

FINNY FACTS

Archive Version

December 2014

San Diego  Fly Fishers
Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 19 No. 11

December's meeting The Second Annual Clean Out Your Closet

This month's meeting is a combination of a raffle, silent auction, and swap meet. If it seems familiar, the format will be identical to last December's raffle with **Lew Walsh** in charge. According to **Lew**, raffle tickets will be priced at \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00.

The raffle and auction will feature items that have been donated to the club from generous members, but we could use more. You can drop off donations at **Strouds** and we will make sure that it will be picked up in time for the raffle. There is another copy of the donation form at the bottom of page 7 that you can clip and attach to your gift. We are very appreciative of any and all donations: new or used.

In the auction area, **Art Reifman**, will have numerous items available from **Project Healing Waters**. Those members who were present at the last meeting saw 2 of the items that will be available. One was a very nice vest and the other was a shirt that **Art** was wearing. Both are made by Orvis (I think).

Like last year, we could use additional help in setting up the venue. There should be someone at the school by 5 pm in order to locate the custodian.



Merry Christmas to all and to all Tight Lines

There will be three ways to pay, cash, checks, and credit cards. Thanks to **Bruce Harris** for handling the credit card reader (*Don't get sick!*).

The bottom line is this, Christmas is coming soon and you can count on various ties, socks, ugly sweaters, too tight underwear as gifts from your family. Treat yourself to some good fly fishing equipment, loads of tying material, and at least 1 new rod, an Albright 10 foot 8 weight (*PS. Bob Pharoah says the rod is HIS*).
Lets have a great time.



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Don't Forget
Time to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers for 2015. See Alan Reoch at December's meeting.

Next Meeting
Monday, December 1, 2014
7:00 pm
Sequoia Elementary School;
4690 Limerick Avenue
(see map on the back)

Reminder
Volunteer host for this meeting
(report at 6:15pm)
Art Reifman
Fred Gregory

Thank you, **Lew Walsh**

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: “

If I fished only to capture fish, my fishing trips would have ended long ago.” Zane Grey



The Southwest Council International Federation of Fly Fishers (“SWCIFFF”) held a fly fishing tournament on the Kern River, in Kernville, CA the weekend of November 7 -9. There were several events Friday and Saturday, but the actual fishing tournament was Saturday in two sessions: two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. The sessions were on specified different beats for each angler. I’ve already stated my previous distaste for fly fishing competitions, but I must admit I had lots of fun: in fact, a good time was had by all, especially the thousands and thousands of fish that never felt a hook. By my count there were 16 teams from nine clubs composed of five-men/women for each team. Many clubs had two teams including SDFE.

I personally fished a practice round all day Friday, and both sessions on Saturday. In about 12 hours diligently and seriously fishing hard, changing flies, techniques, etc. I caught one 11” rainbow. If you think that’s bad, 45 out of 80 fishermen got skunked!

Nonetheless, on balance, the Club didn’t do badly. Thanks to **Bruce Michael and Keith Ballard** one of our teams finished fifth. My team, with one fish, finished tenth. So six teams finished behind our poorest team and that means six entire teams got skunked. Moreover, Bruce M had the second largest fish, a **48 cm (20”) pike minnow**. The biggest fish was 51 cm, also a pike minnow. Whatever that is. The tournament also included a rod building contest for a very good cause, and we had two entrants from the Club: **Kurt Ruble and Preston Parrett**. In addition to Bruce’s big minnow, the highlight of the

weekend for our Club was Preston’s winning entrant in the rod building contest. The rod building contest rules were simple: the rod had to be a 9’ 5 wt. and had to include the color pink in the wraps, reel seat, or blank itself. The pink requirement was because all the rods entered were given to **Casting for Recovery** which is a charity benefiting breast cancer victims. Its mission is similar to **Project Healing Waters**. They have determined fly fishing is therapeutic.

To their credit, Casting for Recovery had a team of five ladies, entered in the tournament, all evidently cancer survivors, and one of the ladies caught a fish.

Like all of you, I love rivers. I even love the ones I’ve fallen in, and that’s a lot of rivers. But I’m not sure about the Kern River. I didn’t fall, but two of our members (anonymous) did. One twice! The Kern was very low, as all California rivers are, but even at 15-20% of its normal flow, it’s a bitch to wade. The bottom is very rocky, everything from VW sized boulders to snot covered bowling balls. I know the Kern is famous for white water rafting, and I’m not sure it would even be fishable at full strength.

And bushwhacking through the brush which is extremely thick on some of the beats, was fun; especially if you followed the tournament rules which allowed us to take three rods on our beats, plus a measuring device made of a 24” long piece of 6” pvc pipe as a fish measuring device, and you better not forget your wading staff. Try schlepping through a wall of brush with all that stuff. Yeah, I don’t know about the Kern. But at its present level at

least I felt safe. It wasn’t like the Pit River where—at its new flows—you feel like you’ve had a good day by not drowning.

As some of you already know, the annual **Stroud Awards Banquet** is about two months off on January 25. One of the awards, and arguably the most important award, is the **Stroud Award**. The Stroud is given most years to an individual, or individuals, or even a group, who have given extraordinarily in various ways, to conservation, fly fishing and sport fishing causes. The Stroud is unique because the recipient(s) are not required to be a member of the Club, and any member of the Club can nominate a Stroud award candidate. Please give it some thought, and if you have a nominee e-mail either Jim Tenuto. After the nominees are screened the winner will be chosen by the Club’s past presidents. For many good reasons, we all loved the Stroud’s and this award is the way we honor their memory. #

*Editors Note: A copy of the nomination form and directions for the **Stroud Award** can be found on page 4 of this issue.*



Stroud Banquet

Sunday, January 25, 2015

From 1:00 to 4:00 pm



Southwestern Yacht Club

2702 Qualtrough St,
San Diego, CA 92106

See map below

Menu: Bar-B-Que

- \$30 per person for a great dinner in a beautiful setting.
- Price included a door prize ticket!
- Sign-up at a club meeting, Stroud's Tackle or mail check to:
San Diego Fly Fishers, Attn. Stroud Banquet
10601-G Tierrasanta Blvd., #327
San Diego, CA 92124
- Please make your reservations prior to January 6.
- Spouses and guests are welcome.



From I-8 (West) or I-5 (South) Take Rosecrans Street EXIT
Go West on Rosecrans for 3.4 miles
Turn LEFT on OWENS Street
Turn 1st LEFT on San Antonio Street
Turn at 3rd Right on Qualtrough Street



San Diego Fly Fishers
Annual Stroud Award
Nominee Application Form

Purpose: To recognize Individuals for life long achievement in the sport of fishing, or in conservation and environmental causes that benefit the sport of fishing.

Qualifications: Individuals qualify if they have made a significant contribution throughout their life or career to the sport of fishing, or to conservation and environmental causes that directly benefit the sport of fishing.

Nominees do not have to be a member of the Club to qualify, but all nominees must be sponsored by at least two members of the Club.

Due Date: Unless an extension is authorized by the Campaign Selection Committee, applications must be submitted to it by December 15th.

Procedure: The Selection Committee, made up of the current SDFP President and the two most recent past SDFP Presidents, will screen all nominees for eligibility and select the top five Candidates. The winner will be selected from the Candidates by a cumulative vote of all past SDFP Presidents.

When: The Award will be presented to the winner at the SDFP Club's Stroud Banquet following the selection process.

Name of Nominee: _____

Affiliation (if any): _____

Nominee's Qualifications (provide below or attach a brief statement explaining why you're nominee should be considered for the Stroud Award)

Club Member/Sponsor: _____ Date: ____/____/____/____
Club Member/Sponsor: _____ Date: ____/____/____/____

Activities

SWCIFF Kern River Inter-club Fishing Report

Vibrant fall colors welcomed 13 members of SDF as they caravanned north to join in the SWCIFF's 5th annual Kern River fishing tournament. Most settled into their River nook campsite sleeping either in their vehicle or tent. **Paul and Judy Woolery**, within 30 minutes of arriving, had set up aTaj Mahal of comfort around their custom teardrop, next door in less than a minute, **Bruce Bechard** had unfolded his Aliner. The **Reifman's** arrived in style towing their Airstream. **Lee McElravy** and **Jack Duncan** opted for proximity to fishing action and the quiet, comfy confines of the Sequoia Lodge (along with 30+ motorcycle members).



The TEAMS from SDF



The Kern River Brewery

Pre-tourney mornings were spent sipping campfire coffee, flavored by **Paul 'Tenkara' Woolery** with a touch of Bailey's, discussing flies and techniques that may work on the Kern. **Bruce Bechard** had netted 8 trout on Thursday and 4 more on Friday on Mike Mercer October caddis, Yoshi X-Factors and brown beaded streamers. **Lee M.** had disclosed a 'secret' Kern access that he had fished earlier in the

year with local fly shop guide Guy Jeans and his grandson **Connor**. For several of us, upon viewing the proposed route, thought best of not attempting to squeeze our old bones through the hidden access tunnel.

The extended weekend provided several highlights. Thursday evening choice of meal was the Kern River Brewery followed by campfire sipping smooth single malt provided by **Alan 'Ancnoc' Reoch**.

Friday morning Guy Jeans provided a one hour 'on the water' seminar displaying 'czech nymph' techniques. That evening featured a delightful meal hosted by the guys at campsite 408 featuring hors d'oeuvres & salad (thank you **Keith Ballard**), turkey chili (than you **Mrs. Reoch**) and homemade breads and brownies (thank you **Marla**). **Tom Rundlett** tried his luck at the local fundraiser poker tournament.

Saturday morning arrived with clear, crisp, cloudless skies and anticipation of how each would fare in the 'Tourney'. We had been divided up into 2 teams of five fly-fishers and each team member would be assigned random 2 hour morning and afternoon 'beats'.

Continued next page



Where is that beer ?

Continued from previous page

With 14 teams participating, representing 9 California and Nevada clubs, and one team of 'Casting for Recovery' survivors, the morning was hectic around the fly shop as teams and members were finally handed their assigned 'beats'.

Armed with last minute instructions and custom fish measuring trays, team members dispersed in hopes that their section of water would hold fish on the chew.

As we assembled after the morning fishing session at the adjacent **McElravy/Duncan** patio, **Keith Ballard** and some others had managed to net fish. After lunch, we headed out to fish our second beat where



Each club had been encouraged earlier in the year to have their 2 best rod wrappers,

build and submit rods that evening for the 'Casting for Recovery' survivors. **Kurt Ruble** and **Preston Parrett** from SDFFF spent many hours intricately assembling one of a kind rod that were true works of art to be savored by any flyfisher. **Preston's rod won first place!** (SEE PAGE 9)



Finally, it came down to announcing team placement and the SDFFF teams managed to place 5th and 10th overall. Moral victory was declared for not finishing 13th and 14th over campfire spirits provided by **Tim 'Float the Queen Mary' Huckaby** and there was even some talk of 'next year'...

Submitted by Bruce Michael

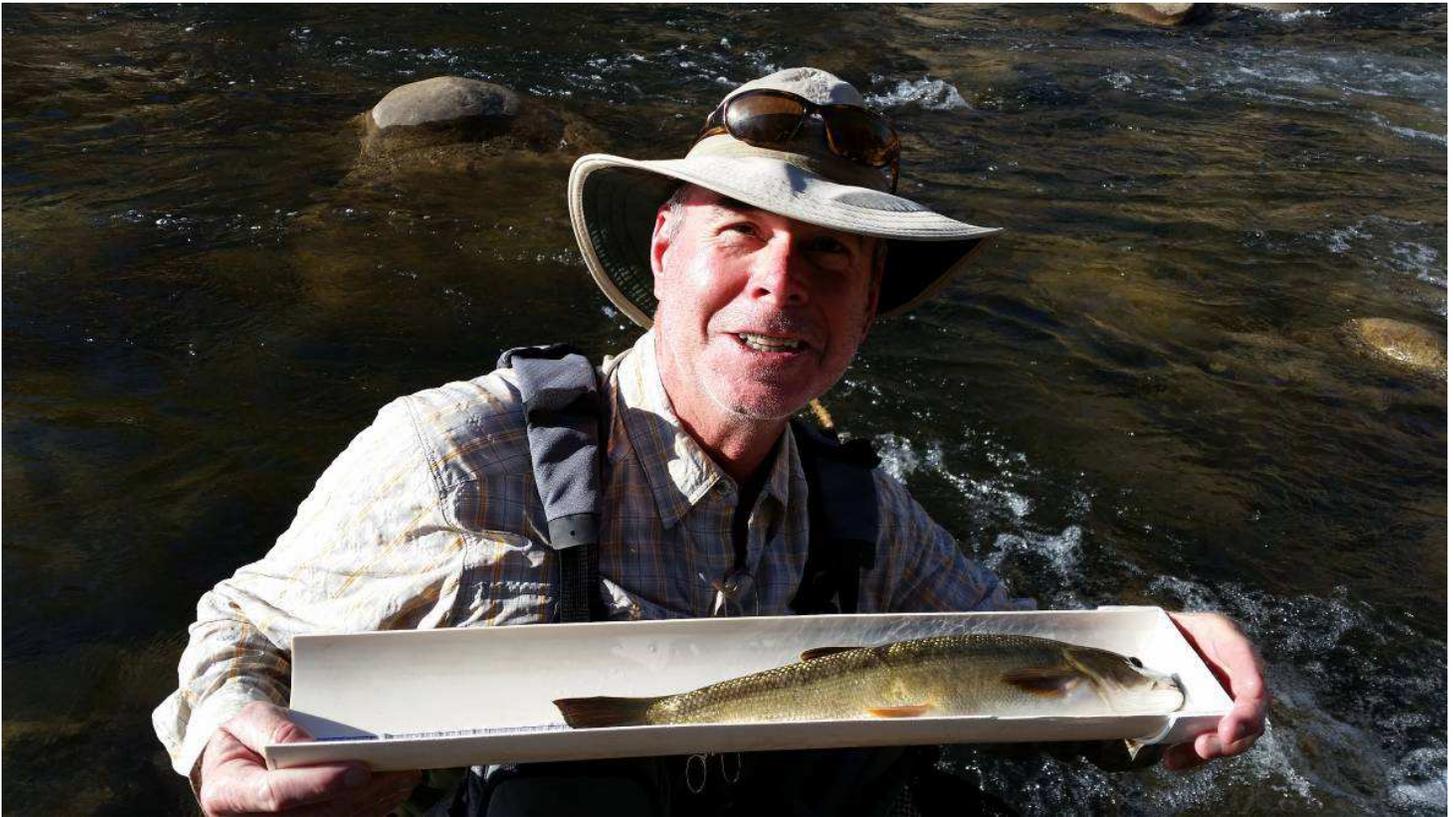


SDFFF club president **Jack Duncan** displayed his fishing skills by landing a beauty.

Saturday evening was the SWCIFFF fundraiser banquet where the teams assembled for a not-so-prime rib and chicken dinner and camaraderie. After dinner, event organizer Chiaki Haramic had all stand and participate in a game of 'heads or tails' with the last person standing winning a hand made rod of their choice from Chiaki. As the possible winners thinned with each coin flip, it finally came down to the last 2 standing, one being SDFFF's own **Alan 'Ancnoc' Reoch**. **Alan** displayed his gentlemanly nature by deferring to the lone remaining fisher, a lady, who chose tails. Alas, she won and **Alan** sat.



Can You Identify This Kern River Swimmer ?



How to Avoid Drowning When Fly Fishing in Kern River

1. Know your limit:

The water is probably deeper than you think and is designed for fish to swim NOT YOU (See Picture Above)

2. Wear a floatation device or an inflatable device:

If you find yourself in trouble, the floatation device will keep your head above the water so you can plan your recovery. In this case it is strike two (See Picture Above)

3. Drop your Fly Rod:

It's your life or your **Thomas and Thomas**, hmmm, let's come back to this one. **Great Job, Bruce** Fly rods are cheap (See Picture Above)

4. Drop the Fish:

You are in trouble so it's your life or his (See Picture Above)

5. Scream, yell, whistle:

Get some help when you are floundering in the water and you are still conscious (See Picture Above)

6. Take off you Waders:

As your waders fill up with water, there is the strong possibility you will get pulled under (See Picture Above).

7. Skip the Picture:

Unless this is your *going away picture*, focus on saving your life.

(Although this picture would make a great epitaph) (See Picture Above).

8. Wear Clean Underwear:

Your mother was right (See Picture Above)

10. Don't listen to these rules:

There is a strong possibility that the author of these rules (Whom ever he or she is) is probably off his or her rocker.

Submitted by anonymous



Education and Conservation



Casting Clinic at Lake Murray

San Diego Fly Fishers lead the way in delivering casting instruction on a Thursday Morning. **Barry Pechersky** was the designated coordinator for this event. The picture below shows **Barry** giving one on one instruction.



Lucky Ketchum, (as seen below) was another instructor helping the clients from both Balboa Hospital and the VA Medical Center of La Jolla.



Lucky leading by example

A hand full of club members that were on hand to provide casting instruction included **Bob Pharoah, Joel Steward, Alan Thompson, and others**

Joel Steward led the demonstration by flawlessly casting two of the basic casts for the benefit of our guest casters. Then everybody broke off for one-on-one instruction at the edge of the lake.

As the new casters became more proficient in their casting ability, they began to select targets on the lake to aim their yarn fly. Some of the targets included loose feathers floating on the surface and an occasional duck who strayed too close to casting zone.



Lucky teaching the importance of coffee

They are ready for the next challenge, putting it all together by using their new knowledge to catch some fish.

If you haven't had the opportunity to meet these great men and women who bravely served our country, then make a commitment to get involved in the upcoming classes starting in January. There will be two classes at the VA Medical Center with one class during the day and a new class that will meet in the evening.

Water Sampling for the South Coast Steelhead Recovery Project

On Saturday, November 15, **Gary Strawn** led a group to measure the water in the San Luis Rey River in Northern San Diego County. The group included **Jack Duncan, Steve Vissars, Alan Thompson, and Larry Sherry**.

The plan was to test several spots on the river for various organic and inorganic minerals suspended in the water plus abiotic factors such as water temperature, flow, and visibility. The main difficulty in getting readings in all spots on the river was the lack of water due to the drought. We were able to get good sampling in the estuary which also gave us an opportunity to practice our rusty skills.

The long term goal is to prove to various agencies that the steelhead can be reintroduced to rivers where they have been historically found.

Hubbs-Sea World White Sea Bass Center Welcomes Two SDFF Members

Hubbs-Sea World held a bar-b-que for fishing groups that provides support for their effort to increase the natural population of White Seabass which has experienced a huge decline in numbers. San Diego Fly Fishers gives financial support to this worthwhile conservation effort. **Gary Strawn** and **Alan Thompson** had an opportunity to meet the people in charge including Bob Fletcher the 2011 **Stroud Award** winner. After the meal, we were given a tour of the facility which is impressive. The club's investment is going to a great cause.



EXTRA (Donation Form below)

THE WINNER:

Preston Parrett built the winning rod for *Casting for Recovery*. Below is a picture of the Preston's fly fishing rod .



Detach this form and bring to the next general meeting

Donations to the San Diego Fly Fishers, a non-profit organization

From: _____

Date: _____

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>New/Used</u>	<u>Value</u>
<i>Example</i>			
<u>Sage Fly rod</u>	<u>4 wt 4 piece 8'6"</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Additional information: _____

Do you want a receipt for your taxes for your donation _____

Announcements

Note From September's Guest Speaker

“San Diego Fly Fishers.
Ravae and I just wanted to send a quick note thanking you for inviting me to be a speaker at your club meeting this month. It was great to be in a room filled with like-minded people and get to share my love for fly-fishing in Washington. We hope the group enjoyed the presentation. Thank you again for all your hospitality and allowing me to speak.
Best,
Aaron and Ravae O’Leary
Anglers Obsession”

Just Around the Corner: Bishop Trip February 2015

As we hunker down for winter in San Diego, it is time to make your plans to join your fellow club members on our annual trip to Bishop area in February. **Kurt Rubble** is busy planning this adventure as the new coordinator of this event. We have to thank **Paul Woolery** for all his hard work putting together this event for many years. The dates have not been set but will be published here when they become available. Past history of this weekend event saw many club members fishing the Lower Owens below Pleasant Valley Reservoir targeting rainbows and browns.



Jack fishing Lower Owens

Some club members also fished the Upper Owens above Crowley Lake and catching rainbows between the snow drifts where last year snow mobiles were used.



**FREE CASTING LESSONS
EVERY SUNDAY 9 AM--NOON**

Join the San Diego Fly Fishers at Lake Murray to cast or improve your skills. Free instruction is available. Bring your own equipment or use the club equipment, available from one of the instructors. **DIRECTIONS--**Take Interstate 8 to Lake Murray Boulevard. Go north on Lake Murray Boulevard to Kiowa Drive. Turn left and look for people casting just as you enter the park. That's our bunch.



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.

Recipients of the **STROUD AWARD**

Jim Brown.....	2004
Allen Greenwood.....	2005
Hugh Marx.....	2006
Mike Rivkin.....	2007
Bill Van Wulven.....	2008
Larry Bottroff.....	2009
Gary Strawn.....	2010
Bob Fletcher.....	2011
Bill and Eileen Stroud.....	2012

Cut-off date for Januarys
Finnyfacts is Friday-
December 19th, 2014

Send articles to:
Alan Thompson

Thanks

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

Alan Reoch

Also, Visit our club's website today for new pictures, articles, and other useful information.

LIFE MEMBERS

Gordon Foster (in memoriam), Bill and 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 (in mem), 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 (in mem), Lloyd Jefferies (in mem), Doug Joseph, Gary Hilbers, Tom Smith, Bud Olsen

HONORARY MEMBERS

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler (in memoriam), Hugh Marx (in memoriam), Bob Fletcher, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood, Mike Rivkin, Bill Van Wulven, Larry Bottroff, Aubrey Wendling (in memoriam), Bob Berry

Recipients of the:

GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service to
the fly fishing community

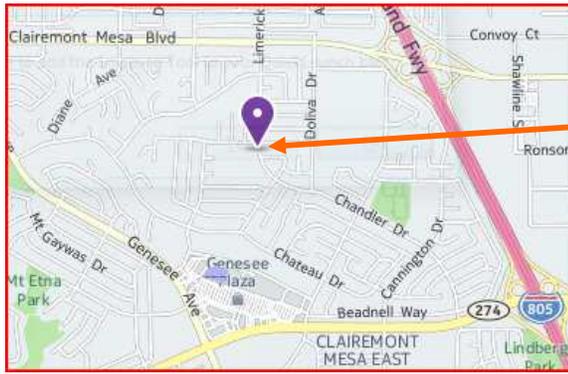
1991-Ned Sewell	2004-Joe Bain
1992-Bob Camp	2005-Jim Reeg
1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud	2006-John Kasten
1994-Ed Velton	2007-Lucky Ketcham
1995-Bob Wisner	2008-Louie Zimm
1996-Gary Hilbers	2009-Warren Lew
1997-Jack Bentley	2010- Paul Woolery
1998-Gordie Zimm	2011-Gary Strawn
1999-Gretchen Yearous	2012-Lee McElravy
2000-Tom Smith	2013-David Collins
2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki	
2002-Larry Sorensen	
2003-Jim Tenuto	

San Diego Fly Fishers
2014 Directors

- Jack Duncan- President
- Rod Building
- Alan Thompson Vice President
- Newsletter
- Bruce Harris Treasurer
- Bruce Michael Secretary
- Bob Blazer Refreshments
- Bruce Bechard Programs
- Don Davis FFF Southwest Council
- Video & Library
- Fred Gregory At-Large
- Jon Holland At-Large
- Lee McElravy Annual Fund Raiser
- Art Reifman Project Healing Waters
- Alan Reoch Membership
- Kurt Ruble Programs
- Gary Strawn Conservation
- Jim Tenuto At-Large
- Steve Vissers Media Coordination
- Lew Walsh Door Prizes
- Paul Woolery Travel

Other Chairpersons

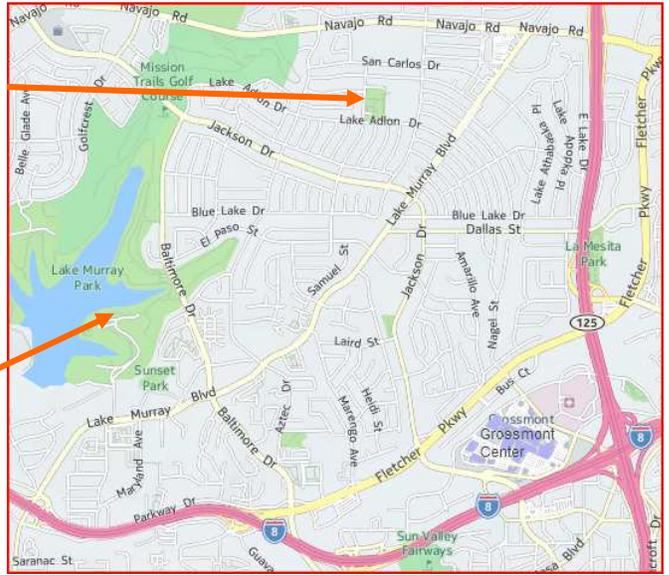
- Lee Anderson Fly Casting Clinic
- Lucky Ketcham Fly Tying Clinic
- David Collins Web Master



Monthly Meeting
 First Monday
 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 Sequoia Elementary
 School
 690 Limerick Ave.
 San Diego, CA 92117

Fly Tying Congress
 Thursdays 6:30-8:30

San Carlos Rec. Ctr.
 6445 Lake Badin Ave.
 San Diego, CA 92119



Fly Casting Clinic
 Every Sunday 9 to
 noon.

Lake Murray
 Kiowa Dr.
 San Diego, CA 92119

San Diego Fly Fishers
 10601-G Tierrasanta Blvd. #327
 San Diego, CA 92124



San Diego Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing

**Affiliate Club of the
 International
 Federation of Fly Fishers**

Since 1962