987 it was an easy fit to combine his love of fly fishing, creating fine food and sharing his knowledge with others into what is now one of Montana's premiere outfitting services, High Plains Drifter.

Today, Mike operates out of his two lodges. Stillwater Outpost and Clarks Fork Outpost. These two lodges provide incredible fly-fishing experiences that are distinct and somewhat off the main stream waters that get heavily fished by the masses. High Plains Drifter has held permits on a variety of Montana rivers including the fabled Smith River. Mike uses his experience and deadly charm to provide the very best Montana experience to all his guests.

Mike loves sharing his knowledge of the small Montana waters with anyone. "There are so many creeks and smaller waters in Montana that offer great individual fishing experiences for anyone to explore on their own".

Mike can be seen floating the rivers in his bulletproof "North West Drifter", slinging his favorite flies; the MFC Bullethead Skwala or his own variation to the Purple Haze. Mike also loves banging the banks with big streamers. "Big flies equal Big Fish"! During the "off season" Mike can be found bird hunting with his English Lab's or chasing big Roosterfish on East Baja.

Favorite Client quote: "Does the river takes us back to the car?".

Join us this interesting and informative presentation.
For information contact [Bruce Bechard](#) or [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

Happenings



March 23rd at the Fly Stop
Don't miss out on this day of great deals and opportunities to learn!

Spring into Summer at The Fly Stop

March 23 from 10 am to 4 pm

Presentations - Fly Tying - Sales - Raffle



Let's go to the Movies!!
April 3rd at
La Paloma in
Encinitas

Discount tickets are
available at the Fly Stop



Volunteers Needed

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

“What service can I provide to my Club”?

Service Opportunities March/April

Trout in the Classroom Release 9 AM to 1 PM

- ◆ 7 classes and approximately 200 students
- ◆ We need lot's of volunteers
- ◆ You can participate for all or part of the event
- ◆ Contact: [Gary Strawn](#)

2019 Boy Scout Fair, Merit Badge Training

Saturday April 6, 2019 -- 9AM until 3PM
El Capitan High School, Lakeside, CA

- ◆ 15 to 20 volunteers are needed
- ◆ This help Boy Scouts earn a merit badge
- ◆ We need instructors to help with fly tying, knot tying and fly casting
- ◆ Contact: LuckyKetcham@gmail.com, 619-287- 2620, Cell # 858 232-6241

Fishing Outings

Fishing on the Bay, Saturday April 14th at the Outboard Boating Club. Details are being workout out now. Stay tuned. Contact: [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

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 you 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](#)

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

Sawyer's original pattern for the legendary Pheasant Tail Nymph

This fly will be tied at the Fly Tying Congress on March 14th.



The Pheasant Tail Nymph (PTN) is a design of Frank Sawyer, who was the River Keeper of Avon River in England in the early 1900's. The pattern was designed to imitate the baetis hatches occurring on the Avon. To keep the silhouette slender, Mr. Sawyer used only two materials: fine copper wire and 4 Pheasant Tail Fibers. The shape allowed the fly to quickly sink with the weight of the wire, the few fibers gave the appearance of legs and tails. Frank finished his nymphs with a whip finish of the wire behind the thorax. This was confirmed by Frank's daughter, Pat, although the rest of the family preferred to finish the nymph behind the eye.

Today, most Pheasant Tail Nymphs (PTN), in the Sierra, tend to be larger with somewhat more materials to imitate the Callibaetis, Blue-wing Olives, March Browns and other mayflies that frequent our streams.

Materials:

Hook: TMC 3761 #14-20

Thread: Fine Copper Wire

Tail: Pheasant Tail Fibers

Abdomen: Pheasant Tail Fibers

Wing case: Pheasant Tail Fibers

Thorax: Pheasant Tail Fibers

[Tying Instructions](#)



Frank Sawyer at the vise

Credits: flyfishingthesierra.com/homepage.htm

For more information contact [Paul Woolerly](#)

Rod Building

See March Events page for time and location

ROD BUILDING CLASS 2019: MATERIALS LIST AND INFORMATION

Fly Rod Blank: graphite or fiberglass; if this is your first try at crafting a rod, I recommend you purchase an inexpensive blank (see Where to Buy below).

Components: tip top; snake guides; stripping guide (s); hook keeper; handle or cork rings; reel seat. Pac Bay makes excellent, low priced tip tops, guides, blanks and other components.

Wrapping Thread: nylon type 'A' thread is best; there are several suppliers including Pac Bay mentioned above. There are a multitude of colors, metallic, and mixed color threads; threads are available with and without color preserver; silk threads are also available: silk is more traditional, more difficult to work with, and I've never tried it; we will discuss the differences in threads in class: generally, I prefer nylon type 'A' thread without color preserver.

Glue and Finish: for glue, five-minute, two part epoxy glue is strong enough and works well; I use heated glue, or super glue for the tip-top; Flex Coat or ProKote two-part finish epoxy for wraps (high build or light) are the most popular brands; there are several other brands. Share with another builder, or buy the smallest quantity possible, unless you plan to wrap lots of rods soon: finish epoxy has a one year shelf life.

Wrapping and/or Drying Rig: this can be two separate rigs, or the same rig can be used for both wrapping and drying, but for drying it's way better to have a motor; for wrapping you don't need a motor; the wrapping rig can be as simple as a cardboard box cut with a couple notches, some thread and a heavy object to put tension on the thread; or it can be a finely constructed piece of wood or metal craftsmanship; I made my wrapping rig from garage scraps, and it looks it, but it works fine; I now use a commercially made drying rig, but for years I used an old BBQ rotisserie motor with my wrapping rig; I'll show you all this stuff at the first class.

Miscellaneous: single edge razor blade or x-acto knife; small scissors; artists' brushes (often included along with measuring syringes in finish epoxy kits); masking tape; rat tail or other round file; small measuring spoon (¼ tsp or smaller) or calibrated syringes; disposable plastic or foil cups; plastic or metal stirring sticks (no wood); lacquer thinner or denatured alcohol; burnishing tool; 1x or 2x tippet or dental floss: many of these miscellaneous items, glue and finish epoxy can be shared or borrowed during class sessions. The most important and frequently used tool: your thumbnail.

First Class: all you'll need for the first class is your rod blank; we will spine your rod, and mark it for the guide locations; we will discuss and demonstrate some of the tasks going forward, and by the second class we will start mounting guides, and/or the reel seat, and/or the handle.

Where to Buy:

Stroud Tackle: Rick carries affordable blanks and components: guides, strippers, tiptops reel seats, handles and thread.

On Line: www.mudhole.com; www.anglersworkshop.com; www.mrfc.com are the largest online retailers of rod building supplies in all price ranges; they have blanks as low as \$50-\$60 that are perfectly serviceable; and all the way up to \$500 or more.

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

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: flycasting@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Tip of the Month: Coming Soon !!

For now enjoy this video. (some ads but you can skip)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iW1UMcxholc>

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 at conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Trout in the Classroom Update

Trout in the Classroom continues to be our most popular program. With eight classrooms, hundreds of students and dozens of great SDFD volunteers currently participating, and almost that many more scheduled for the Spring hatch, we have been busy.

Volunteers Needed on March 8th !! We are expecting a large crowd and can use help from 0830 to 1 PM. Come for part or all the event.

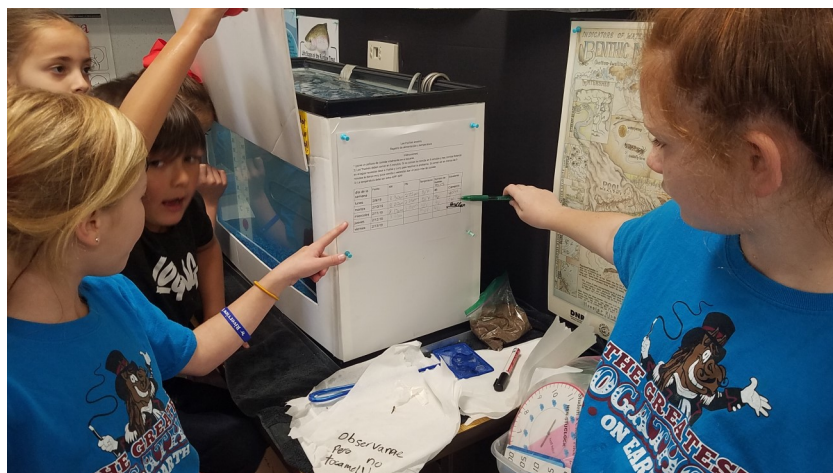
If you want to join in the fun, the winter release is scheduled for 9 AM Friday March 8 at Lake Murray. The student's enthusiasm is contagious and the knowledge they have gained about trout and the importance of clean, cool water habitats is inspiring.

The next egg delivery by DFW will be around March 18. If you want to be involved with the egg delivery special training is required.

Golden Trout Restoration

Our next Golden Trout trip will be June 20-24, snow pack permitting. We will be adding an electric fence, so we need a big crew of volunteers capable of hiking in and out of the meadow and working at approximately 8,000 ft. The trail is pretty easy. Round trip is approximately 4 miles.

If you are interested in participating in either of these, or any other conservation projects, see Gary Strawn or email: conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com



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 Wyile](#) 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. SDFF has one of the most active PWH programs in California and we are always in need of volunteers.

We began 2019 with a series of two different classes each month.

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

For more information, contact Lee McElravy at sdff_phw@sandiegoflyfishers.com



Fundraising

SAVE THE DATE:

JUNE 3RD FOR SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER!

I am excited about this year's Annual Raffle, and helping to make this year's event a success are Mike Gilroy, Jeff Clark, Jim Castelluzzo, Bruce Harris, and Tim Huckaby. We can use more volunteers!

Already we have a restored Hardy-Mitre bamboo fly rod , a fly rod donated by Jeff Clark, and Tim Huckaby is having one of his fishing buddies donate a beautiful custom rod. Also, there will be not one, but TWO custom built fly rods made by SDDF rod artisan, Jack Duncan.

Jim Castelluzzo has donated a 1/2 day guided fishing trip on his boat in the San Diego Bay, and has arranged for a SDDF first... guided trout fishing in Italy!

You will have the opportunity to bid on a beautiful Jon Holland 5 weight bamboo rod.

Be sure to save Monday, June 3rd, because this will be your opportunity to win some great stuff and bid on some terrific silent auction items.

Expect to received your advance sale tickets in the mail in late March.

Please donate some of your new or gently used fly fishing gear for the Club's raffle. You can bring it to any meeting and give it to me, any Board member, Mike, Jeff, Bruce, Jim or Tim. Contact us at fundraiser@sandiegoflyfishers.com or geardonations@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Remember these funds are the heart of our Conservation, Education and Outreach programs.

Your support is appreciated.

Warren Lew
Chair, Fundraising

Membership

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR 2019 MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Currently we are more than 220 members strong! Approximately 75 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.....\$25 (Active Duty Only)
 - Family Military.....\$35 (Active Duty Only)



Feature Article March 2019

Fly Reels Part 2: Frame Materials By Craig Smith

Most of the fly reels in production today, and for the last 100 years and more, have frames and spools made from aluminum. However, some current reels as well as reels from the past are made from other materials with various pros and cons.

Some of the oldest fly reels, going back centuries, were made from wood. As you might expect, wood has some disadvantages related to how wood reacts with water over time. Wooden fly reels were originally easier to produce because woodworking tools and skills were more prevalent than metal working skills. Today you can purchase high quality and very durable wood fly reels made from hardwoods with metal components for additional strength for both fishing and display.



Circa 1880's
English Brass Reel

By the late 1700's fishing "winches" made from brass by metal craftsmen started to show up in greater numbers. Brass was commonly used through the 1800's. Brass is heavy and soft though. Brass gears and spindles wear out over time. By the late 1800's, as metallurgical techniques improved, aluminum started to find its way into reels and eventually completely replaced brass for mass produced reels.

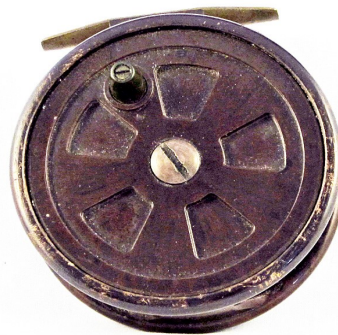
Some very low quality but very affordable reels were made from pot metals. Pot metals were originally developed from combining scrap, shavings, and other excess metals used in the automotive industry. Low melting point pot metals could be used for casting parts for reels. The soft metals could be prone to bending or cracking and reels made from these metals were not very durable but could find their way into just about anyone's budget.

Feature Article March 2019

From the 1960's through current times a few reels have been made from cast magnesium alloys. Magnesium alloy reels are lightweight but magnesium and saltwater don't agree with each other. Magnesium reels do not survive long in salt or brackish water and have not been produced in large numbers in trout sizes.



Pflueger Medalist circa 1938
Paint worn off aluminum frame
newer spool



Bakelite Reel

The introduction of aluminum into fly reels led to improved mass production techniques. Where much of the work on brass was done by hand at the work bench one at a time, aluminum could be cast, forged, stamped, and later machined to fine tolerances on an assembly line. Aluminum is also more resistant to corrosion and can be painted, colored via anodizing, and polished to a high sheen.

With the development of plastics around the beginning of the 1900's it was only a matter of time before synthetic materials found their way into fly reel construction. Bakelite reels appeared during the 1930's, and possibly earlier. They were lighter weight than aluminum reels of the era. Vintage Weber Henshall models are relatively easy to find still and are viable fishing tools.

Match one with an old Montague Rapidan Tonkin cane fly rod for a bare bones budget bamboo outfit, 1930's style. Synthetic material reels have been in and out of vogue since then; however, there are several models in production today made from various plastics and graphite materials. They are generally referred to in sales literature as being cast from a "composite" material. You often find composite material reels in budget fly fishing combo kits but some, such as the Redington Crosswater models, are available

Feature Article March 2019

Independently of a kit. Many of the composite material reels are quite nice and even usable for saltwater angling. The principle disadvantage of composite material reels is that they can crack if dropped (the reel foot is usually the weak point), and the material is not strong enough for big game targets like tuna and billfish. Most composite material reels are dark charcoal grey or black but Loop had some clear reels in their Evotec lineup about a dozen years ago. Those of you with access to a 3D printer can download reel templates and build your own composite material reel in a wide range of colors.

For the ultimate in durability, look at a titanium reel. Titanium reels are essentially corrosion proof and extremely tough. The starting point for purchasing a new Titanium reel is currently around \$2500.



Type II Anodized Olive
Abel Super 7



Loop Evotec
Clear Composite Reel

Despite all of these alternative materials, the vast majority of fly reels produced today and the last 100 years have bodies and spools made from aluminum. There are many different grades of aluminum. I won't go into the different grades, but the most durable reels are machined from blocks of aircraft grade aluminum, of which there are several common types. Aircraft grade aluminum is more resistant to corrosion and additional resistance is provided through anodizing. Type II anodizing is the most common type used on reels and is compatible with painting or otherwise coloring the finish. You can get Type II anodized reels in just about any color and with artwork baked into the finish. Abel Automatics has long been known for their beautiful fish graphic finished reels. The anodizing and coloring does not penetrate the surface very far so scratches show easily and expose the metal beneath. Type III anodizing provides a harder finish that gets farther below the surface. Type III anodizing, sometimes referred to as "hard anodizing" results in a less porous finish that doesn't take dyes well so Type III finished reels are a matte dark grey or black color. Most Type III anodized reels are produced only in sizes suitable for big game saltwater fishing.

Twenty-five years ago, machined fly reels were expensive and less common and the reel market was dominated by cast or forged aluminum reels. Machined reel frames, spools, feet, and drag knobs were produced by hand at the workbench, accounting for the high cost. The advent and proliferation of programmable computer CNC machining systems has reduced production costs and enabled mass production.

Feature Article March 2019

Machined fly reels for less than \$100 can be found. If you peruse catalogs and webpages you will find a lot of marketing literature talking down cast or forged aluminum reels in favor of machined reels. But cast or forged reels can every bit as durable and there are a lot of cheap machined reels on the market that are poorly finished and/or incorporate inferior components in their drag and bearing systems.



There is a history over a century long of high-quality cast aluminum reels including models from Hardy, Orvis, Scientific Anglers and many other others. Some of these reels cost hundreds of dollars. If you are looking for a high-quality used reel for fishing the surf or bays it is hard to do better than a Scientific Anglers System II model 6/7, 7/8, or 8/9 reel. The 10/11 and 12/13 models are still viable options for offshore fishing or using for salmon with spey rods. The System II reels were in production from the 1980's through about 2010 with the same drag system but with various cosmetic changes over the years. The original models had solid spools and frame backs. The final models had holes ported into both the spool and the frame. Manufactured in sizes suitable for panfish to billfish, like most cast aluminum reels they were painted black. They also had a urethane coating to add a little bit of protection to the painted surface. Cast aluminum reels could be finished in various colors or left unpainted. My collection of cast reels includes black, grey, gold, green, amber, and red models. Protective coatings to help preserve the paint finish started to appear in the 1980's. The coatings are susceptible to scratching, but so are the finishes of anodized machined reels. I view the scratches as memories of past fishing expeditions.

So, if you are looking to purchase a new or used reel, which frame and spool material is best? Well, titanium but that is beyond the budgets that most of us have to live within. While new wood and brass reels can still be found at a premium price, machined or cast aluminum reels are usually the best choice with synthetic composite reels a less expensive option that will suffice for most freshwater and a lot of light saltwater fishing. But the frame and spool material are not the only parameters of reel construction to consider. You still need some sort of braking mechanism (anglers call that a "drag") and some sort of bearing or bushing to enable smooth spool rotation. The drag and bearings or bushings are often more important than the frame and spool material or whether they are cast or machined. Poor quality components can turn a beautiful looking reel into a dud for fishing. We will talk about these components in a future article.

River of the Month

This new feature is intended to help expose the reader to potential "new waters" to explore.

The East Walker River (California side)

The East Walker originates in the Bridgeport Valley of Mono County and flows as a small stream into Bridgeport Reservoir. Named by Capt John Fremont in 1844 after his guide, Joseph R Walker. Below the Reservoir, the East Walker has been designated as a "Trophy Trout" stream for the 8 miles to the Nevada border. The area just below the reservoir is known as Big Hole, where the reservoir discharges into the river, and the water between it and the Hwy 182 bridge is a fly-only stretch of 1.5 miles, also known as the "Miracle Mile". Must use Barbless flies, one fish limit, and 18" or longer during the regular season of last Saturday of April to Nov. 15th. The season on the EF Walker has been extended to year-round since December 2006 when Winter catch & release only regulations were set by DFW. The East Walker is a tailwater, freestone stream with long runs and fast riffles and contains an abundance of large Browns and Rainbows. For more information [East Walker River](#). This is a must fish river for all fly fishers!



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](#)

Thank you

To the San Diego Fly Fishers,
Thank you so much for both your
donation and also hosting me in November.
We appreciate your contribution to Golden
trout and to our fisheries.

We are looking forward to a continued partnership.
Tight lines!

Sam Sedillo, Trout Unlimited.

FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO CONSERVE, PROTECT
AND RESTORE CALIFORNIA'S WILD TROUT, SALMON
AND STEELHEAD



1 STIMSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Let's Fish 2019— The Yuba River

Due to high river conditions, this trip may need to be rescheduled. Stay tuned to the Facebook page and the Indicator. A decision will be made NLT Friday 8 March. Contact Mike Gilroy if you have questions

YUBA YUBA DOO!

The Club is planning a trip to the Yuba River in March. Mark your calendar for **March 14-18th!**

The Yuba is an amazing dry fly fishery. Located just east of Marysville CA, this adventure does require some driving. I can assure you it is well worth the effort. I have been working with Jon Baiocchi, who is a very knowledgeable guide and steward of the Yuba. I have fished with Jon and he is a great guide. Together we are going to put together this Yuba Adventure.

Basic's:

The Sycamore Ranch Campground will serve as our base camp. This campground is operated by the county parks service and is a great place. Full service with AC power at each site, shower facilities and an RV dump station. The campground also serves as the takeout point for those floating the river.

There are daily use fees for each site. You will be responsible for paying your own fees. Here is a link to the website. <http://www.co.yuba.ca.us/.../publ.../parks/Sycamore%20Ranch.aspx>

In March I doubt that you will need to make an advance reservation. If we have sufficient turnout for this event I will try to negotiate a flat fee for the Club. (more than 12 sites).

We can use the group camp site without



reservation if it has not been booked by another group. I will arrive a day early to claim a group area, so we can circle the waders and be together.

It's a long drive! Approximately 10 Hours. Because of this I am making this a 4-day event. You can come for all or any part of the time. I am including Thursday through Sunday so that our members who are working have a chance to fish on the weekend. One option is to fly to Sacramento and get a rental car if you don't relish the drive.

The Yuba is very accessible for floating or walking and wading. It is my strong recommendation that you consider getting one of the four guides that I have contact information. Each person will be responsible for booking their own guide services. I will post the guide info in a separate post, in the Indicator and Finny Facts. Jon Baiocchi

will be giving us a Yuba 101 presentation on Friday night in the campground. You don't want to miss this if possible.

I will be asking the Board to provide some funds for food. I will plan for a big dinner event in the campground for all participants.

I will provide more details later. For now please let me know if you are interested in joining SDFP in this adventure.



Outing Leader: Mike Gilroy.

You can email me at mjgrota@gmail.com or you can call me at **425-418-8164**. My goal is to have a pretty firm list of folks planning to attend by Feb.15th.

YUBA YUBA DOO!!!!!!

-submitted by Mike Gilroy

Thanks for supporting San Diego Fly Fishers



Bob Berry Fish Carvings

**GRETCHEN YEAROUS
CERTIFIED CASTING
INSTRUCTOR**



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](#)
- Pending.....1st Vice-President
- Bruce Harris[Treasurer](#)
- Mark Hedderson.....[Secretary](#)
- Bruce Bechard[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 ThompsonSunday Fly Casting
Clinic
- 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 April Finny Facts is February 15, 2019.
Send submissions to:
media@sandiegoflyfishers.com