

# ON THE FLY

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE  
FLY FISHERS CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY  
OVER 50 YEARS OF SERVING OUR MEMBERS!



## SEPTEMBER 2023

### Inside This Issue

Auction, Auction, Auction! The Auction is September 6! See Page 4 for all the details!

FFCOC Casting Clinic - Public Event. September 16. Our Club main public outreach event! Opportunities to volunteer. See Pages 6-7 for the details.

Just Announced: President's Outing. October 13-15, Kern River. See Page 8 for details.

Note: The Bridgeport Outing, scheduled for the same weekend, will be postponed to 2024. See Page 25 for additional info and important reservation cancellation instructions.

Check the website Events Calendar and join in the activities of **YOUR** Club!!

### Newsletter Contents:

President's Message	Page 2
Speaker List	Page 3
<b>Club Auction</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
Club News	Page 6
Club Outings	Page 19
SWC-FFI News	Page 27
Conservation	Page 31
Fly Fishing Education	Page 33
Fly of the Month	Page 38
The End	Page 40

[www.fcoc.org](http://www.fcoc.org)



## President's Message

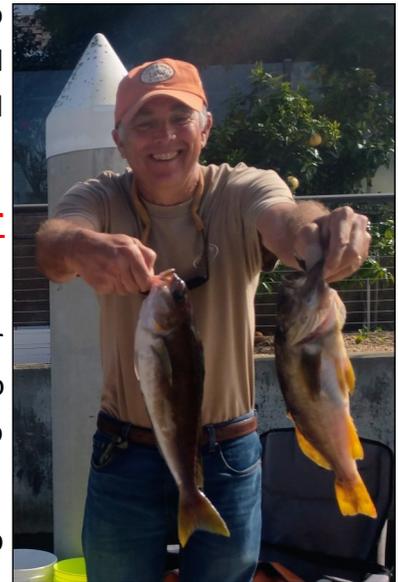
### President's Message by Brian Mayer

What an interesting month we have had in August. From heat to Tropical Storm and back to heat. Fortunately, the weather cooperated for our Annual Picnic. Thanks to Terry and Janna Roznos for a wonderful Picnic outing this year.

**Make sure you don't miss it! The Club Auction is September 6! Yes, it is the first week of September!**

We have many great items for the Auction this year. Check out our catalog online at: [2023 FFCOC Annual Auction](#). Tag items with "Stars" to make your shopping list. New items are still being added. Your login to the site and your bidder numbers remains the same as last year.

Would you like to help at the auction? We need runners, and help setting up. If you can help, please contact me at (562) 619-9169.



Do you want to do more for your Club? Would you like to help guide our Club's future? Consider volunteering for our Board of Directors. This club operates on volunteers. Everyone can make a small donation of their time and it will make our club much stronger and better able to serve you. All members of the Club are welcome to attend the monthly Board meeting via Zoom. Come see what your Board does. Meeting information and Zoom connection are available from the Club website – the link is at the bottom center of the Club's homepage.

As our Club has grown and more people are attending our monthly meetings, we are quickly outgrowing our meeting location. Our Venue Committee is hard at work trying to locate another appropriate location. If you know of a meeting location that you think we should check out, please contact myself or any member of the Board with your suggested site.

Best regards,

Brian Mayer  
President, 2023

## 2023 Speakers

### MONTHLY SPEAKER PROGRAM

January	Chris King	The Wonders of Northern California	01/11/23
February	Gary Bulla	Baja Adventures	02/08/23
March	Abram Tucker (CDFW)	Inland Trout Populations in our Local Mountains	03/08/23
April	Landon Mayer	Guide Flies for Tough Trout	04/12/23
May	Marlon Rampy	Oregon's Redband Trout Routes	05/10/23
June	George Daniel	A Fly Fisher's Evolution	06/14/23
July	Alex Cady	Local Warm Water On The Fly	07/12/23
August	Club Picnic	William Mason Regional Park (Irvine) (Shelter #1)	08/12/23

<b>September</b>	<b>Club Auction</b>	<b>Live - Santa Ana Elks Lodge</b>	<b>09/06/23</b>
------------------	---------------------	------------------------------------	-----------------



October	Kesley Gallagher	Trout - Chasing All the Species	10/11/23
November	Rick Ferrante	Horse Packing in the Sierra Nevada	11/08/23
December	TBA	TBA	12/13/23

## 2023 FFCOC Annual Auction - September 6



### It's Auction Time!!!

**Make sure you don't miss it! The Club Auction is September 6! Yes, it is the first week of September! We are returning to the Santa Ana Elks Lodge.**

All members and guests are welcome! Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the Silent Auction begins! The Live Auction will begin at approximately 7:15 p.m. You can bid on beautiful rods, fantastic reels, wonderful lodging deals, special guide trips, flies, supplies, art work, and much more!!

Location: Elks Lodge Santa Ana, Grand Ballroom  
1751 S Elk Lane, Santa Ana; (Street name was changed in 2022 from Lyon St. to Elk Lane)

Time: 6:00 – 9:30 pm  
6:00 pm Doors Open; Silent Auction Begins  
7:15 pm Live Auction Begins

Admission Fee: \$10

Legendary Elks Lodge Cash Bar and Prepared Appetizers Provided!

We have many great items for the Auction this year. A few are shown on the next page. Check out our catalog online at: [2023 FFCOC Annual Auction](#), or use the QR code on the next page. New items are still being added. Your login to the site and your bidder numbers remains the same as last year. Once you login at the Auction website, you can tag items with "Stars" to make your own shopping list. Very handy to quickly reach the items you are most interested in. Also, once logged in, go to "My Account" and make sure your credit card information is up to date. If you have not participated in the Auction recently, you should register at the Auction website. This will greatly speed up your checkout process for all the treasures you acquire!

New for Auction Night will be "Shopper Assistants", available to provide help and guidance to our newer fly fishers on items available to purchase. Just ask for an Assistant at the Check-In table.

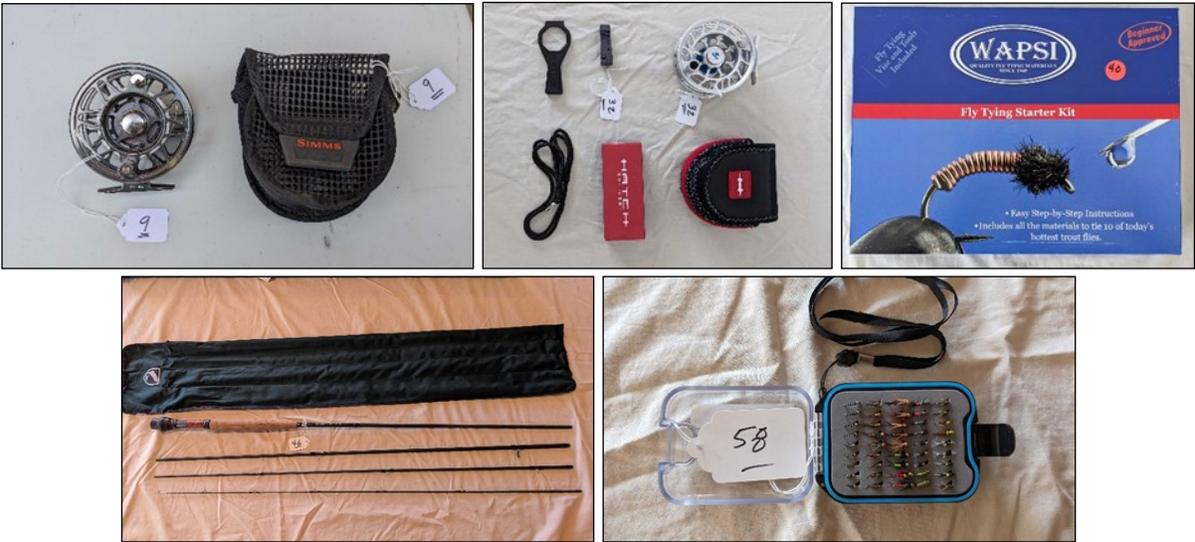
**Continued, next page →**

# 2023 FFCOC Annual Auction - September 6

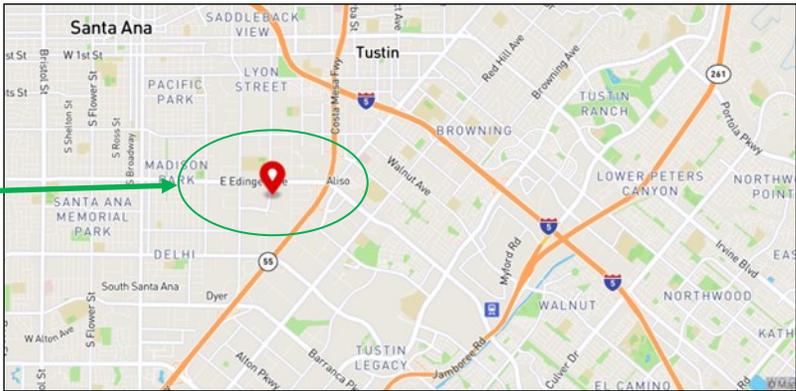
New items have been added to the Auction Catalog. Find your special item in this year's catalog. There are great deals just waiting for you.

Again, click here to view the Auction Catalog and/or to Register: [2023 FFCOC Annual Auction](#)

Or, use the QR code below!



**Elks Lodge Santa Ana**  
1751 S. Elk Lane  
Santa Ana, 92705  
(714) 547-7794  
[Santa Ana Elks Lodge](#)



# FFCOC Casting Clinic - Public Event

Registration is now OPEN

Our annual Casting Clinic event will be on **Saturday, September 16, 2023, 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM**, at William Mason Regional Park (Shelter 1) in Irvine. This is our Club main public outreach event to support and raise awareness of the sport of flyfishing! The public and Club members are welcome to join the event. The Casting Clinic is our most effective event to enroll new members into the Club. The Casting Clinic concludes with a **FREE BBQ** for all participants and volunteers.

Invite your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to join us this year. You must be registered to participate. Register using the Club Calendar Event Link:

[Casting in the Park - Free to Public - Club Calendar - Fly Fishers Club of Orange County](#)

Event Coordinator: Ken Lindt, [castingclinic@ffcoc.org](mailto:castingclinic@ffcoc.org)

## Free Public Fly Casting Clinic

Sponsor: Fly Fishers Club of Orange County

Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023 - Mason Regional Park, Irvine

Did you ever have an interest in flyfishing...but there never was an opportunity to try it? Or maybe you're just starting your fly fishing journey and need of some serious casting instruction? **This is your free ticket to learning the sport!** We have recruited the top male and female casting instructors from Orange County and Long Beach. Bring your own rod or use one of our club rods kindly gifted to us by a major rod manufacturer. The **clinic is open to anyone** interested! **You just have to register in advance.** Learn all the essentials about the equipment, casting techniques and fishing. The event concludes with a **Free BBQ lunch starting at noon**...and maybe a fish story or two.



Space is limited. Secure your spot. Register **NOW!!** (see below)



Wm R Mason Regional Park  
18712 University Dr., Irvine, 92612



**When: Saturday, September 16**  
8:00am to 1:00pm  
**Where: Wm R Mason Regional Park**  
**At Shelter 1**

Park Entrance on University Dr. Pass thru entry gate. Turn right. Look for parking lot w/ our banner

**Cost: Free Public Casting Clinic.**  
\$5 Parking Fee; charged at Park Entry.  
The Casting Clinic concludes with a BBQ lunch and talks by some experts. All participants are welcome!



For Registration go to the Website Calendar and register.  
Questions contact: Ken Lindt [castingclinic@ffcoc.org](mailto:castingclinic@ffcoc.org)



## FFCOC Casting Clinic - Public Event

### Call for Volunteers!

Our Club Annual Casting Clinic will be Saturday, September 16, at William Mason Regional Park in Irvine. The event starting time is 8:00 AM. The event concludes at 1:00 PM, with final cleanup completed by 2:00 PM.

Volunteers are needed to ensure a successful event. As in previous years, volunteers will be needed for:

- 7:00 am event setup/breakdown (equipment transported to/from storage locker)
- 8:00 am guest registration
- Rod setup/breakdown, casting area setup/breakdown, assist casting instructors
- Fly-fishing equipment show/tell
- Fly tying show/tell
- BBQ lunch area setup/breakdown
- And of course, our food preparation and serving team.

There are opportunities for **ALL** volunteers!!

Please provide a positive reply to this email if you are available to volunteer this year. Also, please let me know if you have a preference on a specific task you would like to assist with. "No Preference" works also!

We're off to a good start on participant registrations this year, we have room for more!! Please invite your family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to join us this year. With your help, we are confident we will get a superb turnout and broaden the appeal of fly fishing.

You must be registered to participate. Have your contacts register using the Club Calendar Event Link:

[Casting in the Park - Free to Public - Club Calendar - Fly Fishers Club of Orange County](#)

Event Coordinator: Ken Lindt, [castingclinic@ffcoc.org](mailto:castingclinic@ffcoc.org)



Mason Regional Park

## 2023 Club News - Upcoming Events - Just Added!!

### President's Outing 2023



**Dates: October 13 - 15**

**Location: Kern River  
Sequoia Lodge (Kernville)**

This year's outing will be October 13 to 15 at the Sequoia Lodge in Kernville.

This outing is a social outing for anyone interested in catching up with friends and maybe catching a Kern River Rainbow. The center of activities will be at the Sequoia Lodge, 16123 Sierra Way in Kernville.

You will need to make your room reservations directly with the Sequoia Lodge at: (760) 376-2535. Rooms will go quickly, so book right away. There are also many other choices for lodging including campgrounds in the area.

Food:

We will organize pizza for Friday night and hold our annual pot-luck dinner on Saturday night. You are responsible for the remainder of your meals.

Once you have made your reservations or plans to attend, please go to the Club Calendar and register for the event. This is important so we know how many people will be attending and how much food to bring.

Details and Registration at:

[President's Outing 2023 - Club Calendar - Fly Fishers Club of Orange County \(clubexpress.com\)](https://clubexpress.com/President's-Outing-2023-Club-Calendar-Fly-Fishers-Club-of-Orange-County)

Brian D. Mayer

President 2023

[president@ffcoc.org](mailto:president@ffcoc.org)

**Please Note:** As the President's Outing is scheduled on the same weekend of the Bridgeport Outing, the Bridgeport Outing is now cancelled (postponed to 2024) to allow full member participation in the President's Outing. See the Bridgeport Outing page in your newsletter for further information.

### FREE FLY FISHING CLASSES

#### 2023 FFCOC On The River Classes and Clinic (aka Fly Fishing 101)



#### Save the Dates:

##### Classroom Session

- Saturday November 4th, 8am -2pm
- Location to be determined

##### On The River Clinic

- December 2 or January 6. These dates are tentative and may be changed or cancelled based on river conditions.
- 2022 participants please see note at end of article.

The Fly Fishing Club of Orange County's (FFCOC's) On The River Classes and Clinic program is in it's eighth year. It is a perfect way for new, and less-experienced, fly fishers to learn the art of fly fishing. The program which is open to Club Members introduces participants to the fundamentals of fly fishing including the

equipment, techniques and science of catching fish. The program is a great introduction to a sport you can enjoy for the rest of your life.

Joe Libeu, a member of the FFCOC, is a Fly Fishers International Certified Master Caster Instructor and professional guide. He developed and instructs Advanced Nymphing Clinics on the Owens River. Several experienced club members assist Joe providing hands-on training during the On The River Clinic.



The program includes everything needed to plan and prepare for a successful fly-fishing trip. Classroom training subjects include equipment, insect life cycles and how flies imitate them, how trout behave, clues as to what fish eat, stream care and etiquette, reading the water, nymph rigging and much more.



The On The River Clinic is held on the Lower Owens River near Bishop. Many of the items discussed in the classroom setting are covered in the field. In addition, the on the river clinic includes reading the stream, entomology, casting, mending, setting depth of flies using indicators, and numerous demonstrations. The program includes fishing one-on-one with one of the more experienced club members.

Continued, next page →

## Club News - On The River Clinic (Con't)

### 2023 FFCOC On The River Classes and Clinic (Con't)

The On The River Classes and Clinic program is focused on helping new FFCOC members learn the basics of fly fishing and will be in follow up to our annual Casting Clinic scheduled for Saturday September 17th. Participation in the On The River Classes and Clinic program is limited. New Club Members and those who sign up at the September Casting Clinic will be given preference. Other Club members are welcome to participate if space allows.

Remember, the On The River Classes and Clinic program is only open to FFCOC members. If you are not a Club member you can join at our web site [www.ffcoc.org](http://www.ffcoc.org) or contact the Club's Membership Chair at [membership@ffcoc.org](mailto:membership@ffcoc.org).

#### REGISTRATION

Registration will open in mid-August. The date registration is scheduled to open will be announced in the Club Newsletter and on the website.

#### CLUB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are an accomplished fly fisher and know the Lower Owens River, you would be a great candidate to work with Joe and provide instruction at the On The River Classes and Clinic program. Please contact Doug Jones if you can help. We will need eight to ten members to help with the training.

#### SPECIAL NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE 2022 CLASSROOM SESSIONS

As you know we did not have an outing for the 2022 session due to river conditions. If you completed the classroom sessions you are welcome to join us on the outings for the 2023 sessions. Also, you may consider attending the classroom session as a refresher.

### Trip Report Yellowstone National Park Outing Aug 6, 2023

Six club members spend a great week fishing in the northeast corner of Yellowstone. Global warming has clearly changed the weather in the Park. Instead of the historical pattern of hot, sunny days with “hopper” winds in the afternoon and good steady stream flows, we had to dance around rainstorms, clouds, and cold mornings. Most of the snow on the peaks was gone! The winter had been generous with about 130% of normal snow levels in April. But warm rains started in May and have been melting the upper level snow since then. The



Lamar River set a record for low flow and high temperatures. All the rivers were lower than normal. Their banks were unstable after two years of heavy spring and summer flooding. This meant that rivers often “muddied up” without warning after a weak bank collapsed into the water upstream. This was not the weather I’ve known in August for the last 50+ years of fishing the area. Fortunately, the diversity of the park allowed us to find fishable water and catch nice fish every day.

#### DAY ONE:



We started the outing with a float trip on the Yellowstone River at Gardiner. Rain and muddy flows were a challenge. The guide started three days ahead of time communicating rapidly changing plans. It was Off/On several times until a last minute clearing of the river occurred and we put in at the Gardiner airport. We floated 10 miles to the Slide and Slide creek. Most of us wore waders to stay warm in the intermittent rainstorms.

We had nice hopper-dropper action from the rafts, and everyone caught several fish. Streamers were not effective. Most of the fish were tricked by some form of a hopper, such as water-walkers, chubby Chernobyl’s, or gray Dave’s Hopper. Only a few fish fell to the perdigons floating below. Big patterns were necessary in the off-color water. The guides did an excellent job of managing the boats and teaching some of the finer points of casting from a boat. At least one of us got a “Yellowstone Grand Slam” by catching a mountain whitefish, a rainbow, a brown and a cutthroat.

#### DAY TWO:

Our guides took us bushwhacking, with a 2-mile hike down a 400-foot mountain to a pristine bend of the Yellowstone River. We appreciated the continued cool and cloudy weather; it made the hiking

Continued, next page →

## Club News - Yellowstone National Park (Con't)

much easier. Halfway into the hike we became more attentive after finding fresh wolf tracks and the smell of a Bobcat. At the river we found large, sweeping currents that held 18" – 24" Yellowstone Cutthroats. We used hopper-dropper arrangements again. The "Cutties" took most well presented flies on the surface, but making a good presentation was difficult with the currents. We enjoyed watching hordes of tourists across the 60' wide river. They had walked down the trail from Tower General store and were surprised to see us fishing and wondered how we got there.



These fish could swim! Since they live in the big currents, they were well-muscled. Doug Jones hooked onto one of these large fish early. He fought hard as it took him to his backing, but the fish broke off when it reached the big currents. When I hooked a similarly sized fish a few minutes later, I was determined not to let it reach the main flow, but I lost it by pulling too hard and it broke off! As the sun began to slip behind Prospect Peak, we hiked out thinking about the big bruisers that we saw down there but didn't catch.

### DAY THREE:

The weather warmed and wet-wading became the norm. We started the day wading the Lamar River below the canyon. It was quickly obvious that the river was too muddy to fish. So, we moved up the valley to Soda Butte Creek. As we approached the confluence, two grizzly bears enjoying Midsummer berries caused a long traffic jam. So it goes, fishing in the Park; you never know how long it will take to drive to a good fishing spot.

In the shallow water, we found good fishing for 16"-20" cutthroats, which probably had moved up from the muddy Lamar River. A large herd of bison blocked our way upstream, and the grizzlies blocked us from moving down. So, we fished a half-mile stretch of the stream.

Hopper-dropper again worked well. Surprisingly, large hoppers were effective. Everyone hooked into good fish until the Soda Butte began to muddy up in the late afternoon – another collapsed bank upstream.

### DAY FOUR:

We took full advantage of guide access to reach seldom fished water by wading in the canyon of the

**Continued, next page →**

## Club News - Yellowstone National Park (Con't)

lower Gardner River. The guides had permission to take us directly into the area that flooded last year. We went behind a gate that has been locked since June 2022, and we drove down to the picnic area at the 45th Parallel. We walked to the end where the road was washed out. This river is quintessential pocket water with browns, rainbows, and occasional cutthroats. The guides did a wonderful job instructing how to fish pocket water and pointing out exceptional pools. It was a beautiful sunny day with lots of good fish, lots of river, and no other anglers.



Hopper-dropper continued to be the setup of choice. However, after lunch many of us switched to an ant as the top fly and saw improved action. The beauty of the canyon is hard to express. The river is strong and wild, wolf-killed carcasses and waterfowl greet you at most turns. I am constantly incredulous that large fish can inhabit such small water.

### DAY FIVE:

The morning started cold with clear blue skies. We should have had an extra cup of coffee! Wading on our own at the upper Gardner River, a river famous for brook trout, we started at Sheepeater Cliffs and moved upstream. The normally eager fish were reluctant to hit until about 10 o'clock when the sun began warming the water. It was a beautiful setting, the canyon near Sheepeater was alive with sparkling sun rays, and later the upstream meadow was expansive, quiet, and invited walking.



Hopper-dropper was the setup all day. The smaller river required smaller hoppers and most of the hits were on the dries. Some of the pockets were so full of fish that we could pull multiple brookies from the same spot. I think the record was five fish from the same pocket. We covered a lot of ground with six anglers leapfrogging each other. In all, we walked 9 miles, fortunately all of it flat.

### DAY SIX:

We saved the best for last, Slough Creek! Upon arriving at the first meadow, as we were selecting our entry point, a herd of bison began running at full speed away from the wooded mountain slope we had just crossed. This slope is known to host grizzlies, wolves, and cats. We couldn't see the predator that had scared the herd, but everyone put a hand on his bear spray for assurance, and then we bushwhacked the last half mile to the creek. We selected a 180° bend about 40' wide. The outside was

Continued, next page →

## Club News - Yellowstone National Park (Con't)

deep with 8 or 10 rising cutthroats. Clarity was not great, but enough to see the fish. The tall grass and moving wind suggested hopper-dropper again as the best setup.

These large cutthroats were very picky and tough to catch. Greg Cooke finally got hold of a large Cuttie and brought him to the sandy beach quickly. We covered about 5 miles looking for fish. The low creek level forced the fish to seek cooler temps in deep pools. Everyone found rising fish and had a tremendous number of refusals, which kept fish counts at single digits. As the day was ending, I slipped climbing down a steep bank and broke my wrist and rod tip. Art Garza, a retired fireman paramedic, did a great job splinting me up until I could get treatment in Bozeman. Both the rod and wrist are on the mend and will be back on the water in 4 weeks.

Overall, despite weather and flow challenges, we were able to experience some of the best that Yellowstone back country has to offer. We didn't find as many fish as I expected, but those we found were healthy and beautiful. The Yellowstone combination of scale, wildlife, thermal features, ruggedness, and habitat provides an unparalleled fishing experience that creates memories of wonderful, exciting adventure.

## FFCOC Club Picnic

The FFCOC had another successful, and fun filled picnic on Saturday August 12 at William Mason Regional Park in Irvine. This was our first use of Mason Park for the picnic and it worked out great. We had plenty of room, and plenty of parking! Our third annual picnic was well attended with about 35 members and guests who came out enjoy a lunch of Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Corn on the Cob, Legendary Jim Edwards' Beans, Chips, Cut Melon, Brownies, and Cookies. A special thank you to Rosie Beck for bringing baked goods (can't have enough desserts!) and especially her creative and delicious trout cookies! The Casting Challenge, created by Young Kwon, tested the casting talents of Club members and guests with a course of 3 casting challenges. Young, being a good FFI Certified Casting Instructor, created challenges that were applicable to real casting scenarios out on the river, and were of equal challenge to novice and experienced casters. Prizes were awarded for the top two scores for their superior casting skills; our casting winners were John Williams and Bill Sidenfaden. The ticket drawing from all of our attendees was awarded to Jim Moore.

Thank you to all of our attendees; and to those who helped with picnic shelter setup and cleanup, grilling, the "bean master", buffet line setup, and the casting challenge. Let the pictures tell some of the story...



Mason Regional Park

## Club News - Fish Tales

### Rockfish Outing with Captain Kramer

#### A Fish Tale by: Terry Roznos

On Wednesday, August 23rd, Brian Mayer and I met our Captain, Eric Kramer, at his home in Oxnard at 0700. We promptly loaded up and boarded his Parker Sport Cabin for a day of ocean sportfishing targeting rockfish and whitefish.

This trip was an 2022 FFCOC auction item which Eric graciously donates to the Club every year. Eric provides the fishing gear, bait, fish cleaning, bagging, and expert guide service! We pay for the fuel used for the day. This trip is Item #116 in the 2023 FFCOC Auction if you wish to bid on Captain Kramer's next trip.

With blue skies and (initially) light winds, armed with at least a dozen "hot spots" to fish, we left Channel Island Harbor for the Channel Islands for our ocean fishing day trip Captain Eric Kramer. After about an hour cruise we fished the "between islands" area of the Channel Islands; between Anacapa and Santa Cruz islands.

We fished all day at this location with many stops; GPS markers and some prospecting. By end of day, we had limits of rockfish and whitefish on board. Besides our targeted fish, we also landed some mackerel (which we used for bait), a sculpin, and a ling cod (too small to keep).



With our limits on board, we headed back to the harbor at about 2 pm. The wind and swell were a little higher on our return leg. Slow and steady we went, arriving back to the dock at about 3:30.

All in all, a great day out on the Pacific Ocean. After our return to the Harbor, we were treated to wine with snacks on the backyard patio by our gracious hosts; Ellen and Eric Kramer. Our catch was filleted, bagged, and packed on ice by Eric for our return travels home. Looking forward to our grilled tacos! What an wonderful day it was; thank you Eric and Ellen Kramer!!



## Club News - Fish Tales

### Catalina Island Fly Fishing A Fish Tale by: Tom Niedzialek

Last Thursday after the rain passed through Southern California, my brother Dave and I went to Catalina Island with Vaughn Podmore of the Salty Fly Guide service. We had the type of fly fishing trip that you pray for before going to bed, dream about all night while sleeping, and hope for when you wake up. From the first cast in the morning to the last one in the afternoon it was a wide open, nonstop fish catching adventure. As the “old timers” used to say when I was a youngster, “The fish were eating the paint off the boat”. The only time we changed fishing locations was when as the wind grew stronger throughout the day, we had to seek shelter in a protected cove or the seals became such a nuisance that we had to move. But everywhere we dropped anchor the fish were eager to inhale a fly. For both of us it was a 50 plus fish day with calico bass to 4lbs, schools of 5 lb. bonita and barracuda. I was even lucky enough to catch and land a 10 lb. yellowtail on my 9 wgt. If you have never tried local saltwater fly fishing I encourage you to give it a chance. In two hours time from your front door you can be on the fishing grounds and I am sure you will find it to be an exciting adventure.



## Club News - Fish Tales (Con't)

### Wanted! Your Fish Tales!!

Have you been fishing lately?? Please share your story with our membership! Our readers enjoy reading about your fishing exploits!!

You don't always get to share your full stories at our monthly meetings. The Newsletter provides a great forum to share your stories!

Your tales don't need to be novels, or even short stories. A paragraph or two would suffice. Photos are great (as the old saying goes, "they are worth a thousand words")! Don't worry about the formatting or arranging. Just send what you've got! Your newsletter staff will handle the polishing!! Your Fish Tales are always greatly appreciated!

Please send your Fish Tale submittals to your 2023 Newsletter Editor, Terry Roznos at:

[taronos@verizon.net](mailto:taronos@verizon.net)

Thank you!

### Newsletter

Newsletter inputs for the next (October) edition are due to the 2023 Editor by **Wednesday, September 27**, to meet publication deadlines. All submittals are gratefully accepted; Board Member announcements, Club News, Fish Tales, Fly of the Month, Outing Streamkeepers, or just general commentary from you (our readers)! Please send your inputs or suggestions to the 2023 Editor, Terry Roznos, at the email address provided. Thank you!! [taronos@verizon.net](mailto:taronos@verizon.net)

## 2023 Club Outings

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Streamkeeper</b>
February 11	Women's On The River Outing (Classroom Session) Long Beach Casting Club (Clubhouse)	Kathy Kim
February 18-19 (Cancelled)	Lower Owens (Mentor Outing)	Doug Jones
February 25-26 (Cancelled)	Lower Owens (Women's On The River Outing)	Kathy Kim
March 12-14	Pyramid Lake (Nevada)	Paul Nakamura
March 18-19 (Cancelled)	Lower Owens (Mentor Outing)	Doug Jones
March 26-29	San Juan River (New Mexico)	Brian Mayer
April 13 (Cancelled)	Lake Henshaw Carp Throwdown	Mike Peters
TBA (May/June) (Cancelled)	Lee's Ferry (Arizona)	Melinda Burns
July 14-17	Hot Creek Ranch	John Williams
August 6-13	Yellowstone National Park (Montana/Wyoming)	Larry Behm
August 12	Club Picnic - William Mason Regional Park (Irvine)	Terry Roznos
September 25-29	Loa (Utah)	John Williams
<a href="#">October 13-15</a>	<a href="#">President's Outing/Kern River</a>	<a href="#">Brian Mayer</a>
October 13-17 <a href="#">(Postponed to 2024)</a>	Bridgeport	Terry Roznos
November 4	On The River Training (Classroom Session) - Location TBD	Doug Jones
December 2-3 or January 6-7 (Tentative Dates)	On The River Training (Lower Owens)	Doug Jones

**[Streamkeeper Contact Info \(email and phone numbers\) may be found in the Club Directory on the FFCOC Website.](#)**

## 2024 Club Outings - In Work

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Streamkeeper</b>
December 2-3 or January 6-7 (Tentative Dates)	On The River Training (Lower Owens)	Doug Jones
March 10-12	Pyramid Lake (Nevada) Primary Guide: Joe Contaldi	Paul Nakamura
April 14-17	San Juan River (New Mexico)	Brian Mayer
July 12-15	Hot Creek Ranch	Don Tayenaka

**Streamkeeper Contact Info (email and phone numbers) may be found in the Club Directory on the FFCOC Website.**

## 2023 Outings - Fly Fishing Southern Utah

Trip Full

# Fly Fishing Southern Utah

Trip Full

**September 25-29, 2023**

Stream Keeper John Williams 951-236-0862



The area of Southern Utah we are going has four mountains that surround it and has numerous lakes and streams.

I have fished the area in the spring, summer, and fall; I have found the most productive time is in the fall

Continued, next page →

## 2023 Outings - Fly Fishing Southern Utah (Con't)

### Where We Are Going:

**Loa Utah** Home of the **Quiet Fly Fisher** and is located in a beautiful valley at 7064" elevation, which hosts a few small towns like Loa, Lyman, Bicknell and Torrey. This is farming and livestock country and is surrounded by mountain ranges of which we will be fishing. There are National Parks near by that offer spectacular scenery, Bryce Canyon to the South West and Capitol Reef to the East, Fish Lake National Forest to the North West along with Boulder Mountain with an elevation of 11,317 which provides many fishing locations, and spectacular views.

### Guide Contact Information:

Our head guide in **Loa, Utah** is **Mike James** owner of the **Quiet Fly Fisher** their address is 200 N. Main Street Loa, Utah 84747 Contact Phone Number is 435-616-2319.

### Weather & Clothing:

We will be lodging at approx. 7,000' elevation. Nights are cold and days are warm usually, I have experienced rain, snow, hail, and hot and cold days. Bring clothing you can put on in layers that wick moisture, nothing more uncomfortable than moisture under your clothing, which either keeps you hot and sweaty or cold and sweaty. Bring a lightweight rain jacket. Most days you will be wearing your waders but on hot day I wet wade with light shirt nylon pants and my wading boots on, don't forget the neoprene booties if wet wading. Be flexible, bring both cold and warm weather gear and adjust as needed. Weather at high altitude can change rapidly be prepared. The weather will not stop your guide from fishing unless it is dangerous and or access is limited. They will advise if there is a problem. Mother nature sets the parameters we must always be aware of our surroundings and climate.

### Lodging:

There are many options in the region of Loa, Utah both in town and adjoining hamlets like Lyman and Bicknell. I would suggest The Mill Cabins 1500 S. HWY 24 Lyman, Utah (435) 491-0426 as a wonderful place with individual cabins that can sleep two and are very reasonably priced, **Bruce & Dana Chappell** are the owners. In Loa the Snuggle Inn is pricy but luxurious by small town standards. In Bicknell the SunGlow Motel and Restaurant is comfortable and reasonably priced. Lodging in these areas can be limited so make your lodging reservation early; I do not take responsibility for making anyone's lodging reservations due to last minute cancelations and family emergencies. I recommend you book you're lodging early, as lodging will be harder to find closer to the trip dates. Many travelers hit the road after school is in session and before winter.

### Physical Demands:

Where we are lodging at 6500' to 7,000' elevation we can be fishing and hiking at as high as 11,000'. If you have problems at altitude let the guide and streamkeeper know in advance of our trip. Most fishing locations involve some hiking and wading. I would suggest arriving a couple of days early to acclimate to 7,000' not hiking hard and drinking plenty of water, it easy to dehydrate in higher elevations, the guide has water and soft drinks along in their vehicles so ask for the water.

### Gear:

**Rods & Lines.** The entire trip can be done with a 9-foot 5-weight rod and a floating line and a sinking line, one rod is all you need.

**Waders.** Good pair of breathable waders is required in most situations.

**Boots.** Wading boots are part of the package. No restrictions on felt as yet.

Continued, next page →

## 2023 Outings - Fly Fishing Southern Utah (Con't)

**Wading Staff.** Many of us find having a wading staff necessary for stability in slippery or rocky situations, or just find a long stick, don't fall, the rocks are unforgiving.

**Terminal Tackle.** I use a 9 foot 5x leader and have along 2,3,4,5,6x tippet. I as well bring an assortment of lead free shot to use as needed if nymphing.

**Flies.** We will be fishing many lakes and a few streams and possibly a couple of rivers. I carry dries, nymphs and streamers but the guide will provide you with flies. If the guide suggests a fly or gives you a fly use it with the full understanding you will catch fish, they are quite experienced on these waters. If you are like me I bring many more flies than I will ever use. I have hoppers, caddis, mayflies, and damselflies in adult and nymph stages. I find a callibaetis mayfly nymph very useful in the lakes. Bring what you own and the fly shop offers all the working patterns you will be using if you want to purchase some.

**First Aid Kit:** I carry a basic first aid kit in my tote bag for simple emergencies, minor cuts and abrasions.

### Transportation:

From L.A. Southern California is a 9 1/2-hour drive including gas stops and a lunch stop to Loa, Utah. Sharing a ride is more fun to get to know you friend or partner better and listen to each other experiences along the way. When in Loa the guides provide the transportation to and from the days fishing locations. Salt Lake City is approximately 3 hours away from Loa and is serviced by many airlines and rental car companies.

### Float Tubing:

There will be opportunities to float tube in the area if you so desire. **The Quiet Fly Fisher** in Loa can provide you with a float tube if they are guiding you. If you wish the comfort of your own float tube please feel free to bring yours.

### Food:

In Utah many of their dinning locations close on Sunday, it is best to call ahead or ask you guide where and what is open, most areas have a couple options on Sunday but it is best to inquire. Guides provide lunch during the days guiding. Many of us BBQ at the Mill Cabins for dinner, to curb the costs of eating out every meal, the grocery in the town of Loa is open Mon.- Sat. Breakfast is your choice of eating at a local restaurant or at your lodging, the guide provides lunch the days you are fishing.

### Libations:

You are responsible for any liquor you wish to purchase either bought from the local Liquor store in Bicknell or for beer (3.2) in some of the gas stations, or bring from home. BYOB.

### Costs and Payment:

The guide requires a [Non-refundable](#) \$200 deposit to secure your reservation and the final payment is due upon completion of your final day.

Continued, next page →

## 2023 Outings - Fly Fishing Southern Utah (Con't)

### **Tipping:**

It is customary to tip the guide daily; I tip \$50 per day of guiding at the end of the day. Tipping is not based on your ability or the number of fish caught, but for good service and the ability of the guide to lead you doing everything in their ability to make the experience enjoyable. Fish are a bonus. I have negotiated quite reasonable rates for the group of six and feel a percentage tip is quite unfair to the guide considering the extreme road conditions, locations and wear and tear on their vehicles. These extreme road conditions keep most of your competition for fish away.

### **Fishing License:**

Utah state fishing license can be obtained on line prior to your trip, which is the easiest. Licenses can be purchased in Loa at the local store Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Yearly licenses last from the date you purchase them for a complete calendar year.

### **Emergency Services:**

Bicknell near Lyman has a clinic available for minor emergencies.

**A deposit of \$200 Non Refundable is sent to John Williams to hold your spot and sent then forwarded to the guide. The total cost of the trip is \$1,250 for five days of guiding. The staff of The Quiet Fly Fisher of Loa Utah will guide us.**

**John Williams Cell 951-236-0862 Streamkeeper**

## 2023 Outings - Bridgeport

**Postponed to  
2024!**

### **FFCOC Bridgeport Outing 2023**

October 13 - 17

**Postponed to  
2024!**

**With regrets, the 2023 FFCOC Bridgeport Outing is cancelled and postponed to a TBD date in 2024.**

The FFCOC President's Outing to the Kern River is scheduled for the same weekend. To allow for full member participation in the President's Outing, the conflicting Bridgeport Outing will be rescheduled to a future date in 2024.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

- For those who have confirmed reservations at the Willow Springs Motel and RV Park, there is a 21-day cancellation policy for full refund of your deposit. Last day to cancel for a full refund is September 26.
- Reservation cancellation is subject to a \$25 cancellation fee. If you are assessed a cancellation fee, contact the Streamkeeper for reimbursement instructions.
- Terry and Janna will be on their homeward bound leg of their 7-week travel trailer fishing adventure. They will still be stopping in Bridgeport as scheduled (Oct 13-17); you are more than welcome to join us.

Questions? Please call your Streamkeeper. It is urgent that you cancel your reservations by September 26 for a full refund of your deposit if you do not plan to be in Bridgeport!

#### **Streamkeeper Contact Info:**

Terry Roznos  
(562) 322-4790 (cell)  
[tarnoznos@verizon.net](mailto:tarnoznos@verizon.net)

## 2024 Outings - Pyramid Lake (Nevada)

### Pyramid Lake Ladder Fly Fishing W/Joe Contaldi & Pyramid Lake Angler's Guide Service March 10-March 12, 2024



### *Come Out & Experience a Truly Unique Adventure!!!*

**Dates** - Fishing 3 full days, March 10 – March 12, Sunday - Tuesday. Arrive Saturday March 9, depart Wednesday March 13.

**Guide Assistance** - Provided by Joe Contaldi and guides from Pyramid Lake Angler's Guide Service: [Pyramid Lake Anglers](#) Phone: 760-965-6527

**Cost** - \$ 250/Day/Angler with 2 guides + a separate cook. If we have 12 anglers there will be 3 guides. This includes hot breakfast and lunch, plus drinks.

**Lodging Plans** - Hotel in Sparks, NV – Western Village Inn & Casino, 800-648-1170. We won't book enough rooms to secure a block of rooms. Please call them directly ASAP, to get best prices. Option, stay at Pyramid Lodge in Sutcliffe, NV, 775-476-0400. Call them to get availability and pricing.

**What you are responsible for** - Your Transportation, Hotel, Meals (other than breakfast and lunch on fishing days at the lake), Guide tips, Fishing Permit from Piute Indian Tribe: \$62 for 3 day permit.

**Fishing Gear** - Rods/Reels: 9' - 8 or 9 wt. or 11' Switch Rod, with floating line for indicator fishing or fast sinking or shooting head line for stripping with a single hand rod. Tackle – Flies, adjustable indicators, 10-15# leader/tippet. Check their website for latest info. Ladders and Chair Ladders will be provided. Rods, reels & terminal tackle will be provided if you need them. You will also need warm layered clothing, waders and wading boots.

#### More Info -

- Deposit of **\$375.00** due ASAP after signing up. Final payment of **\$375.00** due no later than January 15, 2024.
- Make checks payable to the 'Paul Nakamura', and send to 12136 Marshall St. Culver City, 90230 or you can use Zelle or Venmo. Please contact Paul for account info.
- Contact Paul for details/info and to get on the Trip List. [pnaka1946@gmail.com](mailto:pnaka1946@gmail.com) or 310-487-3367
- We will try to have Zoom meeting with Joe to get you acquainted with fly fishing Pyramid Lake. Tentative date will be in February after we get a club distribution developed.
- Pre-Trip Meeting will be scheduled prior to the trip and more details will be sent to members who have signed up for the Trip.



### Help Wanted

The Southwest Council is in need of a new Volunteer Director. It's sometimes a big job, sometimes very little. Our current director, Connie Bullock is willing to train and provide contacts to the new director. Please contact your membership and help us

find someone to take over this very important job.

Thanks!

Earl Arnold

"Ask not what you can do for the Southwest Council, ask what the Southwest Council can do for you"

President, Southwest Council Fly Fishers International

The responsibilities of the Volunteer Director position are:

#### 1. The Volunteer Director works directly with the Special Projects Director

- On occasion the Volunteer Director may work with the Southwest Council President
- Or Event Leader ... whoever takes lead on an upcoming event to determine the volunteers needed for an event

#### 2. A knowledge of these helpful tools is recommended:

- Mail Chimp and Excel knowledge
- Training is available

#### 3. The process:

- **Mail Chimp:**
  - Begin with a full description of the event to the Southwest Council membership through Mail Chimp.
  - This process can take up to three Mail Chimp notifications until a group is established
- **Excel Spreadsheet:**
  - Set up a spreadsheet with volunteer information along with their assignment

#### 4. Volunteers need to know:

- Date of the event
- Location
- Hours
- Shift
- Ticket requirements
- Other pertinent requirements



Continued, next page →

## Southwest Council FFI – News & Events

### 5. Prior to the event:

- Send out a final assignment with full instructions:
- Date
- Time
- Parking
- If breakfast or lunch is served, do any of the volunteers have food restrictions?
- If the event is on multiple days, resend assignments each day to designated volunteers as a follow up reminder

### 6. Other events not organized with the Special Event Director:

- The organizer of an event may take the role of assigning volunteers
- The Volunteer Director is always available to help
- There are four or five events a year that require some level of volunteer scheduling.

### 7. Report Requirements:

- Submit an article or information for the monthly Southwest Council Newsletter when volunteers are needed
- Submit a brief Quarterly Report for the Southwest Council's Quarterly Report Document that is sent to all clubs within the Southwest Council (the Southwest Council Secretary can assist you)



### Owens River Cleanup Postponed

RESCHEDULED: OWENS RIVER CLEAN UP

NEW DATE: NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Due to the potential for dangerously high river water flows from snowmelt runoff, the 9th Annual Owens River Clean Up is being postponed to Saturday, November 4, 2023. Your safety is the utmost priority. It is not appropriate to hold the event in April.

Chris Leonard, event organizer, will still gladly take any swag for the raffle for the event between now and then.

See you the first Saturday of November at the Pleasant Valley Campground! Water flows and air temps the start of November should be perfect for a weekend of cleaning up the river, and recreating in Bishop!

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Owens River Clean Up

Bishop, California





New for 2023, *The Connection* is the official quarterly newsletter of FFI Women Connect. FFI Women Connect encourages female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills, network with other women fly fishers, and come together for fly fishing experiences.

The third issue of *The Connection* features photos and stories from recent trips and events that FFIWC Liaisons have put together plus details on upcoming online presentations.

Click to Read Summer Edition of *The Connection*:

[FFIWC Newsletter The Connection Summer 2023.pdf \(flyfishersinternational.org\)](#)

**Editor Recommended Read:** Consider a subscription to the Southwest Council monthly newsletter. It is very well done! You will read about news and events of the SWCFFI, as well as the Club activities for all Fly Fishing Clubs in the Region (including the FFCOC). Your newsletter will arrive each month in your Inbox. Subscribe by clicking the link in the box below.

**Subscribe to the SWCFFI Newsletter > Click Below**

[Southwest Council Fly Fishers International \(list-manage.com\)](#)



## Conservation

### News/Articles



#### Wild Trout Portion of Shasta County's Hat Creek Set Aside for Further Protection

By Damon Arthur, *Redding Record Searchlight*

Read Article:

[Wild trout portion of Hat Creek set aside for further protection \(redding.com\)](http://redding.com)



#### Lower L.A. may get its own fish passage

By Jim Burns, *lariverflyfishing Blog*

Read Article:

[Lower L.A. may get its own fish passage – lariverflyfishing](http://lariverflyfishing)



#### Action Alert

What's Happening? What Can I Do?

Read Article:

[Take Action — No Hot Creek Mine](#)

Just In (Courthouse News Service):

[Ninth Circuit halts gold drilling project in eastern Sierra Nevada](#)



#### South Coast Steelhead Coalition Meeting

Carlsbad Airport Center, Longboard Conference Room

5857 Owens Ave., Carlsbad, CA

Sept 19, 2023, 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Please join us for our next South Coast Steelhead Coalition Meeting . It's a pleasure to have two featured speakers from the Cleveland National Forest and Orange County Public Works talk about Coalition fish passage projects in upper Trabuco Creek, led by their respective agencies.

**Thomas Coleman, Fisheries Biologist – Cleveland National Forest**, will present on four bridge projects funded for construction through the federal Infrastructure Bill. There are three bridge projects in upper Trabuco Creek replacing low-flow crossings TCAZ2, TCAZ2, TCAZ4 and one in San Mateo Creek watershed on Los Alamos Creek. CNF was one of the first out of the gate to secure construction funding for these bridges which were designed and ready to implement.

**Continued, next page →**

## Conservation (Con't)

**Giles Matthews, Regulatory Permit Manager – Orange County Infrastructure Program**, will present on progress on the Trabuco Canyon Road project. This bridge construction project will replace an aging low-flow crossing along upper Trabuco Canyon Road between Rose Canyon Road and Trabuco Creek Road. OC has just hired a consultant to move the design into next phase.

We'll have ample time for round-table updates from Coalition participants. Looking forward to seeing you!

**Sandra Jacobson, Ph.D.**

Director, South Coast and Sierra Regions

California Trout

858.414.1518 m



### The Spirit of Dame Berners - Selecting a Rod

By Larry Behm



This month I am going to explore how to select a new rod. Many anglers are confused by the marketing hype around rods and don't understand what a rod does or what they need. While it is probably possible to make most rods work in almost any casting situation, having the right rod for the application makes your life much easier and fishing more enjoyable.

***What's the first thing to consider, when buying a new rod?***

**Larry:** I believe it's important to size the line to the application first. The line does all the work in fly casting. It is where the mass of the system exists, and it moves the fly.

Matching the line weight to the application determines how easy it will be to cast? In contrast, spin casting has the lure do all the work. All the mass is in the lure, and the line is just long for the ride. Here, the rod acts as a lever to create speed and distance.

As the fly line moves through the air on its way to your target, it needs to have enough energy to fight the conditions. If there is wind or a heavy fly, it needs more energy to move toward the target. If you want a delicate presentation to avoid spooking the fish, you need less energy.

There are two ways to change the energy of the line, 1) change its mass or 2) changes the line speed. So, when you adjust the weight (mass) of the line to fit the application, you don't have to adjust your casting stroke as much to change line speed.

Lightweight lines do a good job of moving small flies or making delicate presentations. Heavyweight lines do a good job of moving heavy flies, moving large wind-resistant flies, or against strong winds. Heavy lines also help a bit in achieving long distance.

The table below shows recommendations for line weights in various applications.

ROD/LINE Recommended Uses & Sizes			
Line Weight	Venues/Species	Distance	Fly Sizes
3 - 4	Small Streams	Close	#14 - 26
4 - 6	Small Rivers	Medium to Far	#4 - 22
5 - 7	Larger Rivers	Medium to Far	#2 - 12
6-9	So CA Saltwater	Far	#1/0 - 8
7 - 11	Steelhead, salmon, blue-fish, small tarpon, dorado, stripers	Far	#1/0 - 8
10 - 15	Offshore Saltwater Tarpon, billfish, tuna	Far	#1/0 - 5/0

**Continued, next page →**

## Fly Fishing Educational Series (Con't)

Remember your job is to deliver that fly in the best fashion necessary to fool the fish. Choose the best line weight for the situation first.

### ***Once I have the line weight selected, how do I choose the rod?***

**Larry:** The fly rod has a couple of jobs to do for you. First, it must act as a spring to store and then release energy to the line. And second, it should act as a lever to give you reach that is longer than your arm.

Good control of your line during the cast requires that the rod transfer energy smoothly to the line. Managing a smooth turnover of the line is easiest when the rod is designed to match the line weight. Using dramatically a mismatched line/rod setup causes poor energy transfer.

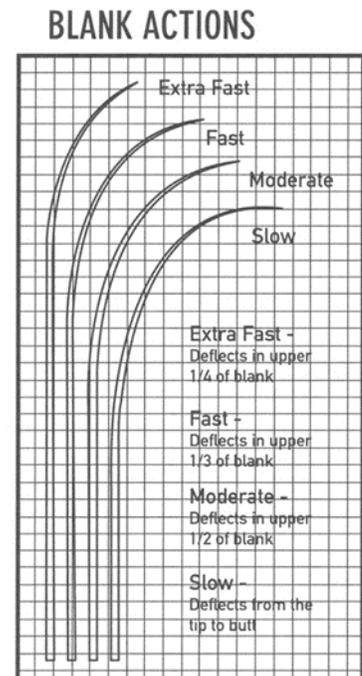
Rod manufacturers agreed on size standards in the 1970's. They decided to make the first 30 feet of a fly line standard for each weight size. This allows rods and lines to be interchangeable within a given weight size - the rod will load with the same amount of weight (see AFTMA standards for details). A manufacturer of line may move the weight forward or back within the first 30' to create different shooting/casting properties, but the rod will bend the same.

### ***How do I select rod action?***

**Larry:** How the rod bends under load is usually described as "action." We call a rod that bends very little while absorbing energy a fast, or stiff, rod. A rod that must bend a lot is called slow, or soft. See the chart below for comparison of the bending for each type of action. During most of your stroke, as you are accelerating, the rod bends and stores energy. Then at the end of the stroke, the abrupt stop, the rod releases its energy to the line. The line's energy allows it to push ahead toward your target.

A fast rod transfers its energy rapidly. The rod tip doesn't move much, so things happen at once after your stop. You have less time to feel the energy transfer with faster rods, but it usually means more distance to the line. A slow rod allows you to feel the shape and action of the line more easily. This allows for more delicate and accurate presentations and to feel the fish take the hook.

The rod action is created by the material used and the shape of the rod blank's taper. Materials such as bamboo and fiberglass create very effective medium and slow action rods. Composite materials such as graphite and boron create medium and fast action rods. There is no perfect material, in spite of the marketing stories out there. Each material has trade-offs.



## Fly Fishing Educational Series (Con't)

### ***Why would a salesperson try to convince me to overline a new rod?***

**Larry:** "Overlining" is putting a heavier line on a rod than is designed for the rod. The reason to put a heavier line on the rod is to get the rod to bend more than how it was designed. In effect, you are making the rod action softer or slower than it was designed. Overlining a rod will usually decrease the casting distance that you can achieve because it is causing too much bend in the rod and putting and overloading the rod's energy absorption capability.

Sometimes overlining is useful. For example, if your casting style needs just a bit more time but not enough to drop down to a slower action rod. Another example is casting in tight bushy streams. Here you can extend only a little bit of fly line so the rod will not bend. A heavier line gets the rod to bend and the action necessary for casting.

If the salesperson has talked you into upgrading to a very expensive fast-action rod and then putting an overweight line on it so you can cast, you may save money by trying a different family of rods with a slower action.

### ***What length is best?***

**Larry:** Length is similar to line weight; it should fit the application. A short rod is fun to cast, and easier when the overhead cover is thick. A long rod is useful to hold line off the water and to make long casts. For river and lake fishing 8'-10' work well. For Euro-nymphing, where you can't have any line on the water, 11'-12' work well.

The standard 9' rod is the best all-around rod until you get a lot of experience and can refine your approach.

### ***How important is the number of rod sections?***

**Larry:** Each section of a rod requires a joint of some type, usually a ferrule. These joints don't bend. So, it is easier to make well performing rods with fewer sections. However, consumers demand a rod that is easier to carry. Consequently, 4 sections have become standard and are engineered to perform at least as well as the old 2 section designs.

Travel rods are available, mostly six section rods., All of them are a compromise in performance to achieve packability. Be sure to test it before you buy it.

### ***Why are some rods so much more expensive than others and do they make a difference?***

**Larry:** All rods require some amount of handwork to finish. So, rods built in the United States with higher cost labor tend to be a more expensive.

Quality of the components used in the rod can vary dramatically. It starts with the resin and the materials used in the rod blank. Many of the high end manufacturers are you using the latest

## Fly Fishing Educational Series (Con't)

aerospace materials?

How smoothly the rod tip moves is a critical quality of a rod. Does it wiggle a lot when you make the abrupt stop? The line travels 90 degrees from the center line of the rod tip when the tip stop. If this centerline is bouncing willy-nilly, the end of your line will look like that at the turned over. Higher-end rods track smoothly with minimal bouncing.

Recently rod manufacturers have created blanks that allow the rod to bend forward and backward, but not side to side. This improves the accuracy of the rods and makes for smoother casting.

The finish on metallic parts, such as reel seats and guides, varies dramatically. High-end components never tarnish and are useful for saltwater fishing. Low-end components may show rust or oxidation after a few uses and need to be cleaned well after use.

Many of the high-end manufacturers offer excellent guarantees. While you may not think that's important, I have accidentally broken two rods in the last 10 years. With the guarantees, I was able to repair those expensive rods for just the cost of shipping.

Many of the moderate priced, reputable manufacturers sell great rods. I still fish with my Redington Classic Trout Rod, it must be 30 years old!

### ***When I'm ready to buy, how do I test a rod?***

**Larry:** If you were preparing to buy an expensive rod, you should spend a small part of the rod price on a casting lesson. Make sure that you know how to do two or three different kinds of casts? Understand how they should feel and how hard they are to execute before you try to change rods. Then, you will be able to test a new rod with a clear understanding of what the rod is adding to your casting.

Since a good rod only feels good when you cast, I believe you must try before you buy. Examples of testing include:

- Visit multiple fly shops to try different rod brands.
- Talk to guides that you hire. Ask them which rods they use and borrow one for the day.
- Talk to your friends in the Club and borrow their rod during a day of fishing together.
- Attend the casting clinic and try Club rods or other members' rods.

Manufacturers like to create families of rods. They try to have a consistent feel across the family. However, they are not always successful. So, if you test a 6wt in a family but want the 5wt, don't assume it will have the same feel. Wait until you can physically try it, before you buy it.

Since each of us has a unique casting style, it is important for you to test several different types of rods. Try different actions, materials, lengths, and tapers to find the rod that best matches your style

## Fly Fishing Educational Series (Con't)

of casting.

To test the rod, I suggest the following:

1. Start with a horizontal sidearm cast. Find a target mark on the ground (a curb, sideline, etc.) that is straight and about 60 foot long. Stand a rod's length off the target at its center point. Extend 30 feet of fly line, don't count the leader and tippet. Try to cast forward and lay the fly line along the target. Then cast backward and lay the fly line straight along the target in that direction. Repeat this three or four times to get a sense of the rod's loading and tracking. Because your cast is in the horizontal plane, it's easy for you to watch the entire stroke.
2. Your second cast can be the standard overhead cast. See how accurately you can place the fly on a target at 30'-40'. Look for the rod wobbling or vibrating after the stop.
3. Your next cast could be the tuck cast, which stops high and transfers energy into the line early to flip the fly down toward the water. Watch how smoothly this transfer happens?
4. If your conditions allow you to try a role cast, you can gain a sense of how well minimal motion can transfer energy.

***Is the Club Auction a place to buy a rod?***

**Larry:** Yes!! You will often find very nice rods at extremely good prices! There are several experienced anglers at the auction who can help you evaluate a rod. Be sure to take a look.

## Flies That Keep On Giving!

### What Fly

By John Williams

What is it? A fly. What kind of a fly? Something I made up. It can be tied in any color Blue, Red, Orange, Tan, Green. Use your imagination. Fish do eat them in all colors, I think they look at it as a big meal. I have used it on Utah lakes for a trial not yet tried on streams or rivers.



#### Materials:

Hook:	Size 8-10 Dry Fly
Thread:	The one on the top is 6/0 yellow, the bottom 6/0 red thread
Body:	Preformed 2mm craft foam, Michaels has many colors to choose from
Legs:	Pre tied Pheasant tail fibers
Thorax:	Not shown in photo, Dry fly dubbing color of your choice
Wings:	Elk Hair
Cement:	Super Glue Gel Formula

#### Instructions:

1. Form the body by cutting a 1/4" strip of foam three times the length of the hook shank. Fold it in half and taper the fold with sharp scissors to narrow the posterior where the fold is. Place a needle point needle in your vice with the point outward. Start your thread very close to the tip and make three turns locking it leaving a tag end all the way to lay back on the vice. Place the fold of the foam on the tip of the needle embedding it slightly and folding the foam to either side of the needle. Make two wraps of thread and advance the thread backward to form the next segment of the body and progress down the foam enlarging the segments slightly as you go. When the body is twice the length of the hook shank stops and whip finish. I smear a slight smear of super glue on the tops of the body to secure the wraps and then slide the body free of the needle. I make several bodies at a sitting.
2. Place your hook in the vice. Start your thread behind the eye and run it backward to the back of the thorax.
3. Cut one tag end of the extending foam that will become the bottom of the body. Now smear a slight amount of super glue at the tie in point. Secure the upper tag end of the to the hook by wrapping thread over the last segment of the body.

Continued, next page →

## Flies That Keep On Giving!

4. Pull the upper tag end back and tie in 3 legs on either side of the body letting them extend beyond the tip of the abdomen.
5. Dub in the thorax with dry fly dubbing to form the thorax.
6. Secure a bunch of elk hair and clean it of under fur and stack it to align the tips. tie it on to the back edge of the thorax by the butts letting the hair lie forward all the time not letting the hair spin around the hook.
7. Divide the hair in half and pull to either side of the shank while pulling over the foam that has been waiting. Secure the foam two eye spaces behind the eye. Tie off and trim off any excess or leave a head, your choice. Smear a slight amount of super glue on your thread and make a few warps and whip-finish. Let your creativity run wild.

All the best, John

## FFCOE Leadership

**Mission:**

Encourage Angling with Artificial Flies (Fly Fishing)

Encourage Education and Fisheries Conservation, including Habitat and Watershed Conservation

Disseminate to the public the Results of the Club's Efforts

Encourage Youth to Follow Sound Conservation Practices

To **ACHIEVE** this the Club conducts various meetings, events and outings as documented in this newsletter.

**MEMBERSHIP** is open to all. If interested, contact one of the Board members or come to one of the Club meetings.

**Board of Directors and Activity Leaders**

**President**

Brian Mayer

**1st Vice President**

Open

**2nd Vice President**

Ken Lindt

**Past President**

Larry Behm

**Treasurer**

Tom Sakai  
Matt Conrad (Asst.)

**Secretary**

Larry Roberts

**Newsletter Editor**

Terry Roznos

**Programs:** Gill Realon

**Outings:** Mike Peters

**Website:** Todd Gomez

**Social Media/Comm:** Kelly Yokoe

**Conservation:** David Williams

**Membership:** Ric Romero

**Scholarships:** Steve Watanabe

**Trout in the Classroom:** Ron Gregg

**FFI Liaison:** Terry Roznos

**Members At Large:**

Doug Jones

Young Kwon

## Visit our Local Shops



**Bob Marriott's Fly Fishing Store**

2700 W. Orangethorpe Ave. Fullerton, CA 92833

Open (Spring/Summer) Mon.-Sat. 9 am to 6 pm  
(Fall/Winter) Mon.-Sat. 10 am to 5 pm  
Closed Sundays

Phone: (714) 525-1827

[www.bobmarriottsflyfishingstore.com](http://www.bobmarriottsflyfishingstore.com)



**His and Her Fly Fishing**

359 N. Old Newport Blvd.

Newport Beach, CA 92663

Open: Mon.- Fri. 10 am to 6 pm  
Saturday 9am - 5 pm

Phone: (949) 548-9449

[www.hisandherflyfishing.com](http://www.hisandherflyfishing.com)