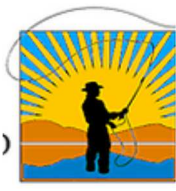


# FINNY FACTS



## San Diego Fly Fishers

**December 2018** Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing **Volume 41 No. 12**

December will be a busy month for San Diego Fly Fishers so let's get started.

**Clean Out Your Closet VI: Monday, December 3rd at Southwestern Yacht Club.**

Led by **Bruce Bechard** here is your opportunity to add some great fly fishing gear to your tackle box. This is a new format as we will have two short presentations mixed into an evening that will raffle off gently used gear. You can bring your own gently used gear to sell to other members. Plus, we will have pizza for all attendees (you have to bring your own antacids) and the bar will be open for your adult beverages. For more details, see page 4.

**Stroud Banquet Ticket Sales**

The sales have been brisk but we want all our members to attend this great event.

We have returned to **Admiral Baker Clubhouse at the US Navy Recreation Center**. If this is your first visit, you will not be disappointed. Great food, great service, and a beautiful setting awaits you and your significant other.

**Trout in the Classroom; Releasing the Young Trout Fry: December 12th at 9am at Lake Murray Fly Casting Center.**

Local area students have been busy caring for their trout eggs as they hatch and grow into small fingerling trout fry. On December 12th they will journey to Lake Murray to release their fish. We will provide educational activities that introduces fly fishing to the young students. We will have a casting station with practice rods and a fly tying station where they witness the creation of great flies. This has always been a fun activity and you get to be

caught up in the excitement of these students as they light up. I'll never forget one young student who asked, "When do we go back to the lake?" a few days after the release event. "Why?" I asked. She replied, "To get our fish and bring them home."

**Bishop Rendezvous Date is Set: February 21-24, 2019.**

For new members who would like to join some "old timers" on the water in pursuit of Rainbows and Browns, here is a great opportunity. Even though most of the Eastern Sierra waters are closed or buried under piles of snow and ice, there are streams that are open year round. For more information, see page 8.



**November schedule**  
Every Thursday- Fly Tying at San Carlos Recreation Center 6:30-8:00

**December 4th- 9:30-11am at ASPIRE in Old Town- Fly Tying**

**December 18th- 9:30-11am at ASPIRE in Old Town- Fly Tying**

**December 15th- Open Classroom-Santee Lakes meet at 9am- Fishing**

*Thanks for the generous Support.*




- Important Reminders**
- Membership renewal for 2019
  - Buy tickets for the Stroud Banquet
  - MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Inside**

President's..... Page 2  
 Annual Stroud Banquet.....Page 3  
 Clean Out Your Closet.....Page 4  
 San Juan River Trip..... Pages 5 and 6  
 STAR/PAL Kid's Fishing..... Page 7  
 Bishop Rendezvous..... Page 8  
 Eastern Sierra Report.....Page 9  
 Funny Page..... Page 10  
 Sponsors Page..... Page 11  
 Board Information..... Page 12

**Next Program**  
**Monday, December 3rd at 7pm**  
**Southwestern Yacht Club**

Cut-off date for the **January** Finny Facts is **December 15, 2018.**  
 Send submissions to Alan Thompson at [finnyfacts@gmail.com](mailto:finnyfacts@gmail.com)

**Don't Forget**  
 Time to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers for 2019.

**Season's Greetings**

Our year is rapidly coming to a close. I trust you are already planning your fly fishing activities for next year. Your Board of Directors are in fact busy...doing just that. Announcements will be forthcoming.

The December meeting will be an evening of opportunity and pizza. You will have the occasion to acquire needed or wanted fly fishing equipment and fly tying materials and supplies. Bring your wallet! While you have your funds in hand, you may pay your membership dues for next year.

We look forward to FISHING with you in 2019. Do you have your ticket to the Stroud Banquet? A delightful evening is planned. I have seen just some of the door prizes. You don't want to miss the evening out with fellow members and guests.

Once again, if you are interested in actively participating in the club functions or serving on your Board

of Directors, please contact me or any members of the Board.

As I leave office, I wish to thank all the members for their support. Without your dues, sweat, and dedication we would be adrift.

**Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.**

Tight lines,  
Larry



**The Indicator  
E-mailed  
Containing:  
Updates;  
late breaking  
Information;  
and  
Timely reminders**

**Don't Forget  
Time to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers for 2019.**

**Fly Tying Congress  
Every Thursday 6:30-8:30 PM**

Join the San Diego Fly Fishers at San Carlos Recreation Center at 6445 Lake Badin Ave. in San Diego. Instruction to create your own fly is available. Bring your own equipment or use the club equipment, available from one of the instructors.  
DIRECTIONS--From Interstate 8 take the Lake Murray off-ramp and drive toward Lake Murray. Travel on Lake Murray Blvd. for 1.6 miles and turn left at Lake Adlon Drive (1st corner past Jackson Drive). Go three blocks and the Recreation Center will be on your right.

# Annual Stroud Banquet



**Monday January 14th 2019**

**6:00 to 9:00 PM**

**Admiral Baker Clubhouse**

**U.S. Navy Recreation Center**

(approximately 1 mile east of SDCCU Stadium on Friars Rd. then turn onto Santo Rd. and take the first right onto Admiral Baker Rd.)

Bring a guest and celebrate another successful year for  
San Diego Fly Fishers

The price is \$30 per person for a great buffet dinner in a  
beautiful and convenient setting

Door Prizes

Sign-up at a meeting, at Strouds Tackle or mail to:

San Diego Fly Fishers, Attn. Stroud Banquet

10601-G Tierrasanta Blvd., #327

San Diego, CA 92124

When purchasing tickets at Strouds “cash or check only please”

Make checks payable to San Diego Fly Fishers

Please make your reservations prior to January 7th!

## Future Events- December Program Clean Out Your Closet VI !!!

The holidays are just around the corner and it's time to fill your tackle box with gently used equipment. A big thank you to Bruce Bechard for organizing and running this fun event.

### **LOTS OF GOOD STUFF. INVITE YOUR FRIENDS !!!!**

**Garage Sale ...** The garage sale will feature over 100 items that were donated to the Club at various times. Members will also be allowed to bring in their used fishing equipment and sell it at the event. Only current members will be permitted to sell fishing equipment.

Key items for sale include:

- 15 fly rods
- several fly reels, waders and boots
- fly boxes with and without flies
- fly tying vices and materials
- an assortment of fly fishing accessories

**Special Raffle ...** A special limited ticket raffle will be offered for a Jon Holland bamboo 4/5 weight fly rod as only twenty five tickets will be sold at \$20 each for a chance to win this beautiful custom rod.

**Door Prizes ...** The club will have several door prizes which will be given away during the evening. Each attendee will receive a ticket for an opportunity to win a door prize.

### **Presentations ...**

We will also have two short presentations during the meeting. One by Paul Woolery on *Tying Braided Leaders*, and one by Tim Huckaby on *Fishing the Forks of the Kern*.



**WHEN: December 3, 2018, 6:30PM**

**WHERE: Southwestern Yacht Club**

**Note earlier starting time!**

# San Juan Trip with the Arizona Fly Casters Report and Pictures from Larry Sorensen

## DID I MISS YOU ON THE SAN JUAN RIVER?

Recently our club completed a joint fishing trip with the Arizona Fly Casters (AFC). A small, but dedicated group of club members departed San Diego and headed to Arizona, on the first leg of a journey to the San Juan River, New Mexico. Upon arrival in Phoenix, Arizona, we were hosted by **Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rondoni** for dinner and a very informative planning session.

After a full night's sleep, hosted by members of the AFC, we departed to the San Juan. We stopped along the way, briefly, for a lunch we will never forget. Upon arrival at the San Juan, we checked into Fish Heads Fishing Lodge. Fine accommodations, restaurant, and a fly fishing shop. Dinner was enjoyed at a local pub, followed by a good night's sleep.

The following day, breakfast and FISHING. While some waded, **Paul Woolery** and I drifted with a guide; see us for a personal recommendation. The drift boat was launched and soon after Paul described the gathering of drift boats as the Spanish Armada. Big fish were caught on VERY small flies...all day! Following our day on the water, a dinner buffet was hosted by our fishing buddies in the AFC.



Next day we fished several locations on the river. Late in the afternoon, we fished a spot close to the lodge. A Baetis hatch was raging and the fish were "busy." Very small Baetis duns were cast and we hooked up. **Paul Woolery** will never forget this hatch. He hooked into a very large Brown Trout while casting his 13 foot Tenkara Rod. He was holding on with two hands. The fish was landed and released.



*From Ray Mehl, On Oct 23 on San Juan, Keith Darlington caught 100+trout between 9 AM and 5:30. Verified by myself and 3-4 Arizona Flyfishers. (I myself caught 50-75).*

All members of our group caught fish, some more than others, but a great time on and in the water will be long remembered. Later that evening, a prime rib dinner was hosted by the Arizona Fly Casters. Our last few hours on the San Juan were spent at breakfast telling fish stories and saying good byes. On our way out of San Juan, we stopped at a local winery. We did some shopping and enjoyed watching the peacocks and peahens. Paul added to his feather inventory.

We drove back to Phoenix, once again spending a comfortable evening with our AFC hosts. The following day was a ride back home, spending much time planning the trip(s) for next year.

I wish to thank **Brad Norgaard**, President, Arizona Fly Casters, and **Jim Rondoni**, Activities Chair, for the fine organization of the event. See you again next year.  
Larz



**Paul Woolery** with a nice brown from the float trip with **Larry Sorensen** and the San Juan River Guide.

## San Juan River Adventure –continued



The San Juan River Adventurers from the San Diego Fly Fishers. *from the left*– Lee McElravy, Wayne Johnson, Bruce Bechard, Paul Woolery, Bruce Michael, Larry Sorensen, Keith Darlington, and Ray Mehl. It was great to get a picture of “Aguaman” dry.



The Host, Arizona Fly Casters, that led our group to the San Juan River. Thank You All and see you next year !

## STAR/PAL 2018



*I want to thank the following members who gave up their valuable time to help make the 2018 Star/Pal fishing derby a great success! **Ray and Sheron Mehl, Lew Walsh, Warren Lew, Don Smith, Bob Carr, Lee McElravy, Hal Herritt, Todd McGovern, Dan McKirnan.** I want to especially thank **Gary Strawn** for filling in for me in my absence. Thanks again to all our volunteers.  
**Paul Woolery***

**We need your help getting rid of Carp!**



**CARP ANGLERS WANTED, CONVENTIONAL ROD AND REEL, SPEAR, OR BOW**

- **KILL A CARP and FISH FOR FREE!**
- **KILL A CARP and TENT CAMP FOR FREE!**
- **KILL A CARP, PROOF REQUIRED!**

**LAKE CUYAMACA NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

**KILL A CARP!**

## Future Event: Bishop Rendezvous February 21-24, 2019

### What is the Bishop Rendezvous ?

This is a club sponsored event that is open to all members and their friends. Together we fish, we stay in the same motel, we have afternoon “discussions” , and we eat dinner.

### When is this event?

We will leave San Diego early Thursday , Feb. 21, 2019 and stay until Sunday, Feb. 24th.

### Why do we go this time of year?

The main reason is flow on the Lower Owens is generally lower and allows us to wade the river. The Upper Owens holds Snow-bows (very large rainbows holding over during the winter months). The gorge area flows are lower and fun to fish. We also get discounted rates on lodging.

### Where will we fish?

Past history of this weekend event saw many club members fishing the Lower Owens, Pleasant Valley Reservoir, the Owens Gorge, the Upper Owens, and Hot Creek.

### What motel do we stay at?

The Elms Motel located in Bishop, California. Here are the details:

Contact the Elms Motel and ask for Harry at: 760-873-8118 or 800-848-9226. There are 9 rooms with a one bed and 7 rooms with 2 beds ( includes 2 smoking rooms) **Call the Elms directly to reserve your room.**

*If the Elms is full, contact the Travel Lodge next door at 844-422-5811.*

### Where will we eat our dinners ?

Unless there is a change, Thursday night– **The Brewery** on Main Street, Friday Night– **The Bowling Alley**, and Saturday night– **La Casita Mexican**, on Main Street.

### What if I have some questions ?

See or contact the Event Coordinators **Lee McElravy** or **Alan Thompson**.

### Once I decide to go and make reservations, what do I do next ?

**Then Contact me (Alan Thompson) at [athompson64@hotmail.com](mailto:athompson64@hotmail.com) so we will have a count for the evening meals.**



*Area Guide Services (that we have used)*

**Sierra Drifters– 760-935-4250**

**Eastern Sierra Guide Service– Pat Jaeger– 760-872-7770**

**The Sierra Troutdoorsman -Sam Vasily– 951-764-7146**

**Performance Anglers Guide Service -Joe Contaldi– 760-965-6527**



# Eastern Sierra Report from Sierra Drifters

## Fish'N Conditions 11/12/18

Sierra Drifters thanks all the veterans for their service to our country and hopes everyone had a great weekend. Nighttime temperatures have dropped to single digits and teens on most nights and have still been warming up to beautiful conditions during the late morning and afternoons. The forecast looks pretty dry for the following week, although there is some talk of the possibility of some minor storms, but as of now they look to be targeting southern California. As most of our rivers and creeks start to settle into winter flow rates and the leaves have all dropped from the trees, most fall spawn fish have locked into spawning mode. East Walker River giving up decent numbers and some real monsters. Trout have been holding in the deepest water available. Upper Owens River has fish in the slower water with good dry fly activity for anglers mid-day. Hot Creek good for dry fly, dry-dropper, and nymphing on most days. Warmer weather has the aquatic life very active throughout the day. Middle Owens River holding steady and streamer fishing has been good. Good mid-day hatches starting to come off in the afternoons.

## Middle Owens River (Bishop Area)

Flows have been holding steady as they have come down to fall and winter levels. Current cfs is 222. We are fishing in all our usual sections of the river and enjoying pulling streamers to the resident trout here. Our bigger trout have been coming on small to medium streamers with many takes happening toward the end of the retrieve. Fishing the transition zones has been the hot ticket to fooling these fish during this time. These are fun trips and often times we float all day down the river and seldom see another angler. We have been using moderate sink tips and pulling #10 Loebergs and #8 Spruce-a-bu's back to the boat with good results. The fishing

will only improve as we move along into the coming winter months too. We can fish up to 3 anglers per boat and offer half day trips (4.5 – 5 hours) or full day trips (7 hours) to meet your needs.

## Upper Owens River

Some larger fish have found their way into the river this month. With the continuation of cold nights, this will keep the fish in the river as they move upstream to choose their spawning locations. They are spread out currently and the real large numbers of migratory fish will show up once the water temperatures get cold enough. Solid midge and mayfly hatches have been taking place in the afternoons. The section from the Benton Crossing Bridge down to the fishing monument is now closed. Flows are now at 89 cfs. The cooler water has prompted the fish to feed in the deeper runs now and target nymphs and egg imitations. Look for rising fish in the late-morning and afternoons as the daytime temperatures climb. They will be found in the slower eddys around the bends in the river.

The section upstream from the Benton Bridge is open year-round with special regulations. Seasonal closures and angling restrictions apply downstream from the bridge, check regulations before fishing in this section. We walk and wade guide here. During winter we will access the UO with snowmobiles.

## Hot Creek

Flows now at 14 cfs. As the morning sun warms the surface water and air temperatures, the aquatic insects begin to emerge. Midges, mayflies, and a few caddis have been showing up daily. The newly planted fish have been taking advantage of the micro midge hatch all day. Larger size trout have been keying in more on

nymphs, strymphs, and worm and egg patterns. It can get crowded here while the weather is mild so finding a good spot on the creek can pay off. #18 mayflies, #18-22 midges, #20 Brassies, and egg and SD worm patterns have been getting some serious looks and takes from the resident trout.

This is a year around fishery with special regs in place. We walk and wade guide here.\*Tom Loe, Doug Rodricks, Doug Dolan, and Hans Grotewold are under permit from the Inyo National Forest Service to guide Hot Creek.

## East Walker River

Flows now at 24 cfs. It has become fall/winter time here now for the resident trout. Some behemoth trout have been pulled out of some really small holding areas. This time of year, be sure to cover any water that looks deep enough to be holding a fish as it could be a fish of a lifetime. Lots of juvenile perch have been washing through the pipe and stacking up below the dam area. A good mixed bag of fish sizes are biting on properly presented flies. Target the deepest pools and runs and you can be rewarded with some real beauties. #18 Copper Tiger Midges, #14-16 Parallel Perch, #14-16 Level Leeches, and Assassins dark and light both Parallel and normal have been great patterns to hang. #18 flashback hare's ears, #18wd 40's, and SJ worms also working well.



## FREE INTERMEDIATE FLY CASTING 1st and 3rd Sundays at 8am Ski Beach, Mission Bay Park

John Wylie and I (Dennis Panish) are teaching free intermediate fly casting lessons on the first and third Sunday of every month down at Ski Beach Mission Bay. Lessons start at 8 am and run about an hour. I recently received my Casting Instructor certification from FFI. This is open to all SDFP members including beginners and intermediate fly casters.

## Funny Page

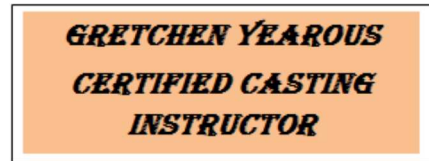


FREE CASTING LESSONS  
EVERY SUNDAY starting at 9 AM

Join the San Diego Fly Fishers at Lake Murray to cast or improve your skills. Free instruction is available. Bring your own equipment or use the club equipment, available from one of the instructors. DIRECTIONS--Take Interstate 8 to Lake Murray Boulevard. Go north on Lake Murray Boulevard to Kiowa Drive. Make a left and continue to the parking lot next to the boat dock. We are to the immediate right of docks under the large cabana. See you there!

# Fundraiser Sponsors

*A special thank you to our Sponsors. Please Support them with your business.*



**San Diego Fly Fishers  
2018 Directors**

Larry Sorensen .....**President**  
 Sherry Ashbaugh...**1st Vice-President**  
 .....**Media Coordinator**  
 Bruce Harris .....**Treasurer**  
 Mark Hedderson.....**Secretary**  
 Bruce Bechard .....**Co-Programs**  
 Jack Duncan.....**Rod Building**  
 Mike Gilroy.....**At Large**  
 Fred Gregory.....**At Large**  
 Lee McElravy .**Project Healing Waters**  
 Gary Strawn ..... **Conservation**  
 Alan Thompson..... **Newsletter**  
 Steve Vissers .....**Membership**  
 Paul Woolery..... **At-Large**

**Other Chairpersons**

Tim Huckaby..... **Co-Programs**  
 Alan Thompson .....**Fly Casting Clinic**  
 Lucky Ketcham ..... **Fly Tying Clinic**  
 David Collins ..... **Web Master**  
 Don Davis.....**Video & Library**

**IGFA Contact**

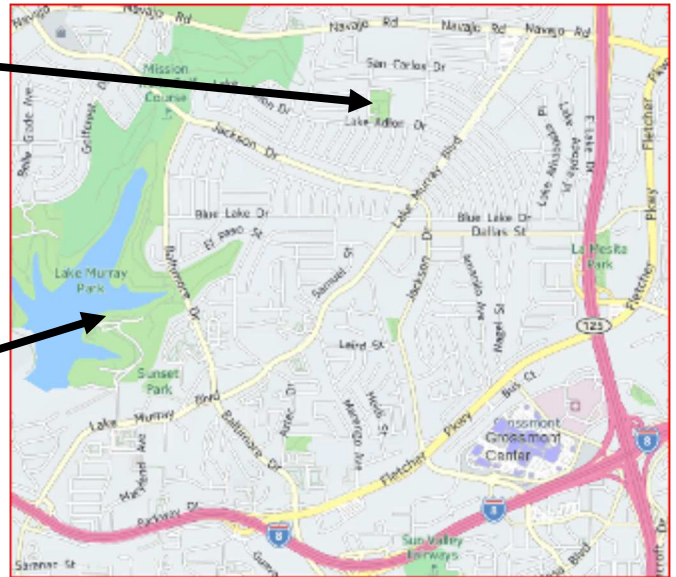
Wesley Woll  
 675 S. Sierra Ave. Unit 25  
 Solana Beach, CA 92075  
 858-481-6386 858-395-9479 cell

**Fly Tying Congress**  
 Thursdays 6:30-8:30

San Carlos Rec. Ctr.  
 6445 Lake Badin Ave.  
 San Diego, CA 92119

**Fly Casting Clinic**  
 Every Sunday 9 to noon.

Lake Murray  
 Kiowa Dr.  
 San Diego, CA 92119



**Monthly Programs**

First Monday  
 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Southwestern Yacht Club**  
 2702 Qualtrough Street  
 San Diego, CA 92106



**San Diego Fly Fishers**



Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

**Affiliate Club of the  
 Fly Fishers International**

**Since 1962**

**Directions from Highway 8 (traveling West) or Interstate 5 (traveling South)**

Take Rosecrans exit West to Owen Street  
 Turn Left on Owen Street, drive 1 block to San Antonio  
 Turn Left on San Antonio, drive 2 blocks  
 Turn right onto Qualtrough and follow to SWYC entry-way at end of street.

**Southwestern Yacht Club**  
 2702 Qualtrough Street  
 San Diego, CA 92106  
 (619)222-0438