

# FINNY FACTS

Archived version

APRIL 2000

OFFICIAL CHAPTER-FEDERATION OFFLYFISHERS

Volume 5, No. 4

## Special Float Trip Raffle Tickets Still Available

The SDFF is participating in a raffle being conducted in conjunction with The Seventh Annual East Idaho Fly Tying Exposition and Banquet. The prize, which is donated by Hyde Outfitters and Last Chance Lodge in Idaho, is a 5 day/6 night guided fishing trip for two on the **South Fork, Henry's Fork, and Teton Rivers**—see the enclosed flier on page 3. The total value of this trip is \$2,800.

Why are we supporting this raffle? Two reasons: **the SDFF gets to keep 25% (!) of the ticket sales**, and all the proceeds are being directed toward enhancing the South Fork of the Snake River as a cutthroat fishery.

Tickets, available through Pat Case, are only \$10.00, and will be for sale through the April 3rd meeting. This is a great prize and a win-win deal that helps the SDFF and the Snake River Cutthroat! The number of tickets is limited, so make your purchase as soon as possible.

### REMINDER

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

**Carl Nelson & Jim  
Castelluzzo**

*Thank you, Mona Morebello*

### APRIL SPEAKER

## Salt Water Fly Fishing with Nick Curcione

Dr. Nick Curcione, in addition to his 35-year career as Professor of Sociology, is an outdoor writer, photographer, lecturer, instructor, and tackle consultant with more than 40 years of angling experience. He is considered to be one of the pioneers of fly fishing in Southern California and Mexican waters. His fishing travels have taken him to a variety of locales and include all of the coastal waters of the continental U.S., Alaska, Canada, the Caribbean, Mexico, Christmas Island, Midway, Central and South America. Nick's writing credits are also extensive with numerous articles on local, national, and international publications.

He is on the editorial staff of *Fly Fishing Salt Water* magazine. His fly fishing books include *The Orvis Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing*, *Baja on the Fly*, and a forthcoming work entitled *Tug of War*. Over the years, Nick has served as a consultant for a number of major tackle manufacturers and is presently working with Thomas & Thomas Fly Rods, Tibor Reel Corporation, and Rio Fly Lines.

### MEETING NOTICE

Monday, April 3, 2000  
7:30 PM

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

## Silent Book Auction Con- tinuing for April Meeting

Due to the success of the previous silent book auctions, we are continuing the auction activity for the April meeting. Different books, some rare, and all of interest to fly fishers! Again, this money will go directly to our conservation efforts. So bring your checkbooks and cash.

## NEXT BATTER UP!----- We Need a Chairperson for the Annual Raffle

We desperately need a chairperson to head up the Annual Raffle. Donna Kelley has the raffle very well organized and there are a number of people who have offered to assist; however, we need one person or a couple to put it all together and manage the event. If you want to discuss this with Donna Kelley, please give her a call at . Please call Patrick Case () if you can take this event over for the year. **If we do not identify someone by the end of March, we will be forced to forego the event for this year.**

If you are interested in doing your part to help the Club in an easy way, contact our Club President Pat Case and step up to the plate.

San Diego  Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

**A**s I settled into my seat for a recent Seattle bound flight, the only thing I could think of was that this must be the dog days of the year insofar as fly fishing is concerned.

After the plane leveled off, I pulled out my lap top with the intent of writing this month's message. Then it came over me that I didn't seem to have anything to write about. I played a couple of rounds of computer Solitaire, then snapped the top of the computer closed...writer's block!...one of the few things that drives fear into a president's heart.

There is nothing going on. It's winter. Fishing is pretty much limited to the local lakes (and the Wednesday Bunch hasn't been raving about its luck lately) and cheating death in the frigid climates of Lee's Ferry, the San Juan, or the like...already did that this year, I'm almost embarrassed to say, still remembering my fingers going from cold, to very cold, to painfully cold, to numb in the 17-degree air. Adjectives like stupid and fool hardy come to mind when a fisherman finds himself in such situations.

Continuing with the self pity, this trip will take me away from San Diego for the third Thursday in a row, putting the final nail in the coffin of my fly tying class, the one resolution I made for the year. Christ, even the Fred Hall Show was a bust!

I pulled out the Alaska Airlines flight magazine. Alaska's magazine is much cooler than perhaps any other because it is, well, about Alaska and the Northwest...perhaps only one that flies a lot can appreciate that. As I opened the magazine, there it was...my savior...a gift from the airline magazine publishers...an article about fly fishing in Alaska of all things. How did this get in there? This is

akin to running across an article about life as a freelance sheepherder in Redbook! But there it was. Better yet, it wasn't yet another article about the Kenai!...but

Petersburg Creek and the smaller, no-name streams in the Petersburg area of Southeast Alaska...or the panhandle, as the locals refer to it.

These articles that you come across every now and then about out-of-the-way fishing places can be real gems. They get the thoughts going, and remind you that there is more to fly fishing than the San



**PATRICK CASE**

Juan River, or whatever your favorite fishery is. What made this particular article even more of a gem for me is that I had just acquired a Seattle client that was going to be paying for me to fly half way to Alaska for the next couple of years. That did it...this is going to be the year I begin exploring some of the lesser known rivers of the Alaskan panhandle.

Maybe I'm the only person to feel stuck in a fishing rut, but I doubt it. However, it is easy to get lazy about exploring new rivers, when we have great tailwaters like the San Juan, Green and Colorado to fall back on with virtually guaranteed success. It is also easy to just wait for **Jack Bentley** or **George Gates** to put together a trip to sign up with. But to repeat one of Jack's often heard refrains, all it really takes is two people to get together to have a fishing trip. This reminds me of another refrain heard at the monthly meeting more than once, and that is we sometimes seem to be a club more about "meeting" than "fishing."

So here's the challenge: Go fish! Carpe Diem..."discover" a stream or river that you would like to explore, put together some dates and logistics, and get a couple

of men or women to join you. As Zane Grey once said: "There is always something wonderful about a new fishing adventure trip. Fishing is like Jason's quest for the Golden Fleece." Bentley is always ready to help you out with the planning, and knows about every guide in the country...and God knows he is a genius at figuring out the cheapest (did I say that?)...least expensive way to go. If you would like some microphone time at the monthly meeting to share your idea and locate fellow travelers, let me know. In any case, get out and fish. This is especially true for those new to fly fishing (read "fly casting"), and in jeopardy of thinking that practicing at Lake Murray is fly fishing ...there is no better way to learn the sport than spending a few days fishing with a mentor.

Speaking of mentoring, Mike Kaul has introduced the club to a terrific program of teaching the youth of the Boys & Girls Club of Carlsbad how to fly cast. Each Thursday he meets with about seven kids for two hours. In support of this, the SDFF casting clinic donated nine of our "over-the-hill" rods and reels to Mike's program. Printed on page 12 in this issue is a letter from Denise Lamb, Program Director of the Club, thanking us for the rods and reels, and recognizing Mike's efforts. He will soon be starting another program at the Boys & Girls Club of La Costa.

I feel this is a terrific cause that Mike has taken on, and we are very pleased to support him. However, it does present him with a bit of a dilemma...actually a big dilemma. As you may know, Mike spends his summers in Wyoming, which creates the need for others to fill in if the program is going to be conducted year around. Therefore, if you like working with children, know how to teach casting, and have time available in the middle of the week to contribute to this cause, please give Mike a call (

In closing, I would like to extend the

continued on page 8





Donated by:

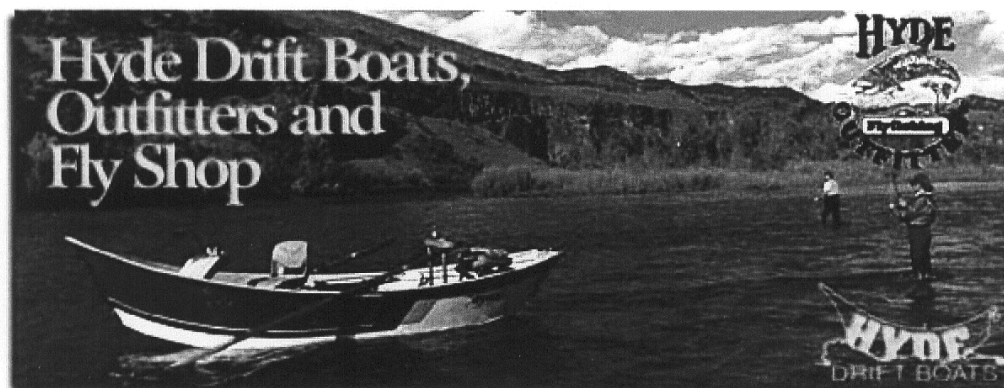
## Hyde Outfitters & Last Chance Lodge

For Reservations Please Call  
**800-444-4933**

*Tickets are \$10.00 each*

### **\$2800 Value**

- 5 Days/6 Nights
- Guided Fishing Trip for two
- South Fork, Henry's Fork & Teton Rivers
- Lodging and meals at the Last Chance Lodge



**Drawing to be held April 15, 2000**  
**Winner need not be present to win**



## It's Not Nice to Fool Mother Nature

### FOOLING AROUND WITH MOTHER NATURE - AND LOSING.

This time it's with alewives (*Alosa pseudoharengus*), one of the "bait" or forage fishes. These were introduced into the large impoundments created for flood control. Norris Lake, Tennessee is the locale of this story.

Bait fishes were introduced as food for the large sportfishes, mostly small and largemouth basses and walleyed pike. For at least 30 years the idea worked well and healthy populations of game fishes flourished. But, although their growth rates improved their numbers declined, particularly for walleyes. Alewife stocking was stopped but their numbers declined very little - possibly the result of escapees from fishermen's bait buckets or from illegal stocking by "bucket biologists".

Unfortunately, alewives are zooplanktophiles and eat the same type of food that sport fishes do, and they grow to 15-16 inches eating all the way. Also, it is known that walleyes eat small (young) of their own kind, thus aiding in their decline. It may also be that alewives are a sort of junk food to walleyes and don't give them adequate nutrition for successful reproduction. These questions are being researched with no answers as yet. Once established in these large bodies of water, bait fishes can't be removed except at great expense and effort. Stocking of walleyes at large sizes might help but at great cost - and it may not work. Mother Nature is winning this round. It just isn't nice to fool around with her.

**SHE WINS THIS ONE, TOO.** In New Zealand, a "Franken fish" experiment was ended after secret results reached the public. Chinook salmon (*Onchorynchus tshawytscha*) were being bred for mutation by large growth genes. Three generations later, deformed heads and other abnormali-

ties were found. Also, the salmon grew to several times their size in the wild. According to the breeders the salmon could grow to 550 lbs (real tackle

testers—read busters). This is at least 4 times normal growth and the wild experiments were stopped by the Government and all specimens burned. However, the experimenters were permitted to freeze some sperm for a later try.

Imagine what would happen if a few 550 pounders got loose into the San Juan, or any of our favorite trout rivers. Our trout would get eaten in a short time. The New Zealand Government feared this sort of thing and shut down the experiment.

It isn't difficult to imagine Mother Nature laughing, or smugly smiling.

**BUT I HOPE SHE FROWNS ON THIS ONE.** You've read my occasional objection to the killing of fish large for their species. The assumption is that they grew large because of an intelligence that caused them to reject or avoid baits throughout their lives. Or, that they contained a large growth gene factor. Both could tribute to large growth. We can assume their surviving offspring are doing the same and will cause much pleasure for future fishermen.

If you catch a truly big one and it's your first "wall hanger", and you can afford the mounting fee, you may be entitled to decorate your wall. But, as reported by Ed Zieralski in the February 27th *Union Tribune*, six big largemouth bass were killed in San Diego lakes. They totalled 47.35 lbs, the largest 14.05 and 10.25 lbs, the remaining 4 averaging about 4 lbs each - truly trophy fish. But; why kill all of them? For glory? To satisfy a macho streak? Certainly not for food (necessary to avoid starvation, that is). A lot of large-growth genes were lost to future genera-



BOB WISNER

tions. Mother Nature is entitled to heavy frowning here. 🐸

## Fly Fishing Expo

As was announced in last month's *FINNY FACTS*, the FFF Southwest Council is conducting a Conclave this year. It is being billed as a **FLY FISHING EXPO**. The Expo will be October 7th & 8th, at the Costa Mesa Community Center (we will publish a map to the site when the date gets closer). The events will include: fly tying demonstrations and clinics; beginning to advanced casting; programs on destinations and techniques; programs and instructions for women and youth; and techniques for streams, stillwater and saltwater. The Expo will also include a silent auction, raffles, and banquet. These conclaves are a chance to meet the experts and share their knowledge. The Expo promises to be a fun event...everything the Fred Hall Show wasn't. 🐸

### DO YOU DO E-MAIL?

Gary Hilbers

Often times it is necessary to get a hold of someone, or several people, and the phone isn't the best way to do it. A letter may be too slow. So how about e-mail? The problem is we don't have everyone's e-mail address. What I'm proposing is establishing an e-mail directory. If anyone is interested, send a letter to me at

and I will include you in this. This information will be distributed only to other members for non-commercial use. Anyone interested, drop me a line.







JACK BENTLEY

Any Questions?  
Call Jack Bentley at

## Annual Green River Trip--May 7-12--Itinerary

May 7th--*Southwest Airlines* flight #1048/783--San Diego to Salt Lake  
Departs 6.35 AM. Be at the east end of the East Terminal #1 by 5:35  
AM to receive tickets from Jack Bentley.

May 12th--*Southwest Airlines* flight #1176/632--Salt Lake to San Diego  
Arrive San Diego 4:30 PM

Telephone number for Flaming Gorge Lodge: 435-889-3773

## New Mexico on the Agenda for the Fall

*San Juan River Trip October 8-13*

Volunteer needed to help organize and execute plans as I will be unable to  
make this trip. Contact me ASAP--Jack

## International Sportsmen's Exposition

by Sid F. Colmenero

Part of being a member of a club is learning more about the sport we so must enjoy. For others, it's more like an obsession. We can't seem to ever get enough! One way to ease that inclination is to attend one of the biggest fly fishing shows in North America. Recently I visited the San Mateo International Sportsmen's Exposition held in February. Quite frankly, I'd rather be fly-fishing than talking about fly-fishing. Nevertheless, my work gives me the opportunity to attend many outdoor events throughout the year. The Sportsmen's Exposition is one of those shows that stands out from all the rest.

The San Mateo show is actually

two shows in one. The Fly-fishing exposition and I.S.E., have combined forces to make it an impressive show for all outdoor enthusiast. It's a time to meet old friends and learn more about the sport we so much love. One can easily spend the entire day following the different presenters through their lectures. Or spend a couple of hours with such notable fly-fishers as Lefty Kreh, discussing and presenting the fine art of roll casting.

Want to learn how to tie a fly to catch that Tiger fish in Africa? How about learning about the great fishing in our own backyard with expert fly-fisher Michael Fong? Have you ever dreamed of spending lots of money to fish exotic

places? If the answer is yes, to any of these questions, attending the Exposition, will put you in contact with the right outfitters for your fly-fishing dream of a lifetime. For further information and show times, check out their web-site at: [www.sportsexpos.com](http://www.sportsexpos.com) or call 360-693-3700.

One of the true benefits of attending the show is the charge it gives you, to go home and start tying and prepping your own equipment for the next fishing season. That said, it's time to pack the rods and travel towards Northern California. I've been hearing stories of some fantastic Steelhead action! Let's see if they are true. 🎣



## Erratic Weather Means Pick Your Fishing Location Wisely

Howdy friends and Sierra Drifters,

From time to time we will be giving you folks updates on current conditions if the situation warrants.

If you are planning a trip to the Eastern Sierra this weekend and intend to fish Pleasant Valley Reservoir or the Lower Owens River some things have changed since our last report.

### SIERRA DRIFTERS



**TOM LOE**

Weather conditions have been very erratic this week, and it appears that this trend will continue into the weekend, and throughout next week. We have had rain in the Owens Valley, and plenty of the white, cold stuff at higher elevations.

Do yourself a favor and dress yourself for inclement conditions. Between fronts it has been great, with daytime highs in the upper 50's. The valley floor has recieved rain only, be careful where you drive off paved surfaces here, you may spend some time mud wrestling your vehicle if not prudent in your choice of dirt roads.

#### Lower Owens River Drift Boat Section:

Just like the weather-ERRATIC. We had one of the best days of the year for large average sized fish landed and hooked this week. 27 fish landed, then released with 41 total fish being solidly hooked up. The biggest 23" and 5lbs. We also encountered some slow fishing. On a very nice day only 8 fish landed with 12 being hooked up. Tis the time of year when you can get a bonanza or the banana. On the average still very good fishing. We are still using streamer patterns with sink tip lines to get down where the TROUTZILLAS lurk.

Flow rates remain at 175cfs. but I understand this will change soon. Repair work may lower the flow rates for a time next week. This is good short term news. It will however, alter areas in which the fish have been holding. Stick to the large pools and bends, and fish the softer water near

the main current.

#### Pleasant Valley Reservoir:

Big change here. The D.W.P. is filling the Res. so they can shut down the influent pipe into the power house for maintenance. This makes wading and fishing the river leading into the res. tough. The channel here is now very deep and nymphing is not the hot method as of late.

I suggest you eat a jar of hot peppers, followed by a mug of hot chocolate laced with Kahlua and hop into your freeze tubes! The bite is good on streamers or stryph's fished with a sink tip, or full sink line in the 10-20 foot range near the river entrance to the res. proper. Fish the opposite shoreline and work up the res. from the first access area. The browns are snapping good on the cloudy days.

#### Owens River, wild trout section:

Good overall fishing. The first major caddis hatch came off several days ago and the browns bit on #16-20 olive and gray bodied caddis patterns. Some may fly activity mid-day also. Use midge larva or caddis larva if you are nymphing. Water temp is 46 degress, a.m.

This is a neat place to go even if you do not choose to fish. Wait until it rains, then park at one of the high spots on Chalk Bluff Road with some field glasses. You will see a two wheel drive vehicle turn off only to become a potential mud-fossil (if not for tow trucks). You will then witness a four wheel drive vehicle snicker as he goes by his two wheeled counterpart only to get imbedded 50 yards further into the quagmire! Use extra caution after a heavy rain here.

Have a good time if you come up. The Reservoir, and Lower Owens River between Hwy.6 and Warm Springs bridge are being stocked weekly with Alpers Trophy trout.

We will update our report again as conditions change. Please check out our web site at <http://sierradrifters.com>. You can click on fish report, or photo page to see some of the fish being landed this year.

Best fishes to all, Be the Fly...

Tom Loe, Sierra Drifters Guide Service 🐟

### FLY CASTING AT LAKE MURRAY

Some terrific trout fishing is available in Inyo County during the winter or how about some local trout/bass fishing.

Want to learn to flycast or just improve your skills? Join us every Sunday morning from 9 AM until noon.



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# FLY OF THE MONTH

## SHEEP CREEK SPECIAL



Hook:	TMC 5263 #6 - 14 or equivalent - 3X long (weighted or unweighted)
Thread:	Black 3/0
Rear Hackle:	Brown or furnace hackle - flared
Body:	Medium dark olive chenille
Wing:	Mallard flank fibers - 15 - 20 fibers
Head:	Tying thread

1. Wrap a smooth underbody of thread from just behind the eye to the bend of the hook.
2. At the bend of the hook tie in a brown or furnace hackle with the concave side facing toward the rear. Wrap 2 or 3 turns around the hook forming a flared effect.
3. Strip the first 1/4" of the chenille down to the inner thread and tie this stripped portion onto the hook just in front of the flared rear hackle. If the fly is weighted start the chenille, without stripping it, just behind the lead wraps ( this helps to form a smooth body ) Wrap the chenille forward in close wraps to a point behind the eye which allows for tying on the wing and forming the head.
4. Select 15-20 mallard flank fibers and tie them in front of the body with the points laying back over the body. The points of the mallard flank fibers should reach just short of the rear hackle (without cutting ). Trim off the excess fiber butts.
5. Form a neat tapered thread head, whip finish and coat the head with head cement. This fly is one of the better stillwater patterns and should be in every lake fisherman's fly box. The late George Biggs developed the Sheep Creek Special and in some areas, especially Southern Idaho, it is known as the "Biggs Fly". I have my best luck with it tied as above, however, it can be tied with a peacock herl body or variegated chenille - olive/gold -black/orange - black/tan. I normally do not weight the fly.

Tom Smith



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## President's Message

continued from page 2

club's thanks and appreciation to **Louisa Kassler** for donating a number of books to our book auctions in support of conservation projects. Every year Louisa also quietly makes generous cash contributions to the club, as well as a number of other organizations dedicated to restoration of fisheries.

Most of us don't know Louisa because her difficulties walking don't allow her to get to the club meetings any more. However, I recently had the special opportunity to spend some time with her when she asked me if I could pick up the books she was donating. In the course of sharing a number of photos of herself and family fly fishing through the decades, and relating little fishing vignettes, Louisa told me she hasn't been fishing in about two years now...it was with a guide on the San Juan. Louisa is 92. Many thanks again, Louisa, for your generosity through the years, you are an inspiration to us all. 🐟

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Dear Sdff members:

A friend of mine suggested I check out the website [www.afishonthenet.com](http://www.afishonthenet.com). After looking at I was very impressed. As a

result I received the following e-mail. Please take the time to look at this web site and let me know what you think.

Sincerely,

Patricia Case  
former President, San  
Diego Fly Fishers

Hello Patricia,

My name is Brad Clark. Ed passed along a note saying that you had been spreading the news of our website, A Fish on the Net. I wanted to write and say thank you. The kind words you said were very appreciated. Because I knew that many members of your group would be looking at the site, I posted a banner stating that your group was our Group of the Month. I have extended our group discount of 5% to all of your members. All they would need to do is simply state on the order form that they are a Sdff member, and we will do the rest. Also, after their first purchase, they would receive our Club member discount of 5%. So that would make a total of 10%. One of the great things about owning a company such as mine, is

that you can help friends if they are looking for any equipment or supplies in particular. If you either individually or as a group decide that you ever need anything, please let me know.

I hope you do not mind me posting this banner for your group. Before I got into this business, I always wanted to find a way to get a discount on the supplies I really needed. Hopefully this might help your group. I am currently working with a Trout Unlimited

group in Pennsylvania, and I am donating some Gift Certificates for a banquet they are holding for its members. If you ever have an event like this, let me know. I would love to help.

I posted the name of your group as "San Diego Fly Fishers". If this is not correct, please let me know and I will change it. If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas, I would love to hear them. Once again, thank you for everything. Have a great day.

Brad Clark, A Fish on the Net 🐟



PATRICIA CASE

## APRIL CALENDAR

**PROGRAM MEETING-3rd-Monday, 7:30 PM, Salt Water Fly Fishing with Nick Curcione.**

**LEES FERRY TRIP-3rd-7th-Monday thru Friday, Springtime in Arizona.**

**DRAWING FOR FISHING TRIP-15th-Saturday, Hyde Outfitters & Last Chance Lodge, guided trip for two to the South Fork, Henry's Fork, and Teton Rivers.**

**BEGINNING FLY-TYING CLASS-Thursdays, 7:00 PM at the Lake Murray Water Training Facility. Call Gary Hilbers for details at**

**CUTOFF DATE FOR FINNY FACTS ARTICLES-14th-Friday, Send articles to: Rose and Roger Yamasaki, 5415 Lodi Place, San Diego, CA 92117, You can E-mail at**

**Thanks!!**

**BOARD MEETING-** Held the last Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the offices of ENARTEC, Inc. 4542 Ruffner Road, Suite #340, . Call Pat Case to make sure meeting hasn't been postponed. All are welcome.







# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

February 28, 2000

Item	Person Responsible	Action
1. Reading of Minutes	Nancy Fletcher	Approve/Amend
2. Treasurer's Report	Warren Lew	Approve/Amend
3. Program Report	Lane Pearson	Approve/Amend
4. Conservation	Sherry Brainard	Report
Old Business		
5. Budget	Patrick Case	Approve/Amend
6. Stream restoration project	Donna Kelly	Announce committee
7. Annual Raffle	Donna Kelly	Report
8. SDFF credit card	Patrick Case	Solve monetary liability of program chairperson, etc.
9. Lapel pins	Patrick Case	Report on quote
10. Advertising/corp. membership	Patrick Case	Advertising chairperson
11. Increase PR/membership	Patrick Case	General strategy/Bob Camp
12. Dinal donation	Patrick Case	\$1,316 value; liquidate
New Business		
13. Boys & Girls Club	Patrick Case	Mike Kaul project
14. Fred Hall/SWC FFF	Patrick Case	Membership display
15. SWC FFF	Patrick Case	Representative



*A series of articles on who we are, what we do, and how we operate.*

## What We Do: Beginning Fly Tying Class

*Gary Hilbers Once Again Leads the Hands-On Course and Gives Us Some Thoughts on the Fly Tying Art*

**A**s far back as I can remember the San Diego Fly Fishers has offered fly tying classes. This is a valuable part of being a member as well as a skill you will be able to use the rest of your fishing life. What a thrill to be able to catch a fish on a fly you tied or designed. I can remember mine was a 15" trout caught on a black Doc's Twin Lakes Special at Lake Crowley. Steve Netti was the fly tying guru when I joined the Club. And now that banner has been passed on to past SDFP President Gary Hilbers. I asked Gary about the class he now helms and other thoughts on the art of fly tying.

### 1. How long have you been tying flies and how long have you been teaching this class?

*I've been tying for about eight years. I started with a Jack Dennis video and a couple of books, and then I took some classes with Steve Netti. After that, I started helping him with the classes. In 1995, after my last term as President, I set up the Tying Congress. Steve resigned that year, so I just kind of took over by default. So this is my fourth year of actually teaching the class*

### 2. Do you get a new crop of tyers every year or are they mainly repeat "customers"?

*This seems to vary from year to year. Last year I would have said it is heavy on the*



*Gary Hilbers preparing for another fly tying class. A video cam helps to show the close up details on overhead monitors.*

*repeaters. This year, it is mostly new tyers.*

### 3. Has the interest in fly tying been going up or down?

*For now I would say it is up. Again last year, we didn't see too many new faces, but this year the class is full.*

### 4. What is the easiest fly to tie? The most difficult? The most effective for trout?

*I guess the San Juan Worm is about the easiest. Just some chenille tied to a hook. As far as the most difficult, a lot of people have trouble with the Adams. Also quill*

**Continued on next page**



*It's a full house at the the beginning fly tying class held at the Lake Murray Water Training Facility. The facility is ideal for the hands-on course.*



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## Beginning Fly Tying

continued from previous page

wings such as the No Hackle. The question of which is the most effective could be debated forever. There are so many other factors involved besides the pattern. But I would say, all in all, it would probably be a nymph, such as the Gold Rib Hare's Ear.

### 5. What are your three favorite flies?

I like the Elk Hair Caddis, the Parachute Paradun and the Trico Spinner. A couple of more dries and a few nymphs, and you've covered a large number of the situations you will find.


### 6. What do you think is the key to a good fly tyer?

Two things. First, how you handle the material. You have to control it, get it where you want it and get it to do what you want. Second, proportions. Each element has to be the right size in proportion to the rest of the fly and the hook you're tying it on.

### 7. I've seen all levels of vises used to tie flies, from \$20 Thompsons to \$300 Renzettis. How important is it to have good equipment?

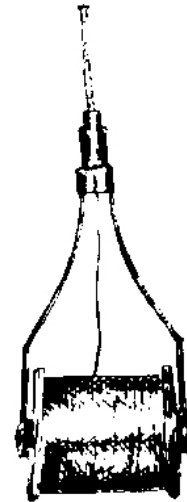
Good equipment is very important. With vises, some of the cheaper ones may serve the purpose, but a better one is going to be easier to work with and last a lot longer. Also, a good pair of scissors and a good bobbin is important. The same is true for material. Buy the best you can afford. It is much easier to work with and, in the long run, may prove cheaper on a per fly basis.

### 8. Any message you'd like to pass along to the beginning fly tyer?

Enjoy. I tie for two reasons. Number one is, I enjoy doing it. Second, fooling a fish on something I created myself makes the whole fishing experience that much more enjoyable. 



Emil Smith and his just completed Elk Hair Caddis (shown at right). Emil says he has been tying for about a year.



Gary has some capable assistants helping out with the class duties. They are left to right: Larry Sorenson, John Beckstrand, and Lee McElravy. Not shown is Tom Smith.





BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF CHARLES COUNTY

February 11, 1998

Dear Pat,

On behalf of our organization, and members I would like to thank you for the dedication of the students and staff to the Club. One of your volunteers, Adam Lamb, has personally had interest in both our members to learn by visiting skills. The members are enjoying themselves.

We appreciate the time that the students staff to introduce a new and unique activity to our young members.

Best regards,

*David M. Lamb*

David M. Lamb  
Program Director

cc: Ned Reed and John Rafter

The mission of the Charles County Board of Education is to provide education and enrichment that meets the needs of every student in the community.

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## We Still Need an Ad Man or Ad Woman

The San Diego Fly Fishers is looking for a member to step up and take the chair of the Advertising Committee Chairperson. This person would be responsible for generating revenue for the Club through advertising in the *FINNY FACTS*. It's actually a really easy job as the advertising rates were previously determined and approved by the Board a number of years ago. They might need to be adjusted, but that should be easy to do.

If you are interested in doing your part to help the Club in an easy way, contact our Club President Pat Case.

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### *San Diego Fly Fishers Headquarters*



1457 Morena Blvd  
San Diego, CA 92110  
(619) 276-4822

**Proprietors**  
**Eileen & Bill Stroud**

### LIFE MEMBERS

Gordon Foster (in memoriam), Bill and Eileen Stroud, Bernie Hammes, Hugh Turner, Nancy Pitts, Bob Wisner, Ken Armer, Glen Paul, Betty Coram, Ned Sewell, John Kasten, Leo Bergevin, George Beach, Bob Camp, Marvin Darling, Gene Jerzewski, Oz Osborn, Robbie Robinson, John Gauld

### HONORARY MEMBERS

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler, Hugh Marx, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood

Winners of the:

### GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service  
to the fly fishing community

1991-Ned Sewell  
1992-Bob Camp  
1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud  
1994-Ed Velton  
1995-Bob Wisner  
1996-Gary Hilbers  
1997-Jack Bentley  
1998-Gordie Zimm  
1999-Gretchen Yearous



**SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS  
2000 OFFICERS**

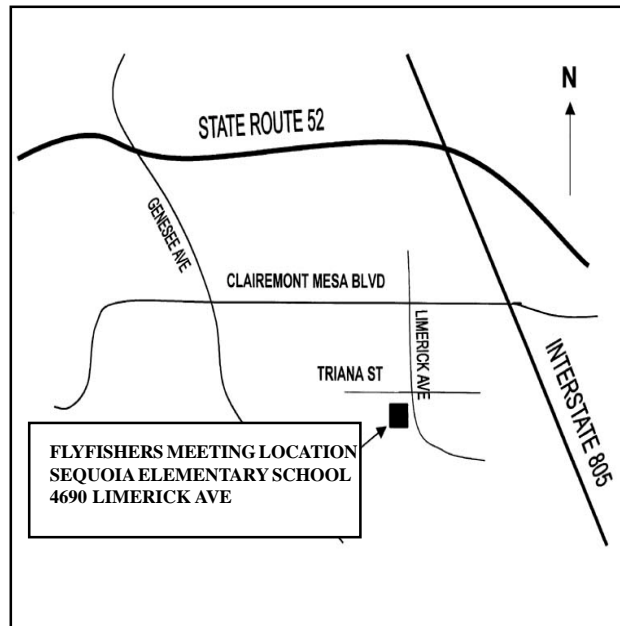
President- Pat Case  
1st VP- Jim Tenuto  
2nd VP- Sherry Brainerd  
Treasurer- Warren Lew  
Secretary- Nancy Fletcher

**DIRECTORS**

Patricia Case  
David Collins  
Helen Grundler  
Lane Pearson  
Donna Kelley  
Steve McGowen  
Al Sorensen

**COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSONS**

Conservation- Sherry  
Brainerd  
FFF Southwest Council-  
SDFF Rep. Bob Wisner  
Fly Casting Clinic- Ned  
Sewell and John Kasten  
Fly Tying Clinic- Gary Hilbers  
Membership-  
Helen Grundler  
Member of the Month-  
Warren Lew, Howard  
McCluan  
Monthly Weekend Outings-  
George Gates



Newsletter CoEditors-  
Rose & Roger Yamasaki  
5415 Lodi Place, San Diego  
92117,  
E-mail:

Programs- Lane Pearson  
Publications & Club Biologist-  
Bob Wisner,  
Jack Fletcher, Bob Losey

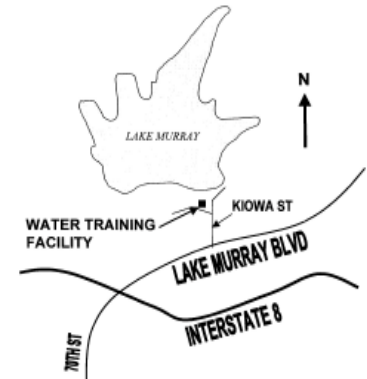
Raffles- Donna Kelley  
Refreshments-  
Vernon Wescott  
Rod Building- Tom Smith  
Trips-  
Jack Bentley,  
Video & Library-  
John Gauld,  
Web Page- David Collins  
Women's Education Focus-  
Gretchen Yearous

**FREE CASTING LESSONS  
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Join us 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 Blvd. Go north on Lake Murray Blvd. to Kiowa Drive. Turn left and look for people casting just as you enter the park. That's our bunch.



Meeting Place for Workshops  
SD Water Training Facility. Just before entering Lake Murray, turn left off Kiowa and go through 1st gate to 2nd gate. Turn right before 2nd gate.

San Diego Flyfishers Headquarters  
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Fly Fishers**

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