

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

OCTOBER 2003

San Diego



Fly Fishers

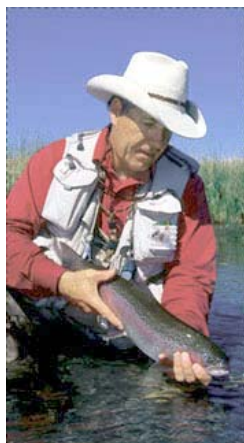
Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 8, No. 10

October Speaker

Mike Lawson to Speak on the Henry's Fork River

Mike Lawson has forged a reputation as a resident expert on the Henry's Fork River, where he founded Henry's Fork Anglers fly shop in Last Chance, Idaho. Mike Lawson was born and raised in southeastern Idaho and has fished the local trout streams, especially the Henry's Fork, all of his life. Mike's fly fishing experience is not limited to the Yellowstone region. He has fly fished all over the world and has led trips to Alaska, New Zealand, Australia, Tasmania, Christmas Island, Mexico, Belize and the Florida Keys. In addition to his travels, he has written articles on fly fishing for several



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REMINDER

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

**Paul Woolery and
Art Dilley**

Thank you, Mona Morebello

SDFF Provides Fly Fishing Instruction at Scouting Powder Horn

At the August Club meeting, I was approached by Richard Drewery, from Scouting's Venturing program for help teaching fly casting and fly tying at their Powder Horn at the end of the month. I'm a former Boy Scout, but frankly, I didn't know what a Powder Horn was and had never heard of the Venturing program.

So, what is Venturing? Venturing is a coeducational Scouting program, with emphasis on character, leadership, and outdoor skills development. Instead of a "troop", the young people are organized into Venturer "crews". For the achievement oriented, the goal is to receive the Ranger Award. To receive this award, the Venturer must complete eight core requirements: First Aid, Communications, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness,

Land Navigation, Leave No Trace, Wilderness Survival, and Conservation. In addition, he/she must complete at least four of eighteen electives, Fishing being one of them.

Now, I know you want to know what a Powder Horn is. It's a meeting of adult Scout leaders, who learn from outside "consultants" like us, about our hobby or area of expertise. Remember this, as it may be one of those questions asked when you are on "Who wants to be a Millionaire?"

The Powder Horn event we participated in was on the Sunday of

Labor Day weekend, coordinated by **Lee McElravy**. With short notice, Lee contacted all of the Club volunteers, brought fly fishing and fly tying magazine samples, and prepared an outstanding handout describing our Club and the various resources available to help the adult leaders.

That Sunday, nine Club

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MEETING NOTICE

Monday, October 6th, 2003

7:30 PM

Sequoia Elementary School

4690 Limerick Ave.

(See map on back page)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: OCTOBER 2003

I was hoping last August would be a quiet month, where I could sit back and relax before my trip to the Copper River Lodge. But, this was not to be. At the August board meeting, **Art Reifman** informed all of us that the Club's liability insurance was being cancelled. This came as a shock, as we haven't made any claims, and have sent in our

premiums on time each year. After some discussion, it was suggested that we have the Club's legal department (**Lee McElravy**) contact Markel Insurance and have our insurance reinstated.

Within a few weeks, Lee sent me an e-mail to let me know that the matter was cleared up. Our club can thank Lee for making it possible for to continue to meet, as if it were not for him, we would not have been able to



WARREN LEW

have the September meeting!

At the October meeting, we will be having "Mr. Henry's Fork", Mike Lawson, speaking to our club. It is going to be a fabulous program, so be sure not to miss it. I may bore many of you, but believe me, you will be entertained and learn a lot from this very talented man!

Very likely, due to the increased publicity of Mike Lawson's visit, we will have many new visitors to the

meeting. I know all of you enjoy sharing stories with your friends, like the twenty four inch brown you caught at Lake Crowley this summer. But, when you see someone new, please take a few minutes to say hello. Your small gesture of friendship can really make a visitor to our Club feel welcome!

The Sierra trout fishing season will close this month. I hope you'll get at least one more trip up there, as it is a beautiful time of year to fish. With the fall foliage, crisp cool mornings, and fewer people on the water, I've always had a great time!



The San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors



Back row (L to R): Gordie Zimm, Jim Tenuto, Art Reifman, Sherry Brainerd, Marty Reed, Dave Collins, Warren Lew, Front row: George Gates, Louie Zimm, Don Davis, Bob Wisner (Club Biologist), Not pictured: Jim Castelluzzo, Gary Hilbers, Lee McElravy, Jim Reeg.



Northern Pike and Catfishermen

LAKE DAVIS, A NORTH CENTRAL California famous trout lake, is approaching front page news again. It was a famous trout lake for many years, attracting a lot of sportsman money. Then someone dumped some northern pike inland and caused the State F&G large headaches. The lake drains to the west and its water could reach the Delta streams. These are salmon streams and support the last of the wild salmon-already threatened. Cal F&G had to attempt to remove the pike, and they rue the day they began the attempt(s)



BOB WISNER

Returns to the drawing board have been futile-and have often alienated the local citizens. Poisoning with rotenone caused a public outcry as they drew their drinking water from the lake, and they feared for their children. Then the state drained the lake to rid it of poison. Rains soon filled the lake, to reveal the presence of pike. Thus far the State is out nearly 20 million

dollars. There is an old saying to the effect that if you can't fight 'em join 'em. I suggest joining, for the following reasons:

The great northern pike reaches 30 inches in length and 20-25 lbs. It is long and sleek and armed with long, bony jaws, and a 20 inch pike can swallow a 10-inch trout. Females of 30 inches could produce up to 100,000 eggs. Young pike eat the same invertebrate foods as do trout. But at only a few inches in length will eat other young fishes-only slightly smaller than themselves. A great furor ensued. Citizens of Portola, the hotelier of visiting trout fishermen, panicked. They envisioned no trout and few fishermen, which translated into no income.

So, the State formed a task force, obtained money and attempted eradication. **ATTEMPTED** is the proper word. Nothing has worked, including draining the lake. Explosives, poisoning by rotenone, electroshocking, gill netting, trapping, and increased sportfishing. The pike are still there.

I was born and raised in northeastern Indiana, a land of lakes, and almost all clear water lakes contained pike. How long those pike had been in the lakes is unknown - probably for hundreds of years. YET-fishing for other species was very good. The lakes contained good populations of large (and some) small mouth basses, various species of sunfishes, ring perch and pike and pickerel. No one worried about the presence of voracious pike, and most certainly no money was spent to eradicate them from their ancestral homes. But, of course we had no salmon or other endangered fishes to protect from the pike.

I wonder if in time the pike and trout of Lake Davis can cohabit and strike a population balance and make trout and pike fishermen equally happy. I'll bet they could.

CAT FISHERMEN - ANGLING

minds Mark Damian Duda, Executive Director of Responsive Management in Harrisonburg, VA, a research firm specializing in compiling and analyzing sportsmen's opinions on outdoor topics, offers the following -

Catfish anglers share many similarities with their quarry. Both are solitary. Both have minds of their own, keep to themselves, and stick close to home. And just like catfish, catmen exhibit a solid kinship with their favorite waters.

If you lump blues, channels and fisheads together as "catfish" They rank among North America's top four freshwater species. According to records from the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, and roughly 30% of all anglers fish catfishes between 1996 and 2001, and those averaged about 30 years of age, and in 2001 there were about 7,517,000 of them. These live mostly in the central States, southern, that is. In Texas, they are more likely to fish for food, not just for sport, and are nearly three times more likely to keep the fish they catch.

This food-based motivation separates them from most other anglers and may help explain why they are such a solitary, yet dedicated, group of fishermen. (I wonder if the stinky bait has anything to do with it?)

MORE ON THE DISASTROUS shortage of potable water in undeveloped nations. I know I said I'd lay off reporting on water problems in undeveloped nations, but this item begs for a wide news coverage. It makes you think.

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**JACK BENTLEY**

**Any Questions?
Call Jack Bentley at**

Jack Has Valuable Information on Lees Ferry

In response to several inquiries at the September meeting, I contacted Lees Ferry and was informed that fishing was fairly good. Fishing will be even better in the coming fall months. This is an excellent venue for a party of four. I have information on lodging and guide service. Contact me at

An Open Letter to the Strouds: Can I Call you Bill?

Okay, so Mr. Stroud won't let me call him Bill till I'm an intermediate fly fisherman. He says I'm an intermediate beginner and always will be. Jeeze, I make my own poles, tie my own flies, and even make my own nets which sometimes come unclipped and drift off down stream when I'm concentrating on floating my hopper over a pool.

If I open up and tell you about my favorite trout stream in northern Colorado maybe Mr. Stroud will soften up a little. Eileen, er Mrs. Stroud, says my flies look a bit like cat fur balls, and that I should at least tie rubber legs on them. Mrs. Stroud didn't give me any tips about color or size. I just wanted to mention this because I think they are both a little hard on me.

West out of Fort Collins on State 14 there is a river that flows east called the Poudre River. It is in the Cache de Poudre Canyon where some French explorers hid some gun powder long ago. Now if you go there don't, for heavens sake, pronounce Poudre the way the French do. Locals will clam up and not give you any fishing tips knowing that you are not a local. It's pronounced "Puuuder" (with a long u) by the locals in the Canyon. It is about an hour and a half drive out of Fort Collins. I stay at a place called Mountain Greenery Resort which is halfway into the Poudre Canyon. The river is sectioned off so that parts are fishable with artificial lures only with catch and release rules. There are lots of rainbow and brown trout with occasional brook and cutthroat in the river. You can park on pullouts and walk to the river. Waders are recommended! If you like to fish lakes, the Red Feather Lakes are just to the north of Poudre Canyon and include a bunch of lakes that fish well all summer.

I go there each summer to visit with a son Patrick who sticks tiny radios on the backs of Mormon crickets and tracks them as they migrate in huge numbers through the Southwest eating everything they come to. He has tried to teach me the very long names for the mayflies and caddis that we see in hatches every morning and evening. Let me just tell you in mid July there are little yellow mayflies, inch long red brown mayflies, a cream mayfly with a gray striped abdomen, and dark gray brown caddis. I have stomped in the rocks upstream of my screen net and have caught stone fly nymphs that are purple black and about an inch and a half long. Yellow and green grasshoppers abound. I fish wet and dry brilliantly using this information.

Elk, moose, Rocky Mountain sheep, puma, deer, beaver, marmot, pica, and an osprey that caught two fish to my one while I watched live in the canyon. On up the 14, you go over Cameron Pass and down into what the locals call North Park. North Park is pronounced North Park just like it would be in San Diego. Most of the stream scouting I have done in North Park and in Rocky Mountain National Park is still classified.

I want to see if this open letter makes the Strouds a little easier on me. Last time I was in the store, Eileen said that I couldn't try on any more felt soled boots till I brought some clean socks. See what I mean?

--Mike Lorch



Powder Horn

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members met at the Crown Cove Aquatic Center at the Silver Strand State Beach. The day began at 6:30AM, with many of our group joining the Venturing adult leaders for breakfast. After dining on a delicious breakfast burrito, we split up in to two groups. Joining Lee to help with the fly tying were **Warren Lew, Larry Sorensen, Louie Zimm, and Gary Strawn** (who paddled in on his kayak).

For each group of Powder Horn leaders, Lee welcomed everyone, and explained how our sport is different from conventional bait and lure fishing. He invited all of the Scout leaders to come to our Club meeting, so expect seeing some new faces at our monthly meetings in the months ahead.

Louie gave a wonderful presentation on salt water fly fishing in San Diego. He showed everyone how they could catch many of the

various species of fish in our local waters, including corbina, barracuda, and white sea bass. There was a great picture of his wife, Gordie, with a nice one!

Larry taught everyone how to tie the "Fly of the Day", the Wooly Bugger. With patience and the discipline from his years in the Navy, he taught six classes how to tie this fly, conveying enthusiasm each time!

Teaching fly casting were **Lee Anderson, Marvin Darling, Shelly Wagner, and Paul Woolery**. Recruited by **Ned Sewell**, these four great casters taught eight to ten students per session. Paul brought us eight fly rods from the Casting Clinic, so that the Scout leaders would have something to learn with. They sure liked false casting with those rods!

The fly casting instructors had a tough job! From 8:00AM until the last class ended at 3:00PM, they stayed out there in the sun showing

how to do the various types of casts. I couldn't help to notice that they were a bit tired...

The day went by quickly, and after watching many of our members, I realized how gifted many of our Club members are. During a brief lull in teaching classes, Lee McElravy and Larry Sorensen demonstrated how to tie some of those #20 dries, and while Lee Anderson wasn't looking, I saw him throw a picture perfect forward cast in to the bay.

I am especially proud to be a member of the SDFFs, as we are a group of fishers who love the sport, and are willing to share our knowledge unselfishly with anyone who wants to learn. Every one of the other eight volunteers could have easily stayed home or gone fishing that weekend, but they chose to help the Scouts.

Thank you, Lee McElravy, for leading this Club volunteer activity!

--Warren Lew



Left to Right: Paul Woolery, Lee McElravy, Warren Lew, Larry Sorensen, Marv Darling, Shelly Wagner, Louie Zimm, Gary Strawn, Not pictured: Lee Anderson.

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Marv Darling



Lee McElravy



Louie Zimm



*Paul Woolery**



Larry Sorensen



Marv, Shelly, Paul, and Lee helped this group improve their casting.

**Paul Woolery not only brought eight fly rods for the students to use, but stayed on the whole day as an instructor.*



FISHIN' ROUND HERE

By Gretchen Yearous

Warren Lew has been urging me to write this accounting since July, but Colorado beckoned and I just got back. But that is another story.

The 2003 flyfishing season started with heart palpitations. "Just answer the phone", I screamed into the receiver. Finally got the Barrett reservation a few weeks later than I wanted. This turned out to be the year we had been dreaming about. This year rivaled the first couple of years Barrett was open.

Kim Jones had fished with my regular foursome the last couple of years and was disappointed. She had nothing to complain about this year. She finally got to experience the legendary "Barrett". The 25 fish "IN THE NET" day happened.

Tom Smith joined us for the morning bite and reported the same success. We were having lunch sitting by the docks and I hooked one of the pair we saw lounging below our lunch perch. The bass bit all day. I caught many in the 18 inch range and one over 19 inches. Kim was prepared to have to fish defensively so she brought her spinning rod with a rubber worm that she said was so successful that it should be classified "illegal". She flyrodded some and admitted that it was more challenging and the fight was definitely enhanced on the flyrod.

We headed back to the docks before closing and heard some guy in a floattube chanting, "just one more. That will make 50". My fly was out of

the water too much. Those darn leg cramps from constant tubing beached my tube. Forgot to take the tonic water

"The bass bit all day. I caught many in the 18 inch range and one over 19 inches."

that Ned swears by.

That was so much fun that I decided to catch some nesting bass at Cuyamaca. It was impossible with the water so muddy this spring. Ned, however, caught a 5 lb trout in the South End so as I was coming back across the south bay from the cove by the foot bridge, I hooked into and enjoyed several runs before the near 4 pounder outsmarted me.

I still had the bass fever so had to try Wohlford. Read good reports there. Kim and I

did our very early morning run so we could hear every fisher in the boats say, "Yesterday they were practically leaping into the boat". Well, today they weren't so anxious to see the sun. However, I did have a first time experience. A small recently stocked catfish poked a hole in my float tube. So I was forced to wade the opposite shore. Kim checked out the very end where all the tullies were. We don't have to waste our time there thanks to Kim's explorations with no success. I waded the waters just below the path and had a fabulous ride with large catfish. These were my first catfish on the fly and I definitely want to do that again. I thought I had some large bass. Those catfish went deep like bass and pulled admirably. Yahoo!



Paul Woolery and his stringer of crappie.

Warren Lew called me in July. We

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Bob Wisner

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Experts say simple ideas would lessen world's water shortage

By Anna Peltola

REUTERS

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - Simple innovations such as recycling household water and fixing leaky pipes would bring safe drinking water to hundreds of millions of people lacking it today, politicians and scientists said this week.

More than 1.2 billion people lack access to clean water, according to the United Nations, and 12 million die of diseases caused by poor water quality each year, said speakers at World Water Week, an annual gathering of some 1,200 water experts from 100 countries.

A U.N. action plan aims to halve the number of people lacking access to clean drinking water and tolerable sanitary conditions by 2015, but little progress has been made.

"There are people in the semi-arid and arid areas who still have to walk about 10 hours looking for water. That situation is totally unacceptable," said Martha Karua, Kenya's minister of water resources.

"Kenya is a water-scarce country, but I believe that with efficient management of our water resources, we can use the available water resources for the benefit of everybody and to cover all our needs," she said.

Karua said rebuilding Nairobi's crumbling water infrastructure with leaking pipes would cost more than \$80 billion, but much also is needed to be done to eradicate corruption and misuse.

FISHIN' ROUND HERE

Continued from page 7

keep trying every year to hit a dry fly bite at Cuyamaca. The past was kinder than the last couple of years on the dry fly bite. We got there on a Wednesday afternoon and there was our fun loving Wednesday bunch. They were being good citizens and keeping all the crappie they caught. Call it the clean out day. **Paul Woolery** used his stringer. Warren and I didn't get any stringer like that. We struggled to get a couple crappie each and no dry fly bite. Just didn't hit the right year for that. The one thing I have observed about fishing our County is: Not every lake fishes well every year but at least there is a rotation such that at least one or two lakes are fishing well. Keep your ear to the ground to discover which ones are hot. I sorely missed not having Miramar available this year. Didn't even check out Morena or Hodges or Sutherland. Nearly got drowned by boaters in San Vicente last year so will have to rethink that one. Thank you to **Gary Strawn** for renewing my interest in the San Diego River. Access has been the biggest drawback. Talk to me Gary!



Mike Lawson

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magazines including Fly Fisherman, Fly Fishing for Trout, the Fly Fisher, Trout Magazine and the American Angler. His photographs have also appeared in many of these publications and he has been featured on many of their covers. Mike is a staff writer for Southeast Idaho Hunting and Fishing Magazine and he is currently writing his first book entitled, Spring Creeks. He has also contributed to several books on fly tying, fly fishing, wild turkey hunting and upland bird hunting.

During the off season he conducts slide programs and seminars at fly fishing clubs and fly shops throughout the country. Mike has also teamed with Jack Dennis and Gary LaFontaine to form the Traveling Fly Fisherman. This group has appeared throughout the U.S. and Canada presenting two-day seminars on fly tying and fly fishing. Mike is a member of the Sage Advisory Team and has been a contract fly tier for Umpqua Feather Merchants since 1979. His flies can be found in almost every specialty fly shop and fly fishing mail order catalog.



"In Nairobi, around 40 per cent of the water is unaccounted for," Karua said.

"It is estimated that there are around 4,000 water vendors licensed by the Nairobi City Council. What is amazing is that very few of these have any known water source, which means basically that we are licensing people to vandalize the system."

Providing safe drinking water and sanitation would also save money from health budgets by freeing hospital beds from those suffering from water-borne diseases and would prevent epidemics.

"SARS developed in an area where there was virtually no sanitation available and no safe drinking water, and it affected both the people there, but also people living in Canada and the world economy," said Peter Wilderer, professor at the Technical University of Munich.

Wilderer has studied recycling household water and said technical innovations to cut water use dramatically already exist. "This is not an academic exercise. Many large industrial firms have realized this is the market of the future," he said



Bob Camp Conservation Fund Silent Auction to Continue in October

The silent auction to raise money for the **Bob Camp Conservation Fund** will continue at the October 6th meeting. There will be many great items available including a Sage 5 wt, 4 pc rod, a Hardy Brothers Princess reel with extra spools and lines, several boxes of flies, art work, books and much more. The items that didn't sell at the July meeting will be there with a lower minimum bid. This will be a great opportunity to help a very important part of our sport and pick up some great deals at the same time.

--Gary Hilbers

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For unselfish and outstanding service
to the flyfishing 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
- 2000-Tom Smith
- 2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki
- 2002-Larry Sorensen

Cutoff date for **November FINNY FACTS**
articles---**Friday October 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:

Gordie Zimm



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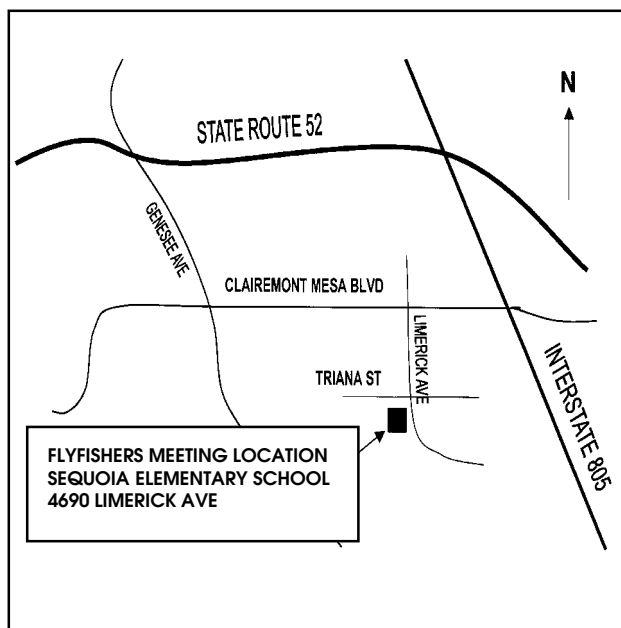
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Meeting Place for Workshops

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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