

ON THE FLY

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
FLY FISHERS CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY

50 YEARS OF SERVING OUR MEMBERS!



January 2020

President's Message

by Denis Higginson

Who is your new president? The unknown angler?

I am a long-time fly fisherman and have been a member of this club off and on since 1975. I have served on several boards over the years just never was able to stay long enough to attain my new position.

I started fly fishing in 1969 with a cheap setup that you couldn't cast more than six feet without a strong wind behind you.

I have been a fly tier from almost the beginning. I taught the club fly tying class for two years back when pay phones were common. I was taught and converted by Mark Kerridge, owner of the Anglers Roost, the first fly shop in Orange county. I still have a vivid memory of the first fish I caught on a fly I tied. Ask me about it and I will bore you to tears.

I am mainly a nymph and streamer fisherman but have returned to our roots. I have been doing more wet fly fishing. I don't do much dry fly fishing as it seems that I miss all the hatches. I also have made a commitment to fishing more with European nymphs since I can use the same rods as wet fly fishing. I seldom fish still water because I get my battery recharged and achieve a level of personal peace from the sound of the water and the breeze blowing in the trees.

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Website: www.ffcoc.org

Next Club Meeting:

January 8, 2020

Phoenix Club

1340 Sanderson Anaheim, CA

6:00 pm - Wet Flies Social Hour

7:00 pm - Dinner and Program

Dinner & Program - \$35.00

Program Only - \$12.00

Next Board Meeting:

January 16 - 7:00 pm

Santiago Canyon College

Room 206

Club Members are Welcome

(President's Message, Continued)

As your new President let me be the one to welcome all our members to 2020. This new decade will include some changes in our board. A few of our long-term volunteers have passed the torch. Their input and experience will be missed. I want to thank them for their service. The new members bring a different prospective to the board.

This year we will looking into conservation projects in which the club can get involved.

We continue to grow our sport with On the River Training, Casting Clinic and possible Rod Building and Fly-Tying classes.

We will be working on the criteria for nominating a member for the Peter Koga award. Details to follow.

We continue our ongoing fight to find new members. We are a maturing group that needs to be vigilant in adding to our membership to keep the club healthy. Those of you still working please talk up fly-fishing at work, soccer games and any other activities you are involved in. Get them to come to a meeting. Get them to participate in the casting clinic so they see there is really no mystery or great talent to fishing with a fly.

Now let's talk about FISHING. Go somewhere and take your midge patterns and your streamer patterns. Yes, they both work at this time of year. You may not have a twenty or even a ten fish day, but you will have the anticipation of the unknown. Isn't that what keeps us going to the water? Go fishing and tell your story at the next meeting.

I love this game we play and those we chase.

Denis Higginson

CELEBRATING SIMPLICITY WITH PAT JAEGER

It is well known that fly fishermen can complicate anything. We are all guilty of over thinking our tactics and bringing too much gear in pursuit of the very simple trout. In January we welcome back local guide and favorite Pat Jaeger who will help us get back to basics with an exciting program aptly titled **CELEBRATING SIMPLICITY**. Pat's many years of guiding the Eastern Sierra and Northern California along with his mastery of Tenkara have given him a unique perspective on the essentials of our sport. Pat's program will be preceded by what he calls a pre-show Fireside chat.



“I would like to take a moment and dissect my fishing pack for you. I will shed some light on the gear you can leave at home and give you a list of ‘don’t leave home with-outs.’ And maybe I can be persuaded to give a little Eastern Sierra winter forecast. I am blessed to log over 200 days of year in my wet wading boots. This slide show is new for 2020 and I promise an entertaining night of concepts, formulas, Jaegerisms and images of our favorite fishing spots in the Eastern Sierra.”

Pat Jaeger has fished and explored the Eastern Sierra for more than 40 years. His journey began when he moved to Mammoth Lakes in 1978. In 1980, he became part-owner of the Trout Fly in Mammoth Lakes.

His passion turned into a profession after serving an internship at the Clearwater House on Hat Creek and a partnership with Eastside Guide Service in 1995. Currently, owner/operator of the Eastern Sierra Guide Service. Pat's blessed to be a full-time guide. He logs over 200 days a year on the water.

(Continued next page)

His guiding is based out of the Mammoth Lakes area but also a permitted guide on McCloud, Upper Sacramento and Pit River in Northern California. His winters are spent hunting trout on the Lower Owens as a drift boat operator and snowmobile fishing on the Upper Owens and Hot Creek.

A proud dad of two beautiful girls, a husband now 20 years to wife Pamela who has a unique profession in the animal entertainment business. You might have seen her petting zoos or kids pony rides at your local fairs.

Pat's main objective as a guide and teacher is to simplify the techniques for the person entering the world of fly fishing and to defy the most advanced angler in the trout-infested waters in the West.

Fly Fishing Achievements:

2001-FFF Casting Instructors Certified

Simms Ambassador

Test Pilot Sage Fly Rods

TenkaraUSA pro guide

Head Guide for Project Healing Waters (Eastern Sierra)

2013 Master Guide for the Trout Fitter/Trout Fly Mammoth Lakes

Head Guide for the Silver Lake Fishing Academy

2013 Guided IGFA Grand Slam

2016 Guided IGFA Grand Slam

2018 J Stanley Lloyd Order of the Mayfly Award

(See photos on the next page)



2020 Meeting and Speaker Calendar

CLUB SPEAKER TOPIC

MEETINGS

WEDNESDAYS

January 8	Pat Jaeger	"Keeping it Simple"
February 12	James Garrettson	"Reading a River and Taos Area"
March 11	Eric Kramer	"Kamchatka and Argentina - Out There!"
April 8	Buhler Brothers	"Streamer Fishing for Big Fish in So Calif"
May 13	Chris King	"Fishing the Pit, McCloud & Lower Sacramento"
June 10	Jimmy Cheers	"Big Browns on the South Holston"
July 8	Chris Leonard	"The Magnificent Eastern Sierra"
August 15		CLUB PICNIC
September 9		ANNUAL FUND RAISING AUCTION
October 14	Maury Hatch	"Fishing the California Delta"
November 11	Gary Bulla	"Fishing the Amazon"
December 9	John Williams	"Adventure North"

NOTES: Club Meetings are held at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim. In the Pavillion except for the Auction in September which is held in the Ballroom unless otherwise notified.

Board Meetings are held at Saddleback Community College, Room 206.

2020 Outings and Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>STREAMKEEPER</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Feb 8-9	On the River Trainning Lower Owens	Doug Jones	714 697-2222
Feb 22	Jess Ranch Lakes Float Tubing	Lyman Kennedy	714 742-5865
Mar 16-18	Pyramid Lake, Nevada	Eric Kramer	805 984-7202
Apr 1-3	San Juan River, New Mexico	Brian Mayer	562 619-9169
April 4-5	Buckley Ponds, Bishop, CA	Tom Niedzialek	714 738-5540
April 19-24	Green River	Tom Sakai	714 357-1199
Jun 5-7	Fish Creek, CA	Brian Mayer	562 619-9169
July 10-13	Hot Creek Ranch, CA	John Williams	951-236-0862
July 17-20	Cottonwood Lakes Backpacking	Larry Behm	949-235-4466
Sept 21-25	Loa, Utah	John Williams	951-236-0862
Sept 28-Oct 3	Loa, Utah	John Williams	951-236-0862
Sept 30-Oct 2	Bridgeport, CA	Paul Nakamura	310-915-0124
Oct 16-18	President's Outing, Kernville, CA	Dennis Higginson	714 544-9908
Nov 10-12	Pyramid Lake, Nevada	Jim Wright	714 679-6638

Note: the above is an initial draft. Dates may change and outings may be removed or added. Contact the streamkeeper for the latest information.

Free Fly Fishing Classes and On The River Training

Sign up NOW!

The Fly Fishers Club of Orange County is offering free fly fishing classes and on the river training for its members in January and February 2020. This program is a continuation of the FFCOC's On The River Classes and Clinic training that has been a great successes providing club members introductory classroom and on the river training. Joe Libeu, a FFI Certified Master Caster Instructor, professional guide, developer and instructor for Advanced Nymphing Clinics on the Owens river, and member of our Club will provide six hours of classroom training and two days of on the river training to participants. Numerous experienced Club members will assist by Joe providing hands assistance during the on the river clinics.

Save the dates:

Classroom Training – Santiago Canyon College - Orange CA

- **Saturday January 25 - 8:30am -12:30pm**
- **Saturday February 1 - 8:30am -12:30pm**

On The River Clinic – Lower Owens River

- **Saturday February 8 – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm**
- **Sunday February 9 - 8:00 am to noon**



Continued on the next page.

The program includes everything needed to plan/prepare for and experience a successful fly fishing trip. Classroom training will be held in on the Santiago Canyon College campus in Orange where subjects will include: equipment, insects including their life cycles and how flies imitate them, how trout behave, clues as to what fish eat, stream care and etiquette, reading the water, rigging and much more. The On The River Clinic will be 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 will include: reading the stream, insects including in-stream entomology, casting, mending, setting depth of flies using indicators, and numerous demonstrations. The second day on the river includes fishing one-on-one with one of the more experienced club members.

The training is focused on helping new club members learn the basics of fly fishing and is in follow up to our annual Casting Clinic held in September. Participation in the On The River Classes and Clinic is limited. New club members that signed up last September after the Casting Clinic will be given preference. All club members are welcome if we can accommodate them.

Joe Libeu is conducting the On The River Classes and Clinic and Doug Jones is helping him with the logistics. If you would like more information about this program you can contact Joe Libeu at fishlqf@ix.netcom.com or (310) 749-6771, or Doug Jones at dougjones.oc@gmail.com or (714) 697-2222.

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 Vern Martin, the Club's Membership Chair at vmartin8591@sbcglobal.net.

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 6 to 8 members to help with the training.

SIGN UP NOW

Float Tube Outing At Jess Ranch Lakes

Saturday, February 22, 2020

Lyman Kennedy, Streamkeeper

Our first outing of the year will be at Jess Ranch Lakes located in Apple Valley approximately one hour drive from Orange County (depending on traffic).

There are three lakes on the premises, however we will be fishing on Lake One. It is a small easily navigated lake that is stocked with trout and bass, all catch and release. If you have all needed equipment, it is a great place to learn and improve your float tubing skills.

The cost to fish the lake is \$40 to fish all day. The ticket office opens at 7:00 and you have to be off the lake by 4:00 pm.

This is a Float Tubing Only lake. You are required to wear chest waders and a safety vest.

A five or 6 weight rod will do nicely, and you will need assorted flies such as midges and streamers. Barbless hooks are required.

February can be very chilly so you will need to wear layers and fleece under garments. If interested you can sign up at January meeting or contact me:

Phone 714 742-5865 or e-mail at lkennedyjr@earthlink.net.

Please go to **Jess Ranch Lakes** and read about Jess Lake and their rules for usage and safety.





FFCOC 2020 Outings to South Central Utah



Deposit \$200 **Non Refundable** to hold your spot forwarded to the guide.

Maximum of 6 guests per each trip. The following does not include transportation to/from Utah, fishing gear, lodging and/or meals. Guides provide transportation to/from fishing venues and the fly shop. Contact John Williams to sign up.

[Trip-1: September 21-25, 2020](#)

Quiet Fly Fisher, Loa Utah - Two fisher persons per guide.

\$1,000 total per person for 5 days guided fishing (\$200 per day per person.)

Current Participants:

- 1 John Williams
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

[Trip-2: September 28-October 2, 2020](#)

Quiet Fly Fisher, Loa Utah - Two fisher persons per guide.

\$1,000 total per person for 5 days guided fishing (\$200 per day per person.)

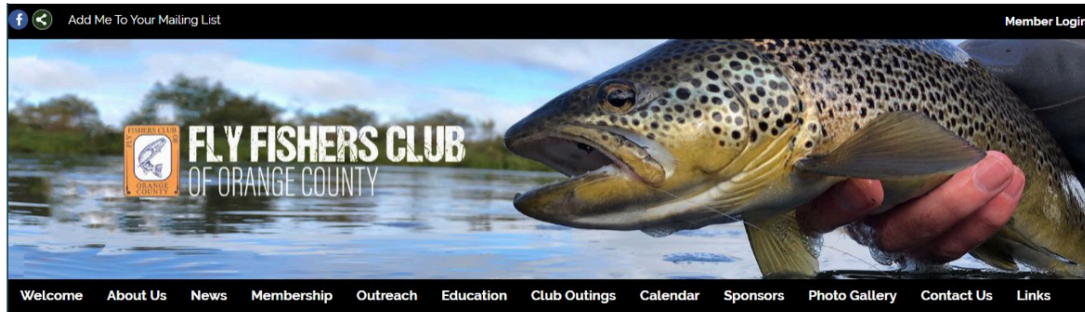
Current Participants:

- 1 John Williams
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

(A five-day stay no shorter determined the prices above.)

Announcements

HELP WANTED!



Are you...

Looking for a new opportunity or perhaps a challenge?

Looking for a way to get to know more about our Club and meet more members?

Looking for a way to give back to the Club?

Then...

Consider helping us with our website.

Our Club's website has been a tool for our Club for many years by providing information for our members, managing Club records, and most importantly, community outreach including attracting new members. Our website in conjunction with our Facebook page has been our most successful method of providing information about Club events such as the Casting Clinic, the Annual Auction, the On The River Training program, and meeting/speaker schedules to Club members as well as non-club members. Almost all new members are signing up through the website - - hardly anyone uses paper anymore.

Many years ago Mike Kosmides built our first website. After several years Melinda Burns created a new website to improve its functionality and managed it through 2017. Melinda worked hard to bring us into the computer age (we weren't always willing participants). We are grateful that she did as the website has become such a valuable tool for communications and it makes our Club more relevant. In 2017 Jim Wright assisted Melinda with the website. In 2018 the Club decided to update the website based on changes in the ClubExpress platform on which our website is based. To accomplish this we created a Website Committee including Melinda Burns, Jim Wright, Rich Fanning, Art Prangley, Tom Sakai, Dawn Martin, Vern Martin and Doug Jones as the Chair of the Committee. The entire Club helped by completing surveys and providing comments to the Committee. Although updating websites is an ongoing process, the Committee has accomplished many goals including updating the website's "look and feel" and functionality, improving content, training, maintain a calendar of Club events and getting more Club members to familiar with and using the website.

We are seeking a Club volunteer who would like to actively participate in the ongoing evolution and improvement of the website. Doug would maintain the lead for the website during 2020 with the goal that the volunteer would take over the lead role in 2021 or sooner. If you are interesting in a challenging and rewarding opportunity please get in touch with Doug at websitemanager@FFCOC.org, Melinda, or any of the Committee members listed above.



What IS Fly Buy?

Part fishing tackle garage sale, part fly-fishing carnival and all fun.

When: February 01, 2020

Time: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Where: Long Beach Casting Club - 4901 E 7th St, Long Beach, CA 90804

ALL DAY EVENTS:

- Fly Tying
- Kids' Fly Tying (under 14 get in free!)
- A Garage Sale
- Silent Auction and Raffles.

ADMISSION | LUNCH INCLUDED:

- \$13 for FFI* members.
- \$18 for others, with FFI* memberships available at the door.
- Or donate any usable fly-fishing item or accessory with an original value of more than \$40 to the garage sale and you will get free admission.
- Children under 14 – FREE! Includes lunch!

FLY TYING CLASSES | FREE FLY TYING FOR CHILDREN

- Twenty of Southern California's best fly tiers – including national and international award-winners – will be on hand to demonstrate their fresh and saltwater fish-catching fly patterns and techniques.
- Fly patterns will range from Eastern Sierra trout, bass bugs to surf fishing, local ocean breakwaters, and offshore big game.
- We will have tiers available to teach kids to tie their first fly.

* FFI = Fly Fishers International

EVENT CONTACT: Michael Schweit

Phone: (818) 601-9702 | specialprojects@swcffi.org or visit www.swcffi.org/FlyBuy

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WesternNativeTroutChallenge.org



Trip Reports



Pyramid Lake Outing

November 21-23 2019

Burrrrrrrrrrrrrr, it was cold in the early a.m. 21 degrees and reached a high of 52 degrees mid day, still long underwear weather. Rob Anderson was the head guide with most of the heavy lifting done by Chris Evasion a dedicated guide.

Attendees: James Wright (streamkeeper), Lyman Kennedy, Andy Frumento, Craig Weismann, Paul Nakamura, Terry Imlay and John Williams.

I was truly surprised to see Lyman not the last one off the water; he has a reputation to uphold you know. Fishing was sporadic with fish being caught in the early a.m. and the p.m. but few in between. Hot coffee and a donut got us to lunch with a Burger and all the fixings. One of us made a bit of money at the craps table after hours and one betting on a football game, not enough to pay for the outing but it bought a wonderful dinner the next day. Most of us caught fish sportily but not all of us. Craig made the last day in the a.m. look easy while the rest of us either called it a day early or wore out our arms casting in hope the Gods would provide. All in all I believe everyone had a good time.



More photos - next page.



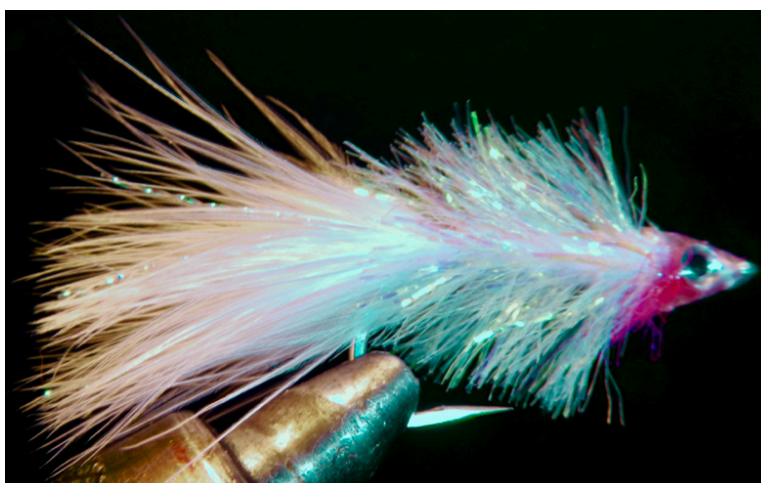
Please, do not lean forward!
Please don't let your big fish pull you forward!
The water is really cooold!
Lessons learned the hard way!

Flies That Keep On Giving

By John Williams

While visiting Vancouver British Columbia I stopped by Pacific Anglers a well-stocked and quite professionally run fly shop. I was looking for flies for Salmon and Northern Pike to use as inspiration tying for an upcoming trip to Labrador. Many options were available for Salmon but few for Pike. I picked up a couple for both species and here is one that works well in the Pacific North West for sea run Salmon, though I will be fishing for Landlocked Salmon, I'll give them a try.

Name ? It was in a bin unlabeled



Tail is white although the photo shows some discoloration

Hook:	Daiichi 2546 Saltwater, mash the barb please
Thread:	GSP 100 White (Gel Spun)
Tail:	White Marabou
Tail Flash:	Crystal Flash Pearl
Body:	Explanation in body of text
Body Wrap Flash:	Palmer Chenille Small Pearl
Beard:	Bright Red Dubbing (Optional)
Head:	UV Fly Finish Resin <u>Thin</u> (I prefer to make several coats)
Eyes:	1/8" Adhesive Silver Black
Glue:	Super Glue Gel Formula

Mash the barb of the hook and place in your vice. Smear the shank with a slight amount of super glue and run your thread from the eye to the start of the bend. Place a Marabou feather on top of the shank letting the tips extend a hook shank length to the rear and with thread secure it all the way forward to 1/4 from the eye, cut off excess and run your thread back to the bend. Tie in two crystal flash fibers on both sides of the tail centered and cut to the length of the tail.

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Tie in the Palmer Chenille at the bend; smear a slight amount of super glue on the top of the marabou shank of the hook then palmer the Chenille forward making touching wraps and end at the ¼ point behind the hook eye, keep the fibers facing backward while you wrap. If you wish a beard tie in a slight amount of red dubbing on the bottom side of the hook shank just in front of the end of the marabou. At the point behind the end of the marabou and next to the marabou start your first coat of UV fly finish and set with a UV light. Place a smear of super glue on either side of the head where the eyes will be secured, this takes some work the first few times, add your eyes to either side of the head and wait for the super glue to set. Add one or two or more coats of UV resin setting between each application and covering the eyes. Try to keep the resin from impregnating the marabou; keep your UV light handy.

Not tried yet but it came with a recommendation from the fly shop. Who knows, I might fish the Pacific North West as well.

**Very Tight Lines All,
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.

Board of Directors and Activity Leaders:

President
Art Prangley

1st Vice President
Denis Higginson

2nd Vice President
Terry Roznos

Past President
Melinda Burns

Treasurer
Brian Mayer

Secretary
Tom Niedzialek
secretary@ffcoc.org

Newsletter Editor
Richard Fanning
newsletter@ffcoc.org

Programs: Art Prangley

Outings: Lyman Kennedy

Website/Social Media: Doug Jones

Conservation: Larry Behm

Raffle: Dawn Martin

Membership: Vern Martin,
membership@ffcoc.org

Trout in the Classroom: Melinda Burns

Fly Tying: Brian Mayer

Fly Fishers International Liason:
Melinda Burns

Website/Social Media: Doug Jones

Membership: Vern Martin

Raffle: Dawn Martin

Members At Large: Joyce Carrico,
Tom Sakai, Jim Wright, Jim Edwards

Support Our Local Fly Shops



Bob Marriott's Fly Fishing Store

2700 W. Orangethorpe Ave.

Fullerton, CA 92833

Open Mon.-Sat. 9 am to 6 pm

Closed Sunday

Phone: 714 525-1827

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 - 6 pm

Phone: 949 548-9449

www.hisandherflyfishing.com