

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

MAY 2012

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 17, No. 05

Monthly Meeting

Pat Jaeger on Fishing the Eastern Sierras

I moved to Mammoth Lakes in 1978, we fished and explored the Eastern Sierra extensively. In 1995 my passion turned into my profession, my internship was served under the wings of my partners from The Troutfly in Mammoth Lakes and The Clearwater House on Hat Creek. My objectives as a guide, are to find out your visions, expectations and goals, also to find water that will give you the best opportunity to hook fish.

I try to simplify the essence of fly-fishing to the newest of fishermen and to challenge the most advanced of anglers and promise to provide trust, safety, good food and great memories to all my guests.

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, May 7, 2012
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)

**Lew Walsh and
Bruce Harris**

Thank You, Mona Morebello

In Search of Bonneville Cutthroat Trout

By Warren Lew

Bonneville cutthroat trout are one of 14 subspecies of cutthroat trout, and found only in the Great Basin. Usually silver to golden brown in color, with an orange red slash of color below their mouths, these fish are living reminders of the ancient Lake Bonneville, which was once nearly the size of Lake Michigan following the last Ice Age. They can tolerate streams with high water fluctuations and poor water quality better than most other trout species, which has helped them survive.

More than one hundred years ago, Utah settlers reported netting Bonneville cutthroat up to 40 pounds in Utah Lake. But, by the 1930's, these huge trout had disappeared, and the genetically pure populations of the fish were thought to be extinct by the 1950s.

Miraculously, in 1974, a genetically pure population of Bonneville cutthroat trout was discovered in the remote Deep Creek Mountains in western Utah.



Since then, through the efforts of Nevada Division of Wildlife and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, the National Park Service, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, and private landowners, the Bonneville cutts have successfully been restored at Great Basin National Park, located in eastern Nevada. They now swim in 11 streams of the Snake Range. Creeks inside the Park holding cutthroat include Strawberry, Mill, upper Snake, South Fork Baker, and the South Fork of Big Wash.

In the last week of July 2011, I drove to Great Basin National

continued on page 4

Maybe it is that time of year. Maybe it is simply a fly fishing topic that is revisited fairly regularly. The reason for the question notwithstanding, the question remains – why do we invest so much energy in this activity?

In one ten-day period this month, fellow Club members:

1. Conducted a fly tying clinic at 32nd Street Naval Station;
2. Conducted a casting clinic at Lake Murray, staffed Chollas Lake and represented the Club at Day at the Docks, all in one day;
3. Conducted the Project Healing Waters program at Balboa Hospital; and,
4. Taught fly tying and knot tying to Boy Scouts at the Boy Scout Fair.

Last week, one of the sailor at 32nd Street reminded us of another classic question – if you had to give up fly fishing vs. fly tying, which would it be? (That would be a tough one for me to answer.) But perhaps the most poignant question is – would you give up fly fishing to share your knowledge and enthusiasm for the sport with others? A number of our members have volunteered to do just that!

There were certainly a lot of fishing-related alternatives available to us, separate and apart from the programs described above. In the same ten-day period, we could have been chasing trout, crappie and bass at Cuyamaca. The tides were great in both Mission Bay and San Diego Bay. Several of the local lakes are beginning to look better and better for the warm water species.

But for ten days, over fifty of our



members did none of those things. They elected to “pass it forward,” contributing significant time to attract and enlist potential new members to this activity we all value so much.

If you have been reading your Finny Facts for the past three months, you know I have been preaching “involvement.” Obviously, many of you are listening. Thank you! And don’t forget, the **Raffle** is Monday night, **June 4th**!

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER ONLY ONE MONTH AWAY

By Art Reifman

Our annual raffle and silent auction is coming on June 4 at the Southwestern Yacht Club. I look forward to it being an enjoyable evening with great raffle prizes and many great trips and prizes to be bid on at the silent auction table.

This year we have some special things for the fly fishing collector. First we have a (ca. 1954) Split Bamboo Japanese Fly Rod in its original box with its original labels intact. We also have two copies of

the now out of print, 2003 Volume 2, Issue 1, *Art of Angling Journal*. This Journal has to be seen to truly appreciate. You won’t want to miss our having a chance to bid on these unusual collectors items.

There are also many great trips to bid on as well as some special prizes, including a wonderful **Jon Holland**, Bamboo Fly Rod and an incredible Fish Carving by **Bob Berry**. Your not going to want to miss this year’s Annual Fundraiser.



Lee McElravy



San Diego Fly Fishing Auction

date: Monday June 4, 2012

**time: 6:00 PM social hour, food and drink available
at the Yacht Club bar**

7:00 PM raffle & auction

**location: Southwestern Yacht Club
(NOT Sierra Elementary!!! See map below)**

The Board of Directors of the San Diego Fly Fishing Society is pleased to announce that SDFF will hold its 10th Annual Raffle and Silent Auction at the Southwestern Yacht Club. We invite you to get together with friends and family to eat and good company at the Yacht Club's Bar and Grill.

Our Annual Raffle and Silent Auction is our primary fund-raiser and all proceeds from the event will be donated to the San Diego Fly Fishing Society. So please join us and help us raise money for the club's future.

There are many prizes to win in the raffle and silent auction, including trips and gear to bid on in the silent auction. This year our grand prize is a **fly rod by master rod builder Jon W.** You can be present at the event and another member to win the grand prize. A **fly rod by master rod builder Jon W.** will also be up for bid in the silent auction with a **5 time World Championship** Carver Bob Berry.

It's not too late to buy more tickets or donate gear for the raffle or silent auction !!

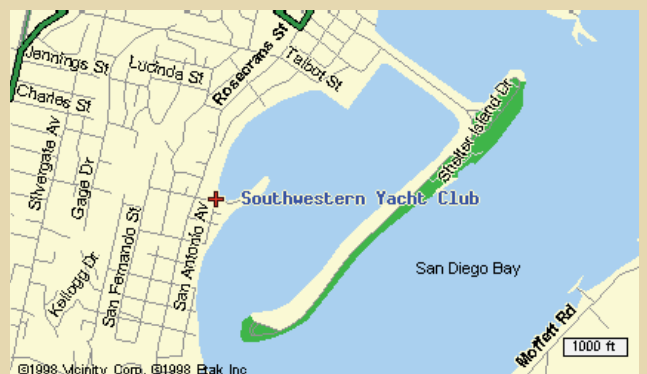
Buy raffle tickets at the May 7 program meeting, at Stroud Tackle, SoCal Fly Fishing Outfitters, or at the Yacht Club on the night of the raffle. Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25.

If you have new or slightly used fly fishing gear to donate for the raffle or silent auction, contact raffle chair, Art Reifman at or one of the SDFF board members.

Directions to SWYC from I8 West or I5 South

Exit Rosecrans West to Owen St.
Left on Owen 1 block to San Antonio
Left on San Antonio 2 blocks to Qualtrough
Right on Qualtrough & follow SWYC entry at end of street

Southwestern Yacht Club



Bonneville Cutthroat

continued from page 1



Park, a 4 hours drive from Las Vegas, in hopes of catching a rare Bonneville cutt. My first stop was at Great Basin Visitor Center, located just north of the town of Baker. I asked the friendly rangers where I should try. They recommended Snake Creek...which then I asked if I had to worry about rattlesnakes. Fortunately, they reported that I did not!

As you recall, 2011 was an unusually wet year for the Eastern Sierra, and this was true for the Park. Although water conditions in July are usually good for the higher elevation streams, all of the creeks in the Park that year were running high and fast!

Snake Creek was no exception, and I had trouble locating any Bonneville cutts to cast to. After driving 3 miles along Snake Creek, past "the pipe", I began looking for pools that might hold the fish I came from San Diego to catch. I checked the water near numerous turnouts and campsites, without much success and getting a little discouraged. Candidly, I was getting ready to give up...

Finally, after pulling into a vacant campsite later in the morning, I peeked over the edge of a ravine, and spotted an 8 inch trout dart for cover! Finally!

I quickly put on my waders, readied my 3 weight 8 foot fly rod, and selected a #16 Yellow Humpy. This fly is one of my favorite small stream flies, as it floats well and can take a beating. I would eat it if I were a trout!

Entering the stream well below the pool where I saw the cutt, I slowly waded up to a good casting position. Making a quarter cast upstream, I let my fly drift into the head of the pool, and was soon rewarded. A 9 inch Bonneville cutthroat trout took my Humpy, and soon was in my net, where I took a quick picture and released it. This was one of several small trout that I caught that day, and a wonderful day of dry fly action.

The Bonneville cutthroats at Great Basin National Park are not large trout, and a good sized one is 9 inches. But, they respond readily to a properly presented dry fly. An 8 or 7 ½ foot two or three weight rod is perfect for Snake Creek, and your first fish will get your heart racing!

You will enjoy the Park, as there are many activities to enjoy in addition to catching Bonneville cutthroat trout. Be sure to attend a Park Ranger evening program,



hike the Bristlecone Trail (just 2.8 miles round-trip), and take the Lehman Cave tour. Nevada fishing licenses are not sold in the Park, but you can purchase them at www.ndowlicensing.com.

Great Basin National Park is one of America's least visited national parks. It's a little out of the way, but you should put it on your list to visit...and do not forget your fly rod.



Hubbs Sea World Marine Fish Hatchery

Thursday afternoon April 5, eighteen SDFF members and their guests took a private tour of the Hubbs Sea World Marine Fish Hatchery in Carlsbad. We saw thousands of young fish at various stages and their giant parents. It is a fascinating process that has led to the release of more than 1.8 million white sea bass into our coastal waters. Hubbs Sea World Research Institute is a San Diego based non-profit organization that works closely with DFG and other fisheries scientists to ensure only healthy fish are released to replenish native stocks. Each young fish is implanted with a tiny coded wire in their cheek to allow tracking. We are asked to participate in their fish head recovery program per the attached flyer. With 1.8 million

bass out their searching for clouser minnows, I hope to catch a keeper worthy of the program. You can learn more at:

http://www.hswri.org/Save_Your_White_Seabass_Heads.php

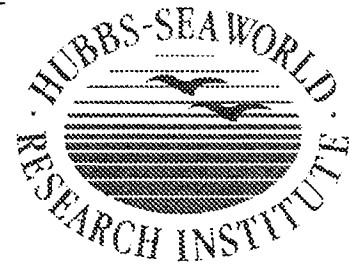
We greatly appreciate this special opportunity to see, first hand, the good work they are currently doing with white sea bass. SDFF has partnered with Hubbs Sea World in the past, on the Southern California Stealhead Recovery Project, and I hope to continue building our relationship with this fine organization.

"Keep Smiling",
Gary

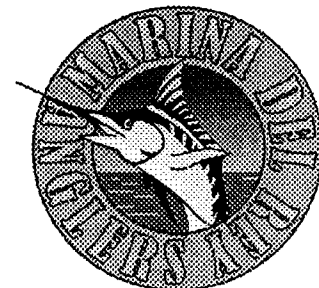


White Seabass Head Drop-off Locations with Freezers

Organization or Landing	Phone
Santa Barbara	
Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game	(805) 568-1221
Sea Landing	(805) 963-3564
Ventura/Oxnard	
Eric's Tackle Shop	(805) 648-5665
Channel Islands Sportfishing Center	(805) 985-8511
Marina Del Rey	
Marina Del Rey Sportfishing	(310) 822-3625
Torrance/Redondo Beach	
Redondo Beach Marina Boat Hoist	(310) 374-3481
San Pedro/Long Beach	
22nd Street Sportfishing	(310) 832-8304
L.A. Harbor Sportfishing	(310) 547-9916
Long Beach Sportfishing	(562) 432-8993
Pierpoint Landing	(562) 983-9300
Santa Catalina Island	
Avalon Seafood (at the end of the green pier)	(310) 510-0197
Two Harbors (harbor patrol office on the pier)	(310) 510-4211
Los Alamitos/Huntington Beach	
Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game	(562) 342-7111
Huntington Harbor Fuel Dock (Mariner's Point)	(562) 592-4975
Mako Matt's Marine	(714) 893-7743
Pacific Edge Bait & Tackle	(714) 840-4262
Newport Beach/Irvine	
Angler's Center	(949) 642-6662
Balboa Angling Club	(949) 673-6316
Davey's Locker	(949) 673-1434
Newport Landing Sportfishing	(949) 675-0550
Dana Point	
Dana Wharf Sportfishing	(949) 496-5794
Hogan's Bait & Tackle	(949) 493-3528
Jig Stop Tackle & Tours	(949) 496-3555
Oceanside/Carlsbad/Solana Beach	
Helgren's Sportfishing	(760) 722-2133
Leon Raymond Hubbard, Jr. Hatchery	(760) 434-9501
Blue Water Tackle	(858) 350-8505
San Diego	
Dana Landing (Mission Bay)	(619) 226-2929
Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute	(619) 226-3870
Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game	(858) 467-4201



UNITED ANGLERS
of Southern California



If you drop-off a white seabass head at any of these locations please include your name, phone number, date you caught the fish, and the location (latitude and longitude would be the best) where you caught the fish.

Nymph Boxes That Should Work for You

Lucky Ketcham
lketch@intrepid.warped.com

I am attaching three photos or a “Meat and Potatoes” nymph box that should work anywhere in the world. I am sending it out for members new to fly fishing and fly selection. I kept them as photos, in order that you can zoom in on them for the details.

I gradually have been switching from a Dry Fly Purist and use nymphs like these much more often. Trout do feed 98% of the time on nymphs, scuds and worms.

Zoom in and see the variations in size and colors. Take these pictures on your visits to the fly shops and try to put together a box similar to this. You don’t need all of them at first. Show the picture to the person in the fly shop and say “I want two of these, three of these 14,16 and 18.” You will help the fly shop owner and give the impression that you know what your looking for. Confidence is important to fully enjoy fly fishing –on the water and in the fly shop.

Pick a few of the basic – “Meat and Potato Flies” — Woolly Buggers, Flash Back Pheasant tails, Hare’s Ears, Princes, Copper Johns, Scuds, and San Juan Worms.

Notice how many “bead head patterns” are now in style. The direct contact with heavy flies like the Copper John’s will let you detect more subtle takes. Underwater observations show the lighter nymphs that we used to prefer for more movement, often are spit out before you can detect movement of the line or indicator. They are still great patterns but you need to

learn to look for the white mouth or fish movement and set the hook before you see the indicator move.

New Fly Tyers – look at the body profiles, proportions of the tails, legs, wing cases. Use your scissor tips or mechanical drawing dividers to measure your tails and wings compared to the hook gap or shank length. Notice the tails are almost always less than one hook gap. Prince wings go to the end of the abdomen. Hen or partridge legs to the point or barb of the hook. Many of these nymphs use Flash Back or Epoxy Back for the wing case.

This Blog has some very good information and fly recipes.
<http://cpsflyfishingandflytying.blogspot.com/>

I think every fly fisher should learn to tie a few of the basic flies. Do not worry about expensive vises and tools. Use a pair of vise grip pliers, 8 inches of silk or Uni thread, keep tension of the thread with a wooden clothes pin and you are in business. Save \$2 and say “Cha Ching!” after every fly you tie. If you do not go crazy with buying tools and every new material you could save money by tying a few flies. Fly tying is addicting. YouTube.com has wonderful fly tying videos. New people are sooo Lucky.

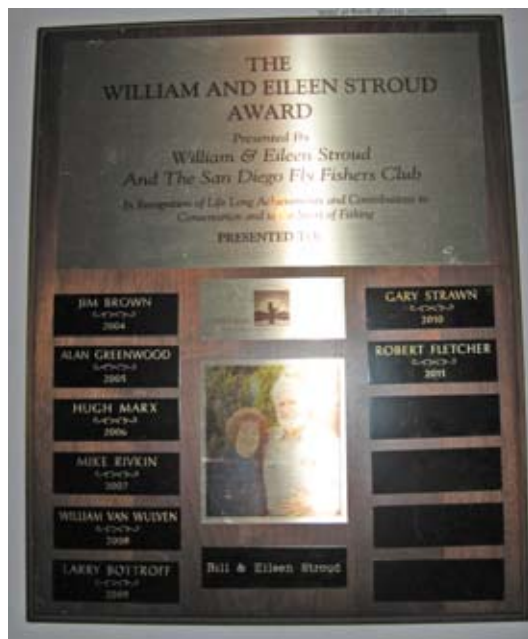
I pray that I can tie 12 uniform, perfect Prince Nymphs, like one of my teachers, Larry Sorensen.

I think I will try some Princes tonight.

Have Fun – Lucky



Recipients of the
Stroud Award
 2004-Jim Brown
 2005-Allen Greenwood
 2006- Hugh Marx
 2007- Mike Rivkin
 2008- Bill Van Wulven
 2009- Larry Bottroff
 2010- Gary Strawn
 2011- Bob Fletcher



Cutoff date for **June FINNY FACTS**
 articles---**Friday May 18th**

Send articles to:
 Rose and Roger Yamasaki,

Thanks!!

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

Paul Woolery

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.

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 (in mem), 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, Larry Bottroff, Aubrey Wendling

Recipients of the: GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service
 to the flyfishing community

1991-Ned Sewell	2004-Joe Bain
1992-Bob Camp	2005-Jim Reeg
1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud	2006-John Kasten
1994-Ed Velton	2007-Lucky Ketcham
1995-Bob Wisner	2008-Louie Zimm
1996-Gary Hilbers	2009-Warren Lew
1997-Jack Bentley	2010- Paul Woolery
1998-Gordie Zimm	2011-Gary Strawn
1999-Gretchen Yearous	
2000-Tom Smith	
2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki	
2002-Larry Sorensen	
2003-Jim Tenuto	



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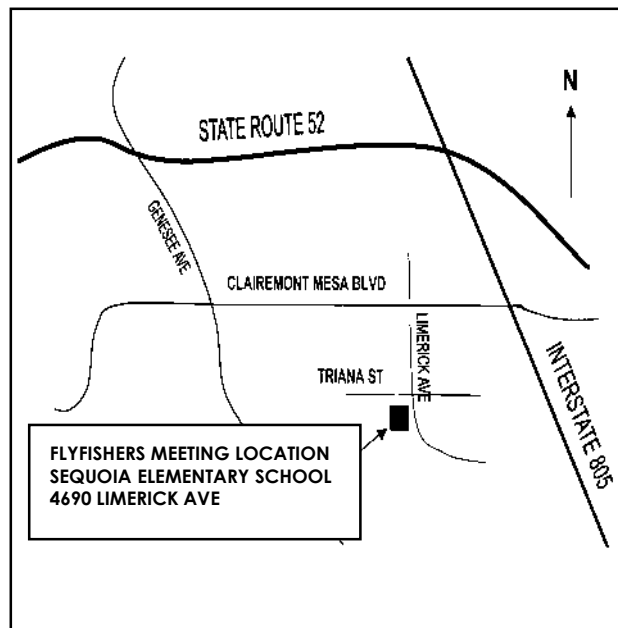
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 Bill Hanson
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 Larry Sorensen
Newsletter-
 Rose & Roger Yamasaki
E-mail:

Programs-
 Jon Holland
Raffles-
 Alan Thompson (monthly)
 Art Reifman (annual)

Refreshments-
 Maria Goldman
Rod Building-
 Jack Duncan
Travel-
 David Collins
Video & Library-
 Bill Stock
Web Page-
 David Collins
www.sandiegoflyfishers.com

Meeting Place for Workshops

San Carlos Recreation Center near 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
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**San Diego
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