

MARCH 2009

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 14, No. 3

Longtime Fly Fishing Figure Passes--

Eileen Stroud

(see page 3)

Jim Brown comments on Eileen and what she meant to the fly fishing community on page 4.

March meeting speaker info on page 2.

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, March 2, 2009
7:30 PM

Sequoia Elementary School
4690 Limerick Avenue
(See map on back page)

REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for this meeting
(report at 6:15 PM)

**Dennis Herrmann
and Bruce Harris**

Thank You, Mona Morebello

Fly Fishing Show-Redux

by Tom Lucas

My addiction to cane rods is such that I had to fly east again in late January to see what was new in the world of cane. The Fly Fishing Show goes all over the country throughout the year but the cane component of it appears to be strongest at the Somerset, N.J. show. Of course I saw some new graphite brands and the usual model improvements but I really was there to see what was new on the cane front. I also had this 'itch' to buy something.....which, oddly went unscratched this time.

Somerset seemed a little colder this year and the light snow on the ground was actually more ice than snow. Ponds were frozen over and there were a lot of Canadian geese around. I had to avoid many of their 'presents' whilst walking between my hotel and the convention center where the show was held. Incidentally, I LOVE that there are so few fences around commercial property over there; I was able to cut my walking time down



Happy shoppers.

significantly by traversing parking lots and lawns. Back to the show..... The show ran Fri thru Sun with Sat. 1/24 being the main day and the place was packed to the rafters, so to speak. Ostensibly there to check out cane rods I did do a little observing and I came away with a few surprises (to me). Even though this is a generalization, it struck me that the majority of attendees at the show were a lot like me....i.e. 50+, overweight and of a working-class background. In other words, it seemed like a lot of the (mostly) men there were not affluent. The accents are also amazing in that they are quite broad.....something I'm

continued on page 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: MARCH 2009

It is my sad duty to announce the death of **Eileen Stroud**. Eileen passed away peacefully at home on February 5th.

Eileen was one of the first three women to join the club along with Betty Jackson Corum and Nancy Pitts. Eileen was an accomplished fly tier. Her flies are priceless, not to be used as intended but to be cherished as works of art. Outspoken, Eileen would happily give advice to those who sought it. Her memory will forever be held among us.

The 20th Annual Star/Pal Kids Fishing Derby at Chollas Lake was very successful despite less than ideal weather. Two Hundred Eighty-six young anglers braved the wind and rain to take part in the derby.



PAUL WOOLERY

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the following members for coming out to help on Friday and Saturday. Without their help the derby would not have been the success it was. **Wayne Allen, Robert Pharoah, Ed Gausdal, David Collins, Lucky Ketcham, Art Reifman, Gretchen Yearous, Ned Swell, Louie Zimm, Barry Pechersky, Al Venton, Dan McKirnan, Donald Smith, Bob McKay,**

Gary Strawn, Ken Armer, Jim Gottfried, Donna Gottfried, Wesley Woll and, of course, Mr. Chollas Lake himself, **Joe Bain**.

I would especially like to thank the first timers and new members that took part in the event. **Bruce Michael, Bruce Bechard, Lew Walsh, Jim Tenuto, Suzy Lahitte,**

Steve Piper and Jason Graham.

Thanks to the Thursday night fly tiers, 500 hooks, leaders and swivels were pre-tied and ready for assembly on Friday, February 6th. Thanks to all who participated.

There is still time to sign up for the Green River trip in May. Please contact **David Collins** for more information.

The Lower Owens trip in March may be already filled at this time. You may contact **Dick Mount** for information regarding this trip.

Due to severe budget cuts, Sequoia Elementary School may be closed later this year. As it has a small enrollment of only 150 students it is a prime target. I am accepting ideas for another meeting facility. I have already received several good suggestions but I'm open to all ideas. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

March Meeting

High Lonesome Ranch, Colorado

Just as March is coming "in like a lion," our speaker on March 2nd will arrive with a wealth of information interesting to all of our members on a variety of levels. Sean Scully will be presenting a program on High Lonesome Ranch, consisting of 300 square miles in De Beque, Colorado. This fly fishing destination is attractive for a variety of reasons. Conveniently, located north of Grand Junction and west of Aspen, the Ranch presents an opportunity to fly fish for brookies, browns, rainbows and cuttbows on freestone streams, two

spring creeks and the Roaring Fork and Colorado Rivers.

Secondly, for those of you with a conservation bent, the Ranch is extremely dedicated to conservation in this area of Colorado. Although not classified as a "non-profit," every dime spent by guest services is invested back into the Ranch. For example, the Ranch is currently involved in a \$5 million stream restoration project with Trout Unlimited.

Finally, for those of you interested in "cast and blast" vacations, the Ranch

offers ultimate opportunities with packages including big game hunting and wing shooting.

In addition to providing us with detailed information regarding this fly fishing opportunity, Sean has promised to share information as to how we can take advantage of the Ranch at reduced prices during the off-season in June and July.

Something in this program should appeal to every one of our members. See you on the 2nd!





In Memoriam Eileen Stroud

At her request, no public services are scheduled and her ashes will be spread at sea. For those wishing to make donations in her name, the family suggests consideration of the San Diego Fly Fishers' Stroud Conservation Award Fund, 1457 Morena Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92110.

The Southern California fly fishing community is mourning the loss of Eileen Stroud who passed away peacefully Thursday, February 5th at the Bay Park home she shared with her husband Bill.

Regarded by many as the matriarch of the fly fishing community for the last 35 years, the first child of John and Myrtle Meyers was born in rural Oregon and raised in the nearby town of Toledo, where her father worked in a lumber mill. The surrounding woods and rivers provided ample opportunity for fishing and hunting and it was at the side of her father where she developed her appreciation for the outdoors, and fishing in particular.

She later moved to Pasadena, California where she worked in the insurance industry and in 1963 met Bill Stroud, whom she married two years later and shared her passion for fishing as the pair became regulars on Southern California sportfishing boats. Their increasing involvement in fishing led them to leave the insurance business and open Stroud Tackle in 1970.

In addition to retail sales of tackle aimed at serious saltwater anglers, the duo teamed up to produce custom rods which were built by Bill and finished with intricate "diamond wraps" designed and meticulously created by Eileen. For a number of years their highly customized rods were favored by captains and crews of the local sport fishing fleet.

As the Stroud's personal interest in fishing began to expand more into fly fishing in the mid 1970's the shelves of their shop began making the transition from a shop for custom saltwater tackle to fly fishing equipment. At about that same time, the Stroud's had become active with the San Diego Fly Fishermen, but Eileen's role was limited by a prohibition against female members (see article next page). When the club was forced to end its male-only membership requirements, she was part of a group of four women to be admitted membership into the renamed San Diego Fly Fishers.

Shortly thereafter, Stroud Tackle was named the official home of the organization which quickly grew from approximately 30 members to over 300

thanks in large part to the Stroud's involvement and Eileen's efforts to recruit the store's customers, many of whom attended fly tying classes that she taught after the shop's business hours for many years.

In addition to the many local fly fishermen whose interest in fly fishing was spurred by Eileen, there are many anglers from around the world who stayed in touch or made it a point to stop by during their trips to San Diego over the course of many years.

In addition to her husband Bill, she is survived by her daughter Judy Ritter and grandson Jeff Howard, both of Buhl, Idaho, granddaughter Cyndi Schroeder of Big Pine and two great grandchildren.





Eileen with husband Bill and Jim Brown at the 2004 San Diego Fly Fishers Annual Banquet.

Eileen Stroud-Pioneer with the San Diego Fly Fishers

One of the First Women to Join the Club

forced me to discontinue active/official membership to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Morena Boulevard became the commercial center for fly fishing in Southern California. This was well before the arrival of “super shops” like Marriott’s or the rapid growth of catalog merchandisers and later the internet stores that have largely wiped out the smaller “mom and pop” shops like Strouds.

Shortly after my

Bill Stroud has asked that I forward to Finny Facts the obituary for Eileen Stroud, who passed away on February 5. While many of you may not know me, my involvement with the San Diego Fly Fishers goes back to the late 1950’s when my father would take me to the first of the club’s two casting ponds at Morley Field. I suspect that it was not until the late 60’s that I became a member. At that time, the club consisted of about 30-40 members, about 25 of whom would show up at monthly meetings held at the Conference Building in Balboa Park.

I mention this, because at that time the club was rather provincial and exclusive. I do not recall any members of a racial minority and women were forbidden by by-laws that restricted membership to “men only.”

In the early 70’s I managed Chollas Lake, and when the club lost the use of its casting pond in Balboa Park, brought the then San Diego Fly Fishermen to Chollas Lake for their Sunday morning casting sessions. In 1974, I was appointed Manager of the San Diego City Lakes Program and as such became the Park and Recreation Department’s liaison to the club which

appointment, it became my responsibility to insure that affiliated organizations using public facilities I was involved with did not restrict membership on the basis of race or gender. When I notified the club’s president and made a presentation to the club regarding the city’s requirement that affiliated organizations comply with civil rights legislation regarding discriminatory membership practices, I was stunned when he resigned following a club vote to comply and change the by-laws accordingly.

This was a man who was a good friend and an extraordinary fly fisherman who had always been generous with his time and equipment in teaching others while leading the club.

To the best of my recollection, Eileen Stroud was one of four women to request and be admitted membership, one of whom, Betty Coram later became club President.

I mention all of this, because of the role that Eileen and Bill Stroud played in the resurrection of an organization that was really staggering. Following the closure of Perry’s Sport Shop on University Avenue, Stroud Tackle on

It was a time when a wobbling fly fishing community needed leadership and a physical base and a small shop that had recently converted from saltwater to fly tackle needed customers. The Stroud’s stepped into leadership roles in the club and a rapidly growing and appreciative membership stepped into the shop.

I spent a fair amount of time in the shop in those days and if a customer stepped in that was not already a member, there was little doubt that they would be before they left, whether they bought anything or not. In fairly short order, a struggling club of 30 or so became a vibrant organization of over 300 within a few years.

At the center of it all was Eileen, whether she was teaching fly tying classes or urging customers to “join the club and get involved.” About the name “Finny Facts?” Eileen won the newsletter naming contest with it. I mention all of this because without Eileen’s hard work and dedication to the club it would be quite different than it is today, and in my opinion not nearly as good.

Jim Brown



BASIC ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP FOR FLY -FISHERS

**Saturday March 21, 2009
San Diego Area**

The study of aquatic insects for trout fishing.
This is the annual bug class. All fly fishers welcome.

This is a special workshop for all fly fishers in the San Diego area. This workshop is only offered once a year in the spring.

Instructor: **Maggie Merriman**

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2009

Time: 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Location: Crown Pointe community clubhouse, at Scripps' Ranch, 11441 Ave Magnifica, San Diego

Workshop fee: \$50.

Hosts: SDFF members, Vic and Suzanne Jones, (Vic said they will provide continental breakfast, coffee, morning beverages again. You bring your lunch or snack.)

Take the mystery out of what bug is hatching and what fly to use for trout fishing. This is a great workshop that will teach you how to identify the basic trout food: Mayflies, Caddis, Stoneflies, Midges and other trout foods.

This class will help you become a better trout fisher or fly tyer. You will learn to identify the bugs, how to "match the hatch" and how to select the correct fly. Class includes: samples of bugs, corresponding flies and an extensive class handout. Bring a snack, drink, note pad and some of your fly boxes to look at and compare to the preserved bugs. No Latin or Greek spoken — just plain English

Maggie's class is very popular. This is the same class that she has given at the FFF National Conclaves.

Preregistration is required. Please register by March 14, 2009

To register – mail the workshop fee to Maggie.

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FLY OF THE MONTH

Kern River Emerger

Hook: TMC 5212 size 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18
Thread: Black, 6/0 for larger sizes, 8/0 for smaller hooks.
Tail: Moose hair
Body: Peacock herl
Ribbing: Fine copper wire
Wing case: Razor foam (or any thin foam), 1mm for small patterns.
Thorax: Synthetic dubbing, or rabbit, opossum
Head: Black thread



The Kern Emerger was developed by Guy Jeans, owner of the Kern River Fly Shop. He has been guiding on the Kern for approximately 20 years and this is one of the more popular flies used in the area. Swinging or dead drifting this one will get you into fish! Originally developed for the Kern River this versatile nymph pattern has proven deadly on other rivers as well. More and more reports of how effective this fly is keep coming in from all parts of the country and world. He uses pink, red, and yellow for the wing case. But who says that you can't try some other colors.

1. De-barb and mount the hook in your vise. Attach the thread at the 2/3 shank on the hook and wrap it to the bend and back to mid shank.

2. Grab some moose hair and put it in a hair stacker, you will want an amount that is about the size of the hook eye, and the length will be from the eye to the bend in the shank. Tie the hair in from the mid shank to the bend.

3. Then tie in the fine copper wire (or your Zimm wire).

4. Then tie in the strands of peacock herl (depending on the hook size for the number of herls). This should be tapered and tied to the 2/3 position on the hook shank.

5. Then wrap the copper wire in the opposite direction that you tied in the peacock herl. This will help with keeping the peacock herl in place for more than one fish. If you do not have copper wire, try silver or gold tinsel.

6. Now you take your razor foam or any other thin foam and cut it the width of your body that you just tied and tie it in.

7. Then you will take and tie in some synthetic dubbing, do not be frugal, use a bunch as this needs to look really buggy. Then pull over the foam to finish the wing case and tie a whip finish.

8. To make the dubbing look buggy, use a dubbing brush or scissors to pull the dubbing out.

Guy also ties a variety of Bead head emergers and uses the above wing case colors plus green and orange. He also adds soft hackles on some behind the bead and on some a soft hackle and rubber legs under the wing case.

Now the question is can you be successful with this fly. It can be weighted or fished as an emerger near the surface. Notes and photos by Don Davis.



Fly Fishing Show-Redux

continued from page 1

not used to here on the west coast. But maybe it's just my declining hearing.....

There were a few bargains to be had this year; I ran across two Sweetgrass fly rods (a quad and a penta) that were half-price because of cosmetic flaws.... which I could not find!! Rolf Baginski was back from Germany with his exquisite multi-piece rods and they were also half-price.....this time due to the strong euro. I met Rob Smith of Pentalux rods who has a patent pending on his pentagonal rod construction techniques. His rods were



Shortcut to the show.

quite amazing in their power-to-weight ratio. However, the most amazing rod there (in my opinion) was made by an engineer by the name of Tim (didn't get his last name). He took a cane building course with Rolf Baginski several years ago and now makes 3-pc. rods with bamboo ferrules unlike any I have seen before. His female hex ferrule is not swelled and the male ferrule looks almost like a long, tapered pencil. Because both are hex-shaped, the ferrules cannot be misaligned and the male ferrule is reinforced with a carbon fiber pin. This allows the rod

profile to appear continuous and yet bend as a seemingly 1-pc. rod. Unfortunately "Tim" does not make rods commercially; I know I'd certainly line up for one of his efforts if he did. Another revelation was that the Dietrich Bros. of Chambersburg, PA. have secured the rights to make George Maurer rods. I test cast their Maurer "Eagle Creek" 5wt. and as the owner of a Maurer rod or two, I was VERY impressed with their workmanship. It is very hard to tell the difference; even the rod script is very similar.

Canoes in the east are 'different'. Last year they had some Michigan boats that were works of art and this year there were some New England canoes that were in the same vein. No aluminum or laminate here, the canoes (\$2300) had wicker backs, gorgeous wood fittings and yet were relatively light. Some had fiberglass hulls and a more expensive version came in carbon fiber. There was a 24ft. Parker bay boat that I wished I could have put in my pocket. It was completely outfitted and

was well under \$24K.....complete with registration and commissioning. Ahhhh...where's money when you need it! The latest articulated kayak (for stand-up casting) was there too and had a lot of people asking questions about it and getting prices. I believe they go for around \$1650. Along with all the new toys there was the usual plethora of seminars and fly fishing stars. I spent half of Saturday doing nothing but going from one seminar to another. In the process I met my former Bahamas

guide and yet another from my last Catskills trip.....pretty neat. I particularly liked the Michigan lakes carp sight fishing seminar as well as Dick Brown's very thoughtful tips on Bahamas bonefishing. Probably the highlight for me was the rap music accompanied introduction to striper fishing along the NY coast. I came in 2 minutes after the seminar started to a blast of discordant music and flashing pictures of BIG stripers and thus wondered what I was letting myself in for. As an added bonus, the lecturer was a fully tattooed young man of about 25-30. Wow! The 'kid' was in reality a very articulate, conservation-minded individual who was extremely knowledgeable about the areas around NY. He got a good round of applause after his presentation. Grey haired striper experts were asking lots of questions when it finished; surely a compliment to his efforts and guide skills. A book cannot be judged by its' cover..... remember that, Tom. So that was Fly Fishing Show – East for 2009. I don't know how I managed to attend and leave with only a few flies and brochures.....poverty, probably. In any event, I highly recommend this show to those of you addicted to cane. An alternative would be the same show which is held in Denver each year. Although a little smaller, I'm told it still beats anything in the west.



Cane rod dealer.





DAVID COLLINS

**Any Questions?
Call David Collins at**

Green River Trip 2009

Join us this year as we again travel to the Flaming Gorge of the Green River in northern Utah.

This has been the club's premiere trip for over 15 years. The 10 people who went last year had a great time.

I reserve the cars, rooms and guides ... you book your own air travel. The cost of the trip including airfare, car transportation, lodging, fishing license and floating guide (for 3 days) is estimated to be \$1,400. Guides (tax and tip included) are about \$260 per day per fisher (a little more than last year), so if you decide to wade without a guide one or more days, you can save on trip costs.

Plan to float at least one day though ... especially if you have never gone before ... it is a great way to see 7 miles of one of the most beautiful rivers you'll ever fish.

As it was last year, some of the guides charge a little less (though they still get raves from people who fished with them last year) ...I try to schedule it so everyone fishes with the less pricey guides, but if that is not possible, preference will be given according to who signs up first.

You have until April 1 to sign up, but the sooner you decide to sign up, the more likely that you will be able to book the ideal Delta flight to Salt Lake City (It is the least expensive and it is non-stop and its the one the rest of us will be on).

Please sign up soon! If we get more than 12 fishers wanting to go, early signup will allow us time to book more cars, rooms and guides as needed. I have all of the details. If interested you can contact me by:



Fishing Report from Miramar Lake

I was able to get away for a few hours and fish Miramar today. The lake is still low, I hear a couple of guys talk about the fact that they are filling it again. I spent most of my time fishing a yellow wiggler but had no luck. The wind came up and it was time to head home for work. Remembering some of Bob's mentoring advice I decided to troll on the way home. I switched to a sculpin (olive with a red eye) and on the way out of Carrol Cove got hit. It took me about 20 minutes to get the fish in, everytime he saw me he took off. I was a bit confused as to why I didn't see any silver flash moving around as the line came near the surface until I got him near the net and it was a Largemouth, just short of 18". This was my first Largemouth ever. Thank you Bob for the great tip and giving your time to help us rookies out. It's really appreciated.



There was no sign of the stocking truck while I was there. I only saw one trout.

My 13 year old son and I will be going out on Sunday. I'll let you know how it goes.

—Mark Sweat

Fishing Seminar Set for March 28th

We will be conducting a fishing seminar on Saturday March 28, 2009. Bob Pharoah will be talking about still water fishing. Lucky Ketcham will be covering moving waters; and Louie Zimm will be covering the fishing of San Diego Bay.

The seminar will be held at the **San Carlos Recreation Center** near Lake Murray. The address is 6445 Lake Badin Avenue. To get there from Hwy 8, take the Lake Murray Blvd. exit just as if you were going to the lake. Instead of turning into Kiowa, keep going on Lake Murray Blvd. another 1.6 miles. When you come to Lake Adlon Drive, (first corner past Jackson Drive) turn left. Go down three blocks and the recreation center will be on your right. It is on the corner of Lake Adlon and Lake Badin. Time will be **9:00 am until 3:00 pm.**

Anyone Interested in Kayak Fishing?

Members interested in Kayak Flyfishing opportunities in either San Diego Bay, Mission Bay, La Jolla or local lakes can contact Jim Castelluzzo.

Jim fishes the bays regularly and will gladly plan kayak trips with any interested members.

Jim Castelluzzo



STAR/PAL 2009



I am forwarding some pictures taken by Bruce Michael.

Steve Piper stood out in the light rain most of the morning helping kids on one of the docks, untangling lines while I sat at a nice table under the protection of a shade structure. Dr. Steve really was under some pressure to get the rods untangled for each kid. At the repair booth we had six extra rods and could exchange the tangled mess for a new rod in a second. Then we could work at our leisure to cut out the tangles and make a new leader.

--Lucky



Recipients of the
Stroud Award
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 2005-Allen Greenwood
 2006- Hugh Marx
 2007- Mike Rivkin
 2008- Bill Van Wulven



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| 1992-Bob Camp | 2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki |
| 1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud | 2002-Larry Sorensen |
| 1994-Ed Velton | 2003-Jim Tenuto |
| 1995-Bob Wisner | 2004-Joe Bain |
| 1996-Gary Hilbers | 2005-Jim Reeg |
| 1997-Jack Bentley | 2006-John Kasten |
| 1998-Gordie Zimm | 2007-Lucky Ketcham |
| 1999-Gretchen Yearous | 2008-Louie Zimm |

Cutoff date for **April FINNY FACTS**
 articles---Friday March 13th.

Send articles to:
 Rose and Roger Yamasaki,
 5415 Lodi Place
 San Diego, CA 92117
 858-274-2712.

You can E-mail at finnyfacts@gmail.com Thanks!!

Send change of address information,signup for
 electronic version of newsletter, or Club mem-
 bership renewal to:

Lucky Ketcham



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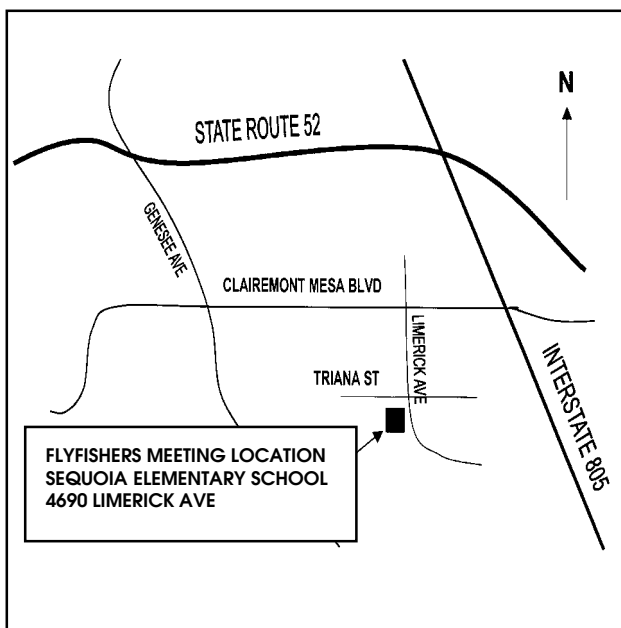
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San Carlos Recreation Center near Lake Murray. (We no longer meet at the Lake Murray Water Training Facility at Lake Murray). The address is 6445 Lake Badin Ave. To get there from Hwy. 8, take the Lake Murray Blvd. exit just like you were going to the lake. Instead of turning into Kiowa, keep going on Lake Murray Blvd. another 1.6 miles. When you come to Lake Adlon Drive, (first corner past Jackson Dr.) turn left. Go down three blocks and the recreation center will be on your right. It is on the corner of Lake Adlon and Lake Badin.



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