

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

MARCH 2008

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 13, No. 3

March Meeting

Fishing the Western Side of the Sierras

Our program for Monday evening, March 3rd, will feature **Jimmie Morales**, owner and operator of Sierra Fly Fisher Tours. Jimmie has been guiding the West Slope of the High Sierra for over 25 years. In addition to being an accomplished guide, Jimmie's fishing programs have been extremely well-received by a number of fly fishing clubs here in California. He will be tying a number of his guide flies and his program will describe fly fishing from Yosemite National Park south through Kings Canyon National Park, including the Lower Merced and Kings rivers. For those of you unfamiliar with fishing the West Slope, this is a program not to miss!

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, March 3, 2008
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)

**Jim Gottfried and
Ted Reinert**

Thank You, Mona Morebello

Fly Fishing Show East

by Tom Lucas

Big Fish at Lake Miramar



Louie Zimm with a nice 7 lb trout out of Lake Miramar.

Lake Miramar has produced some nice trout for our members this month.

Norb Spitzer reported catching his largest stocked lake rainbow last week. It weighed over 5 pounds and was released. All my buddies have been catching nice Nebraska rainbows while I was on vacation in Florida. **Bernie Fink, Barry Perchersky, Bob Pharoah, Lee Anderson** and **Rich Strobel** have some good stories to tell of fish caught and jumping fish lost. Come to the meeting and listen to them tell their tall fish tales.

--Lucky Ketcham

I just returned from the Fly Fishing Show East, held at the Exhibit Center next to the Doubletree Hotel in Somerset, NJ. I went there because I have developed an interest in cane rods and I missed their show that is nominally held up in Ontario, Ca. I had asked a rod-builder friend of mine where I should go to see a good selection of cane rods and I was informed that the Somerset show is "probably the best in the nation". I cannot vouch for that statement but there certainly were many more cane offerings at Somerset than any I have seen at Marriott's and the West Show in Ontario, Ca.

There were more than 230 exhibitors present and the entire show was fly fishing related. There were cane rod exhibitors from Italy, UK, Germany, Japan and a plethora from eastern USA. I personally met famous builders such as Per Brandin, Bill Harms, Jeff Wagner, Bill Taylor, Art Weiler and Dana Gray as well as several lesser-known ones and each one of them were very approachable and personable. Bill Harms and Tom Whittle have actually written a book

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: MARCH 2008

I don't know about you, but this year seems to be really getting off to a fast start! We started our first Monthly Meeting with a terrific speaker, Jeff Solis, a fly fisherman well-known to many in the club. He's an expert saltwater fly fisherman and was one of the first people to teach me about fishing in the surf and offshore. That was over ten years ago and he really got me hooked! His presentation on chasing rooster fish, dorado, tuna and billfish on the East Cape and Magdalena Bay had me ready to book a flight and head right on down! For those of you who haven't been down to Baja, Mexico to fish, I can highly recommend it. It's pretty close to home and offers world-class saltwater fly fishing. It's also a pretty good value.

If you've never fished saltwater and want to try, there's many in the club who can help. That's one of the great things about our club. Our members

have a variety of fishing experiences and skills and are willing to share them with others. If there's something you want to learn about, chances are there's someone in the club who can teach you.



JONATHAN HEE

One of the best examples of this was at the 19th Annual STAR PAL kids fishing derby on February 9 at Chollas Lake. Our club members were out in force helping to pass on their knowledge of and passion for fishing to 420 kids at the lake. The tournament was a huge

success attracting a record number of participants. It was a beautiful day, and although the trout were shy, there were lots of smiles all around. It was my first time there and it was a very rewarding experience. Thanks go to **Paul Woolery** for organizing our effort and to the many club members who volunteered including:

Sam and Mona Morebello, Barry Perchersky, Wayne Allen, Bob Stafford, Lucky Ketcham, Louie and Gordie Zimm, Bob Wozniak,

Don Smith, Gary Strawn, Rich Louv, Malcolm McCollum, Robert Pharoah, Dick Mount, Gretchen Yearous, Lee Anderson, Lee McElravy, Alan Thompson, Dan McKiman and of course **Joe Bain**, our Chollas Lake ambassador. Paul also wanted me to recognize **Ed Grusdal** who supplied tools for making bait pellets and **Barnacle Bill's Bait and Tackle** for their support.

Speaking of education, I also wanted to remind you that FFF is offering a special incentive for club members to join at \$15 instead of the usual \$35 fee. Please see the announcement below.

We also still have room available for two upcoming club trips. One is to the Owens River from March 3 – 5 being planned by **Dick Mount**. If interested, please contact Dick at

The other trip is to the Green River from May 5 – 9 being planned by **David Collins**. He can be reached at

This is first and foremost a fly fishing club, so if you can make either of these trips, we'd love to have you!

Discounted Offer to Join Federation of Fly Fishers

As a member of San Diego Fly Fishers, you're eligible for a limited time to join FFF at a steeply discounted rate. Instead of paying the normal \$35, the fee is just \$15. In return, you get a full year's subscription to their magazine, reduced rates to their workshops and shows and your dues also support the educa-

tion and conservation efforts of FFF. The club also benefits by earning a free rod, which will be donated to our raffle, if we sign up 12 members. The deadline is April 15. If interested, please contact Jon Hee at for a special application form.

Fly Fishing Film Tour Coming to San Diego

The Fly Fishing Film Tour hosted by AEG Media will be making its only stop in the San Diego area this year on April 4, at the La Paloma Theater in Encinitas. Tickets and information are available on-line at www.flyfishingfilmtour.com.





DAVID COLLINS

**Any Questions?
Call David Collins at
7**

Lucky Ketcham says....

I fished the Green River on a camping trip last year and fell in love with the place. It is really not that far away and the scenery running the river is worth the trip. The fishing is the bonus. Bob Pharoah is coordinating a camp out and pontoon boat trip later in May/June.

This trip is not to be confused with Dave's Annual SDFP trip. It is more designed for the frugal fly fisher, like me. We are opening up the trip to anyone that wants to meet us on the river. People will be coming and going at different times to suit their schedules. See Bob for details.

Annual Spring Trip to the Flaming Gorge of the Green River! May 5-9, 2008

Join us this year as we again travel to the Flaming Gorge of the Green River in northern Utah.

This has been the club's premiere trip for over 15 years. The 12 people who went last year had a great time. I pre-reserve the cars, rooms and guides ... you book your own air travel. The cost of the trip including airfare, car transportation, lodging, fishing license and floating guide (for 3 days) is estimated to be \$1,400. Guides (tax and tip included) are about \$240 per day per fisher this year (same as last year), so if you decide to wade without a guide one or more days, you can save on trip costs.

Plan to float at least one day though ... especially if you have never gone before ... it's a great way to see 7 miles of one of the most beautiful rivers you'll ever fish.

As it was last year, some of the guides charge a little less (though they still get raves from people who fished with them last year) ... I try to schedule it so everyone fishes with the less pricey guides, but if that's not possible, preference will be given according to who signs up first.

You have until April 7th to sign up, but the sooner you decide to sign up, the more likely you'll be able to book the "desired" Delta flight to Salt Lake City (It's the least expensive and it's non-stop).

Please sign up soon! If we get more than 12 fishers wanting to go, early signup will allow us time to book more cars, rooms and guides as needed.

I've got all of the details. If interested you can contact me by:

email:
home:
cell:



Many Volunteer Opportunities Available in 2008

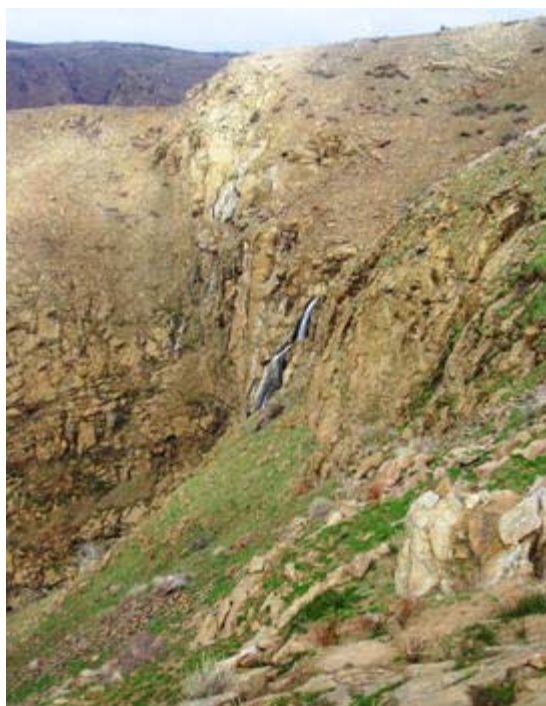
I think 2008 is going to be a great year for SDDF conservation efforts. We will continue to donate the proceeds from the Annual Raffle to conservation and education projects. This annually amounts to more than \$5,000 for ongoing efforts such as the Chollas Lake youth fishing program and the T.U. / Cal Trout Golden Trout and other Eastern Sierra conservation projects. We will continue with the efforts begun last year to make sure as much of our money as possible goes directly to local projects, and as little as possible to the national administrative costs.

In addition to giving money we are planning several volunteer work projects. As in past years several

SDDF members plan to back pack in to the Golden Trout Wilderness to help California Fish and Game and the U.S. Forest Service with habitat restoration and fish population counts. Information on these trips is available at <http://www.californiagoldentrout.org/>. SDDF will be taking down the cattle exclusion fence in Casa Viejas Meadow at the South end of the wilderness again this year. This trip will be in September and will not be on the web site. See me directly if you are interested. I will also stay in touch with Tom Loe and the folks at the Hot Creek Hatchery about other volunteer opportunities.

On the local front, Allen Greenwood of San Diego Trout is leading a project to stock smaller trout in Doane pond at Palomar Mtn. State Park. While the Park is closed due to fire damage,

Question: Where is this spectacular waterfall ??



GARY STRAWN

these trout can be growing and becoming wild. SDDF is buying and installing a block net on the spillway to enhance this effort. There is info at <http://www.sandiegotrout.org/>. Also, several of us are doing monthly water monitoring of the San Diego River and its tributaries and helping with a photo monitoring program to track fire restoration in the headwaters above El Cap. reservoir. Information on this project and many other local River clean-up opportunities can be found at <http://www.sandiegoriver.org/> or <http://www.sdstreamteam.org/>. This is a great way to see the potential for our new River Park and to help keep our bays and beaches cleaner.



Chollas Lake--Site of the 2008 STAR/PAL kids fishing derby.



FLY OF THE MONTH

Parachute Hopper

Hook -	TMC 5212, Mustad 94831, 2X Long, 2X Fine
Size -	#8 or #6
Thread -	Tan or grey 6/0
Body -	tan or yellow dubbing or chenille (fine) or sparkle yarn
Wing -	Natural turkey tail
Legs -	Pheasant tail knotted
Hackle -	Grizzly for parachute
Post -	deer hair, calf tail or poly yarn
Head -	brown or grey dubbing



Start the thread at the 7/8 hook shank to mark the wing post position and wrap a thread base to the bend and back. I like to tie in the hair wing post first to allow you to blend in the butt ends with the abdomen. Remember wings are at the $\frac{3}{4}$ -shank mark for standard dry flies, and 7/8 for Parachutes and Comparaduns.

Calf tail post. Calf tail or white deer hair is more difficult to use than poly yarn but it looks good. Select a good clump of white calf tail, two match sticks in diameter. Clean out the short hairs and even up the tips by pulling out the long fibers and putting them back into the stack. It is difficult to stack crinkled calf tail. The thread is now at the 7/8 position in preparation for the wing. Size the bundle of hair to have two hook gaps sticking out in front of the thread mark. Hold the bundle on top of the hook and make two soft pinch wraps of thread. Pull down straight and make several tight wraps on top of each other. Wrap thread to the back a few turns and then pull up on the

front of the bundle. Make a thread dam in front of the post to lock it up at 90 degrees. Compact the post by wrapping 5 or 6 wraps up the post and then 5 or 6 down. Wrap around the hook shank in front and behind the post to secure. Trim the butt ends of the calf tail at an angle or trim by picking up the butts in three small bundles and trimming. Wrap thread over the cut butts and end at the bend of the hook. Do not use too many thread wraps or compress all the air out of the hair bundle. The hair will help the fly float.

(There is no tail on this recipe, but a little orange or red yarn loop or hackle fibers would never hurt.) Select a fairly large noodle of dry fly dubbing, yellow or tan. Attach at the bend, twist a loose rope around the thread and form a tapered abdomen. The abdomen is pointed at the end and fatter toward the mid-shank. Leave a small section of bare thread on the wing base for a better connection for the wing and legs. (They might pull out if tied on top of softer dubbing.)

continued on next page



Fly of the Month

continued from previous page

Treat a mottled turkey wing with Dave's Flexament, PVC Glue or just head cement to make it durable. Cut a slip of the wing 1 1/4 hook gap wide. Fold the wing, bi-laterally and trim the wing to make rounded tips. Size the wing to extend past the abdomen about $\frac{1}{2}$ hook gap. Attach the wing just in front of the abdomen, keeping it flat on top of the body. Make rear legs by knotting 5 to 7 pheasant tail fibers $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the end. Use a crochet needle or Knit Picker tool to make the knot easier. Attach at each side of the wing tie down point. The elbow or joint of the rear legs should be at the hook bend. (Knotted rubber legs can be used as a substitute.) Add a small drop of head cement on the thread connection of legs and the base of the wing post for durability.

Select a grizzly rooster or saddle hackle sized at two hook gaps. Prepare the hackle, cleaning the barbs from $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of the quill. Attach the quill at the front of the post and wrap the thread around the quill and the post 5 or 6 times and end at the

rear of the post. Select some tan or grey dry fly dubbing for the thorax. If you used tan for the abdomen, use just a little darker shade for the thorax. Attach the dubbing noodle to the thread and wrap a thorax 30% larger than the abdomen. Figure 8 wrap in front and under the wing post, making an even platform for the parachute wing. Wrap up to the hook eye and back to the post. End the dubbing just behind the post. Wrap the grizzly hackle 5 or 6 times counter-clockwise down the post, each wrap under the next. End close to the body. Pull tight on the hackle while wrapping the thread three times around the post close to the body. Pull the thread to the hook eye and whip finish. Trim the excess hackle with your scissor tips at the base of the wing. Trim thread and add a small drop of head cement.

The small hopper patterns were good on the Green River in the hotter part of the day. They were especially good when the wind picked up along sections that had grass or short bushes lining the banks.



Photos taken by Mac McCollum in preparation for the STAR PAL Kids Fishing Derby on Friday, February 8th.



The ringleader, Joe Bain.



Paul Woolery.



Louie Zimm (left) and Gordie Zimm (right), preparing the rods and reels.



Fly Fishing Show East

continued from page 1

on the enigmatic, pioneer builder Vince Marinaro, a mentor to Bill and whose cane collection is reputedly the most famous and valuable in the country; even though fewer than 20 of his rods are known to exist.

The show was held Fri.- Sun., 1/25-1/27 and there were at least 80 different lectures each on Fri. and Sat and 40 on Sun. Subjects varied from "The Heritage of Fly Fishing", "The Digital Road to Better Fly Fishing & Outdoor Photography" (Barry and Cathy Beck, of-course!) to exotic destination fishing spots all over the globe, including Kamchatka, Labrador and Ireland. Any place I would want to visit was represented.

I particularly enjoyed the differing 'takes' on how to fly cast by such people as Tim Rajeff, Allan Johnson (former national casting champion) and Ed Jaworski vs. Lefty Kreh's well known methods. All the booths were close together....a little too close on Sat. with the number of attendees present and most clubs and organizations had raffles for some really plentiful and neat flies or hand-made cane rods. As I was there to pick up a

custom-ordered rod, I could hardly justify participating in all the raffles....but I was sorely tempted.

The Doubletree was a convenient location as the walk to the Exhibit center was close (and covered) and they had economical buffet breakfasts, lunches and dinners as well as the normal (= overpriced) on-site deli and bar areas. Getting to Somerset NJ was as simple as flying into Newark and hopping the N.E. corridor train to New Brunswick and having the hotel shuttle pick me up.....an automated train connects the airport to the rail lines.

I saw more cane-related booths than I ever have here in Ca. and all the exhibitors were keen to allow you to cast their offerings. A few insisted they follow you outside for lawn casting (most of the indoor casing areas were jammed full)....probably to ensure their efforts were not abused or removed! Per Brandin, probably the most famous and skilled commercial rod builder today did not have a booth but was there to have some of his peers test-cast some new prototypes. He spent a lot of time talking to many of the more well-known contemporary builders there and I believe a bunch of

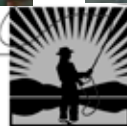
them fish the Delaware together each year, courtesy of rod broker, Robert Selb. Another notable thing is that Jeff Wagner has his female partner do the splitting, straightening and tempering of his rods. He mainly does the finer, finishing work.....and very nice work they both do too!

The fly tying area was full of well-known tyers like Gary Borger, the Becks, Al Caucci, Ed Engle, Dick Talleur, Bob Popovics et al. I particularly enjoyed talking to guide, author and tyer, Capt. John Kumiski. For some reason, I seem to think famous people are unapproachable but this proved to be untrue. I found out for example that guides for the San Francisco-based Leyland Brothers Outfitters know little about surf fishing.... especially here in San Diego. None knew there was a viable bonefish fishery and one guide used to live here. So, we can all bring something to the table....well, I now think so.

So, that's it in brief. I highly recommend this show if you have an interest (or addiction) in cane. If not, you will even see graphite rods from all the major makers.



More STAR PAL photos.



BASIC ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP FOR FLY FISHERS SAT. MARCH 8, 2008 SAN DIEGO AREA



MAGGIE MERRIMAN
Professional Fly Fishing Instructor
Over 35 years teaching experience.

The study of aquatic insects for trout fishing.
This is the annual bug class. All fly fishers welcome.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP FOR THE SAN DIEGO AREA FOR ALL FLY FISHERS. This workshop is offered only once a year in the spring.
WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY THE SAN DIEGO FLYFISHERS.

INSTRUCTOR: MAGGIE MERRIMAN

DATE: Saturday, March 8, 2008

TIME: 9:30am to 1:30pm

LOCATION: Crown Pointe community clubhouse, at the Scripps Ranch

WORKSHOP FEE: \$50.00 11441 Avenida Magnifica, San Diego.



Take the mystery out of what bug is hatching and what fly to use for trout fishing. This is a great workshop that will teach you how to identify the basic trout food: Mayflies, Caddis, Stoneflies and Midges.

This class will help you become a better trout fisher or fly tyer. You will learn to identify the bugs, how to "match the hatch" and how to select the correct fly. Class includes: samples of bugs, corresponding flies and an extensive class handout. Bring a snack, drink, note pad and some fly boxes to look at and compare with the bugs.

NO LATIN OR GREEK SPOKEN.....JUST SIMPLE ENGLISH

Maggie's class is a very popular one. This is the same class that she has given at the FFF National Conclaves.

Pre-registration is required. Please register by March 1, 2008

To register mail workshop fee to Maggie.

PRIVATE CASTING AND FLY FISHING LESSONS: Winter & Summer

Private or small group. Casting & running water techniques. Beginning, intermediate & advanced. Loaner equipment available, rods & reels. Contact Maggie

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19791 Coastline Lane

Huntington Beach, CA. 92648

Phone 714-969-5829

SUMMER INSTRUCTION: May - April

P.O. Box 755

West Yellowstone, Montana 59758

Phone 406-646-7824

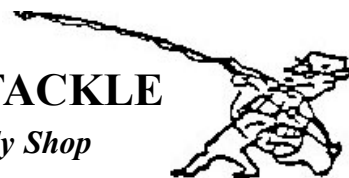


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Cutoff date for **April FINNY FACTS**
 articles---Friday March 14th.

Send articles to:
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 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 mem-
 bership renewal to:

Lucky Ketcham
 3510 Gayle Street
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membership@sandiegoflyfishers.com

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GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service
 to the flyfishing community

- | | |
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| 1992-Bob Camp | 2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki |
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| 1994-Ed Velton | 2003-Jim Tenuto |
| 1995-Bob Wisner | 2004-Joe Bain |
| 1996-Gary Hilbers | 2005-Jim Reeg |
| 1997-Jack Bentley | 2006-John Kasten |
| 1998-Gordie Zimm | 2007-Lucky Ketcham |
| 1999-Gretchen Yearous | |



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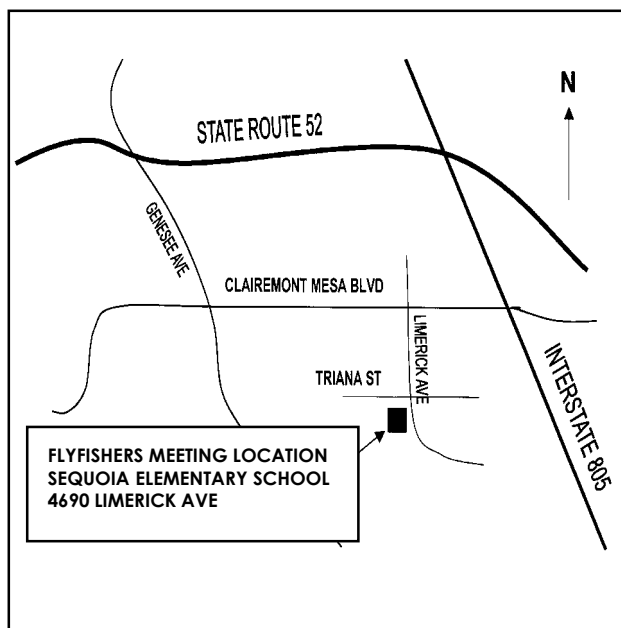
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Kim Jones,

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.



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