

# FINNY FACTS

Archive Version

November 2014

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

Volume 19 No. 10

November Speaker  
**William Somer**  
**Topic:** The Recovery Efforts for the Paiute Cutthroat.

## Our Brave Lads Will Go Forth and Battle Against Determined Foes at the 6th Annual SWCFFF Interclub Tournament



Leader Bruce Michaels was recently quoted as saying the battle cry will be “Victory or Death!”

There will be two teams of 5 competing on Saturday, November 8th against other teams from Southern California. Your club will underwrite the entry fee for both teams.

The contest will take place on the Kern River and is hosted by the IFFF (International Federation of Fly Fishers). (see Interclub Tournament page 7)

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Don't Forget  
**December's Meeting**  
Swap Meet, Raffle, Silent Auction  
We can use your donation  
See **Lew Walsh or Alan Thompson**

**William Somer** holds a BA in Aquatic Biology from University of California, Santa Barbara, and a MS in Fisheries Science from Humboldt State University. He worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife as a graduate student at the Cooperative Fisheries Research Unit, then for the Arcata Klamath River Project and the Trinity River Flow Study. He started with California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 1988 as a district biologist in the Sacramento Valley. He currently works on native trout restoration and wild trout management as a Senior Environmental Scientist on the Heritage and Wild Trout Project. **Mr. Somer** is a Certified Fisheries Professional recognized by the American Fisheries Society.



Mandatory team member attire

**Next Meeting**  
Monday, November 3, 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)  
**Don Davis**  
**Dan McKirnan**

Thank you, **Bob Blazer**

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** “*I object to fishing tournaments. Not so much for what they do to fish but what they do to fishermen.*”

Ted Williams (paraphrased)

This month's quote is by the greatest hitter of a baseball in history, not the **Ted Williams** who writes conservation articles for Fly Rod and Reel magazine. Williams the hitter, due to his incredible eyesight it is believed, also became one of the most accomplished fly fisherman in the world.

I've always agreed with Ted on the subject of fishing tournaments. Fishing competition just doesn't feel right to me, especially competitive fly fishing. But whether we know it or not, we probably all do it. Do we count fish for curiosity; or so we can fill in a catch report for the local Fish and Game; or do we do it to best our fishing companions; to let them know how much better we are? When you've caught a fish, and your boat mate has eight, how do you feel? How many times have you been asked by a buddy, "how many?" My standard answer to that question is "a few." Which, coming from me, can mean anywhere from one to 20 or more. I don't believe I ever said a few when I was getting skunked. I hope not anyway.

Now, after being a tournament critic my entire fly fishing life, I'm in one. Along with a dozen or so other members, organized by **Bruce Michael**, the Club has entered two teams of five anglers each to compete with the other member clubs of the **South West Council International Federation of Fly Fishers** in SWCIFFF's sixth annual fly fishing tournament on the **Kern River**. The grand prize, which we fully intend to win, is our name on a trophy. That's no reason for me (and perhaps others) to break a lifelong objection. So

why am I and the others doing it? The reasons are simply because the entry fees go to SWCIFFF to assist the organization with the many fly fishing causes it supports: a worthy cause. Also, and maybe a better reason, we'll get to meet fly fishers from all around Southern California. Sit around a campfire with new and old friends; smoke a cigar, drink some whiskey, and ask the questions: "How many did you get? What on?"

Speaking of Bruce Michael, if you attended October's meeting, you already know Bruce has taken on the biggest job of all. He, along with his co-chair **Bruce Bechard** ("**The Bruces**") are planning the 2015 Fundraiser. You'll be hearing much more about that in the future, but for now my personal and sincere thanks to The Bruces for stepping up.

And speaking of "stepping up" there have been many members of the Club who over the years have "stepped up." Some of them, like the aforementioned Bruces are still doing so. Some members both past and present have stepped up so often they seem irreplaceable. Will there ever be another **Ned Sewell**, willing to teach fly casting 52 Sundays a year for 20 plus years? Will we ever have another **Lucky Ketcham**, a learned, educated entomologist to teach us fly tying every Thursday; and write long, entertaining fishing journals for us to enjoy. And how about **Paul Woolery**, who will take on any job asked of him, no matter how difficult. There are many, many others who could be cited for their dedication and selflessness, but my purpose in citing the few above is to mention one.



Will we ever find another **Jack Bentle**, who organized, and executed 3-4 Club trips a year for many years (I can't remember how many). The Green, the San Juan, Lee's Ferry were regular stops, and there were others. Jack ran his trips like a military operation. If you attended you knew the cost, where to be, when, who you were fishing with, who your guide would be, and how much to tip. Moreover, Jack's trips were very well attended: sometimes as many as around 20 members joined up.

I know from long experience that organizing a fly fishing trip is very difficult. I've concluded that asking someone to replace Jack and become the Club's travel chairman is likely an exercise in futility. Paul does a great job with Bishop in February. I'd like to see the Club have at least one more annual trip, but for reasons previously cited, we can't ask Paul to do it. My conclusion is we need a *chairman for each trip*. We've had two excellent programs the past two meetings: **the Olympic Peninsula and Southern Utah**. Either of those destinations would make a great Club trip. Southern Utah is drivable and inexpensive. Let's start there.

Is there a member out there who will chair a trip to Southern Utah? **Step Up! #**



# Chollas Lake Plan: San Diego Fly Fishers Step-up to Improve the Quality of Fishing for the Youths of San Diego County



Many members of our club may be unaware of the Sunday morning program that Paul Wollery and other members who have been donating their time at Chollas Lake are doing to help kids. They provide lender rods for kids who want to fish and have set-up hula hoop targets in the lake so kids can practice their casting. There are even some small trinkets to award good casters. **This is a program that can use more volunteer help.**

Your club is giving back to the community and Chollas Lake is an important effort to bring kids into the fishing community.



-Submitted by Alan Thompson

**Chollas Park Lake** is a California Fishing spot. Chollas Lake is a small lake in the middle of the city of San Diego. It actually has a long history that begins in 1901 when the reservoir was created. It was used to supply water to the city until 1966 when it was turned into a park and later a youth fishing lake.



STAR/PAL Fishing

The San Diego Fly Fishers are involved in fostering an alternative activity for the youth of the inner city. We support the STAR/PAL organization by preparing over 350 fishing rods and reel on a Friday afternoon then giving direct support for the kids on Saturday morning. This activity has seen many club members participating on both days. There are other groups that have brought kids to the lake where members have provided support.

The most ambitious project that Paul and Gary Strawn are currently working on is improve the fishing quality of Chollas Lake. This will be accomplished by carefully placing bottom structures that provide a safe place for fish fry to flourish. Many agencies have signed-on to support this project and a few more have to give this project their blessing. There is a possibility that the first structures may be set within the next 12 to 18 months which may generate a call for volunteer help.

Location of Shed for lending rods



Map Of Chollas Lake Park

## Conservation

### Paiute Cutthroat Trout- An On-going Effort to Save an Endangered Species

Paiute cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii seleniris*), a federally designated threatened species, are native to 19 km of Silver King Creek, in the northern Sierra Nevada mountain range of California. Paiute cutthroat trout evolved in isolation from other fish species.

I U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and California Department of Fish and Game began a project to implement this recovery action beginning in 2001. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Revised Recovery Plan (2004) for the Paiute Cutthroat Trout identified the elimination of nonnative trout from historic habitat in



Introduced rainbow trout *O. mykiss* and Lahontan cutthroat trout (*O. c. henshawi*) hybridized and displaced pure Paiute cutthroat trout in their native range, leaving only transplanted isolated headwater tributary populations. Unauthorized plants of rainbow trout in headwater tributaries left Paiute cutthroat trout in only two small streams with a few hundred individuals.

The fish was originally listed as endangered in 1967 but reclassified as threatened in 1973 to facilitate management. Chemical treatments have been successful in eliminating introgressed trout from headwater tributary populations. Successful elimination of hybrid trout and the subsequent rebound of these Paiute cutthroat trout populations in headwater tributaries to serve as source populations have set the stage for restoration of Paiute cutthroat trout to their historic range in Silver King Creek.

Silver King Creek as the highest priority recovery action.

Environmental groups opposed to the project have sued over environmental compliance issues and the Regional Water Board at one time refused to provide needed permits. The use of rotenone has become controversial with groups concerned with treatment impacts to non-target organisms and opposed to use of pesticides.

Legal challenges were finally cleared in 2013 and a first year chemical treatment was conducted. A second year treatment was completed in 2014, and results indicate a third and final treatment will be done during 2015. Restocking of pure Paiute cutthroat trout from source populations back into the historic range of the fish will then follow in the long road to recovery.

### SDFP Conservation Update from Gary Strawn- Chair



The first weekend of October saw a small crew that hiked to Casa Vieja Meadow to take down the cattle exclusion fence that protects the meadow and allows the population of Golden Trout to flourish. For clarification, the fence is taken down due to the fierce winters at this altitude which would blow down the fence post and make the job of maintaining the fence difficult.

Due to the drought, they chose not to fish for the Golden Trout. Gary also reported that the South Fork of Kern River was bone dry at Kennedy Meadows along with Fish Creek. Luckily the water flow at the meadows looked good by comparison.

Locally, San Luis Rey River will be tested by our volunteer teams as part of the Southern California Steelhead Trout Project. We should all hope for a very wet winter this year for the sake of all local water sources.



# Activities

## Idaho Trip

Some members chose to join their friends at Mammoth Lakes last month while others chose to travel to Idaho. A group photo of Idaho fishermen appear below standing in front of one of the cabins that they stayed in. The stream was in front of their cabins. A closer examination of the photo indicates that to be successful fishers they must have at least one adult beverage in their hand, the winners wore hats, and full waders were required even though the stream was less than 18 inches deep. All kidding aside, this looks like a great time was had by all.

We are all looking forward to your stories and pictures to appear on the club's website at [sandiegoflyfishers.com](http://sandiegoflyfishers.com).

## Fishing Opportunities

*These trips are not club sponsored but listed for member information only.*

### **Puerto Penasco, Sonora, Mexico Aka Rocky Point**

Bob and I are firming up our plans for Rocky Point. Leaving November 13th very early to avoid arriving at the beach at sunset. Driving west on the long straight road to Puerto Penasco at sunset is not fun. We plan to stay and fish on November 18 leaving in the morning of the 19th. We are taking one truck with trailer. I am going to beach camp on a cot, no tent ...just like I did in college. We will depend on chipping in on the food bill and eating in local restaurants. Bringing minimal cooking equipment, Camp space is \$22 per night. We could have two vehicles if someone wants

to split the cost. You would need Mexican insurance for 7 days if you followed our plan. 13 to 19th. Passport. No Mexican fishing license is required for shore or float tube fishing. A great time will be had by all.

*Submitted by Lucky Ketcham from his Facebook page.*

### **The New Wednesday Group-**

There are various club members that will fish the local bays or beaches on Wednesday morning. Many will post their notices on the club forum and encourage anyone who wants to join them.



Idaho Group From Left, Paul Woolery, Lee McElravy, Bill Bacon, Larry Sorensen, Bob Stafford, Jon Holland, and Jon Hee.

# 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 1<sup>st</sup> LEFT on San Antonio Street  
Turn at 3<sup>rd</sup> Right on Qualtrough Street

( *Donation form at bottom of the page* )

Interclub Tournament  
Continued from page 1

Controllers are no longer needed, take a picture of your fish instead. **Each participant needs a camera.**

For those of you that want to brush up on your techniques on the Kern, **Guy Jeans** will be conducting a workshop Friday morning, November 7th, starting at 8 a.m There is no cost for this clinic but it's only being offered to participants in the tournament.

The Southwest Council has reserved The Kern Lodge and other hotels in the area securing a good rates for all of the rooms/cabins. They can accommodate anything from a single to 6 people in style. Contact Michael Schweit for rooms available.

We will be having the awards presentation/dinner at Kernville Golf Course Clubhouse, 9472 Burlando Rd., Kern-

ville on Saturday evening, starting at 6 pm. You can also participate in the Southern Sierra Youth Fundraiser Poker Night on Friday evening at the same golf course clubhouse . Buy-in is \$25.00. Clubs may send up to 2 teams.

*Editors Note, There is no requirement to wear a kilt for this tournament but if you are so inclined , I suggest using bug spray on **all** exposed areas.*



**Not Required**

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

## December's Meeting Raffle, Silent Auction, Swap Meet

This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Clean out your Closet" raffle that will be run by **Lew Walsh** with assistance from **Jack, Fred, Bruce Harris, Wayne, Alan and countless others.**

You can contribute items to the raffle. Please use the form at the bottom of page 7 when you submit your donation.

Here are a couple of rules for the Swap Meet :

**No Commercial Enterprises:  
Items for sale must be fishing related.**

We will accept cash, checks, and credit cards.



San Diego Fly Fishers have made a commitment to providing a fly fishing experience for service men and women who have become injured while in the service of our country. **Art Reifman** is the chair for this outstanding program and he could use your help. There is an extensive waiting list of potential clients at the San Diego VA Medical Center and he is expanding the series of hands-on activities by providing instruction for two groups starting in 2015. One class occurs during the day and a new class was added in the evening for those that work during the day. See Art or e-mail him for more details.



*Future Article in Finny Facts*

### **Fly-Fishing the Freshwaters of Florida from a Float Tube**

By Robert "Pegleg" Johnson



## 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 December's **Finnfacts** is Friday-  
November 14th, 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

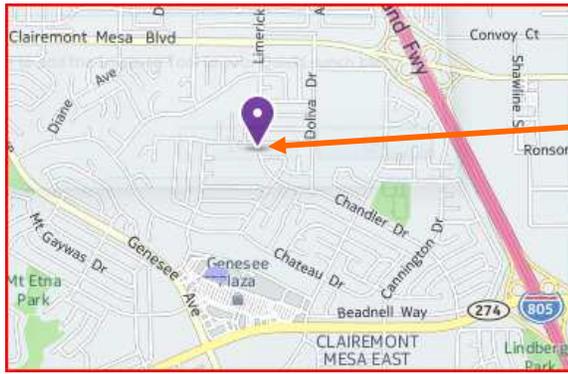
1991-Ned Sewell	2004-Joe Bain
1992-Bob Camp	2005-Jim Reeg
Bill & Eileen Stroud	1993-2006-John Kasten
1994-Ed Velton	2007-Lucky Ketcham
1995-Bob Wisner	2008-Louie Zimm
1996-Gary Hilbers	2009-Warren Lew
1997-Jack Bentley	2010-Paul Woolery
1998-Gordie Zimm	2011-Gary Strawn
1999-Gretchen Yearous	2012-Lee 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**

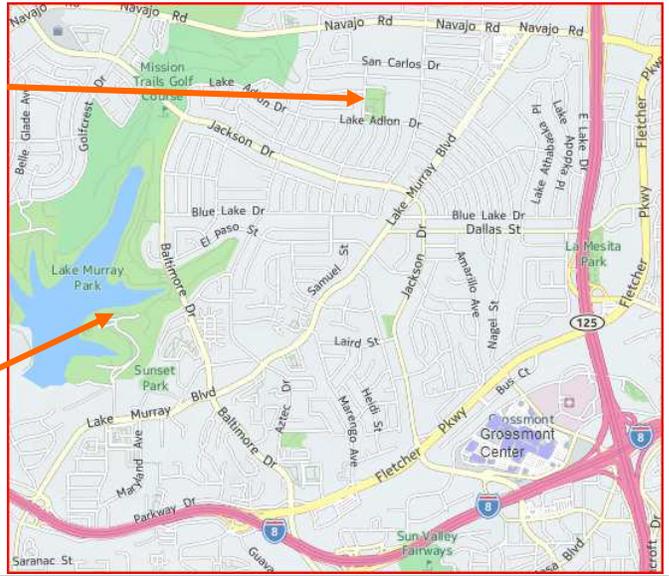
- Lee Anderson ..... Fly Casting Clinic
- Lucky Ketcham ..... Fly Tying Clinic
- David Collins ..... Web Master



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

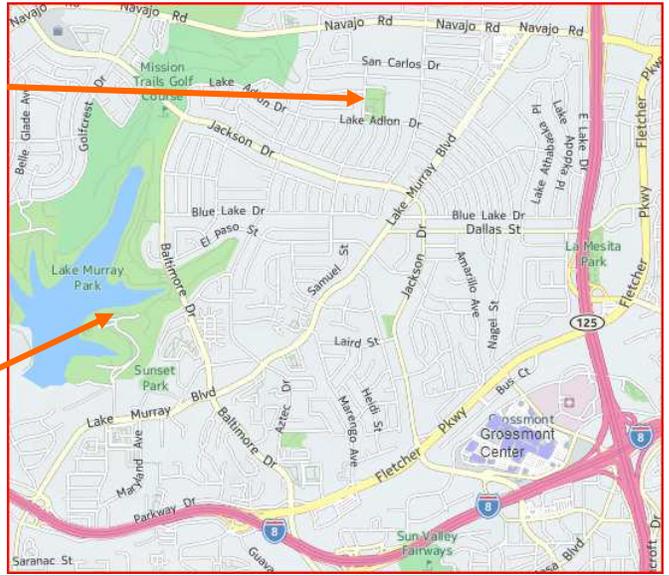
**Fly Tying Congress**  
 Thursdays 6:30-8:30

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