

# FINNY FACTS

February 2022

**San Diego Fly Fishers**  
Cleaner Water, Brighter Streams, Better Fishing

Volume 45 No. 02

**Next club meeting!**  
**Zoom** only

**Monday, February 7th, 7:00 pm**  
**Doug Rodricks**



**Best Fly Fishing Opportunities  
in the Eastern Sierra**

If you haven't done so already, it's time to renew  
your membership to the San Diego Fly Fishers!  
Click: [Membership](#)

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# President's Message



**Jim Castelluzzo**  
**February, 2022**

[president@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:president@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

There is a great lineup of speakers and outings planned for this year. Brooke Sargent is planning a women's fly tying event for the end of March. The annual Bishop trip is planned for February 24th. This is a well-attended event and great opportunity to fish the open sections of the Owens River. The flows are usually lower affording great nymph and dry fly-fishing in your favorite sections of the river.

I had a member ask about our experience fishing Lees Ferry. I've made several trips to this great fishery in the past. There are runs with good size healthy rainbows. The river can be fished using a local guide, renting your own skiff, launching your own boat, or having your pontoon dropped off up river and drifting back to the Lees Ferry Launch Ramp. You can also reserve a campsite in a few locations and make a weekend of it.

I've had success with a guide who can get up to the prime runs at first light, affording a great day on the water. On another trip a few of us rented a boat and were lucky to beat the crowd up to the little island in the middle of the river just below the dam. We had a spectacular day fishing the runs on both sides of the island, catching good 16-18 " bows all morning on nymphs drifted over the drop offs.

On another trip we towed a Boston Whaler from San Diego and were able to run up river early, beach the boat and work the gravel bars. This was an adventure since a shallow draft craft is preferred to negotiate the skinny water areas. We bottomed out a couple of times. I'd be interested to hear how Lees Ferry is fishing now since I haven't been there in years. If you've never fished it, I would add Lees Ferry to your many options of great rivers to fish in our region.

*For the moment at least, we fall into that class of fishermen who fancy themselves to be poet/philosophers, and from that vantage point we manage to pull off one of the neatest tricks in all of sport: the fewer fish we catch the more superior we feel.*

— John Gierach, *Sex, Death, and Fly-Fishing*

# Zoom!

## Speaker Program

# Join us!

**Monday, February 7th, 7:00 pm**



***Doug Rodricks***  
***Eastern Sierra Trout Fishing***

[Zoom link](#)

Doug grew up in sunny southern California and would spend many summers vacationing in Yosemite National Park with his family since before he could crawl. The sights, sounds, and smells of the outdoors were instilled in him at a young age, as he experienced the beauty of the high country. His interest in trout fishing started at the age of 9, when he witnessed an angler reeling up a trout out of the Merced River. To this day, he still remembers the sun's bright glare reflecting off that fish's iridescent scales. It was this magical and captivating scene that would spawn his passion for fishing. The following year, he hooked his first trout in the gin clear waters of that same river.

His patience, outgoing personality, and teaching techniques have served him well in guiding clients to some of the best fishing areas in the Eastern Sierra. He has a knack for working with beginners and youngsters and finds it very rewarding to watch them catch their first fish on a fly rod. Doug's knowledge of the area and fly fishing techniques have also challenged and rewarded some of the most experienced of fly fisherman. Many of our clients claim an outing with Doug is like fishing with a friend they have known for years. Doug has appeared numerous times on the pages and covers of Western Outdoor News, with his clients displaying their trophy catches accompanied by their smiles.

By learning from his mentor and friend, Tom Loe, Doug soon found himself taking over as the owner of Sierra Drifters Guide Service, where he continues to innovate and provide the best service and instruction to Sierra Drifter's repeat and fast growing customer base. Doug's top of the line Ranger Bay Boat spans 24' in length and sports an impressive 250 HP Mercury Verado which not only gets you to the biting fish quickly and safely, but employs some of the most cutting edge electronics and fish finding tools available. This vessel can fish up to 4 anglers on Crowley and Bridgeport reservoirs comfortably and with ample room for storage. A 17' Willie Drift Boat is also available for fishing the Lower Owens River which can take up to three anglers.

Doug also guides on the best rivers and creeks in the area for catching large trout. Nymphing and streamer fishing are the primary techniques Doug uses during these outings, but when the fish come to the surface to feed, he will switch over to dry fly fishing to catch these beautiful fish. In the winter months Doug rides his clients out to the best fishing spots by snowmobile where you can fish to rainbow trout ranging from 19 - 25" in length.

# Happenings

## Club Outing at Grand Caribe, San Diego Bay

**By Mel Ochs, January 15**

Kai hosts another great outing... well, there was that rain thing but none of us melted (fortunately I saw the wet driveway as I came out of the garage and went back in to grab my rain jacket!) and the wind only came up for about a half hour at one point, strong enough to make me battle back toward my launch area in the lagoon by the approach road. By the time I got back to the launch area, it died down and I continued to fish.

There was a ton of fish up by the wall and I got three in the first 20 minutes and sent a message to Kai and Tim to "Come on down!" I quickly abandoned the plan to come around the point and drift up the bay side with the tide!

I ended up with nine (three doubles, one sandbass and eight spotties). I used the same two flies the last three times out: chartreuse and white, and olive orange, both with long white legs. Tim went wild with catches plus another mystery fish that no one could identify. The hot hand was Mike, who must have had 20-30 anchored at the edge of the weeds part way down the bay side of the lagoon, casting out to the enter and knocking out the catches.

A great group of ten folks enjoyed the camaraderie and Kai's tacos.



**Tom and Ray at the taco stand**



**Chef Kai works his magic**



**The Prez and Tim**



**The "mystery" fish. Probably a covina, but we really need better pictures for an accurate identification.**



**Mike had the hot hand**

Please send news, updates, reports, notes, tips, and photos to be shared on this page.  
Editor: [editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com)

# Happenings

## **Bishop Rendezvous February 24—27, 2022**

### **What is the Bishop Rendezvous ?**

This is a club sponsored event that is open to all members and their friends. Together we fish, we stay in the same motel, we have afternoon "discussions", and we eat dinner together.

### **When is this event?**

We will leave San Diego early Thursday, Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and stay until Sunday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Why do we go this time of year?**

The main reason is flow on the Lower Owens is generally lower and allows us to wade the river. The Upper Owens holds Snow-bows (very large rainbows holding over during the winter months). The gorge area flows are lower and fun to fish.

### **Where will we fish?**

Past history of this weekend event saw many club members fishing the Lower Owens, Pleasant Valley Reservoir, the Owens Gorge, the Upper Owens, and Hot Creek.

### **Where do we stay?**

The Elms Motel located in Bishop, California. Here are the details:

Contact the Elms Motel and ask for Harry at: 800-848-9226. There are nine rooms with one bed and seven rooms with 2 beds ( includes 2 smoking rooms) ***Call the Elms directly to reserve your room.*** *If the Elms is full, contact the Travel Lodge next door at 844-422-5811.*

### **Where will we eat our dinners ?**

Unless there is a change, Thursday night– **The Brewery** on Main Street, Friday Night– **The Bowling Alley**, and Saturday night– **La Casita Mexican**, on Main Street.

### **Questions?**

See or contact the Event Coordinators **Lee McElravy or Alan Thompson.**

### **Once I decide to make reservations, what do I do next ?**

Contact me [Alan Thompson](mailto:athompson64@hotmail.com) (athompson64@hotmail.com) so we will have a count for the evening meals.

Area Guide Services (that we have used)

[Sierra Drifters](#) 760-935-4250

[Sierra Troutdoorsman](#) 951-764-7146

[Pat Jaeger Fly Fishing](#) 760-872-7770

[Wild Fly Anglers](#) 760-258-6907

[Performance Anglers Guide Service](#) -Joe Contaldi– 760-965-6527

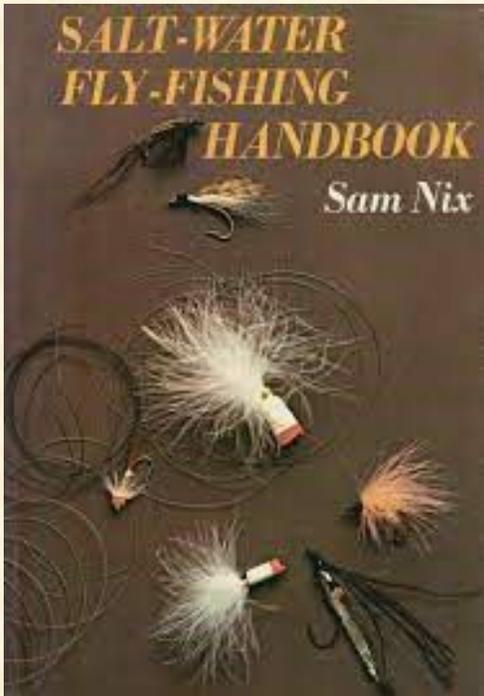


## Feature Article

### Homage To A Pioneer You Should Know

By Jim Brown

*To say that Sam Nix was an enigmatic character would be a felony understatement. A myriad of adjectives, many of them conflicting were regularly used to describe him: Cranky, friendly, annoying, engaging, eccentric, helpful, stand-offish and so on. He was all of those things at one time or another, and fortunately for us - a whole lot more.*



For the saltwater fly fisherman there is one word above all others that describe him best - *pioneer*. Sam Nix was a pioneer when it came to pursuing saltwater gamefish with a fly rod and for that we should all be thankful. The trails he blazed made those paths more passable for every one of us with a passion for saltwater fly fishing. Some paths led to destinations and species previously undiscovered in Mexico by fly casters, but those with possibly the most long lasting impact have to do with our gear, particularly our fly lines.

Long before many better known anglers shared their knowledge with us in magazine articles and books, Sam Nix provided us with his Saltwater Fly-Fishing Handbook in 1973. Before getting to those 144 information and opinion packed pages, allow me to digress.

The first contact I had with Sam came in 1957 and didn't work out so well. As I walked to my Little League ballfield in San Diego's Balboa Park as a 10-year old middle infielder with big league dreams and Little League skills, I paused with a couple teammates to search for flat rocks that were soon skimming by skips across the surface of the San Diego Casting Club's casting pond. Almost immediately a tall, thin man began yelling that he would have to remove every one of those rocks, prompting us to hurry away to practice.

Later the same year my father took me to the pond to practice casting with a new spinning rod and reel I'd received as a Christmas present and I recognized the man who yelled at us as he chatted with a group of fly casters. Less than ten years after that, I drove to the pond myself to learn what I could

about fly fishing and casting. By then the San Diego Casting Club had morphed into the San Diego Fly Fishermen and I was quick to join their ranks. Free casting lessons were offered every Sunday to the public by the club, a practice continues today at Lake Murray.

When the public left and the casting rings were put away, Sam was one of a core of old-timers who would stick around to chat and compare notes on a few things. These men were tinkerers who built their own rods, tied their own flies and re-worked fly lines to meet their needs. Double taper fly lines of 90 feet were cut to create two shooting heads. Considerable effort was made to make the heads cut from standard sinking lines sink faster, which was particularly important for their journeys north in search of steelhead and shad. To achieve this, I recall them combining graphite and what I believe was pine tar before rolling the mixture between their hands in order to make it adhere to the business end of their fly lines. Sam maintained a sheaf of correspondence regarding their efforts as the unofficial Research and Development arm of a major tackle company that XXXXX was beginning to create new lines in a big way. It would be hard to believe their work, including tedious testing and weighing of their experimental shooting heads did not play a big role in the evolution of modern fly lines and the revolution in fly fishing they helped to create.

As you might expect from a "how-to" book written nearly a half-century ago, much of the information in Sam's Saltwater Fly-Fishing Handbook is pretty dated by contemporary standards. Sam and his cronies preferred building single piece nine-foot rods over rods with ferrules - hardly practical for your next trip to Belize. Fly reels were routinely described as little more than "a place for the storage of line" and came in two distinctive forms, "quiet" reels like the Pflueger Medalist which had a minimally effective drag and "screamers" like the English Hardy's that had click drags. Drags on most reels of that era were less than effective and required palm or side plate pressure to slow big fish. Neither compared in a good way to the drag systems found in most good quality modern fly reels. Sam's first reel of choice was a Hardy St. John purchased in the 1930s.

## Feature Article, cont.

Sam preferred the "screamers" because, as he told me, "they let others know I was into yet another good fish." His enjoyment from this revelation was particularly true in the social or combat fishing associated with steelhead or American shad on the rivers of northern California.

Those fortunate enough to read a copy of his Salt Water Fly-Fishing Handbook knew immediately that Sam was a pragmatist and maybe a little frugal based on the do-it-yourself approach he shared throughout the pages. The first page shows a photo and description of his favorite hooks for a variety of purposes. The second page is a glossy color plate showing an assortment of favorite flies, including a popper.

With the DIY tone set early, similar pages and plates demonstrate everything from tying your own flies to rod building, casting to knot tying, and beyond. I can still remember the time he had me stand still on a piece of outdoor carpet while he cut around it with a razor. When he was done he glued it to the soles of the high top canvas tennis shoes he told me to bring that day in preparation for my first steelhead trip. "You can't safely wade the Klamath without using these as your wading shoes to grip those slimy rocks," he said, "because wading that river is like trying to dance on greased bowling balls."

Sam's pioneering efforts were not limited to tackle and tinkering with same. His thirst for fly fishing along with a healthy dose of intellectual curiosity drove him hard.

Sam read all of the major fishing publications, and in the 1950s he read of saltwater fly fishing becoming increasingly popular in Florida. He figured he could learn a few things by making the 6,000 mile roundtrip from San Diego. The first of several trips there came around Thanksgiving, and he was anxious to meet and pick the minds of those engaged in that relatively new game but was quickly disappointed. He lamented that after driving the length of the Keys and back, as well as the trek from Jacksonville to the Keys and then up to Tamps he saw not a single fly fisherman. Figuring the anglers and quality of fishing he'd read about came earlier in the year, Sam timed his subsequent trips better, allowing him to meet other fly fishermen and the fish they pursued. Sam estimated he covered 25,000 miles on those trips and learned a lot.

Leaning heavily on that experience, but not caring so much for the long and tedious cross-country drives in order to reach Florida's tarpon, snook and bonefish among others, Sam turned his attention toward Mexico and its border less than 25 miles from his San Diego

home in Ocean Beach. Due diligence led him to correctly believe that an exploratory trip down the eastern side of the Gulf of California would not only be his best bet, but a lot shorter than a return to Florida.

In 1962, and as a pragmatist and something of a minimalist, Sam, his wife and their small dog loaded into their supplies and gear-laden Volkswagon camper and headed out for the first of many trips to visit our next door neighbors. They invariably found friendly and helpful people, road detours and dicey dirt roads that had to be traversed to reach the water. Once on the beaches, which were often deserted, they found an abundance of hungry fish that willingly took poppers and streamers. On one such trip, Sam ran out of flies and fly tying material, but had lots of bare hooks. With necessity requiring invention, he cut strips from an old sheet, ran the point of the hook through them and proceeded to catch plenty of fish. He later joked that he could now save a lot of money and had no further need for bucktails or marabou feathers because he found a lifetime of material covering his mattress.

At no time did he see another fly fisherman as he plied the bays of Agiabampo, Topolobampo and San Carlos. Exploration of the mouth of the Rio San Lorenzo, west of Culiacan produced a number of snook. In addition to the snook, his wanderings over 300 miles of beaches produced a large variety of fish that included corvina, ladyfish, croaker, cabrilla, triggerfish and jack crevalle among others, but there is one fish that stood out as his favorite on a fly rod - the sierra mackerel.

"The sierra mackerel," wrote Sam, "is the greatest fly rod fish I have encountered anywhere. They hit with express train-speed, are willing strikers, and make long surface runs." Noting that sierra have razor sharp teeth that shred leaders, Sam offered a solution for toothy fish. "I make no claims of being a Tommy Edison, but I think I invented an outstanding fly for sharp-toothed fish. I take a 3 extra-long hook - a longer shank may be even better - and tie in hair - nothing else - at the bend of the hook. I call it the bare shank fly."

When not plying the beaches of Mexico, Sam was well-known for his pursuit of bonito, from Mission Bay's Quivira Basin (prior to the extensive commercial development that exists today) to Kings Harbor. There is a classic photo in the book of Sam wearing the earliest float tubing gear I've ever seen - his answer when the bonito were out of range of the best of distance casters, of which he was one. He also loved fishing for yellowtail at the Coronado Islands and local kelp beds, but often complained "I don't have enough rich friends with boat to get me out to the fish."

## Feature Article, cont.

In my opinion, Sam had the earliest and greatest impacts on fly fishing the left coast than anyone else I can name, and he did not go unnoticed. He shared his research and development of fly lines with representatives of 3M/Scientific Anglers who provided him with lines and stayed in close contact. He discussed fly rod design with Jim Green in Fenwick's early days. He shared the things he learned with others, exchanging letters with fly fishermen from around the country, including many like Harry Kime who became much better known.

For those who missed out on knowing this remarkable character, all is not lost. Many of the things he researched and developed have become standardized and some of what he shared has been taught to us by more widely known anglers.

For others and those yet to come, there is Sam's Saltwater Fly-Fishing Handbook. Like most "how-to" books published nearly a half-century ago, some of the information, particularly with regard to tackle is dated and it has its idiosyncrasies. Sam reasoned that anadromous fish like American shad, steelhead and striped bass spend so much of their lives in saltwater it was only natural for them to be included in his book about saltwater fishing. Most of us don't build our own rods, make our own wading shoes or create our own lines, but for those who wish to, Sam has that covered for you.

Those things aside, Sam's Saltwater Fly-Fishing Handbook is terrific in other ways. It gives us perspective, along with a clear view into some of the early days of saltwater fly fishing, days when skilled anglers broadened their horizons, experimented without caution, tinkered endlessly and willingly shared their discoveries.

Anglers like Sam were undeniably among the pioneers of our sport. The mistakes, missteps, failures and wild ideas that never panned out were the necessary by-product of their ultimate success, and we continue to reap the benefit.

With regard to the fly that he created to reduce losses to sharp teeth, Sam said he was "no Tommy Edison." While that may be true I'm told that before introducing a light bulb that worked, Edison admitted to inventing a thousand that didn't.

### **Jim Brown**

(Recipient of the 2004 Stroud Award)

Jim is the retired manager of the San Diego City Lakes Program and an outdoor writer whose stories have appeared over the past 50 years in national, regional and local publications, including a long stint writing features and a weekly column for the San Diego Tribune. In addition to the blog Jim Brown's Sporting Life, his more recent features have appeared at SDFish.com. Among his favored possessions are Sam's favorite rod and Hardy St. John reel, given to him by the Nix family per Sam's wishes following his death.

# Planned Trips 2022

## February 24-27, The Bishop Rendezvous

March 19	Tidelands, San Diego Bay
April 16-17	Squaw Lake with Arizona Fly Fishers
May 14	Coronado Dog Beach, Shorepounders
June 4-11	Estero Coyote, Baja Sur
June 18	Lake Henshaw Shorepounders
July 9	Bayside Park
August 13	North Torrey Pines Shorepounders
September 1-4	Stillwater Montana unguided, (Arrangements with Huckaby)
September 4-7	Stillwater Montana guided
October 22	Lake Cuyamaca
November	Shelter Island
December	Otay Lakes



For more information contact [Kai Schumann](#)

or look for details in *The Indicator*.

Questions? Contact us at [outings@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:outings@sandiegoflyfishers.com)



## Fly of the Month



### Cinder Worm

**We don't have much of a saltwater striped bass fishery close by, but many flies that were designed for other waters have worked well locally.**

*In the Northeast, the cinder worm "hatch"—some folks call it a "swarm"—happens early in the season, offering anglers a first great chance of finding blitzing striped bass. These swarms can happen through July, depending on location, so it's always a good idea to have a few patterns with you. Writing in Saltwater Sportsman, John McMurray says, "When it goes off. . .it might be the ultimate experience in Northeast light-tackle fishing. It is the only time when conquering a 40-plus-inch striper with a 1-inch bait is a possibility."*

### Recipe

**Hook:** Standard saltwater hook (here a Mustad 34007), sizes 2-6.  
**Thread 1:** Red, 6/0 or 140-denier.  
**Adhesive 1:** Dubbing wax.  
**Body:** Bright red SLF dubbing.  
**Thread 2:** Black, 3/0 or 210-denier.  
**Head:** Black deer body hair, spun.  
**Tools:** Dubbing twister.

**Video link:** [Tying Video](#)

# Casting Corner

## San Diego Fly Fishers Casting Program 2022

**Sunday fly casting instruction** at Lake Murray with [Alan Thompson](#) at 9:00 am.

In the meantime, if someone has a question or a trip planned and needs some assistance please email me at the email address below to discuss. I am often able to provide private or semi-private instruction.

**Casting Skills Challenge Program:** The FFI has reintroduced a program they call the Casting Skills Challenge. It is designed for the experienced beginner caster as well as intermediate and advanced fly fishers. It is meant to be a fun way to study, practice and challenge oneself in a progressive fashion. We will be offering this program to SDFP membership in 2022. More information on the program can be found on the FFI website.

Several of our club members have been working on completing the FFI Fly Casting Challenge Program.

**Intermediate Casting Clinic:** Activity continues with clinics at Mission Bay on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays.



For questions please contact: [John Wylie](#)

# Conservation & Education

## Trout in the Classroom

A big thanks to Bruce Harris and Lee McElravy for setting up our winter classrooms and delivering their trout eggs. There is no word yet on when they will release their trout, but we'll send a notice via the Indicator when they let us know.



## Golden Trout Trip June 24-27, 2021

Once again this year we are planning our volunteer conservation and fishing trip into the Golden Trout Wilderness June 24-27. This is our biggest conservation effort each year. We take a dozen or two hardy volunteers on a 2 mile hike into Casa Vieja Meadow where we work as USFS volunteers erecting a barbed wire and electric fence designed to keep grazing cattle away from Nine Mile Creek that runs through the meadow. We always plan time for fishing and almost everyone catches fish. My 10-year-old grandson caught 15 golden trout on his first trip with a fly rod so this is a good place for beginners. Most of these beautiful trout are small but each trip we catch a few up to 14 inches.

We camp at the Blackrock Trailhead above Kennedy Meadows in Sequoia National Forest. It a narrow but paved road all the way and many of us sleep in our vehicles or small RVs, but there are prepared tent sites. We set up a group kitchen and share meal preparation duties. The site is above 9,000 ft so it can be cold or rainy and some folks have trouble sleeping at that altitude if they have breathing issues. The trail into the meadow is well prepared but steep. We only carry small day packs so most folks find the daily hike up out of the meadow strenuous but doable. We allow plenty of time for hiking at your own pace. This is a family friendly event, but only recommended for children 10 or older with some hiking experience.

If this event interests you, please contact me with this link: [Gary Strawn](#)

USFS places a limit on the number of volunteers we can have in the Wilderness so please sign up early.

**If you know of a good conservation project that needs support, please share your ideas with the committee. [conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com](mailto:conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com)**

# Women's Programs

## ***Cider and Clousers***

**(planning in progress, stay tuned)**

Bivouac Ciderworks, Northpark, has offered to host a tying event for SDFE Women's Programs.

- Saturday March 26, 2022 (Tentative Date)
- 2:00 pm-4:00 pm



**Questions or suggestions for activities and events in 2022!**

Contact Brooke Sargent: [Women's Programs](#)

# Project Healing Waters

## Project Healing Waters

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing is a nationwide non-profit dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education, classes and outings. The Program has been in existence since 2006. Our San Diego Program is one of 200+ such programs in the U.S. Each Program is organized and maintained through a local fly fishing club, in our case the San Diego Fly Fishers. Our San Diego Program first started in 2009.

**WHEN:** The first and third Wednesdays of every month at 5:00 p.m.  
Next class is Wednesday, November 3rd.

**WHERE:** Santee Historical Society Edgemoor Barn, (The White Barn),  
9200 North Magnolia Avenue, Santee.

**WHAT:** Classes on fly tying, fly casting and general fly fishing information.  
Some fishing outings are planned as conditions permit.

**WHO:** All disabled military, active duty or retired, are welcome to join us. No prior fly fishing (or any fishing) experience necessary. No charge. All fly fishing and fly tying equipment and material available free of charge.

Please RSVP to our San Diego Program Lead, [Lee McElravy](#)

We are happy to address any questions you may have to help you get started.

Please look at our Club's PHW Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/PHWFF.SDFF/>



#### ADMISSION:

- ADULTS: \$20.00. Includes lunch/drink
- UNDER 16 and VETS: Free
- NEW TO FLY FISHING: 15.00. Includes lunch and a FREE fly casting lesson to get you started
- 

**Long Beach Casting Club - 5201 E 7th St, Long Beach, CA 90804**

#### ACTIVITIES:

- Fly Tying Demonstrations all day
- Raffles
- Silent Auctions
- Flies for Sale
- Used-Equipment Sale
- Casting Lessons and Games
- BRING/DONATE a new or lightly used item of 40.00 retail value and get in FREE!

Click here to directly link the [SWCFFI](#) web page!

The **San Diego Fly Fishers** is affiliated with the **Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International (SWCFFI)** [John Wylie](#), Representative

For more information or to join FFI visit: <https://flyfishersinternational.org/>

#### Who or What is the Southwest Council?

**The Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International** represents all of Southern California and Nevada. Fly Fishers International is a 54 year old international non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the sport of fly fishing through Conservation, Restoration and Education. Fly Fishers International and its Councils are the only organized advocate for fly fishers on an national and regional level.

# Membership

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

**Ready to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers?  
Please support your club by planning to renew for 2022!**

[Renew online](#)

**We are all about fishing and having fun!**

**Don't miss out! Join or renew!**

You can renew your membership on-line through the SDFF website, or you can renew in person at our monthly programs; or you can download an application on our website and mail a check to

**SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS  
C/O Stroud Tackle  
1457 Morena Blvd  
San Diego, CA 92110**

Contact: [Alan Thompson](#)

Or Renew at the next Monthly SDFF Meeting

SDFF has four membership levels  
Individual.....\$40  
Family.....\$50  
Individual Military.....FREE (Active Duty Only)



Don't disappoint Santa!

**Renew your membership (or your family's). It's simple.**  
Click here to [Join](#) then follow the instructions.  
Thank you,  
Alan Thompson  
Membership

# Volunteers are needed

San Diego Fly Fishers is a service organization.  
So please ask yourself...

*"What service can I provide to my Club"?*

## Service Opportunities

### Fishing Outings

This is a chance to help run a fishing outing for Club members. We are seeking volunteers to organize a day of fishing on our local waters. It's fun and easy. Pick your favorite water and contact [Kai Schumann](#) and we will help you get started.

- ◆ Pick a local lake
- ◆ Pick a location for the bay
- ◆ Pick a location for the surf

The whole idea is to involve more members in creating fishing events and get us on the water monthly.

### Fundraising

- ◆ **We need 2 or 3 more volunteers to help serve on the committee**, please consider helping out. No volunteers, no fundraiser!

Greeters are needed at our Monthly meetings!

We are planning to have 2 or 3 greeters at each event to help new people into our Club. It's a great way to serve the Club and meet new Flyfishers.

Please contact [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

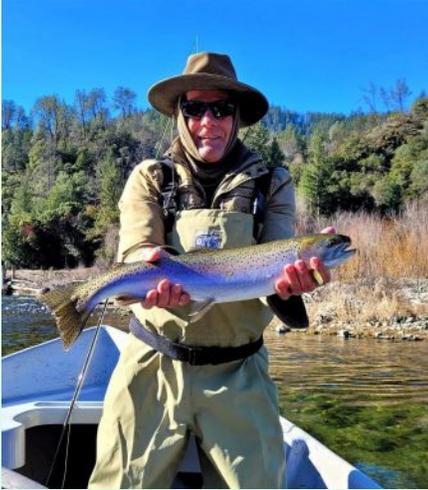
### Project Healing Waters

- ◆ Help with this important program that serves Veterans in need.
- ◆ If you know of a Veteran in need Please let us know!
- ◆ Contact: [Lee McElravy](#) to learn how you can contribute.

### Women's Program

- ◆ Please contact Brooke Sargent [Women's Programs](#) for information and way to get involved.

# Fishing!



**Gary with a Trinity Steelhead!**



**And Paul's got one too!**



**Opaleye on the fly?!**



**Brooke with a nice kelp bass, and Cinder!**



**Upon further review, Kai has determined that this is a *Machete*, *Baja's* version of a tarpon!**

Please share a picture of your catch at: [Sandiegoflyfishers.com](http://Sandiegoflyfishers.com)

# Guides and Resources

**San Diego Fly Fishers does not endorse nor recommend any particular Guide or Business.** This Information is intended to provide the reader with known providers of services related to fly fishing in our local area and in California. This is not intended to be a complete list of available services.

## Guides

Eastern Sierra:

[Sierra Drifters](#)

[Sierra Troutdoorsman](#)

[Pat Jaeger Fly Fishing](#)

[Kern River Fly Shop](#)

[Wild Fly Anglers](#)

Northern California:

[Acosta Fly Fishing](#) (Steelhead)

[Fine and Far Fly Fishing](#) (Steelhead/Spey Trips)

[Baiocchi's Troutfitters](#)

San Diego Bay/Surf/Lakes:

[Conway Bowman](#)

[Alex Cady @ Fly Stop](#)

Fly Fishing Equipment:

[STROUD TACKLE](#)

[THE FLY STOP](#)

[Flies by Favorite](#)

## River Flows and Reports

[Dreamflows](#)

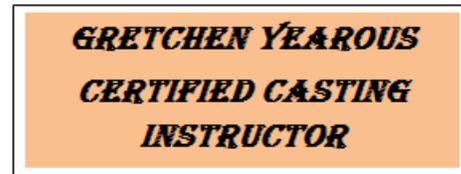
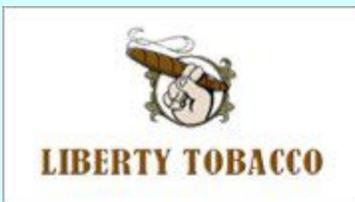
[USGS Flows](#)

[California Data Exchange](#)

[Lower Owens River](#)



# Thanks for supporting San Diego Fly Fishers



We need your help getting rid of Carp at Lake Cuyamaca!



**CARP ANGLERS WANTED:**  
CONVENTIONAL ROD AND REEL, SPEAR OR BOW:  
Kill a Carp and FISH FOR FREE! Or, TENT CAMP FOR FREE!  
PROOF REQUIRED!

LAKE CUYAMACA NEEDS YOUR HELP! **KILL A CARP!**

# Board of Directors

## San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors 2022

James Castelluzzo	<a href="#">President</a>
Vice President	vacant
Andrea Rae	<a href="#">Treasurer</a>
Mel Ochs	<a href="#">Secretary</a>
Alan Thompson	<a href="#">Membership</a> <a href="#">Sunday Fly Casting</a>
Bruce Harris	At large
Mark Hedderson	<a href="#">Editor Finny Facts / Indicator</a>
Tim Huckaby	<a href="#">Speaker Programs</a> <a href="#">Fundraising/At large</a>
Brooke Sargent	<a href="#">Women's Programs</a>
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John Wylie	<a href="#">Casting Program Instruction</a> <a href="#">SWC-FFI Liaison</a>
	<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>
Jack Duncan	<a href="#">Rod Building</a>
Lucky Ketcham	<a href="#">Fly Tying Congress</a>
Lee McElravy	<a href="#">Project Healing Waters</a>
	<b>Web Master</b>
David Collins	<a href="#">Internet Resources Admin</a>

## The Indicator

Emailed twice a month  
with updates and break-  
ing news!  
Make sure you are on the  
list to stay informed.

Follow SDFF adventures  
and news our FACEBOOK  
page. Post your own  
adventures and  
pictures.

[San Diego Fly Fishers](#)

The Board meets at 6:30 PM on the last Monday of each month at the San Diego River Park Foundation Office on Pacific Hwy. (Currently held on Zoom.)

For Directions to all Club Meetings, Clinics and Fly tying classes visit our website at:  
[Activities Maps](#)



## Tailing Loops



A fish walks into a bar.  
“What can I get you?” asks the bartender.  
“Just water” says the fish, with a dry sense of humor.

A fly walks into a bar.  
“What do you want?” asks the bartender  
“I’m just looking for a stool.”

A fly fisherman walks into a bar.  
Having brought along his fly tying equipment,  
he sits down next to an attractive woman and boldly announces  
“I’ve got a vice, care to join me in a whip finish?”  
She looks at him coolly,  
“I’d rather knot.”