

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

OCTOBER 2010

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 15, No. 10

In Memoriam



Paul Britting

It is once again with great sorrow that we report the deaths of two members of the San Diego Flyfishers: Paul Britting and Oz Osborne.

See page 3.



Oz Osborne

Speaker of the Month info on page 2.

POWDER HORN 2010

by Larry Sorensen

The San Diego Fly Fishers and the local Boy Scouts once again joined forces at Powder Horn 2010. The annual event was held at the San Diego Youth Aquatic Center (YAC) on Fiesta Island, Saturday, 4 September. Powder Horn is a three-day conference to provide Scouting Advisors with the basic knowledge and resources they will need to introduce their youth members to the excitement of high adventure, outdoor activities. SDDF members provided instruction in casting and fly tying. Leading this year's SDDF team



was **Bob Pharoah**. His "crew" consisted of: **Bruce Harris, Steve Piper, Paul Woolery, Lee McElravy, Don Smith, and Joe Sarnecky**.

Fly fishing publications, fishing DVDs, an assortment of flies, SDDF brochures, and a letter were provided by Lee McElravy. Rods for the casting instruction and fly tying materials were provided by the club.

Divided into two specific groups, one for casting instruction and one for hands-on fly tying instruction, more than 60 Senior Advisors and Staff enjoyed the thrill of learning the roll cast and the pick-up cast. By the end of the instruction period, each student had tied their own Wooly-Bugger.

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, October 4, 2010
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)

**Bill Stock and
Robert Champagne**

Thank You, Mona Morebello

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: OCTOBER 2010

Entering the Fall season doesn't seem to slow the opportunities for fly fishing on our local waters. Saturday, 9 October, is another **Day at the Beach** outing. Set your alarm clock for 5:00 a. m. and join the surf casters for some action at South Mission Beach. Following the fishing, there will be a hot breakfast served.

I am working on our third, and last, **Salt Water Lottery** charter for this year.

I will be checking with our local charter Captains to determine best date and time to set up the charter. Blue water fishing has been challeng-

ing this year.

Our **Annual Stroud Banquet** is once again planned for Admiral Baker Field Clubhouse. Plan to attend and close-out 2010 and jump-start 2011. More details will follow soon.



LARRY SORENSEN

While I talk about the Stroud Banquet, nominations for the **Annual Stroud Award** are now being accepted. The nominee need not be a member of the club.

Each nominee must have at least two (2) sponsors and one (1) **MUST** be a current member of the San Diego Fly Fishers. If you have a nominee in mind, get in touch with Jim

Reeg for all the requirements and details.

As always I want to thank all the members who go out of their way to make this club as successful as it is. If you are interested in becoming a more active player in club activities, now is your chance. Very soon **Paul Woolery** will chair the Nominating Committee for next year's Board of Directors. I highly encourage all interested members to raise their hand and get involved.

As always, contact a Board member with thoughts, suggestions, or concerns. You can reach me directly at

Have a great month on the water.

October Meeting

WARM WATER OPTIONS

The Speaker for the October 4th Membership Meeting is



Dave Leak. Dave is currently the fly fishing manager at the San Diego Fly Shop in Temecula and has the exclusive guide rights at Vail lake. Dave grew up in San Diego County and switched to fly fishing with the support of his Dad. After learning the guide business in the Mammoth area Dave returned to Southern California and specializes in the warm water species. Dave will show us the added enjoyment to be had during our mild winters in our local waters." Gary Farrar

MORE SAD NEWS.....

Barry Pechersky called this morning (Sept 14th) to let me know that **Diane Stafford** passed away last night or this morning after a valiant 8 week battle. Evidently her heart gave up the struggle. I talked to Bob at the Sdff monthly meeting last night and he was encouraged that they were planning on moving Diane to a new easier care facility. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Bob and Diane's family in England.

I am forwarding this to Bob's friends in the Feather Benders fly tying group and my notes group. I will try to pass on any information about the memorial services as I learn them. -LK

Cards and well wishes can be sent to:

Bob Stafford



In Memoriam



Paul Britting (with an nice Miramar Lake trout in 2007) passed away August 11th, 2010.

The world is a little dimmer and less vibrant now that the smile and sparkling eyes of long time SDFP member, Paul Britting are closed. As the members of the Mammoth /Sierra fishing trip get ready for another

year, they will miss all the war and fishing stories as told only by Paul Britting. As a retired Marine Drill Instructor, Paul left a memorable experience for many a young Marine and as a US Postman he won the hearts of many residents on his

mail routes in Clairemont. We share the grief of his 3 year bride and SDFP Member, Lynda Coleman Britting. Paul was a wonderful and generous friend to all of us. LK

Oz Osborne (at a Club fly tying session)



Oz Osborn was a “Life Time Member” of the San Diego Fly Fishers joining the club in 1975 or 1976 at the same time as Bill and Eileen Stroud. Bill reports that Oz was never President of the club, but served many years on the

Board of Directors and ran the Annual Raffle for several years. The picture on page 1 is from the old club history about 10 years ago. Oz was a familiar face at the Lake Murray casting classes. His

hair turned snow white and had to wear a neck brace this year, but that did not prevent him from having a big smile and a ready story to tell. Ned and the gang will miss him. LK



POWDER HORN 2010

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It turned out to be a long day for all concerned, lasting from 8:00 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. The Boy Scouts were very grateful for the experience. The instructors....well, they were worn out! We all look forward to next year at Powder Horn.



EASTERN SIERRA FISHING REPORT: EXCELLENT!

Bob Pharoah called last night with a report from **Lake Mamie** near Mammoth. The day before he caught more than 60 nice fish and Rich Strobel caught another 30 or 40. They both were fishing from their pontoon boats when the DFG truck made a good planting of small fish. Almost immediately another Tim Alper's truck came and placed some good 15 to 21 inch fish in the lake. Within a few hours Bob found the Alpers in a cove and had a ball catching fish after fish on his Black Blood Leech and Paul's Special tri-colored woolly worm. Rich did well trolling his Denny Rickards Seal Buggers and casting buggers in

the cove. Bob fished so hard that he did not eat his lunch. He arrived at the condo tired and hungry, forgetting that he left his lunch box in the back of the truck. Mammoth is not a good place to leave food all night in your truck. A black bear just opened the back window, tore off the lid of the lunch box and ate all the food. The bad part was that the bear cleaned his teeth by chewing on the tip of the pontoon boat. Some one looked out the window in the morning and re-



Bob Pharoah with a nice 21" rainbow out of Silver Lake.

ported that Bob had a flat.--LK

It's good to report that **Lake Crowley** is alive and fishing well. I spent three days fishing the lake and I am happy to report that the big fish are back. Last year was such a disappointment that I did not even venture onto the lake. This year is a whole different story. It has been quite awhile since the quantity of big fish has been found at Crowley. And I am talking as a non-guide, non-professional recreational fly fisher. Sure you can find the big fish if you are a guide out on the lake every day. But for us twice-a-year fly fishers it was truly a pleasure fishing this fall.

The fish are not only big in terms of

length (many in the 18" to 22" range) but they are big in girth. I have caught many more fish in my 20 years of fishing Crowley on the fly, but I have never caught as many "heavy" fish.

Fish catching has been red hot as attested by the number of fly dunkers on the lake. Fishing Green Banks I counted 14 vehicles lining the shore. At Sandy Point there were about 35 float tubers and a half dozen boats; the most crowded I have EVER seen this area in fall fishing.

The weed beds are still around so perch imitation streamers are working well. Trolling or stripping in has been

the way to go. There was a huge midge hatch on day 1 at Green Banks, so a midge dropper off the streamer worked well during that time. No need to go with the bait fishing method with a fly (i.e. drop your line, sit and wait for a fish to come by).

There is quite an algae bloom on the lake. I have never seen the likes of this bloom in the North Arm. In McGee Bay, yes. In Sandy Point, yes. But never in the North Arm. And the lake level is very low, so forget Crooked Creek because there is no water there.

Weather was picture perfect with the wind a non-issue. Couldn't ask for a better week.—RY



FLY OF THE MONTH

Simple Olive Caddis (notes by Lucky Ketchem)

Hook: TMC 100, 200R, Curved Scud/Caddis hooks **2457**, 2487, 2488

Thread: 8/0 black, Uni or any brand

Wax: Tacky wax to hold dubbing to the thread.

Body: Dark olive dyed rabbit with guard hairs (I like a sooty olive color)

Head: Black dyed rabbit with guard hairs

Rib: optional - fine wire or thread

Half hitch tool: Ball point pen body.

I will give the instructions "camp style" for those of you that do not have any fly tying equipment and have always wanted to tie your first fly. This one is almost guaranteed to catch fish. Pam Ivor this is for you.

Look in your car tool box and find your vise grip pliers. No angler should ever be on the road without vise grips and one of those new adjustable C-Clamps. If no vise grips, use a heavy hemostat for a vise.

Go to the local fly shop and buy two packages of rabbit dubbing. One is a dark olive and one is black. If you can't find dark olive get one that says caddis green. You can always mix in a little black rabbit to make a color you want. I like size 18 TMC 2457 scud/caddis hooks for this pattern, but the common TMC 100 dry fly hook is easy to find. In a pinch I have made this nymph by pulling out some fleece from an olive sweat shirt and just used black thread for the head. Lucky is frugal and resourceful.

Mount the bend of the hook in the top corner of the vise grip jaws and tighten just enough that the hook holds. Too tight and you will weaken the steel hook. No bobbin? No sweat. Cut a 6 to 8 inch length of black thread and clip a wooden clothes pin to one end for the weight of a bobbin. That is the way the old timers in the Catskills did it. If no clothes pin, use another hemostat.

Put the vise grip on the corner of the picnic table



and put something heavy on top of it like a book or piece of firewood. You may just rest your hand on a

larger vise grip keeping it from moving. Make a "jam knot" just behind the eye. That is three tight wraps of thread forward and three wraps back on top of the first three. Continue to make a thread base to the bend of the hook, stopping above the barb. Trim off the excess thread. No scissors? Use your nail clippers.

Let the long thread and wooden clothes pin hang down. If you don't use the weight the thread will unravel. Now you want to add some wax to the thread. No Orvis, BT's or Loon's Tacky wax?? Use a little Chapstick or Carmex lip balm. I'm never camping above 8,000 feet without a little jar of Carmex.

A small amount of wax film on the thread is all you need to catch a few rabbit hairs. Wax only about an inch of thread near the hook. Tease out a small pinch of fine rabbit dubbing. Put half of it back. Most people try to use too much. Just touch it against the waxed thread a few times and to get a small amount on the thread. It looks like nothing until you start twisting it into a rope of "bumpy thread."

If this was a midge pattern the dubbing noodle would be thin and even. A caddis larva is fatter and

continued on next page



Fly of the Month

Continued from previous page

tapered like an ice cream cone. Slide the dubbing noodle up to the hook shank and begin forming a tapered body. Stop the green dubbing about two hook eyes back or about 1/16 inch back to allow for the black head. Pull any excess dubbing off the thread. Let the thread hang again and add a little wax close to the hook. Tease out an even smaller pinch of black rabbit making sure to have a few guard hairs that will be the legs. Twist the dubbing into a short rope only $\frac{1}{4}$ " long and very thin. Make two or three wraps behind the hook eye. Take your right hand fingers and pull any loose fibers back while making 3 or 4 wraps of thread as a head. Make a whip finish and trim the thread. In the field I do not add a drop of head cement. I love the half hitch tool as a whip finisher on small flies and parachute patterns.

With a little practice you will be able to add the correct amount of olive dubbing and a pinch of black dubbing to the same waxed thread and speed up the process. The fly works without the black dubbing using only the black thread for the head. I think it always works a little better if you can pick out a few of those black guard hairs for the filter feeding legs of the Mother's Day cased caddis, better known as a *Brachycentrus* sp. by my friend Wayne Allen.

The dark heads and first two segments of the green rock worm caddis are imitated by many dubbings other than rabbit. At home I would use Rick Hafele's recommendation of Pine Squirrel dubbing raked from a small skin I bought. I also make up AK Best's custom blend of 2 parts black mink, 2 parts brown mink and one part olive. AK observes that few colors on insects in the wild are only one color and he prefers a mixture of colors for his caddis pattern heads.

The simple rabbit fur caddis seemed to catch more fish in the evenings than my brighter "green apple" colors made with twisted Antron dubbing. The catch and release educated fish on the Green did not like gold bead head patterns. I believe Dave Hughes that the lighter green color might be a better match for the rock worm in the sun light but the trout did not read the book. Also there is that factor that dark flies are better under dark conditions. At 8:00 PM all flies look dark and the intense dark patterns might be seen easier. We fished them under a big dry fly and the fish often took them at the end of the drift when the fly was rising to the surface. A dark fly was easily seen silhouetted against the lighter sky. The old saying is that you can use any color you want at night as long as it is black.



This is the color and size of the *Brachycentrus* caddis on the Fire Hole River in Yellowstone. I pulled one out of the typical square sided case for Bob Pharoah to see why the Simple Olive Caddis was working so well for us. Pay no attention to the date and yes I did wash my sun protection gloves. The good news is that the dark stains on the gloves were caused by fish body slime.

I tied 4 dozen of these caddis patterns in the last few days and I am thinking about painting the gold beadheads of some of my old patterns black. Sometimes the flash of gold is a good thing, especially in off colored waters like the East Walker.

Pull up some of those cobble stones on the East Walker and see all those very dark bodied net spinners. There is so much algae in the top water release tail water that the water looks like a green milk shake. The numbers of caddis larvae on the rocks is so dense that I hooked several when my flies were caught on rock. On that river we did well with black Zebra and Tiger Midges. The simple dark olive caddis would work there too.

Have fun - Lucky





Wildlife Survey & Photo Service

2443 Fair Oaks Blvd. # 209 • Sacramento, CA 95825 • (916) 747-8537

"Didymo" Alert

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Distribution:

August 16, 2010

Sacramento, California

Primary Contact: Ken W. Davis, Aquatic Biologist
ken@creekman.com
(916) 747-8537



Sections of the Bear River in Central California are infested with the algae *Didymosphenia geminata*, also known as "Didymo" or "Rock Snot." Dr. Sarah Spaulding, with the USGS in Boulder, Colorado, has confirmed the initial identification made by aquatic biologist, Ken W. Davis. A concerned angler asked Mr. Davis - a consultant to the fly-fishing industry and various governmental agencies - to look at the river and the algae. The images on the left were taken 8/14/10 on the Bear River near Auburn, California.

Didymo is transferred via microscopic cells that can be carried in water, boots, and other wet items to new locations. Live algae cells can survive for 40 days in damp boots, canoes, etc. In severe cases, rock snot can have dramatic effects on fish, aquatic invertebrates, and other riparian wildlife. Massive amounts of algal mass - in a "nuisance bloom" - can clog infrastructure such as filters and screens.

Some areas of the Bear River, between Rollins and Combie Reservoirs, are significantly covered by the algae that looks and feels like wet toilet paper. The geographic extent of this Didymo "infestation," is unknown.

Today, Dr. Spaulding confirmed that the sample provided by Mr. Davis is *Didymosphenia geminata*. The California Department of Fish & Game (DFG) was immediately notified. DFG has regulatory authority over whatever action will take place in the Bear River.

HELP PROTECT YOUR WATERS: Please forward this alert to fly fishers, angling stores, and other interested parties. Current information about decontaminating equipment is available at: www.creekman.com

For more information about Didymo:

www.creekman.com (blog, articles, multimedia, decontamination)
www.fedflyfishers.org Federation of Fly Fishers, (articles, decontamination protocols, informational DVD).

BEAR RIVER - 8/14/10

SSFFC to Host the 2010 “First Annual” SWCFFF Inter-Club Fly Fishing Tournament

The Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club (SSFFC) in conjunction with the Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (SWCFFF) is pleased to be hosting the 2010 “First Annual” SWCFFF Inter-Club Catch & Release Fly Fishing Tournament.

The tournament is scheduled to be held on November 6th, 2010 on the upper Kern River and will give each club the opportunity to test the skills of their best team against other SWCFFF club teams. Each club will select a five (5) member team based on their own criteria. If all SWCFFF clubs participate, there will be 23 clubs represented.

The tournament format & rules follow those used in the U.S. Fly Fishing Trials and are as follows;

Format -

- Controlled Beats (Located in the 20 Mile Section of the Upper Kern River)
- Two (morning & afternoon) 2 Hour Sessions
- Points Based on Length of Fish

Rules -

- Barbless Flies Only
- No Split Shot/Sinkers
- No Indicators
- Up to Three (3) Flies
- Flies Up to 18” Apart (tag to tag)
- No Tying Tippet from the Hook Shank or Bend of the Hook
- Measurements Are Taken by the Controller Only and Fish Must be Delivered to the Controller by the Angler

The club that wins the tournament will select the venue for the following year and will then retain the trophy cup for that year. Each year the cup will have the winning clubs name and year they won engraved onto it.

The Awards Banquet is scheduled to be held at Ewing’s Restaurant in Kernville, which commands a stunning view overlooking the Kern River. The dinner will be \$ 22.00 for either a chicken or steak dinner. This price includes desert and non-alcoholic drinks as well.

The 2010 “First Annual” SWCFFF Inter-Club Fly Fishing Tournament is on its way to being a great success with the proceeds going to the SWCFFF. The SSFFC is proud to be a member of the SWCFFF and we are tremendously pleased to be hosting this tournament. So please plan on attending what will certainly become a much anticipated yearly event to test your skills against other club teams as well as providing an excellent opportunity to meet members from other clubs and to help raise funds for the SWCFFF.

In addition to the SWCFFF Inter-Club Fly Fishing Tournament, the SSFFC will also be hosting its annual Texas Hold’em Poker Tournament on Friday, November 5th. The Poker Tournament is SSFFC’s yearly event used to fund the Kids Academy which teaches children 10-17 years old about knot tying, basic fly tying, casting, entomology, conservation and on the water practical fly fishing. Each participant also receives their very own rod & reel setup at the conclusion of the academy. This year’s tournament will be held at Ewing’s Restaurant (same location as the Inter-Club Tournament’s Awards Banquet) and will be presented using professional dealers and equipment. More details on this event will follow.



Recipients of the
Stroud Award

2004-Jim Brown
2005-Allen Greenwood
2006- Hugh Marx
2007- Mike Rivkin
2008- Bill Van Wulven
2009- Larry Bottroff



EILEEN STROUD CONSERVATION FUND



Donations are gratefully accepted
Make checks payable to Eileen Stroud Conservation Fund

Mail to:
Stroud Conservation Fund
1457 Morena Blvd
San Diego, CA 92110

All funds collected in Eileen's name will be donated to fresh water fish conservation or research programs in San Diego County.

Cutoff date for November *FINNY FACTS* articles---Friday October 15th.

Send articles to:
Rose and Roger Yamasaki,

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

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

Lucky Ketcham

LIFE MEMBERS

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

HONORARY MEMBERS

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler (in memoriam), Hugh Marx, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood, Mike Rivkin, Bill Van Wulven, Tom Smith, Larry Bottroff, Aubrey Wendling

Recipients of the: GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service
to the flyfishing community

1991-Ned Sewell	2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki
1992-Bob Camp	2002-Larry Sorensen
1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud	2003-Jim Tenuto
1994-Ed Velton	2004-Joe Bain
1995-Bob Wisner	2005-Jim Reeg
1996-Gary Hilbers	2006-John Kasten
1997-Jack Bentley	2007-Lucky Ketcham
1998-Gordie Zimm	2008-Louie Zimm
1999-Gretchen Yearous	2009-Warren Lew
2000-Tom Smith	



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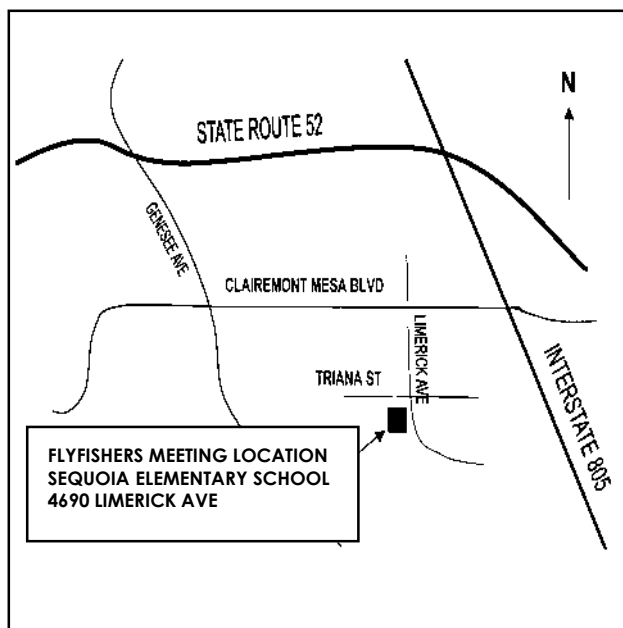
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Meeting Place for Workshops

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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**San Diego
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