



Fly fishing ...Hawaii??

by Gary Strawn

Local Guide Shares His Expertise on Salt and Fresh Water Fishing

There are not too many guides that are equally at home in both fresh water and saltwater. Our May speaker, **Conway Bowman**, has spent his life fishing both and is considered by many as the best local guide in San Diego County. Conway is the Lake Keeper at Lake Murray and runs Conway's Blue Water Fly Fishing. He spends his spare time trout fishing in the Sierra's or Corbina fishing at the Salton Sea. His real passion is fishing for sharks. He was recently featured on ESPN's Cabela's Sportsman Challenge fishing for Mako's.

Conway will be speaking about his blue water adventures and will also be giving us an update on the city lakes.

Most of us spend too much time fishing outside of San Diego County and too little time taking advantage of the fishing we have in our own back yard. Come join us at our May 6th meeting and find out what you have been missing!

I recently had the opportunity to vacation in Kailua-Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii. It was not planned as a fishing trip, but being a recent addict to the sport of fly-fishing and having had a little luck with local salt water fly fishing, I thought I should check out the possibilities. There is information on one web site: G. Miller's 7-page primer on fly fishing Hawaii http://www.dirmailsys.com/~gmiller/Hawaii_Flyfishing_primer.htm.

It convinced me that to bring my 8-wt rod and give it a try.

My fishing was limited to the rocks and seawall in front of our hotel. The surf is generally mild on the Kona coast so I ventured out on the rocks (lava) early the first morning. After slipping in my rubber soled wading boots and falling several times, I moved over to the beach. That was more comfortable, but the water was



REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for the
May meeting

(report at 6:15 PM):

**Susan Bohlander &
Mike Moulton**

Thank you, Mona Morebello

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, May 6th, 2002
7:30 PM

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

very cloudy. An hour of casting yielded no bites, so I snorkeled out to see if there were any fish. That may be considered cheating, but it seemed like the thing to do in Hawaii. There were a lot of fish: some 20"+ Papio (Cravelle Jack), but they were

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The Annual Raffle...Part One Hard to believe that our Annual Raffle is only a few weeks away. By the time you read this we'll have only the May meeting until our Club's Big Night on **June 3rd**. Last year's raffle was a success. Our receipts totaled nearly **\$10,000.00**, from ticket sales and silent auction bids.

Our expenses were a shade over **\$2,500.00** so we had some serious money to give to a number of worthy conservation causes. We donated **\$3,000.00** to California Trout, **\$1,000.00** to the Chula Vista Nature Center, and **\$500.00** (and some rods) to Lake Cuyamaca.



JIM TENUTO

This is our major fund raising event of the year and we will again find some worthy causes to donate the proceeds of our raffle.

You will receive your tickets soon and more can be purchased at Stroud's Tackle or at the next two club meetings. Six tickets for \$25.00, with individual tickets going for \$5.00 each.

This year's Chairman is **Jim Reeg** and he has some able assistants in the persons of **Warren Lew** and **Louie Zimm**. Now, let me answer the question that's on everyone's mind. *How can I help?*

First, you can buy tickets. Lots of tickets, because we always have some great prizes...and remember it's all going for good causes. Second, you can make a donation. We received over \$1,000 in gift certificates last year, in addition to a number of sensational gifts, including **Carl Stanzione's** surprise donation of a handcrafted bamboo rod. Third, you can tie and donate flies. We always have a few boxes of flies on the prize table.

So, stop by Stroud's to make a donation, buy tickets, or support or biggest supporter.

My sticks... I've been thinking a bit about my fly rods. The prospect of freeing them from their cases and running line through the guides and casting to rising

trout...well, it does get you thinking.

I don't have quite a closet full of them...yet...but I'd say I've got a fair collection. I fish them all, including the Granger Victory 6-weight, 3 piece bamboo rod I won at a special club raffle a few years ago. My first rod was an L.L. Bean outfit. I bought the 5-weight, 2-piece

outfit from the venerable catalog company and I think it set me back about \$150.00. I still have it.

The second rod and reel I bought are long gone. **Gary Evans**, owner and guide of Madison River Guides, was wading across a snowmelt-swollen Madison River. With his right hand he held on to my wife, creating a lee for her as they slowly crossed the roiling water. In his left hand he held Lynn's rod and reel. Gary fell. Lynn, having little choice in the matter, fell with him. Gary and Lynn popped up immediately, both shipped some water into their waders, but otherwise were none the worse for wear. Gary's left hand was empty when he came up.

I believe that it was the first and only time this has happened to Gary. Lynn got a cold day of nymph fishing, I got a new Sage 6-weight. Some guys have all the luck.

Then there's the 10-weight I bought at Stroud's. My salmon stick. And the 4-weight, 4-piece Fisher traveling rod I purchased at the same location. Lots of memories in that rod. The 8-weight Orvis also made the trip to Alaska this year.

I built a rod. (Some members of the club insist that it took me longer to build this particular piece of fishing finery than it did for Michaelangelo to paint the

Sistine Chapel. You know how some people like to exaggerate.) I took my time building this rod and while a couple of the guides don't quite line up and there's a hint of air in one of the wraps, it remains one of my favorites. I have a decal of a trout on the rod, and a rather hopeful, though functionally useless, wrap at 20 inches. The better to measure those trophy trout. Frankly, I've caught more bass than I did trout on the Tenuto Special. Until this year, that is. That was another of the Alaska rods.

My friend **Bill Howarth** once gave me a rod. It's a Fenwick fiberglass rod. Blistered, a 6-foot, 2-piece. I've hiked down into Pauma Creek with that rod. Thirty years of fishing and fish imprinted in that rod. Most of the fishing and most of the fish is Bill's, but I have been enjoying landing trout with it, making new memories. This is the rod that will become the Hot Creek wand. When **Mas Okui** described his outfit I knew that I had the main ingredient for a Hot Creek special. With a couple of stops in Stroud's I'll have the whole magilla.

You can never have too many rods. 🦈

FLY CASTING AT LAKE MURRAY

Trout season is here! Summer warm water fishing is just around the corner. Now would be a good time to learn to flycast or just improve your skills. Join the San Diego Fly Fishers every Sunday morning from 9 AM until noon.



Water Water Everywhere, But Little Is Fit To Drink:

This is rapidly becoming the sad song of many large areas of the world, and many millions of peoples in undeveloped areas of the world. I know, I've several times written on water -potable, that is, or fit only for agriculture and industry without considerable and expensive effort to make it fit for human consumption. desalination of sea water and depollution of fresh water is increasingly expensive because of increasing pollution and increasing incursion of underground salt water.

At a 22 March meeting of the World Water Day at the United Nations in Vienna, Austria call call was issued to conserve fresh water and to tap the oceans for new supplies-which is being done on a small



BOB WISNER

scale but at considerable expense. The UN stated that "In fewer than 25 years, 25 billion people will be living in areas where it will be difficult or impossible to meet all their needs for fresh water, creating a looming crisis that overshadows nearly two-thirds of the earth's population." The UN also stated that "The simple fact is that there is a limited amount of water on our planet and we cannot afford to be negligent in its use. We can't keep treating it as if it will never run out". It was further stated that an estimated 1.1 billion people have little or no access to safe drinking water, 2.5 billion do not have properly sanitized drinking water, and over 5 million people die from waterborne diseases each year 10 times the number of casualties killed in wars around the world. People of all nations, especially arid

African States and Countries, are becoming increasingly alarmed.

We may be alarmed also if our trout streams become too polluted to sustain fish or their food. I, and most of you, won't see that happen, but it could. Right now there are areas where both fresh and salt water are so heavily we dare not eat any, or very small amounts, of fish per week. What many of you could see are fleets of huge sausages anchored at mouths of large northern rivers (salmon and trout streams) and being filled with fresh water, largely uncontaminated. These will be towed to needed cities and areas of severe water shortage. At home we _ may soon be forced to cut our usage drastically. Golf courses go "brown" and xerophytelandscaping come more into vogue even demanded to. It could come to shooting wars over water rights and usage, much as in the early range days. Conserving of fresh water is or will be the name of the game - much like catch and release. Conserve it or lose it. 🐟

GOING FISHING?

Spring is in the air once again. The flowers are blooming, the bees are buzzing. Bugs are hatching and fish are looking up. It's that fine time of year when the air temperature is warm enough to create hatches and arouse the fish, yet not so warm that the snow in the mountains liquefies itself and swells our fisheries to an un-wadable and unsafe level. The problem is all those "honey-dos" that also inch their way forward, ever so adroitly edging out fishing. My wife reminds me of the screens to be cleaned, trim that needs paint, and 271 other menial tasks that effectively wipe out fishing time.

As I write this column, it is past my work hours and before sunset; which would be

just enough time to zip out to the river for about 30 - 40 minutes of good fishing. But here I sit, lamenting. If I weren't here, or at the river, I would be at home doing something useful and productive, like picking up dog doo. So I avoid the honey dos, skip fishing, and subsequently plot my next dabble at the river. In this endeavor, I take note of some sage advised I found posted on a fly fishing bulletin board by a guy known as 'Carpy', a.k.a. Paul Hendricks, of Chico California. He swears to me he has actually used each and every one of these 'need to go fishing' tactics at one time or another.

Carpy's Top 10 things to do to get your significant other to tell you to go fishing:

10. Offer to do the washing or better yet
9. Offer to iron her clothes.
8. Clean all of your reels, etc. in the living room.
7. Tell her you would like to go clothes shopping for her.
6. Look over, smile sweetly...and wink.
5. Sit around the house all day watching fishing shows on the Outdoor Channel.
4. Tell her you are going to fix (fill in blank) anything to do with plumbing.





JACK BENTLEY

**Any Questions?
Call Jack Bentley at**

The Green River Trip May 13-18, 2002

Important Information for those Going on This Trip

For those going on the Green River trip in May here is flight information.

Southwest Airlines

Depart:	Monday May 13th	7:35 am	Flt 970
Return:	Saturday May 18th	4:45 pm	Flt 1589

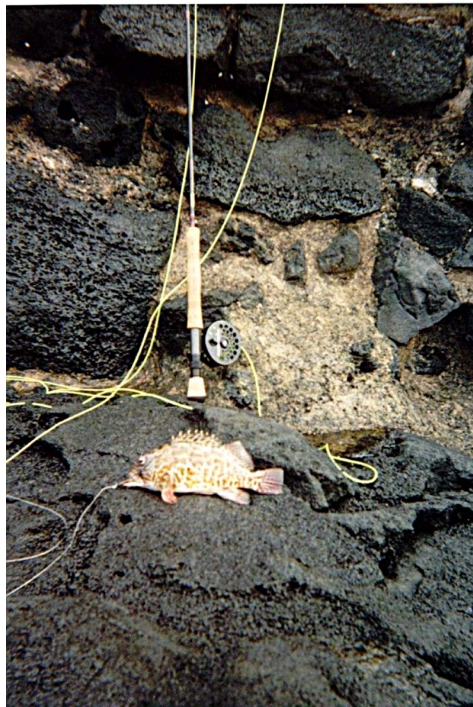
Arrive at the airport at least 1-1/2 hours before departure time for trip information and tickets to be given out by Jack at 6:00 am.

Fly Fishing Hawaii

continued from page 1

all lurking in the deeper water right off the very slippery rocks! The next step was to follow G. Miller's advice and find a local fishing shop that carried "Tabis"; a Japanese "aqua sock" with felt soles. Tabis' high top socks keep them firmly on in the surf and I quickly got used to the split between the big and second toe, typical of traditional Japanese shoes. Wham! My second cast off the rocky point and something, that looked like a big, dark blue, armor plated crappie, with sharp teeth, took my # 8 clouser with a vengeance.

A major winter storm system moved through the next few days, causing huge surf and forcing me off of the rocks and up onto the seawall. My casting is not good enough, (yet?), to get out past the rocks where those big Papio were hanging out. But, I had a great time at daybreak each morning, fishing over the rocks. Casting over an incoming wave and then slowly retrieving against the out flowing tide (1 to 3 ft deep) brought the fish out from between the rocks. A couple of dozen feisty fish, mostly "O'opu kai nohu"



(poisonous, don't touch"?) lionfish, ranging from 6" to 14" took the flys. G. Miller states that aggressive warm water fish don't care much about fly selection. My experience bore that out. Sharp rocks

and sharper teeth did a pretty good job of destroying the beautiful clousers, our club's Gary Farrar was kind enough to tie for me. I went through every size and color, and was going to suggest that Gary use stronger thread to tie the eyes in place. Then, I saw one with the eyes still attached but all of the paint scraped off. It had taken quite a beating and was still catching fish!

I am convinced that, if had it been normal Kona surf conditions, with the help of Tabis to climb out on the rocks, I could have enticed some bigger fish. It may not be world class fishing, but watching a beautiful Hawaiian sunrise, with a fly rod in your hand, the warm surf crashing at your feet and a feisty, bright colored fish tugging on your line is not a bad way to spend some vacation time. I strongly recommend giving it a try.

Aloha,
Gary Strawn



FLY OF THE MONTH

SCUD

Hook:	TMC 2457 or TMC 200R sizes 10-18, weighted
Thread:	6/0 or 8/0 - color to match the body
Tail:	Mallard flank or marabou fibers - tied short color to match body
Antennae:	Same as tail
Rib:	Clear monofilament - 4X
Back:	Clear plastic over strips of flashabou
Body:	Antron or African Goat dubbing - color ginger variant, olive, tan or gray



1. De-barb hook; wrap shank with a layer of thread from behind the hook eye to the bend of the hook. Wrap shank with lead wire from 2 eye widths behind the eye to just short of the hook bend. Cover the wire wraps with thread.
2. Tie in the tail and antennae. Tie in the ribbing material. Tie in the plastic back - it should be wide enough to slightly fold down on each side when pulled forward over the body. Tie in several strips of pearl flashabou behind the eye and secure it back along the top of the hook shank with thread wraps.
3. Using the dubbing loop method wrap a buggy, loose body. Pull the flashabou forward over the top of the hook shank and tie off, leaving enough room to tie off the back and the ribbing material. Pull the back forward over the shank, being sure the plastic lies neatly over the top and is hanging down slightly on each side.
4. Wrap the mono ribbing forward forming even neat segmentation. Be sure the ribbing does not pull the dubbing over the plastic backing material. Finish with a small neat head. Apply head cement.
5. With your bodkin pick out the under side of the body material, giving the illusion of legs. Trim as needed.

This is not a difficult fly to tie and should be tied in several sizes and colors. I tend to prefer size 16 tied with a ginger variant colored body. It is a fly commonly used in tail waters such as Lee's Ferry, the San Juan River and the Green River. They will also work in still water situations.

Good tying and good fishing, Tom Smith



The Life Of A Wife Of A Fly Fishing Bum

I would like to introduce myself. I am the wife of a fly fishing bum. I know you spouses understand. It is only 25 degrees, snowing like crazy and there is a winter storm advisory out for the foothills between Denver and New Mexico. The sane person would stay home, drink hot chocolate and possibly remind someone what being snowed in is all about. My husband, on the other hand, would be getting his gear together and trying to explain what hatch could be going on below Pueblo Reservoir, like it would make sense to me!

I would like him to understand some simple facts about me. I do not like to get up at 4 am even if we are going fishing. I certainly will not get up at 4 am to fix breakfast just because he is going fishing. I am likewise not responsible for him forgetting his water bottle because he got up at 4 am to go fishing. I do not like to watch ESPN and Outdoor Life channels 24 hours a day to watch other people fishing. One fly rod looks just like another to me unless I notice a different color. I do not understand the excitement of a new reel, isn't 12 of them enough? I don't have that many pairs of shoes.

Keeping that information in mind, here are some facts that I am beginning to understand about fly fishing bums. They will be excited about getting up at 4 am to go fishing no matter what the weather. They look at the fishing channels as a fantasy of where they might go to in the future, not as just watching strangers fish. Everything pertains to fly fishing. Did you know that Barnes and Noble have a journal with different types of trout on each page? Every vacation plan you make, the question "Is there a river nearby?" will come up. If the answer is, I don't know, then the said fly fishing bum will then research the area and find out. By the way, there is usually a river nearby with varying degrees of fishability. If not, the words "Then I don't want to go" are said with a tone reminding me of a 2 year old denied the pleasure of a treat.

Money has a different meaning to those who cast the rod than the rest of us mere mortals. Any thing bought at the fly shop, or fly show, is considered a necessity even though pantyhose are not. There is a secret stash of money hoarded away for the next overnight trip. That is not to be touched no matter what crisis may occur.

It was taken for granted that you would have thought of a pending trip and planned accordingly.

Here are some tips that I have learned to protect the ego of my fly fishing bum. Never tell him that his neoprene's make him look like a frogman. Try to show interest when being shown a new fly box. Sometimes all you have to do is say "OH!" smiling and nod your head, imitating what they do if we show them a new purse. Never tell them that the other guy's fish looks bigger, this has the same effect as comparing certain other things that men hold sacred.

Through all of the frustration and chaos of having a fly fishing bum in the family, through all the upheavals and constant scheduling change due to certain hatches going on, one thing is perfectly clear. To keep this man from the water would surely kill him. To try to change him would snuff out the spark that makes him special. From the top of his fishing cap, to the studs on his felt soled wading boots, I love him, even at 4 am!

(by Lori A. Mondragon, of the Pikes Peak Fly Fishers of Colorado Springs) 🍷

Going Fishing?

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3. Do nothing; just follow her around all day.
2. Walk around being cheerful, especially in the morning when she just woke up.
1. Grab a Chainsaw and tell her your going to prune the landscaping.

If I see you at the river with a chainsaw in your back seat I'll know you've successfully worked your way through the list.

Caveat piscari

(by Gil Hassen of the Merced Flyfishing Club in California) 🍷

QUOTES

"Fly fishing is solitary, contemplative, misanthropic, scientific in some hands, poetic in others, and laced with conflicting aesthetic considerations. It is not even clear if catching fish is actually the point."

- John Gierach, *Dances with Trout*, 1994; quoted in *The Quotable Fisherman*, Nick Lyons, ed.

"I have enough trouble remembering common English, much less learning Latin names for bugs. My hero in trout fishing still is John Voelker, alias Robert Traver, the famed author and trout fisherman who, when asked the name of his favorite fly, replied that it was 'some damn little brown thing.'"

- Joel M. Vance, *Field & Stream*, July 1985



San Juan River Trip Slated for October 13-18, 2002

The dates selected for this annual trip are **October 13 - 18**, which includes four solid days of fishing on this terrific "Blue Ribbon" river! This tailwater river is particularly good for those just getting into fly fishing because it is very accessible, and offers a wide variety of water, from flats and riffles to holes and runs...not to speak of plenty of big rainbow trout!

This is always a fun trip, and it is open to men, women, and couples. There is also a variety of housing available. If you are thrifty, you can get by for about \$650, total cost, not including guides. For beginners and first-timers to this river, we strongly recommend hiring a guide the first day, if not more. A guide will cost about \$175 per person per day.

Pat Case is organizing this trip. E-mail him at

Tell him (1) who you want or don't want to bunk with, (2) what type of accommodation you want, (3) what days (if any) you want a guide, and (4) if you want a wading or float guide.

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Cutoff date for *June FINNY FACTS* articles---Friday May 10th

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

You can E-mail at Thanks!!

Send change of address information or Club membership renewal to:

Helen Grundler

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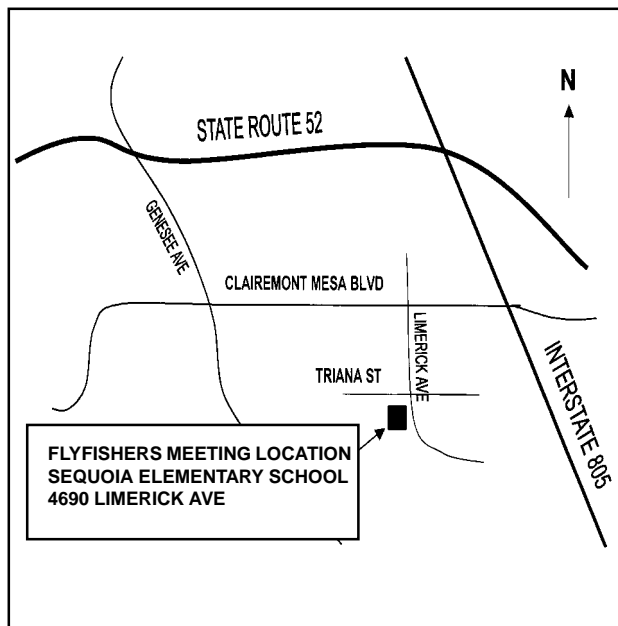
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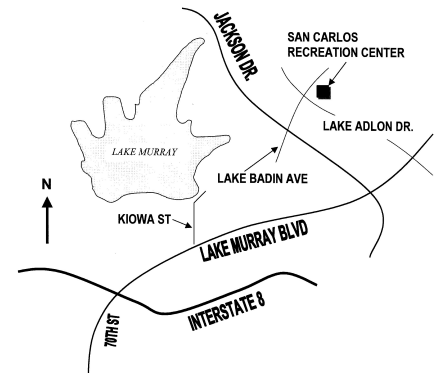
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Meeting Place for Workshops
San Carlos Recreation Center near Lake Murray. (We no longer meet at the Lake Murray Water Training Facility at Lake Murray). The address is 6445 Lake Badin Ave. To get there from Hwy. 8, take the Lake Murray Blvd. exit 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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