

ON THE FLY

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



NOVEMBER 2023

Inside This Issue

Our November Meeting will be at Pom & Olive Restaurant and will feature speakers Rick Ferrante and Gary Scott. They will speak about Horse Packing in the Sierra Nevada.

Check out this month's Outing Report and Fish Tales.

Upcoming Events: On The River Training (Classroom Session) will meet on Nov 4 at Santiago Canyon College. The On The River Clinic will be conducted on Dec 2 and 3 at the Kern River.

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

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www.ffcoc.org



President's Message

President's Message by Brian Mayer

This last month, we had our annual President's Outing to Kernville. I want to thank all the Club members who attended and made the trip a success. Plenty of food was eaten, adult beverages were consumed, and stories were told. Old friendships were renewed, and new friends were made. And somehow, we managed to go fishing and actually caught fish!



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. As a volunteer run organization, we rely on the help and dedication of our members. Everyone can make a small donation of their time and it will make our Club much stronger and better able to serve you. For those willing to do more, we have open Board of Directors positions in leadership and administration. Education, outings, sponsorship, outreach, speakers, auctions, newsletters - all these activities require an active board and committee chairs.

Your Club can teach you how to be a better angler, introduce you to new fishing buddies, or new fishing spots. It can help to better your community by encouraging conservation and educating the next generation to love fish like we do. All of this is accomplished by having volunteers fill positions in the Club.

Your Club has needs in the following positions:

- **Membership Chair** - Lead the Club in making it easy for people to join the Club, keep track of progress and welcome new members.
- **Programs Chair** – Coordinate with the Speaker's Consortium for our monthly speakers. Coordinate with the speaker for their travel and hotel. Prepare audio/visual equipment for meetings.
- **Succession Planning for President** - Learn by stair steps how to be President of the Club. Start as 2nd VP running the casting events, then move to 1st VP and Chair the auction committee. Then lead the Club for a year as President.

Where are your skills and interests? How can you help? You will get back more than you give!

We need more of you to step up. Contact me if you would like to volunteer or for more information.

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President's Message (Con't)

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.

The next FFCOC Board Meeting is Thursday, November 16 at 7pm. The Zoom Meeting info may be found on the FFCOC website. Club Members are always welcome to attend.

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

president@ffcoc.org

(562) 619-9169

FFCOC Meeting Venue



General Meeting Location

Standard Reminder: Note the Meeting Start Time!



Our General Meeting for November will be at the Pom & Olive Restaurant in Costa Mesa. The Pom & Olive Restaurant will continue to host our monthly meetings until announced otherwise.



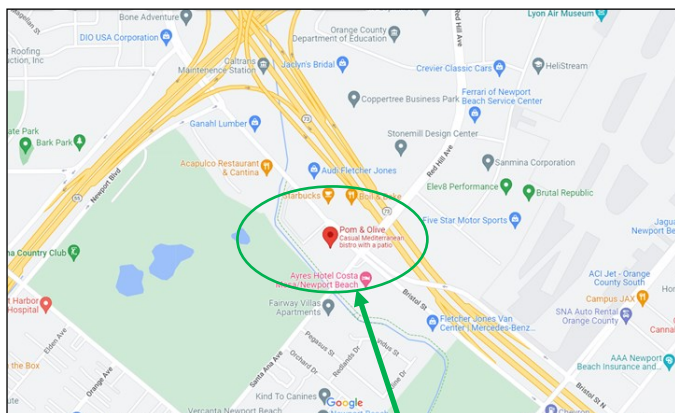
Pom & Olive is located at 1400 Bristol Street, Building C in Costa Mesa. (See map below)

Our meeting will continue to be the Happy Hour format (no served dinner). You may of course arrive early and have your dinner at Pom & Olive before the start of the Club Social hour!

A reminder that the meeting schedule was adjusted in February to allow enough time to socialize, have some Club announcements, guest speaker presentation, and conclude our evening by 9 PM.

Our adjusted start time is at 6:30 pm; Wet Fly socialization with appetizers and cash bar provided by Pom & Olive, Club business at 7:15 pm, with our guest speaker at 7:30 pm.

Meeting Fee: \$10



Pom & Olive Restaurant:

1400 Bristol Street, Building C

Come and join us!

Guests are always welcome!!

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 |
| September | Club Auction | Santa Ana Elks Lodge | 09/06/23 |
| October | Kesley Gallagher | The Royal Trout Slam | 10/11/23 |
| November | Rick Ferrante | Horse Packing in the Sierra Nevada | 11/08/23 |
| December | Michael Peters | Fly Fishing, A Little Something for Everyone | 12/13/23 |

2024 Speakers (Preliminary)

MONTHLY SPEAKER PROGRAM

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---|----------|
| January | Glenn Ueda | Sight Fishing for Carp | 01/10/24 |
| February | Griff Marshall | Central Oregon Has It All | 02/14/24 |
| March | TBA | TBA | 03/13/24 |
| April | Steph Albano | Fanaticals and Henrys Fork | 04/10/24 |
| May | Matt Hakonarson | Iceland - Trip of a Lifetime | 05/08/24 |
| June | Tim Flagler | Euro Nymphing Made Simple | 06/12/24 |
| July | Doug Rodricks | The Eastern Sierra - a Guide's Fresh Look | 07/10/24 |
| August | Club Picnic | William Mason Regional Park (Irvine) | TBA |
| September | Club Auction | Santa Ana Elks Lodge | 09/18/24 |
| October | Simon Gawesworth | Fly Lines | 10/09/24 |
| November | Graham Day | Xcalak, Mexico | 11/13/24 |
| December | TBA | TBA | 12/11/24 |

HORSE PACKING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

with Rick Ferrante and Gary Scott



The success of the TV series YELLOWSTONE has led to a renewed interest in horse riding nationwide. How appropriate that our two November presenters will be saddling up and taking us on a horse ride to the most beautiful spots in our state. Leave your SUV at base camp, jump on to nature's four-wheel drive and head to the Sierra Nevadas.

In the words of Rick Ferrante and Gary Scott: *"There is just something about a clear stream dancing over sharp grey granite, under a canopy of pines, at 10,000 feet in the Sierra Nevada mountains. Even without the spectacular fishing - a day in the backcountry will make anyone feel completely alive and in the moment."* Even if you have equinophobia (look it up) or have not been on horseback since the pony rides at Griffith Park, there is always room for more adventure in your life. Your horse awaits you.

Their presentation is about fly-fishing trips done via horse pack. In this visually exciting show, they will go over the planning and preparation needed for this kind of trip as well as what it is like to travel by horseback and camp in the wilderness. And they will of course discuss the fishing. There will be detailed coverage of the techniques, strategy, and gear they have used to get the most out of this special trip right here in California. Let's meet our two trail buddies for the evening:

Gary Scott

Gary's passion for fly fishing began at age 10 on the lawn of the family home in La Habra, CA with a bamboo rod once owned by his grandad. He caught his first trout in the middle waters of the San Joaquin – from then he was hooked. Every summer he would return to Reds Meadow for a family camping trip and learned to explore the surrounding Sierra Mountains. Many years later after college degrees, marriage, raising children, running a landscape business, he realized that he had left something

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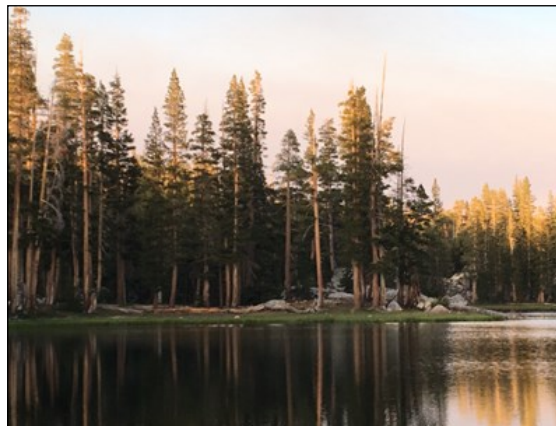
This Month's Speaker (Con't)

on the back burner – his passion for fly fishing!

In 1996, a disappointing trip to the East Walker led him to sharpen his skills by joining the Canejo Fly Fishers where he met like-minded anglers and new friends. As an active member of the club, he wanted to give something back to the sport, and for twenty years ran the Trout in the Classroom program, teaching thousands of students to appreciate our State's valuable environmental resources of streams, lakes, fish, and wildlife. He also learned to tie flies and build fly rods – his friends call it more of an obsession than a hobby. Gary's latest hobby is to instill in his five grandkids the same passion he has for the outdoors and fly fishing. *"I thank God for my wife of forty-three years who has allowed me enough time to enjoy some serious cold-water therapy and I've passed on to my 3 kids our love for the outdoors and fishing while on camping trips through the Sierras. My latest task is to train up my five grandkids with the same passion I have for the outdoors and fly-fishing - a task I am looking forward to."* Gary looks forward to sharing with you the option to fly fish the Sierras from the back of a horse.

Rick Ferrante

Rick Ferrante has been fishing for most of his 56 years and has been fly fishing for the last 10 years or so. A native of Southern California, Rick was born and raised in Burbank, CA and currently makes his home in Santa Clarita with his wife Alison. He has 4 children with the eldest 28 and the youngest 20 who have fortunately inherited his love of camping, backpacking and the outdoors but unfortunately not his love for fishing. Over the last 6 years Rick has planned and participated in several fishing trips in the Sierra Nevada mountains via horse pack and is excited to share some of his experiences and what he has learned along the way. So, before I saddle you with any more equine puns, make plans to attend the first ever presentation on this great topic.



Club News

Membership

Please Welcome Our Newest Members!

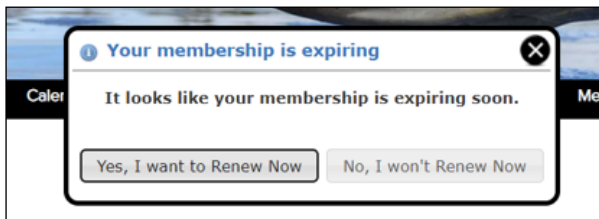
September

Ted Tayenaka (Seal Beach)
Michael DeRiso (Richmond, TX)
Michael Cicchetti (Costa Mesa)
Janice Barber-Doyle (Westminster)
Wayne Nason (Yorba Linda)
Sharon Stephens (Laguna Hills)
Randy Gordon (Aliso Viejo)
Linda Klawitter (Laguna Hills)

October

Kelsey Allison (Norco)
Barry Ewing (Laguna Woods)
David Griffith (Laguna Niguel)
Sean Sherlock
Rigo Valladolid (Whittier)
Scott Reitan (Dana Point)

Time to Renew Your Membership!



Does this pesky dialog box appear every time you log into the FFCOC website? Instead of clicking **CLOSE**, go ahead and click on the **Yes, I want to Renew Now** button, and follow the instructions to renew your FFCOC Membership for 2024!! Credit Card and Check payment options are available.

On The River Training (CLASSROOM)

Reminder regarding the On The River Training (CLASSROOM SESSION).

Date: **Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 8:30 AM**

Location: Santiago Canyon College (8045 E Chapman Ave., Orange)

The 2023 On The River Training Clinic consists of two parts, the classroom session and an Outing on the Kern River near Kernville. The Outing has been moved to the Kern River because the flow levels for the Lower Owens River are projected to be too high for a successful outing. The Kern River Outing will be for Club Members that have participated in the Classroom session. Members that attended last years classroom session are welcome to signup for the Outing and are also welcome to attend this years class session as a refresher.

See Page 11 in the Newsletter for additional information.

Or, Click Here for event status/information: [On The River Training \(CLASSROOM\) - Club Calendar](#)

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Club News (Con't)

The Columbia Employee Store is Open for FFCOC Members



Columbia Sportswear is once again offering our membership an opportunity to shop in their employee stores in November. They have their cold weather gear in stock! You can get first run, top quality products at significantly reduced prices.

You can access two Employee Stores. West Covina or Carlsbad.

The Fly Fishers Club of Orange County offer is valid during November.

Store Pricing: All products are current season merchandise and are priced up to 50% off retail cost.

FFCOC Members must show their valid offer plus a work ID for access and can bring up to 4 additional people with them. (For the ID; bring a copy of the email announcement sent to all Active Members by Larry Behm on October 25)

Download the Columbia Store offer here: <https://ffcoc.clubexpress.com/docs.ashx?id=1245135>

Note: The offer is only available to active Club members (you must be logged into the Club website)

Newsletter

Newsletter inputs for the next (November) edition are due to the 2023 Editor by **Sunday, November 26**, 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

FREE FLY FISHING CLASSES

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



Dates:

Classroom Session

- Saturday November 4th, 8:30 AM
- Santiago Canyon College (8045 E Chapman Ave, Orange)

On The River Clinic (Kern River)

- December 2 and 3. The Outing has been moved to the Kern River because the flow levels for the Lower Owens River are projected to be too high for a successful Outing.
- 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 its 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 intro-

duces 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 Kern River near Kernville. 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.

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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 16th. 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 or contact the Club's Membership Chair at 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 Kern 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.

Club News - Outing Report

FFCOC Outing to Loa, Utah (September 2023)

As many of our club members know we have been fishing Loa Utah for several years. Mike James of the Quiet Fly Fisher hosted our group of eight which consisted of President Brian Mayer, Andy Frumento, Joanie Fanning, John Williams, Terry Imlay, Don Tayenaka, Gary Giuliano, Mike DeRiso.

The group did very well hooking some nice ones. The group had a combined dinner prepared by Andy Frumento and friends for the group of eight, Thanks Andy. The pictures are worth a thousand words.

Next years trip is scheduled for October 7-11, 2024. All of the spots have been taken already but check with John Williams 951-236-0862 to see if there are still openings, or to be added to the waiting list.



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Club News - Outing Report

Photos (Con't)...



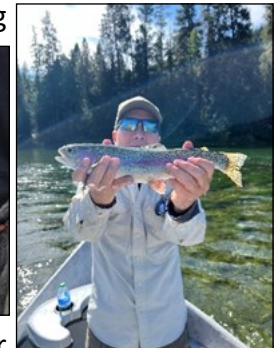
Mike James, Owner
[The Quiet Fly Fisher](#)

Kootenai River Montana and Fernie British Columbia

A Fish Tale by: Tom Sakai

Club members Tom Sakai, Steve Watanabe, Satoshi Kamada and Gary Haun had a great trip to the Kootenai River in Montana and Fernie BC. We flew from Orange County to Spokane on September 16 and drove a rental car to our Airbnb in Libby MT, a small town located between Coeur d'Alene Idaho and Kalispell MT. Fished the Kootenai River for two days with guides from Linehan Outfitting. All guides were very experienced and professional. Had two days of catching "catchable" rainbows with a few lunkers. After those two days we spent a half day on a small mountain stream, finding some fish, but not up to our expectations. We found the Kootenai River to be too big for fishing on our own, with limited access, given the four people in our group.

We then left Libby and drove to Fernie BC and stayed at another Airbnb, right on the Elk River. Fernie was great, with good fishing for cutthroat and a few bull trout. We booked 3 days with Kootenay Fly Shop for fishing the Elk River from driftboats and an additional day wade fishing a local (limited access) creek. We also fished a couple of days on our own with some success.



After our stay in Fernie, we drove back to Spokane for our flights back to Orange County. Would we do it again? Definitely, although combining the Kootenai in Montana with Fernie was a little tough, given the 4 ½ hour drive from Fernie to the Spokane airport.

Club News - Fish Tales

October Fishing: Pyramid Lake, Eagle Lake, and Kern River A Fish Tale by: Eric Kramer

Fishing report for Oct. 5-15. Day one, fished Pyramid Lake with Hans Grotwald from Sierra Drifters Guide Service. It was myself, Club member Sam Snyder, and future Club member Lance Rangheim. We fished deep on the east side of the lake in cold water, but lots of algee, huge mats of it. Dropshotted streamers in 80 to 120 feet, with almost all fish caught between 60 and 65 feet. 40 fish landed with 13 over 10 pounds, led by Lance's 19 and Sam's 15. Day two we added former club member Jim Sharky to the crew. Only 21 fish to the net, but I got a double, a 20 and a 12 at the same time and Jim got a 16 and a 10 at once. Day 3 the boys went home and I was alone with Joe Contaldi who will handle the March ladder trip. I did 12 fish, including a 17 and a 26 pound double. Sunday I fished alone with Glen Lemon and had 10 fish, while former member John Cancilla got a 20 and a 17 with Joe. Monday, my last day I was with Glen for 12 fish including a 12 pound Summit strain which is very large for that breed. Almost all of the big fish are Pilot Peaks.



The "money shots"...



More from Pyramid...



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Club News - Fish Tales

Weds. and Thurs. I trolled flies and grubs on Eagle Lake near Susanville on my friends boat. We caught 8 nice rainbows up to 4 pounds. They came home to be smoked. I have eaten a lot of trout during my 77 years, but none compare to Eagle's.

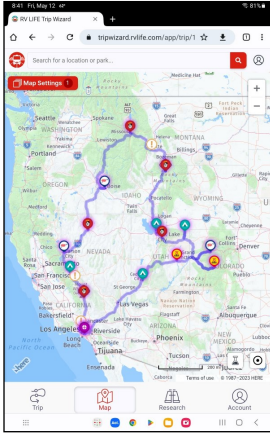


Friday Club member Andrew Sprowl and I ate pizza with the FFCOC gang in Kernville and Sat. he guided me to two 10" rainbows on the Upper Kern. Andrew also got 2. We used two fly rigs under indicators. The river is in great shape. That night it was our annual potluck at the Sequoia Lodge.



All in all a great 10 days.

Travel Trailer Fishing Adventure A Fish Tale by: Janna and Terry Roznos



On Friday, September 1, we hit the road with our travel trailer on a 7-week Fall Fly Fishing Adventure. We successfully circumnavigated the Western States of California, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, and return to our home in Whittier via the Eastern Sierra route on October 19; almost a 5,000 mile trip. Our travel map with our overnight stops is shown here. We fished the waters of the Gunnison River (CO), the Colorado River near Glenwood Springs (CO), the Green River (UT), the Provo and Weber Rivers in the Heber Valley (UT), the Madison River (MT), Soda Butte Creek in Yellowstone National Park (WY), the Clark Fork River (MT), the Bitterroot River (MT), the forks of the Tuolumne River (Yosemite National Park), the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River (Devils Postpile National Monument), and the East Walker River.

All in all, this was a great trip; no calamities on the road and good fishing at every stop. We left our home in California in the heat of summer, and quickly found the refreshing temperatures of Fall beginning in Colorado. Some interesting memories of our trip included:

- The free range of animals (donkeys, goats, pygmy pigs) at our Gunnison RV park. The animals were rounded up and put into their pens for the night.
- The crazy tourists of Yellowstone. Tourons (Tourist + Moron). These folks chased a male moose to get a closeup picture. Countless times these folks approached bison for photos. We experience road gridlock in the Lamar Valley; by the time we got to see what the attraction was, it was a coyote in a meadow hunting burrowed vermin. A coyote! Are you kidding me, don't you people have these at home??
- Bear Spray. This was our first carry of bear spray. We didn't use it, but it was especially comforting to have when we left the river to the shrubs to do our business. We had no bear sightings in the park, even from a far. No, we would not chase one down for a photo!
- We had our first drift experience on an inflatable craft on the Clark Fork River. No cleated boots on this drift!
- Lastly, the East Walker River fished lights-out! 20+ fish days for Janna. Too bad the Club Bridgeport Outing was cancelled.

A sample of our photos will (hopefully) give you a flavor of our trip. We will be happy to give you specifics of our trip. See you all at the November meeting.



Club News - Fish Tales



Club News - Fish Tales

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

Thank you!

2023 Club Outings

| Date | Destination | Streamkeeper |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 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 |
| October 13-15 | President's Outing/Kern River | Brian Mayer |
| October 13-17 (Postponed to 2024) | Bridgeport | Terry Roznos |
| November 4 | On The River Training (Classroom Session) Location: Santiago Canyon College (Orange) | Doug Jones |
| December 2-3 | On The River Training (Kern River) | 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

| Date | Destination | Streamkeeper |
|--------------|--|---------------|
| 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 |
| October 7-11 | Loa (Utah) | John Williams |

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

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/tippets. 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 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.

2024 Outings - San Juan River (New Mexico)

San Juan River, NM Outing

Stream Keeper: Brian Mayer, (562) 619-9169, bdmayer@hotmail.com

April 14 to 17, 2024



Please contact Brian Mayer, bdmayer@hotmail.com, (562) 619-9169 for questions, answers, information and to make arrangements.

We are planning another fantastic outing to the San Juan River in northwestern New Mexico for April 2024.

The clear river waters of the San Juan are the jewel of northwest New Mexico just a short 14 hour's drive from Southern California. The river is fed from the deep waters of Navajo Lake which provide nearly constant temperature and abundant food supplies. This means many large brown and rainbow trout with substantial fight.

I have made a block reservation at the Fisheads San Juan River Lodge for rooms and Guides, www.fisheadsofthesanjuan.com. Please contact me if you wish to attend this outing so I can assign rooms and fishing buddies. If you prefer to make your own arrangements, please feel free to do so.

Please Note: the Abe's Motel, Restaurant and Gas Station have permanently closed. It is up for sale and NOT operating at this time.

Fisheads Lodge also offers an All Inclusive option. This option includes room, guide and all meals (breakfast and special dinner menu) each day. Lunch is always included on guide days.

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2024 Outings - San Juan River (New Mexico)

Plan to arrive by Sunday, April 14. The general plan is to fish with guides Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 15 to 17. I strongly recommend you get a guide for at least two days to thoroughly enjoy all the fishing the San Juan Quality Water has to offer.

I will be coordinating a caravan for this trip. We will depart SoCal on Saturday, April 13 and spend the night in Flagstaff, AZ. We will arrive midday on Sunday, April 14 to the San Juan River and Fisheads Lodge.

For more information, please contact stream keeper Brian Mayer, bdmayer@hotmail.com or (562) 619-9169

If you plan to attend the trip, please call or send Brian Mayer an email so we have contacts for everyone.



HOT CREEK RANCH 2024

July 12-15, 2024



The cost of this trip this year is **\$500** per person.

The trip is full at this time, if you would like to be put on a waitlist, contact Don Tayenaka, dontayenaka@me.com, or call 949-292-8325

Monies need to be to our Treasurer, Tom Sakai
Deposit **\$250**. Due **Jan. 15, 2024**. Balance due **June 1, 2024**

Send Check Made out to: FFCOC
P.O. Box 23005 Santa Ana, Ca. 92711-3005

Trip starts Hot Creek Ranch July 12, 2024
Check in time is **4:00 P.M.** Friday **NOT BEFORE!**
Trip ends July 15, 2024 you must be out of the cabin by **10:00 A.M.**
You may fish the remainder of the day.

Continued, next page →

2024 Outings - Hot Creek Ranch

You must be a Club member to attend.

You will need a signed release form on file for this trip.

If you have previously attended a Club Outing, and your form is on file, you are set.

Check with our Membership Chairperson to see if it is on file. Thank you.





CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL

9th Annual Owens River Clean Up

Help clean up Bishop's blue-ribbon moving water fishery!

Everyone is welcome! The more who come the cleaner we can get the river.

Sign up today!

<https://volunteer.valleyoutdoors.org>

Lunch

Lunch will be provided by volunteers at 12pm. Pick it up at the dumpster at Pleasant Valley Campground.

Raffle

There will be a raffle with lots of swag!

If you wish to donate swag to the raffle, please contact Chris Leonard (818) 288-3271).

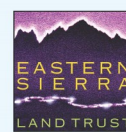
Saturday November 4th, 2023

8:00am (for coffee + baked goods)
at Pleasant Valley Campground at
the metal footbridge.

Bring your gloves, family, and friends.

Big thanks to all of the good-hearted
volunteers who travel near & far to
partake in a morning of beautification!

Sponsored By



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Southwest Council

Southwest Council FFI – News & Events

MICHAEL SCHWEIT | SPECIAL PROJECTS

I wanted to give everyone a heads up so you can block out your calendars for some great events coming from the Southwest Council FFI!

Bart Hall Shows

Bart Hall Show, Jan. 25-28 – we will be back at the show and presenting it as the ONLY Fly Show in SoCal. Great venue (Long Beach Convention Center), centrally located and a chance to get a casting lesson, tie a fly or bring a friend and introduce them to fly fishing! Vendors too, of course.



CATCH/RELEASE TOURNAMENT
OPEN TO ALL!

Fly or Spin for the Win

February 10, 2024
9am - 4pm • Pre and Post Event
Tri-County Fairgrounds • Patio Room

PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS. RAFFLES, TOO!

Get info at:
SWCFFI.org/Rodeo
or scan QR Code

818.601.9702

Trout Rodeo, Feb. 10 – Once again, we will host this catch and release event, open to fly and conventional gear, in the Owens Valley. Depending on weather, you could be fishing from the Upper O all the way to Lone Pine! Same rules as before, so bring your friends, club members and anyone else who likes a fun competition.



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL Southwest Council

2024 FLYBUY

FlyBuy XIII, April 6 – Long Beach Casting Club – tying, casting, vendors and garage sale, all wrapped into one. And a great lunch to boot!



Continued, next page →



May 25 - June 22, 2024

Riptide Rendezvous, May 11 (pre-gathering and info), May 25-June 21 (contest) - The month-long contest worked so well we are doing it again. Catch and release and open to both fly and conventional gear and this time, we are hosting a gathering two weeks before for people to meet each other, share info (or lie) and have a lot of fun. At a beach near you!

Details and more information, plus webpage links, will follow in the coming months so mark your calendar and let's have some fun in 2024!!

I

Fly Fishers International 2023 Awards of Achievement

FFI Awards of Achievement acknowledge individuals and organizations who demonstrate the highest levels of accomplishment, dedication, and contribution to preserving the legacy and future of fly fishing for all fish in all waters. These awards reflect FFI's three focus areas of conservation, education, and community, and include additional recognition for leadership, literature, and contribution to various fly fishing skills.

This year the awards ceremony was held on October 18. Two local individuals were honored with awards at this year's ceremony.



FFI Council Leadership Award

Leigh Ann Swanson, California (Pasadena Casting Club)

This award presented to a Fly Fishers International Council President who has demonstrated unusual devotion to FFI and through outstanding contributions has benefited FFI as an International organization.



FFI Mel Krieger Fly Casting Instructor Award

John Van Derhoof, California (Long Beach Casting Club)

This award, honoring Mel Krieger a well-known figure in the instruction of fly casting and author of the original Fly Fishers International Certified Casting Instructor Program, is presented in recognition of those who have made significant contributions to the FFI Certified Casting Instructor Program, have dedicated themselves to fly casting instruction and have shared their knowledge with others.

For a complete list of the FFI Awards of Achievements, and the 2023 recipients, visit the following link: [FFI Presents 2023 Awards](#)



Conservation and Fishing News



Things to know about the Klamath River dam removal project, the largest in US history

The largest dam removal project in U.S. history is underway along the border between California and Oregon.

By Adam Beam, *Associated Press*

Read Article: [Things to know about the Klamath River dam removal project - ABC News](#)



Environmental Groups Prevail in California Steelhead Case

By *Environmental Defense Center*

Read Article: [Environmental Groups Prevail In California Steelhead Case - Edhat](#)



Mammoth Lakes Tourism Invests \$100,000 to Preserve Lakes With Clean Up The Lake

By *WON Staff*

Read Article:

[Mammoth Lakes Tourism Invests \\$100,000 to Preserve Lakes with Clean Up the Lake \(wonews.com\)](#)



Sign Petition: Designate Cedar Creek & Elder Creek as Outstanding National Resource Waters

By *CalTrout*

Read Article:

[Action Alert: We need your voice to help protect Northern California watersheds!](#)



California Department of
Fish and Wildlife

CDFW Releases Updated Strategic Plans for Trout, and Hatchery Management

Strategic Plans (PDF):

<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=213738&inline>

<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=213739&inline>



An Appreciation: California Fly Fisher Ceases After 31 years of Publication

By Jim Burns, *lariverflyfishing Blog*

Read Article: [An appreciation: California Fly Fisher ceases after 31 years of publication – lariverflyfishing](#)

The Spirit of Dame Berners - Drag-Free Drift

By Larry Behm



This month we are talking to Greg Cooke about the importance of a drag-free drift. Greg is a long-time member of the Club. He was born and raised in Southern California and started fishing in the surf with conventional tackle at ten years old. In the early 1970's as a young teen he was introduced to fly fishing in the Eastern Sierras. At 14, he learned to tie flies and became a commercial tier for Dale's Hackle and Tackle so that he would have money to fly fish, camp, and backpack. Later, he started teaching fly tying and tying custom orders for Mike Scott. He has tied flies at various fly shows and occasionally teaches classes for the Fly Fishing Club of Orange County.

He always enjoys the camaraderie, the spectacular scenery that the sport brings and continues to fish both new and old destinations when he has the time.

Greg, I recently watched you catch a very nice, picky Cutthroat on Slough Creek, do think your drift was different from the others who were not catching fish?

Greg: Yes, I made sure that I mended the line to avoid drag and I placed the fly far enough above the fish, so that I had a drag-free drift when the fly entered the fish's vision. Proper positioning and choice of cast are equally important in delivering a drag-free drift to the fish. Reach casting down and across, or a Drag and Drop method can both be incredibly effective in presenting a fly-first, drag-free offering.

Is drag-free more important than fly selection?

Greg: In almost all cases, drag is more important than fly selection. You might have a fly that is close in size and color to what the fish are feeding on. Your success, however, depends on your ability to manage the drift in a drag-free way. The only time I have seen some micro drag not affect the feeding, is during a large hatch where the fish are in a feeding frenzy.

How do you prevent drag?

Greg: With various types of mending. For example, the reach mend can allow you to create some slack in the line between you and the fly. The choice of making slack upstream or downstream depends on how the current behaves. The stack or anchor mend is also a very effective method. In some instances, high sticking and leaving very little line on the water works best. It all depends on the current lanes that you must cross with the fly line.

Continued, next page →

Fly Fishing Educational Series (Con't)

Is there something I can practice to improve my drift?

Greg: Yes, it is best to practice in a stream if possible. You can watch videos online or hire a guide to teach you various mending techniques on the water. Simply put, your dry fly or strike indicator must be drifting the same speed as the current.

Is drag on the surface different from drag underwater?

Greg: No, it is not. When you use a strike indicator you need to treat the indicator just like a surface fly. The indicator must have a drag-free drift, otherwise the subsurface flies are being pulled in unnatural directions.

Do you ever drag or move the fly on purpose?

Greg: Yes, there are several applications where drag is applied. When you swing the fly at the end of a drift, the fly will rise in the water column and has drag. This motion often induces a fish to take the fly. I may simulate a nymph rising to the surface. Skating a caddis fly during a caddis hatch is another important application. Essentially, you just need to imagine different tactics when drag-free drifts are not working.

It all boils down to fooling the fish by making the fly move in a way they expect a natural fly to move.

Flies That Keep On Giving!

Damsel Nymph

By John Williams

My first experience fishing a damsel fly nymph was in Utah. Once I felt the tug and the race of the fish I knew I had to have this pattern when fishing a lake. This is my version.

Materials:



Hook: This is a size 10 Nymph

Eyes: Small Bead Chain cut to form a pair of eyes

Thread: 8/0 Olive

Rib: Fine Gold Wire

Abdomen & Tail: Olive Marabou

Thorax: Peacock Hurl

Thorax Cover: Pheasant Tails Fibers

Legs: Small Olive Rubber Leg

Cement: Super Glue Gel Formula

Instructions:

1. Place the hook in the vice upside down.
2. Start your thread behind the eye one eye space. place a slight smear of super glue on the thread and place your eyes at this point and secure with several crossing wraps, figure eights.
3. Place the hook upright in your vice now.
4. Cut a piece of fine gold wire and secure with a few wraps of thread and wrap rearward to just before the bend.
5. Select 10-12 marabou fibers and align the tips. Tie in the marabou leaving the tips to the rear forming the tail about a body in length.
6. Wrap the thread forward to the thorax area.
7. Wrap the marabou forward to form the abdomen and thread wrap it at the thorax.
8. Counter wrap the gold wire to secure the marabou and for the ribs and tie off at the thorax.
9. Cut two sets of legs and tie in at the thorax area, one on each side as shown.
10. Gather ten to twelve pheasant tail fibers and align the tips and tie in by the tips at the back of the thorax with the tips facing forward.
11. Select two peacock tail fibers and wrap around the thorax to the eyes.

Continued, next page →

Flies That Keep On Giving! (Con't)

12. Fold the peacock fibers over the thorax and secure with a few wraps of thread behind the eye of the hook and in front of the eyes.
13. Wrap your thread rearward to just in front of the legs and fold back the pheasant tail fibers and secure with several wraps of thread.
14. Smear a slight amount of super glue on 1/4" of your thread and wrap.
15. If you wait a minute there is no need to whip finish.

Enjoy this one!

All the best, John

FFCOC 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.

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