

# ON THE FLY

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE  
FLY FISHERS CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY

50 YEARS OF SERVING OUR MEMBERS!



**February 2020**

## President's Message

by Denis Higginson

### Can We Talk?

This is your "Mother" speaking. I am not telling you to clean your room but:

It's February and cabin fever is building. You have been tying flies to refill the standard boxes.

You have been thinking about where to go fishing.

It's time to do research for upcoming trips. To contact guides and hotels. Start booking them and your fishing partners.

Have you even looked in your fly boxes to see what you need to tie?

Have you remembered to look for and repair the leak in your waders?

Have you cleaned all your fly lines? Checked the tip end to see if it is cracked and needs to be cut back and a butt section tied on?

Are your felt soles still in good shape or too worn to keep you from slipping or falling? Do you want to add studs or cleat plates for better grip?

Did you finally ask for and get that wading staff you have been saying you need? Remember how many times you almost or worse went down?

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Website: [www.ffcoc.org](http://www.ffcoc.org)

#### Next Club Meeting:

February 12, 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:

February 20 - 7:00 pm

Santiago Canyon College

Room 206

Club Members are Welcome

**(President's Message, Continued.)**

**Have you learned to tie that loop knot for nymphs and streamers?**

**Now is the time to organize that mess of gear you left after you got home from the last trip.**

**Have you made your list of what needs to be repaired?**

**Made your list of what you want to buy this year?**

**Have you bought or renewed your license?**

**Do you have a check list of must take or else?**

**Last tip I forgot my wading socks. Cold feet.**

**Take it from one of the great procrastinators. Thinking, planning and organization beats the hell out of last minute and chaos.**

**Go stand in some water and have a good time.**

**Denis**

## **Whistle if you fish!**

**Do you carry a whistle when you go fishing? The club has made a bulk purchase of Fox40 safety whistles and is selling them at cost for \$5 each. These retail for around \$10.**

**Why carry a whistle? If you slip on the stream and twist your ankle, can your fishing buddy hear you yell over the sound of the rushing stream? If your float tube begins to leak and you need assistance, can a passing boater hear you over the engine? These whistles can be heard over a mile away and work in all types of weather or conditions.**

**We will have the whistles at the registration desk during our monthly meetings. Please see Brian if you want to buy one or two – and fish safer!**

## **Membership**

### **Please welcome our newest members!**

- Mike Wolivar
- Joe Fiedler
- Tom Philp
- Paul Lepore
- Sharon Muro
- Howard Sawada
- Tia Morris

### **Membership Renewal Reminder:**

We just wanted to remind those who have not renewed the membership for 2020 your 2019 membership has expired on 12/31/19. We are currently working on the new 2020 Club Directory and would like to include you in it. You can renew online or bring your renewal form in at the next meeting. The cut off to make the 2020 Club Directory is 2/29/2020. Our goal for membership is 175 membership. We are currently at 84 paid memberships with approximately 106 memberships from 2019 that need to be renewed. If we can get everyone to renew, we will meet our goal.

As you can see from the previous announcement, we are doing well with bringing in new memberships due to the On the Water Clinic Classes.

# **FFCOC Membership Drive and Participation Raffle 2020**

## **Rules for Membership Drive and Participation Raffle**

**You will receive a raffle ticket based on how you participate in our club's activities.**

- 1. One ticket for each General Membership Meeting you attend.**
- 2. Five tickets if you participate in an Outing**
- 3. Ten Tickets if you offer to be a New Stream-Keeper this year. (If you are already one. this does not apply to you).**
- 4. Ten Tickets if you participate in planning or volunteering at any club event. (This does not apply to BOD Members.)**
- 5. Five tickets if you participate in any classes offered by the club.**
- 6. Ten tickets if you volunteer in any SWCFFI Sanctioned event.**
- 7. Twenty tickets if you join the BOD for 2021**
- 8. Twenty tickets if you recruit any new club member.**
- 9. Ten tickets if you recruit a past club member that has not been a member for 3 years.**
- 10. Five tickets every time you greet a visitor or new member. (I will give them a note paper and pen to keep track who welcomes them. And it must be more than just HI, I am "SO and SO". Find out a little about them.**

**I think that covers just about everything you can participate in.**

**Prizes will be awarded at the December 2020 meeting.**

**Melinda Burns**



## Education

### Fly Tying Class Scheduled

Our 1<sup>st</sup> session of fly tying for the 2020 year will be held on Saturday Feb. 29, 2020 at Bob Marriotts in Fullerton.

Time of class will be from 10 am to 12 noon.

Classes will be held for Intermediate and Advanced Tyers.

Beginners classes will be held at a later date.

Class size is limited so sign up by [clicking here](#) or contact Lyman Kennedy at (714) 742-5865. Please state which class you would like to sign up for. A sign-up sheet will be available at the February meeting but these classes fill up quickly.

Additional fly tying classes are in the planning process. Melinda Burns is looking to bringing in Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award Tyers for a class or two. To learn more about the Buz Buszek award, [Click here](#). Did you know one of our own club members was a recipient of this award in 1985. Some of you may know him, Bill Blackstone. [Click here](#) to view a gallery of some of the fantastic realistic flies he has tied with ordinary household goods.

### Thin Blue Line Fishing Class

Want to test your hunting skills? Can you find places off the beaten trail where trout may be silently sipping down their bugs unmolested by throngs of fisherman? I'm talking about finding those Thin Blue Lines on a map that hold wild trout. These streams are not too far off the road, yet remote enough where few people venture. The fish are measured in terms other than size. While occasional large ones surprise you, these fish are wild, wily, vividly colored, and often fight as hard as their much larger brothers from the big rivers. And the scenery is always beautiful.

This class will be offered on two successive Saturdays, March 21 and March 28. The first session will be an indoor class covering how to identify fishy terrain on a map before you enter the woods, how to relate GPS and topographic maps to each other, how to estimate time to hike to your destination, and a few fishing tricks needed for these types of streams. The second session on the 28<sup>th</sup> will be an outdoors practice session at Caspers Wilderness Park. In this session we will apply the classroom skills to match terrain features on a map and on the ground, and to practice plotting a cross-country course to reach targets not on paved trails.

The cost of the class is \$5 to cover printing of maps and protractors, please bring it to the first session. You will need to bring your own compass and whistle. Our class space is limited to 15 people. Please sign up with Larry Behm at [Larry.Behm@cox.net](mailto:Larry.Behm@cox.net) or 949-235-4466

### "Toys for Tots" 2019 Drive was Another Success!

Thanks to all of you who participated and found it in your hearts to give under privileged children a chance to experience the generosity of others during this special Holiday season.

These are just some of the toys donated to Toys for Tots from our club. These handsome gentlemen were thrilled to receive our generous donations and thanked us for our continued support. May you all experience the love of one another in the year to come.



**MISSION:** The basic mission of the Toys for Tots Program is to collect new unwrapped toys and distribute those toys to less fortunate children at Christmas.

**GOAL:** The primary goal of Toys for Tots is, through the gift of a new toy, help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children.

**FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of the Foundation are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to improving communities in the future.

Thank you again, to all who supported and participated in our annual Toy Drive.

John and Melinda Burns

## This Month's Meeting

### A GUIDE'S APPROACH TO WATER: JAMES GARRETTSON

In fly fishing we often hear confusing slogans such as “Think like the fish” or “Be the fly.” The best advice might be “Think like a guide.” How often have we wondered what thoughts run through the minds of professional guides as they face the challenge of giving us a memorable day on the river? The program explores the guide/client partnership with many helpful tips to prepare us for future outings. Our February speaker, James Garrettson, a fresh young face on the speaker circuit, will share his approach to the many variables he faces on every guiding day. Weather, river flow, hatches and angler skill level all play a part in the intricate back story. James’ home waters around Taos, New Mexico provide a stunning backdrop to this narrative and a reminder that this State has been overlooked in previous speaker programs. James is a keen advocate of the latest Euro nymphing techniques and an Ambassador the Fulling Mill Company. An accomplished fly tier, he will be tying flies before the meeting.

James is a full-time fishing guide and a part time astro-physicist (not really)! Originally from Northern Virginia, James started fly fishing at age 11 and never looked back. His unbridled enthusiasm for the sport landed him a job at Orvis before he could drive. After bouncing around the East Coast, Montana, Costa Rica, and the Pacific Northwest, James has finally planted roots in Northern New Mexico. When not spending quality time with his family or taking fishing tips from his 3-year-old daughter, James can be found on the vise or taking advantage of the Southwest’s myriad of fishing opportunities. Apart from guiding, James enjoys writing, photography, competitive ribbon dancing, and speaking at shops and clubs near and far. Catching fish is also very much enjoyed.



## 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
Mar 31-Apr 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](mailto:fishlqf@ix.netcom.com) or (310) 749-6771, or Doug Jones at [dougjones.oc@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.ffcoc.org) or contact Vern Martin, the Club's Membership Chair at [vmartin8591@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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**



# **FLY FISHERS CLUB**

## **OF ORANGE COUNTY**

### **California Waterfowl Association**

**Owens River Annual Clean Up**

**Bishop, California**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020**



**Meet @ 8AM Pleasant Valley Campground @ the footbridge**

**Bring gloves. Be prepared to help clean up as much of the river as we can.**

**Bring family and friends! The more people, the cleaner the river!**

**Coffee and baked good provided for all volunteers at 8AM.**

**Lunch will be provided for all volunteers at 12PM**

**@ Pleasant Valley Campground @ the dumpster.**

**There is a free raffle for participants with a lot of swag to be given away!**

**(Continued on next page.)**



(Continued from prior page:)

**2020 Sponsors include:**

**Andrew McClellan; California Deer Association; California Waterfowl Association**

**Caltrout; Ducks Unlimited; Eastern Sierra Fish Reports**

**Erick Schat's Bakery; Great Basin Bakery; Golden Trout Lanyards**

**Inyo Recycling and Waste Management; KIBS Radio**

**Kittredge Sports Guide Service; KMMT/KRHV Radio**

**Orvis Company; Preferred Septic and Disposal; RIO, Redington, and Sage**

**Sierra Mountain Trout Guide Service; Snowbee**

**Silver Lake Resort; Southwest Council, Fly Fishers International**

**Tenkara Tanuki Fishing Rods; Trout Unlimited; Virginia Lakes Resort**

**Talk it up. Bring family and friends.**

**This is our chance to annually clean up Bishop's blue ribbon moving water fishery.**

**For information call Chris Leonard. 818.288.3271.**

**Luong Tam, Chris Leonard, and Jarett Coons will have a free clinic on fishing tenkara rods after lunch. Please join Luong, Chris, and Jarett. Rods provided.**

# 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](mailto:lkennedyjr@earthlink.net).

Please go to [Jess Ranch Lakes](#) to read about their rules for usage and safety.



# **San Juan River, NM Outing**

**March 31 to April 3, 2020**

Spring is just around the corner and we are planning another fantastic outing to the San Juan River in New Mexico. 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.

Many of the club members have stayed at the Fisheads San Juan River Lodge [ (505) 634-0463, <http://www.fisheadsofthesanjuan.com/> ], and the Abe's Motel just across the street [ (505) 632-2194, <http://sanjuanriver.com/> ]. Both have very reasonable rates and can arrange guides. There are other accommodations as well. If making reservations at Fisheads, please let them know you are part of the FFCOC group. Contact Brian Mayer for full details.

This year, we are fishing on weekdays when all the kids should be in school and we won't have to compete with the local weekend fishers. Plan to arrive by Tuesday, March 31. The general plan is to fish Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, April 1 to 3. These are the days that you should consider arranging guides. 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. Check both Fisheads and Abe's websites for details.

For those non-fishing travelers, there are several historic and interesting areas nearby to explore. The City of Aztec offers some shopping for Native American products and an Anasazi settlement to explore. Durango, Colorado is a short drive away as well with many attractions.

We have generally gathered as a group for dinner each night, although there are limited choices in Navajo Dam. We usually go to the City of Aztec (short 20 minute drive) for dinner at the local Chinese restaurant and to Bloomfield (short 30 minute drive) for bar-b-que restaurant. The restaurant at Fisheads requires reservations 24 hours in advance for dinner.

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

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

# Loa Utah Outings, 2020

John Williams, Streamkeeper



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: Loa, Utah. 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 Dan Iwata
- 3 Howard Sawata
- 4
- 5
- 6

## [Trip-2: Loa, Utah, 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.)

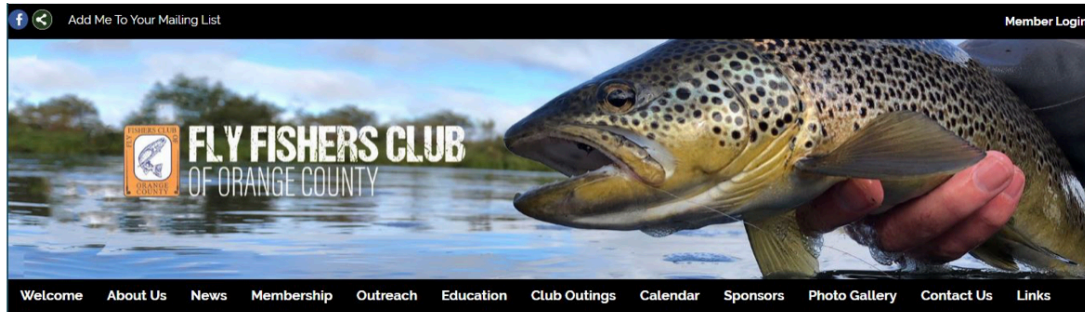
### **Current Participants:**

- 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 Prangle, 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](mailto: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

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### 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.

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\* FFI = Fly Fishers International

**EVENT CONTACT:** Michael Schweit

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



The Western Native Trout Challenge (WNTC) is a multi-state program hosted by the Western Native Trout Initiative.

## HOW TO START YOUR WESTERN NATIVE TROUT CHALLENGE

The Western Native Trout Challenge invites anglers to help celebrate our western legacy by catching native trout and char in each of the 12 participating Western states, at their own pace. By attempting to catch 18 species throughout 12 states (at the master angler level), participants can enjoy the adventure of a lifetime!

If the lure of the West is not on your bucket list now, once you learn about the beauty of the fish and the locations where you can participate, it will likely become one!

For more information go to:

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

## **2019/2020 Fly Fishers Club of Orange County Marine Studies Scholarship**

The Scholarship Committee would like to announce that the CSU Scholarship Program has awarded Chris O'Keefe as this year's 2019/2020 Scholarship recipient. Chris is one of six candidates that were up for this scholarship. Chris currently attends Humboldt State University and is Graduate Student majoring in Fisheries Biology with a 3.9 grade point average. As you will read in his cover letter included below, he is an avid Fly Fisherman since 2008 and has worked on many programs that pertain to trout and salmon.

Here is his cover letter to the Scholarship:

Dear Fly Fishers Club of Orange County,

Ever since I was a young child, I have been passionate about fishing, but when I took an "Introduction to Flying Fishing" course in the summer of 2008, I was led down a path where I discovered my interest in fisheries management and conservation. I can confidently say that without fly fishing in my life, I probably would not have had the chance to work with remote golden trout populations in the Sierra's, track the movement of rainbow trout in a blue ribbon trout stream in the Central Valley, or monitor endangered salmon and steelhead along the California coast. My five-plus years of monitoring fish populations has led me to graduate school, where I hope to develop technical skills that will enable me to help preserve salmonid populations for future generations.

I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to work towards a master's degree in Fisheries Biology and to learn from the amazing faculty at Humboldt State University (HSU). My thesis focuses on Coho salmon and steelhead trout passage of beaver dam analogues (BDAs). BDAs are a relatively new innovation to salmonid restoration. Due to the complex habitat that BDAs create, they have been cited to benefit many aquatic and terrestrial species, but there are concerns from regulatory agencies about fish passage. The findings of my research will inform future implementation efforts and address permitting concerns in Northern California and much of the Pacific Northwest. My research is already off to a great start, and I am eager to share my results with the fish restoration community.

My journey to get to graduate school was fraught with challenges. I am a first-generation college student and have had very little guidance on how to navigate through the academic system. While finding my way through college, I struggled with a learning disability that went undiagnosed for most of my life. It was not until the end of my undergraduate degree that I found out that I am dyslexic. That realization helped me address the problem head on and seek help when I need it. In addition, during my undergraduate coursework, I worked full time while taking classes to pay for school and living expenses. After completing my undergraduate degree and before starting graduate school, I worked two jobs to try to pay off my college debt and make ends meet. At the same time, I also took night classes at the local community college to prepare myself for graduate school. My path to graduate school has not been easy, but I feel it has only made me stronger, and I have learned that with enough hard work and dedication, I can accomplish my aspirations.

Continued on the Next Page



**A scholarship would help address my unmet financial needs. My thesis research is partially funded by a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) grant awarded to my advisor, Dr. Darren Ward. This grant covers the research equipment and provides me with a small hourly stipend for up to 20 hours per week during the semester. While this will pay for some of my living expenses, it is insufficient to cover my tuition, rent, and school supplies. As a first-generation college student with little outside financial support, I do not have the resources to pay for my education out of pocket. Between undergraduate and graduate school expenses, I have accrued close to \$30,000 in student loan and credit card debt. A scholarship would alleviate some of the financial burdens associated with graduate school and enable me to allocate more of my time to research and the development of technical-research skills.**

**HSU has long been my top choice for a graduate school, and I am thankful for the opportunity to learn at one of the best fisheries programs in the nation. The skills I develop over the next few years will help me advance to a career in which I can make meaningful differences in salmonid conservation.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**Best,**

**Chris O'Keefe**

# Flies That Keep On Giving

By John Williams

If you have followed my selections of flies you know I do a lot of nymph fishing, here is another that works well in moving water. Caddis inhabits rivers and streams the world around, here is another of my creations and it is at the beginner level.

## Willie's Holographic Caddis



<b>Hook:</b>	Firehole 315 Size #12
<b>Thread:</b>	Veevus 10/0 Black
<b>Bead:</b>	Tungsten 2.4mm Black
<b>Rib/Body:</b>	Stretch Magic Clear 1mm available at Michael's used as Bead and Jewelry cord.
<b>Green Underbody:</b>	Large Green Holographic Tinsel
<b>Thorax:</b>	Peacock Eye Herl
<b>Legs:</b>	Brown Hen Saddle Feather
<b>Cement:</b>	Gel Super Glue

Place the bead on the hook small hole first. Secure the hook in the vice and start the thread behind the bead immediately secure one end of the Stretch Magic one head space behind the bead. Wrap the thread into the bend securing the clear stretch magic along the way keeping it on top of the hook and make several wraps of thread to secure it in the bend. Cut a piece of holographic tinsel and secure it in the bend over the thread. Smear gel super glue slightly up the hook to the bead. Wrap the tinsel forward to behind the bead and secure with several wraps of thread. Back to the stretch magic, stretch it as you wrap forward all the way to the bead and secure with several wraps of thread and cut off remainder. Remove four-peacock eye herl and cut the brittle tip ends off, tie in two eye spaces behind the bead and wrap forward to the bead and secure with a few wraps of thread and cut off remainder. Lay six to eight fibers from a hen saddle behind the bead leaving them to the top and sides to form the legs the length of the hook or slightly longer. Smear super glue on your thread and carefully make several wraps of thread behind the bead and whip finish. This one is fun to fish. Have Fun!

## 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**  
Denis Higginson

**1st Vice President**

**2nd Vice President**  
Terry Roznos

**Past President**  
Art Prangley

**Treasurer**  
Brian Mayer  
Tom Sakai (Asst.)

**Secretary**  
Tom Niedzialek  
secretary@ffcoc.org

**Newsletter Editor**  
Richard Fanning  
newsletter@ffcoc.org

**Programs:** Larry Behm

**Outings:** Lyman Kennedy

**Website/Social Media:** Doug Jones

**Conservation:** Larry Behm

**Raffle:** Vern Martin

**Membership:** Melinda Burns  
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:** 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](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 - 6 pm

Phone: 949 548-9449

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