

FINNY FACTS



SEPTEMBER 2002

San Diego

Fly Fishers

Volume 7, No. 9

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

September Speaker

Trout, Sheep and Kiwi Hospitality!

September's Meeting Features Marj and Tony Allan from New Zealand's South Island Fishing Tours

South Island Fishing Tours can offer you the fly fishing experience of a lifetime! New Zealand is an isolated and beautiful island of mountains, crystal clear lakes, spring creeks, fast flowing rivers and rainforests. Tony Allan and his team can help you pursue wild brown or rainbow trout throughout South Island and at the same time, offer you an opportunity to meet the wonderful people of New Zealand.

Tony is the head guide and has many years of local fishing experiences. He is a conservationist and has a strict "catch and release" policy, ensuring the future of New Zealand fisheries. He has fished all over the world and during the off-season spends his time developing new fly fishing equipment for the world market. He is an active member of the New Zealand Professional Fishing Guides Association.

REMINDER

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

**Jim Mann and
Dennis Remillard**

Thank you, Mona Morebello

New Feature Added to the San Diego Flyfishers Website

Photo Gallery Will Provide Forum For Color Photos, Short Articles

An exciting new feature has been added to the San Diego Fly Fishers website: www.sandiegoflyfishers.com. David Collins, our hard working webmaster, has added a feature called the photo gallery where color photos with short descriptions will be posted for view. Although the club newsletter *FINNY FACTS* has been the

mainstay for featured articles from our members, one of the drawbacks has been the fact that the newsletter is in black and white. There have been numerous articles in the past sent in by club members that have had some amazing color photos. One can in no way get the full beauty of some of the fish caught in a black and white photo.

Sam and Mona Morebello, of SDFF, were lucky enough to experience this operation first hand and remember that from the time they were picked up from the Christchurch train station they felt like family. The atmosphere of the lodge was an angler's delight. Tony and his staff always make river time lunches an enjoyable part of the day, usually cooking up some local New Zealand cuisine. The guides are very sensitive to your ability level and have the patience and desire to see even novice fishermen enjoy the experience.

South Island's fishing season runs from October to April. With the favorable exchange rate, what better time to plan your trip?

—Sam & Mona Morebello

So what we are planning to do is open up the website to color photos with short descriptions (see the guidelines below). Featured articles should still be sent in to the *FINNY FACTS*. Qualifying color photos sent in to the *FINNY FACTS* will also be posted on the website. See the color photos on the website that accompanied Tom Lucas' article "Tom and Ted's Fantastic Adventure".

Some people have asked why don't we just post the entire newsletter on the website. David and I have had conversations in the past on this subject and what it mainly boils down to is the fact that the newsletter file size can be quite large depending upon graphic artwork and images. Not only does this take up website filespace but the time to download a newsletter on a dial-up modem would be prohibitive.

So as a compromise we decided to at least be able to show photos in color from the featured articles in the newsletter. This link between website and newsletter will provide a much broader view of the club members fishing experience.

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, September 9th, 2002
7:30 PM
Sequoia Elementary School
4690 Limerick Ave.
(See map on back page)

continued on page 3

I once said that it would take four people to replace **Bob Wisner**. I never realized that the number would be much higher. It took seven just to take over his *Finny Facts* responsibilities! Bob has been the club biologist for as long as anyone can remember. He is perhaps the most prolific and consistent contrib-

utor to our monthly newsletter. He has also been club president, sat on the board for many years, and even to this day, frequently attends the board meetings. He also has been responsible for getting *Finny Facts* into your mailbox.



JIM TENUTO

Finny Facts

does not just magically appear every month. A true collaborative effort, our newsletter requires the contributions of a number of wordsmiths, the careful editing of **Rose & Roger Yamasaki**, **Helen Grundler's** fastidious maintenance of the mailing list, the printing expertise of Postal Annex and finally, Bob's shepherding to the post office. Before taking the newsletter to the post office, Bob had to get the three hundred plus copies in proper shape so that it met the non-profit postal regulations. In fact, over the years, Bob became somewhat of an expert in those arcane regulations.

Bob did this job for years.

He finally tore a page out of Roberto Duran's book, and said "*No mas!*" We began searching for a replacement. We found seven. Coordinated by **George Gates**, here are the new Magnificent Seven: **Vern "Mr. Starbuck's" Westcott**, **Alan Billotti**, **Jerry Bower**, **Denis Ditmars**, **Gary Coleman**, **Jeanne Wright** & **Jenny Hawkins**.

Bob has selflessly given long years of service to the club. If you see him at the next meeting take some time to thank him for his work.

The Big White Boat... Your board of directors faced a crisis in late July when we learned that changes at the Al Bahr

Shrine would preclude us from conducting our December meeting and annual banquet there. The poobahs at the Shrine decided that they would only allow certain caterers into the facility and the days of BYOB were over. If you wanted a bit of the grape or the more fortified adult beverages, you'd need to sidle up to a bar. The bar

and the cost of catering, needless to say, were excessive.

Sailing in to rescue the club was **Larry Sorenson**. Best known as the Monthly Raffle Santa Claus, Larry is also a Navy Captain, who just happens to be the officer-in-charge of the medical detachment onboard *USS Mercy*, the hospital ship berthed at 32nd Street Naval Station.

Along with our normal banquet festivities (with the addition of a truly first class spread that will include steamship round of beef and roasted turkey!) we will also be able to tour this fascinating ship.

It is better to give... Because of our extraordinary success at June's Annual Raffle we were able to donate a significant amount of money to some worthy groups. Our gifts this year: **Trout Unlimited**, **California Trout**, **Jim Brown's City Lakes**, **Hugh Marx and Lake Cuyamaca**, the purchase of equipment for **U.S. Forest Service**, an interpretive sign at **Chollas Lake**, and **Chula Vista Nature Center** for continuing support of the trout exhibit.

We still have some money left and the board would like to consider donations to groups or organizations suggested by club members. We prefer donations that will benefit Southern

California waters and conservation efforts.

2004 Board of Directors and Officers... Before you know it we will be asking for volunteers to chair and sit on the committee responsible for selecting the 2004 slate of officers and the board of directors. This is as important job, effectively shaping the leadership of our club for the coming year.

If you have an interest in serving on this committee or becoming more actively involved in our club by sitting on the board of directors, please see me at the next meeting or e-mail me at



Unclaimed Raffle Prizes!!!!

The following members have unclaimed prizes from the June Raffle. You can pick them up at the September meeting. If they are not claimed at the meeting, they will be included in the October raffle:

Francis Wong-Fly reel

Fly line

Net

Vest

Video

Tom Garcia- Net

Fly Line

Andrew Nowicki-Fly Line

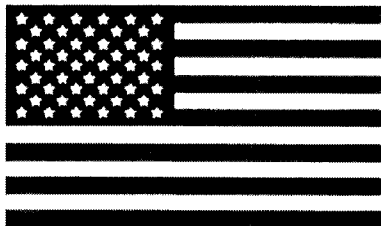
Be sure and claim your prizes!





JACK BENTLEY

**Any Questions?
Call Jack Bentley at
619-442-8385**



Trip to Alaska on the Fall 2003 Schedule

Due to excellent reviews, we are planning a trip to Alaska for the September 2003 timeframe. Start making plans for this exciting trip. Call Jack for more info.

San Juan River Trip Slated for October 13-18, 2002

The dates selected for this annual trip are **October 13- 18**, which includes four solid days of fishing on this terrific "Blue Ribbon" river! This tailwater river is particularly good for those just getting into fly fishing because it is very accessible, and offers a wide variety of water, from flats and riffles to holes and runs...not to speak of plenty of big rainbow trout!

Pat Case is organizing this trip. E-mail him at _____ or call during the day at _____. Tell him (1) who you want or don't want to bunk with, (2) what type of accommodation you want, (3) what days (if any) you want a guide, and (4) if you want a wading or float guide.

SDFF Members! Rules for Website Photo and Articles Submissions

Submit your pictures to the website administrator and we'll put them up. Here are the picture submission rules:

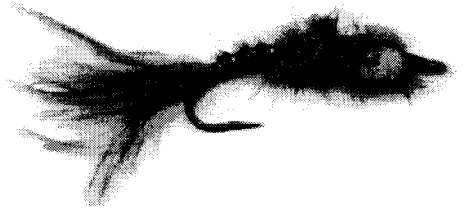
1. Send your pictures as .jpg images. Please sample them down to 144 pixels per inch prior to sending.
2. Do not send more than one or two photos at a time by e-mail. Otherwise the e-mails get too long and it takes forever to download them. If you have a bunch of pictures, instead of e-mail, put them on a floppy disk, zip disk, or CD and mail them to David Collins. My address is in the SDFF roster.
3. Please tell a little story about each picture. A sentence or a paragraph is OK, but focus on why the picture is of interest. Humor is a good thing.
4. Please use good taste. The SDFF reserves the right to post only those photos it deems to be of interest to its members. A good way to not have your pictures posted (or have them take a long time to be put up) is to NOT include a little story along with your pictures.
5. Members only. Please give your whole name in e-mail submissions so you can be checked against the club roster.
6. These rules may change at anytime as our photo gallery evolves.
7. All pictures you submit become the property of SDFF and may be edited or otherwise modified for display on our website. You must understand that you are waiving your proprietary rights to a photo when you submit it for publishing on our website. We have a copyright statement on each web page, but be aware that the internet is a public medium from which people 'borrow' routinely.



FLY OF THE MONTH

AFTERSHAFT DAMSEL

Hook:	Tiemco 200R #8 - #12
Thread:	Tan or olive 8/0
Tail:	Tan or olive marabou
Rib:	Small copper wire
Body:	Marabou - tan or olive - wound by the tips
Wingcase:	Raffia
Thorax:	Aftershaft feather from dyed pheasant rump feather
Eyes:	Knotted vernille
Head:	Marabou or thread

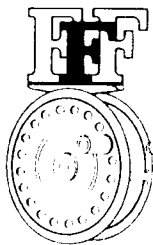


1. On a de-barbed hook wrap a layer of thread from behind the eye to about the 1/4 point. Then take a 2" pc of tan or olive vernille - tie two overhand knots side by side right next to each other. Place the knots on the hook 2 eye lengths behind the hook eye with a knot on each side of the shank. Figure eight between the knots. Do not trim the excess vernille.
2. Take the far side extra vernille and fold it back against the shank and behind the far side knot. Secure it behind the knot with thread forming a round eye. Then do the same on the near side. Now trim the excess vernille. Now you have a pair of vernille dumbbell eyes secured to the hook shank.
3. Select a sparse clump of marabou - olive or tan - and tie in the tail. The tail should be about the length of the hook shank. Trim the marabou so that you can tie it on up behind the dumbbell eyes and wrap it back to the bend and still have the correct length for a tail. This forms a slim underbody.
4. Tie in the ribbing copper wire. Select a clump of marabou for the body. It should be tied in by the tips in front of the tail and wound forward to just behind the eyes. If you wet the material it is easier to handle. Counter wind the ribbing forward over the body.
5. Select a pc of raffia - fold it into a strip about 1/8 inch wide. Tie the raffia in about at the 1/2 point. It will be laying back over the hook bend.
6. Select an aftershaft feather from a pheasant rump feather. Trim the tip and the butt sections leaving about a 1 inch piece. Place this aftershaft feather in a dubbing loop, which is tied in front of the raffia wingcase. Spin the loop locking the feather in place. After spinning the feather wrap it forward to just behind the eyes forming the thorax. Secure it and trim the excess.
7. Pull the wingcase forward over the thorax and tie down behind the eyes. Now pull the raffia forward between the eyes and tie down in front of the eyes. Trim the excess raffia and form the head. Whip finish and apply head cement

Note: Try to select mixed colors of marabou for the tail this will give you a mottled effect. Keep the tail fairly long.

Tom Smith





From the FFF Clubwire News

by Pete Thomas © 2002, Los Angeles Times

Ted Williams: A Perfectionist With Rod and Reel

Ted Williams the baseball player will be remembered for his many remarkable accomplishments: his .344 lifetime batting average, .406 in 1941 his .438 on-base percentage, his 521 homers. ...

Ted Williams the fisherman posted some pretty impressive numbers as well. How's this for a grand slam: 1,000 Atlantic salmon, 1,000 bonefish and 1,000 tarpon, all caught on a fly rod.

Indeed, Williams' proficiency with a bat was, in many ways, matched by his proficiency with a rod and reel.

"I was host of the 'American Sportsman' TV show for 20 years and got to fish with most of the world's great fishermen, and (Williams) was the best all-around fisherman I ever met," said Curt Gowdy, 80, also a legendary sports broadcaster.

And if Williams, who died recently, was considered a perfectionist on the field, you should have seen him on the water.

Sammy Lee, a Birmingham, Ala., talk-show host, met Williams in 1992 in Florida to tape an interview for his fishing show. It was the beginning of a friendship Lee valued above all others.

Reached recently at his home, he recalled the time Williams invited him to spend a week at his cabin on the Miramichi River in New Brunswick, Canada. Lee, a former pro bass fisherman,

had taught Williams a thing or two about how to put a largemouth on the hook, but he was new to fly fishing and thus was in for some schooling he'll never forget.

Williams wouldn't even let Lee on the river the first day; instructing him instead to watch and learn from its bank. Lee gave his full attention to the master, knowing that when his time came, he would be under intense scrutiny.

On the second day, Williams sent Lee wading precariously down river, entrusted with one of Williams' signature fly-casting rigs.

"It was basically my first time free fishing in a river like that, and it was my first time fly fishing," Lee says. "And I have this man critiquing me? Talk about pressure!"

The pressure proved too much. While Lee was trying to negotiate around a large rock, the swift current caught him.

"I go head over heels," he says. "My waders fill up and my feet are sticking straight up in the air. And I remember thinking, 'I don't care if I die, as long as I don't let go of the rod and reel' because this is Williams' rod and reel we're talking about."

When Lee regained his footing, he glanced toward the bank at Williams, who barked, "Why are you looking at me? You can't catch anything looking at me!"

Later that day, Lee was told by Williams' personal guide that the cantankerous old slugger had been thinking along the same lines as the fallen fly caster.

"He said to his guide, 'I don't care if that (SOB) dies, as long as he doesn't let go of my rod and reel,'" Lee recalls with a laugh.

That was just Williams being Williams, Lee assures. The Hall of Famer who refused to tip his cap to fans during most of his illustrious career with the Red Sox would willingly give the shirt off his back to any of his many close friends.

Williams' love of fishing, and of the great outdoors, went far beyond the mere acts of casting and retrieving a fly, waiting for the magic moment of the strike and then playing the fish.

He demanded of himself the perfect cast, the perfect retrieve and, once a fish was hooked, the perfect fight. His thirst for knowledge was insatiable; he learned to read rivers as well as he could pitches.

Whether on the Miramichi or in the tarpon-rich waters closer to his home in Hernando, Fla., Williams was a purist in every sense.

He meticulously tied his own flies the night before each outing and brooked no interruptions while he did so.

"You did not come downstairs and if

continued on next page



Ted Williams

continued from previous page

you did, you did not initiate conversation you did not interfere whatsoever during his fly-tying time," Lee says.

Williams was respectful of those fishing with him only if they took the sport as seriously as he did and didn't bungle along the way.

Permit, tarpon and bonefish were among Williams' favorites, but never was he more in his element except perhaps when he was at the plate than amid a run of migrating salmon.

"He always told me that Atlantic salmon was his favorite because he thought that presenting a fly in a river to a migrating salmon offered the greatest

challenge of any other game fish," Lee says. "He told me that salmon were the purest-fighting fish he ever went after."

And he went after them often. Williams reportedly turned down an offer of \$100,000 to serve as an advisor for Robert Redford in his role in "The Natural" because the salmon were running.

The salmon of the Miramichi inspired him to buy a cabin on its banks. He went after salmon in Russia in the summer of 1991. He headed them off on the Cascapedia River in Quebec in 1993. That was where he fooled an estimated 35-pounder with a long cast of a dry fly. But the fish won its freedom after an epic battle the angler talked about for the rest

of his life.

In those years that remained, Williams' life had been slowed considerably by a series of health problems that eventually took away even his ability to cast.

But there was one milestone that remained: his induction, on Jan. 31, 2000, into the International Game Fish Association Fishing Hall of Fame.

After entertaining the crowd with tales of his exploits with rod and reel, Williams brought about an eruption of cheers and applause when he did something he refused to do on the baseball diamond: He tipped his cap to his fans. 🍷

What I Know About Fishing

Fishing--what do I know about fishing? Someone once said that catching fish is the least important thing about fishing. I know this to be true. Fishing is really about knowing that your best friend, or perhaps your mate is just a few yards upstream, enjoying the river with you. It's about stopping at a gas station on your way to the river to pick up candy bars for an afternoon snack. It's about early mornings and mist, and late evenings and clouds of mayflies. It's about water so cold you have to get out of the stream to warm your feet in the sun.

Fishing is about poetry, the poetry of the cast. The line may have been made in a factory, the cast made by a flyfisher, but the poetry is eternal. The arc of the line

goes to the river like a lover to his mate. The two are made one and there is perfection in the union. I once saw a woman play a new cello for the first time. There was palpable sensuousness as she held the instrument to her and together they created music that nourished my soul. She and the cello were lovers. It is this way with the cast. Perhaps though, the lover isn't the line but the angler, reaching home to the river.

If you really try, you can feel eternity there in the river. As you stand there, the water flows around you. Soon, if you wait, it flows through you and becomes your lifeblood for that time. And then time is no more. Day passes into evening and on into night. There is only the river and the

darkness and you. Water no longer dries from your wet hand. It's cold, icy cold and pure. But there is also unbelievable warmth to be had in the gloaming. People have called it the velvet darkness. It feels like that. You feel it more than you see it: soft, warm, secure. There are mayflies everywhere, in the air, on the water. They become the light. Somewhere a fish rises. You are home-in the river-in the darkness-in the light- in the cold- in the warmth.

That's what I know about fishing.

(by Ed Estlow of the Minnesota Fly Fishers for the FFF ClubWire Email Newswire) 🍷

QUOTES

"The Green Drake nearly spoiled me rotten. During its hectic presence I became careless about my casting, about my position, about whether or not the trout took me for a cow or thought they were making huge plump herons this year - and mostly it did not matter. If a trout had the sweet tooth for a drake, if it seemed so determined to risk its skin to get one, I could understand: I feel that way about duck-liver pate, country style."

— Nick Lyons



FLY CASTING AT LAKE MURRAY

Trout season is here! Summer warm water fishing is in full swing. Now would be a good time to learn to flycast or just improve your skills. Join the San Diego Fly Fishers every Sunday morning from 9 AM until noon.

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Cutoff date for *September FINNY FACTS*
articles---Friday September 13th

Send articles to:
Rose and Roger Yamasaki,
5415 Lodi Place
San Diego, CA 92117
858-274-2712.

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

Send change of address information or
Club membership renewal to:

Helen Grundler

LIFE MEMBERS

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

HONORARY MEMBERS

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler, Hugh Marx, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood

Winners of the:

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For unselfish and outstanding service
to the flyfishing community

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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



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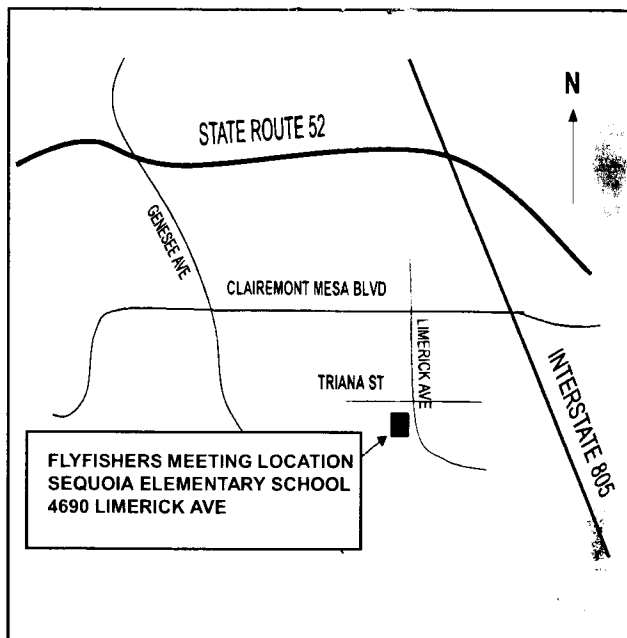
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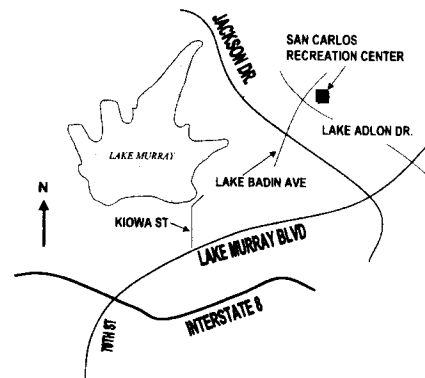


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Raffles- Kevin Sophy
Refreshments- Vernon Wescott
Rod Building- Tom Smith
Trips- Jack Bentley,
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Web Page- David Collins
Women's Education Focus- Gretchen Yearous

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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