July Meeting

### **Annual Fly Tying Round Table**

The July meeting will feature our Annual Fly Tying Round Table. Paul Woolery has lined up a great group of tiers including: Eileen Stroud, Wayne Allen, Danny Romero, Peter Hoffman, Bob Stafford, Barry Pechersky, Charlie Wright, CT Reinert, Jim Tenuto, Dennis Remillard, Jim Reeg, Shelly Wagner and others. We want to make sure you know everyone, (beginning to advanced,) is invited to bring your vise and materials and demonstrate a favorite fly or sit next one of us and copy a pattern. This is a meeting that invites you to bring a fly box of your favorite flies to show and talk about. One of us can figure out a recipe for a favorite fly, just by looking

continued on page 4

#### **MEETING NOTICE**

Monday, July 2, 2007 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)

Allan Perry and Les Schultz

Thank You, Mona Morebello

### BARRETT FEVER - IS IT WORTH IT?

by Gretchen Yearous



Bob Pharoah with a nice Lake Barrett largemouth bass.

a.m. to pack a lunch and pre pare to meet your party at 4:00 a.m. to get to a locked gate by 5:00 a.m. hold such lure? Because it is the anticipated legendary fishing day at Lake Barrett where the bass are reported to jump on anything you throw at them. True or false?

The fever part is definitely true. The catching part depends on the year. The fever starts from the minute you get that reservation through Ticketmaster till you

get to the gate. There is a darkest before the dawn syndrome here. The planning and execution of flytying, food, supplies, and how many layers of clothes you need just gets crazy.

Wayne Allen and I view fly tying the same: too much inventory, can't remember where you put all of it and then deciding on the color pattern and hopefully you can find the recipe -all translates to a very slow start. There is never enough time budgeted for this.

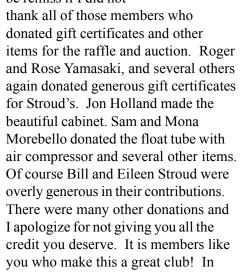
continued on page 7

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JULY 2007

**GARY STRAWN** 

irst I want to say "thank you" again to **Jim Tenuto** and his team: **Jon Holland, Jim Reeg,** 

Paul Woolery and others for all the work that made the Annual Raffle and Silent Auction a huge success. The preliminary accounting shows that gross ticket sales were \$5,775 and silent auction sales were \$1,875 for a total of \$7,650. I would also be remiss if I did not



fact, there were too many contributions for them all to go into the raffle. We would have been there until midnight.

So many items will be

So many items will be added to the monthly raffle and some of the nicer items will go into another silent auction to be held at a meeting later this summer or fall.

Speaking of the future, I just made reservations at the Adm. Baker Club House for our next Annual Stroud Banquet to be held Monday evening

January 7, 2008. It is a beautiful venue, the food is always good, and we have a good time presenting awards to some of our most deserving club members and local supporters. This year I hope many of our newer members will join us. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to join us.

In the mean time, I hope you are all getting a chance to fish this summer. The Lake Cuyamaca Wednesday Morning Crowd is active again this summer, and I know a lot of you are

getting out on the local bays and beaches. I hope to see you out there. But right now, my heart is in the High Sierras. Late in June and again in September, I am scheduled to backpack into the Golden Trout Wilderness to work on trout habitat. The project is sponsored by Trout Unlimited and Cal Trout with help from donations like ours. California DFG and U.S. Forest Service manage the conservation projects with a lot of volunteer labor, mostly provided by fly fishing clubs throughout the state. The hikes can be long and steep and the work is strenuous. Much of the habitat is above 9,000 ft. But, there is always time to do some fantastic dry fly fishing for beautiful, wild, native, Golden Trout: our California State Fish. There are several other events that do not include the long hikes, and I guarantee you will find the work fascinating and rewarding. If any of you are interested you can read all about it and sign up for future events at: http://

 $www.californiagoldentrout.com/\,.$ 

Keep smilin' and go fishin'! *Gary* 

## **Gary Hilbers Life Member**



DFF Board of Directors bestows "Life Membership" to Gary W.

Hilbers, SDFF Past President, Gordon Foster Memorial Awardee, Fly Tying Instructor, Chollas Lake Volunteer and all around "Great Guy."

The club has not been quite the same since Gary Hilbers moved to Oregon. We miss that dry sense of humor and all that information about fly tying and fly fishing. To prevent losing contact with such a resource and to honor Gary for all the hard work he has done for the club, your Board of

Directors took action at the May meeting to honor Gary and make him a Life Member of the SDFF. Gary has joined a fly fishing club in Portland, but his heart is still in San Diego. Drop him a line once in a while at:

(I have his e-mail address. Lucky Ketcham, Membership)



# IT DOESN'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT...

We had another wonderful **Annual Raffle and Silent Auction** in June, with over \$7,000 in ticket sales and auction bids. Club members had an opportunity to win or bid on 67 raffle prizes and 28 silent auction items.

The two-and-a-half hour event was the culmination of hundreds of hours of work by a large number of club members.



Kudos to:

Gary Strawn, Jon Holland, Jim Reeg and Paul Woolery...the now infamous envelope stuffing team.

**Al Venton**, who helped select some of the prizes during our Stroud's Tackle shopping spree.

**Louie & Gordie Zimm,** the true ticket mavens, retrieving the mail from Stroud's and then hawking the tickets at the last couple of meetings.

Shelly Wagner, ticket hawking specialist and the person who

secured the ticket drum from Joe Bain.

Gary, Jon, Paul and Bill Bacon, who helped carry in and then arrange all the prizes. Last minute volunteer Sam Harvey stood guard on the thousands of dollars of prizes.

Jonathon Hee, Lee McElravey, and Gary Strawn, who ran the Silent Auction with iron fists.

Wayne, who collected the money and tabulated the totals, and wrote the checks.

Sam & Mona Morabello, who kept track of all the winners on the computer.

**Eileen Stroud** and **Jim Reeg**, who twirled the drum, yanking out the lucky winners.

And, of course, our Master of Ceremonies, Bill Stroud.

The generosity of our members and some vendors also bear mentioning. A big shout goes out to Jack Bentley, Ed Rood, Rose & Roger Yamasaki, John Kasten, Maria Goldman, Lucky Ketcham & The Fly Tying Congress, Shelly Wagner, Jonathon Hee, Sam Harvey, Jim Reeg, Al Venton, Warren Lew, Jim Murphy, Oz Osbourne, and Nancy Pitts.

Wapsi Fly Company, Ex-Officio, Jim Teeny, Mel Kreiger, The Book Mailer, Petzl, and Flip-Focal, Inc. all donated gifts to the raffle and auction.

And where would our club be without the generosity and support of Bill & Eileen Stroud?

Acting as the club headquarters we have all or correspondence mailed into their shop, sometimes "filling the bath-tub" with purchases from our many suppliers. They take in our mail. And their generosity in giving gifts, rods, reels and **Eileen's** beautifully tied flies, is without peer.



# Annual Fly Tying Roundtable continued from page 1

at it. Tiers will be set up on tables around the room and you can move from person to person to find patterns of interest. Bring a notebook to write down patterns and instructions and don't forget your bi-focal glasses to see the details.

This is a great opportunity to learn new patterns and tying techniques. We decided there are no rules or restrictions. You can decide what fly you want to tie at the meeting. Usually we will have all types of patterns: Fresh and Salt, Dries, Nymphs and Streamers. This is always a fun and educational evening. Most of the flies tied this evening will be donated and put into the raffle. Hope you can all make it to the meeting to see what our members can do. Our instructor, Tom Smith says "I have two hobbies, fly fishing and fly tying. If I had to give up one it would be the fly fishing." Make fly tying and the joy of catching fish on your own fly, a part of your fly fishing experience.

### RAFFLE PRIZES

Congratulations to the following club members who won raffle prizes at our June Annual Raffle and Silent Auction.

As a reminder, these prizes may be picked up at our next two meetings, Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> or Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please note: if the prizes are not picked up by the August meeting they will become the property of the club!

Hal Herritt \$50.00 gift certificate & Fly Tying Tools

Andrew Castiglione \$25 Teeny gift certificate

Bud Olsen Cimarron reel & Petzl Tikka head lamp

Chris Carter Sage Gear Bag

Alan Greenwood TFO 4-piece travel rod case

Frank Brainerd \$50.00 gift certificate

John Grim Okuma Reel

Larry Cornwell \$50.00 gift certificate

Joe Verfaille \$50.00 gift certificate

Barb Hobson St. Croix Triumph 9' 5-wt outfit

Doug Yoshida Troutfisher lanyard

Bill Stock Stroud Tackle Fly Box w/ flies from

Congress

Charles Randolph Fly rod case

Jim LoganClear Creek fly rod caseTim HuntG. Loomis 9' 5wt 4-piece rodMike GrundlerFully loaded Reddington reel

### Lucky's Lake Barrett Report

by Lucky Ketcham

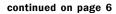
In case anyone is planning on fishing Lake Barrett I thought I would give a little report of our last trip.

It was the first time I tried fishing Barrett without a reservation. It worked. I set the alarm for 3:15, left the house at 4AM, arrived at the Barrett Lake gate at 4:45, traveling via the southern Hwy 94 to Honey Springs, to Lyons Valley Rd. route. I parked in the upper parking line and began asking some of the groups in line if they had any vacancies in the 4 person reservations. David Pasek in the first car just happened to have a brother that overslept. He let me tag along with his group. At least one other person was able to get into the lake just by showing up.

Gretchen Yearous and Bob Pharoah were able to get a last minute connection with SDFF members Scott Shenk and Chris Miller

If you fish from float tubes, be prepared for some wind. It was pretty difficult between 8 AM and 4 PM,

with white caps in the middle of the lake. The wind changed my plans to kick across the lake and fish the rocky outcroppings as we did two weeks ago. The parking situation is pretty difficult and the ranger asked the float tubers and tag alongs to park on Pig Point. It was closer to the water and really easier put in. I had my choice to fish in a little bay north of the point or in the larger rocky bay south of it. Several float tubers and boats were already working the rocky shore so I went north. The bottom and banks were more decomposed granite, and





# FLY OF THE MONTH

#### Silver Streak

Idylwilde Flies, Larry Kingrey's Silver Streak Size 18 or 20, Ken's Sporting Goods in Bridgeport, CA

May 26, 2007, Revised Notes by Lucky Ketcham, San Diego Fly Fishers

Jim Gottfried reports that he fished the East Walker River near Bridgeport and witnessed several nice brown trout caught on a size 18 Silver Streak. He purchased one from Ken's Sporting goods in Bridgeport and brought it back to see if we could come up with a recipe or directions. The following is my "best quess" for the materials. The photo shows a definite fine blue wire rib.

Hook: Scud hook, size 18 or 20. Tiemco 2457 or 2487.

Mustad 80200BR or 80250BR, Dai-riki 135.

Thread: White or light grey, 8/0 or 10/0, or Spider web (for

smaller hooks)

Tail: fine white or light dun hen hackle - about 10 fibers

Body: Fine Silver/ Pearl Krystal flash with blue highlights. (Probably

Sparkle Flash UV - Pearl Blue)

Rib: Wapsi Ultra Wire, blue

Wing case: The same pearl/silver Krystal flash, about 3 strands.

**Thorax:** Silver Metallic Krystal flash or sinking dubbing, (finer and different from the wing case.)

Poly Flash Metallic - silver.

Hackle: Light dun or white hen, collar wrapped and then cut top and bottom.

**Head:** Thread

mash the barb on a small curved scud hook. The heavy wire scud hook will help sink the Ifly and hold larger fish. The thinner wire scud hook may be used for a thinner abdomen. Attach the thread with a jam hook at mid-shank to mark the end of the abdomen and wrap a smooth thread base to above the barb. Select about 10 fine white or light grey hen hackles for the tail. Size the tail to be one hook gap and mount on the top of the hook shank with sever soft pinch wraps. Adjust position if necessary and make three tight wraps. The abdomen of this fly is made with three or four stands of a silver/pearl Krystal flash. It definitely has a light blue tint to it. The picture above has silver / pearl flash ribbed with a fine blue wire Attach several inches of wire at the bend of the hook for a rib. Attach three strands of silver flash at the bend of hook and advance the thread to the mid-shank. Wrap the flash forward

and tie off. Pull the tag ends up for the future wing case. Rib the abdomen with 3 or 4 wraps of ultra fine blue wire. Tie off and trim the excess at mid -shank.

The thorax of this fly is a different material. It is silver and finer than the Krystalflash. I think it might be the shredded aluminum Sink dubbing to give weight to the fly. It may be the new midge size Krystal flash in silver. I think you could use the fine Enrico Pugilisi Sparkle in silver if you have it. (Or fine silver Flashabou.) The nymph is going to be fished in fairly fast water so it does not matter too much as long as the color and texture is close. - Tease out a small noodle of silver dubbing and wrap it around the thread. Make a small ball of dubbing for the thorax, about 30% larger than the abdomen. Leave some room of the head and hackle - at least a hook eye width.



Continued on next page

# Fly of the Month continued from previous page

Legs - this fly has 8 or 9 light dun or white hen hackle fibers on each side of the body. They are fairly short, and not as long as some nymphs. Look for a very small dun hen hackle or a light grey hackle on a leading edge of a mallard wing or grouse wing. Strip off one side of the hackle and attach by the tip, in front of the thorax. Make only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 wraps of hackle and tie off. Push the hackles down to the sides and pull the wing case over to the hook eye. Tie down the wing case with three tight wraps, trim excess and whip finish a small head. Cut a V in the bottom of the hackle to have only legs to each side. Apply a small drop of head cement.

If you fish this fly on the East Walker, use a fairly heavy tippet. Ken's Sporting Goods staff told us last year that using a 5X tippet is a waste of time for these big fish. (It is good for him as you will be back for more flies.) Use 4X or even 3X tippet. If you cut the 3X tippet at an angle it will thread through the eye of a size 20 hook. We were taught to fish small light flies like this behind a larger attractor fly, like a San

Juan Worm or Zug Bug. We used flat strips of Larvae Lace lead to get the flies to the bottom. I like the way a nymph rig casts with the Larvae Lace. It is much better than trying to cast two or three split shot and two flies. The 2 inch strips of flat lead wire were just wrapped around the line above a surgeons knot, 18 to 20 inches above the flies. We used Zebra midges, WD40's and a pearl white Miracle Midge similar to this Silver Streak.

It is always nice to know another good fly for the "Miracle Mile" of the East Walker.

#### Lucky

Possible dubbings for the body and thorax:
Now that I know it has a blue wire - plain silver
flash could be used.
Flashabou - Ice Blue Pearl by Wapsi
Sparkle Flash UV - Pearl Blue
Flashabou - Silver
Poly Flash Metallic - Silver
EP Sparkle - silver

\*

# Lucky's Lake Barrett Report continued from page 4

apparently more suitable to the bluegill than the bass. I worked the bay with white and silver shad patterns for the first hour and only caught 2 bass. A fellow float tuber flipping 4 inch white senkos was doing much better. I think the lead head clousers and intermediate sinking line did not give as good a presentation as the Senkos.

I switched to the Tom Smith Brim Fly, white chenille body, orange and black variegated chenille back, white or yellow rubber legs. I started picking up 7 to 9 inch blue gill about every 5 to 10 minutes. Over the day I caught 41 blue gill and 5 bass. The largest bass

was 14 inches and the largest bluegill 10 inches long, 6 inches tall and 1.5 inches thick. The pattern seemed to be to fish the decomposed granite points, with some stick ups. I caught fish within 4 or 5 feet of shore, but the bigger fish were out 30 to 40 feet and in 10 to 15 feet of water. I picked a point on the down wind edge of a point, cast the weighted fly to the shore, let it sink to the bottom and then hopped the fly, while slowly kicking out into deeper water. I was surprised to find the fish in deeper water and enjoyed the bend they put in the 5 wt Loomis. The wind kept me in the protected bay, while Gretchen and Bob were fighting the wind and bigger bass in the next boulder lined bay. I could not see them, but I could hear the

excitement when they caught their 17, 18 and 20 inch bass. I tried different flies over the morning and afternoon, but the big bluegill just kept calling me back. I knew they wanted to play.

The sunken trees and stick ups took all of my brim flies and I switched over to woven bodied dragon fly nymphs. They looked almost the same and caught just as many fish. I used two or three inches of flat lead wire on the line about the flies to get me to the bottom faster.

It was a great bass day for the boaters with electric motors and souls brave enough to kick to the rocky outcroppings. One of the guys I talked to caught 15 bass within the first hour

continued on page 8



#### **BARRETT FEVER**

continued from page 1

To make it worse is how the brain works against you. You are in the middle of tying flies when you suddenly jump up to do something you just remembered and knew you would forget again such as that package of twinkies for lunch stashed on the top shelf. You tie some more and then you remember something else to retrieve or start recharging those walkie talkies before you forget and somehow the fly tying progress gets very slow and that creates the "BARRETT FEVER ANXIETY LOOP." Call a ticketholder the night before and you hear the anxiety talk.

Tried a little relaxation with my favorite classical symphonies and that wasn't working. Next I tried a vocal – something interesting. Sing it to me Willie – (Nelson of course). Let's keep this show at the tying table going. That wore off so it was time for a little inspiration – on to the Gatlin Brothers. When that failed it was time to get down and dirty with Warren Zevon. The materials weren't looking right on the hook and time was flying and I really needed something to "pump me up" so it was time for the big guns -Irish Jigs. I learned that there are only so many of those you can absorb

before it becomes necessary to "kill those screetching bag pipes"! I finally found a voice I had never heard in my Dad's collection that allowed me to feel like I didn't really care if the fly wasn't perfect and therein lies my secret. I have found my Barrett Lake song that will be a tradition every time I fish Barrett. I tried it out on Bob Pharoah when we went in for my second time and he liked it so much that he played it twice. "Oh Happy Day" sung by Roger Whittaker will always hold a reverent place on that Barrett Lake morning.

Was it a happy day? Is Barrett Fever worth it? Oh, yeah. This year it took more than 10 fingers and 10 toes to keep track of the fish count. We didn't know we would need an abacus to keep track of the fish to hand. Different patterns worked for different fishers. Here are some of the reports I heard from those I know who went during May. Almost every report got into the low 30's. Warren and Lucky fished from the boat and Warren said he caught 16 bass on the chartreuse and white Clouser during the first hour. Louie got in on a tube pass and while he didn't catch big numbers of bass, he caught a trophy 23" bass. Wayne Allen put the pressure to Bob McKay and me when he caught 26 bluegill in the first hour on a floating line on Tom Smith's great pattern the "Brim Fly". I only had 9 fish by then. I was feeling the competition sweat when we then moved up into the Pine Creek Arm and spread out and then to another location in the Pine Creek Arm where I found my honey hole and by 1:00 p.m. I had 17 bass and 13 bluegill. We moved late afternoon up into the Hauser Arm where Bob found them stacked up and

he caught over 16 bass on that spot. He was nice enough to allow us to join him and Wayne caught the granddaddy 20" bass. My day's catch to hand was 27 bass and 18 bluegill - 45 fish. A 12-year dream came true. Usually the boaters come in on top of me and cast right in front of me with the white octopus legs looking thing and yank out a bass and run off laughing. They did that around my rock pile and caught nothing. I laughed my way through 3 large bass caught on an Orvis specialty fly around that rock pile and they upanchored and left. There is justice.

The following week I got 2 tube spots with Bob Pharoah where we saw Lucky again and he caught 42 bluegill and a few bass. Bob and I had to tube till 1:45 p.m. in howling wind starting at 8:30 a.m. before our boat party left early and we were allowed to take out the boat. We got into the numbers big time when we got back up into the Hauser Arm. Bob caught Wayne's 20" bass in the same spot. I improved my personal best with 55 fish to hand – 26 bass and 29 bluegill. The same dark patterns worked best for me and the bluegill were taking size 6 hooks making it difficult to see inside the mouth to determine where they were hooked. Patience and care were mandatory. We all watched each other have lots of hook ups where the bass leaped, shook the head and spit the hook. The 13-inch bass were jerky fighters while the bigger bass went to the bottom and really avoided daylight. The big ones ran a couple of times before finally being tricked into the net. They didn't go willingly.

Barrett Lake is expensive - \$60 including the boat rental and



continued on next page

#### BARRETT FEVER

continued from previous page

Ticketmaster fees and then \$10 fishing permit fee per fisher at the dock – up to 4 fishers per ticket. Sometimes a tube pass is available but the drawback is that you can only fish as far as your fins and the wind can take you but at the same price as a boater - \$15 pass fee plus the \$10 fishing permit.

Some years we struggle to get 3 or 4 bass and one wonders what all the fever is about. It is about years like this one where experience pays off and the fish are willing to take flies fished deep and frankly, we are learning more about which flies are irresistible to the warm water species. I have never had the pleasure of experiencing the top water action on poppers but I am being told that as the weather warms, the top water action is inevitable. In years past when the catching was poor, my articles highlighted the pleasure of friendships and the nature experience to complete the Barrett expedition. This year, it is ALL ABOUT THE CATCHING.



### **WANTED**

3 weight Sage, or equivalent, rod and reel; and light-weight Gortex waders and/or hip boots.

Jeff Lincer

# Lucky's Lake Barrett Report continued from page 6

on 4 inch white Senkos. He only had one bag of the white worms and the blue gill tore them up early. He used another bag of pumpkin and watermelon colored senkos in the PM. He

had 45 bass by 2 PM. I might consider using a spin rod and bring plenty of white senkos. The 6 inch worms worked but not as good as the smaller 4 inchers. We did not talk to many boaters.



Warren Lew took this nice picture of one of the typical bass we were catching at Barrett. They are smaller than the Florida strain large mouth but put up a pretty good fight. Note the sticks and debris along the shoreline. The floating wood and sticks are the desired location for the egg laving behavior of the thread fin shad. After a good shad spawn you should be able to lift up some of the sticks and see some gelatin like masses of eggs. The bass hang out very close to shore at sunrise to intercept the spawning shad. The water was a turbid greenish algae color and not as clear as Gretchen thought it would be. The shad seek out the phytoplankton algal water for protection and because they are filter feeders.

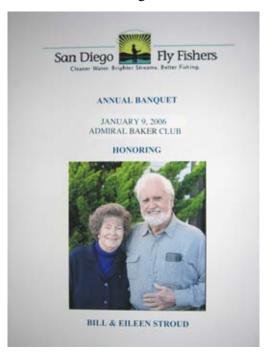
The shady south shore seemed to have more action, while the full sun north shore had more filamentous algae coating all the rocks and ticks. I think the shad like the cleaner sticks and logs for their egg laying.



Recipients of the

#### Stroud Award

2004-Jim Brown 2005-Allen Greenwood 2006- Hugh Marx



Cutoff date for **August** FINNY FACTS articles---**Friday July 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 membership renewal to:

Lucky Ketcham
3510 Gayle Street
San Diego, CA 92115
membership@sandiegoflyfishers.com



#### Cortland

- Loomis
- St. Croix
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## San Diego Fly Fishers Headquarters



1457 Morena Blvd San Diego, CA 92110 (619) 276-4822 www.stroudtackle.com Proprietors Eileen & Bill Stroud

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For unselfish and outstanding service to the flyfishing community

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1992-Bob Camp 2000-Tom Smith

1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud 2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki

1994-Ed Velton 2002-Larry Sorensen 1995-Bob Wisner 2003-Jim Tenuto 1996-Gary Hilbers 2004-Joe Bain 1997-Jack Bentley 2005-Jim Reeg 1998-Gordie Zimm 2006-John Kasten



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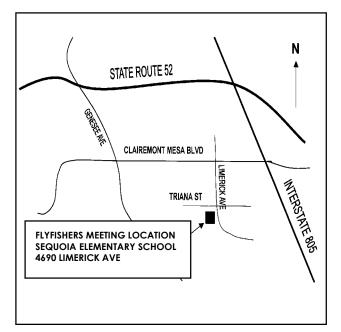
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Refreshments-

Maria Goldman

**Trips**- David Collins Video & Library-John Beckstrand and Howard Knop Web Page- David Collins www.sandiegoflyfishers.com SDFF E-mail tree-Kim Jones,

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.



San Diego Flyfishers Headquarters Stroud Tackle 1457 Morena Blvd. San Diego, CA 92110 619-276-4822

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