

FINNY FACTS

September 2022

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

Volume 45 No. 09

Next Club Meeting

Monday September 12, 6:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Gretchen Yearous



Tips and Tricks to Catch More Fish!

Join us!

Access the Club Calendar [SDFP Calendar](#)
Follow all the action on the Club's [Facebook page](#)
Club Meeting [Zoom Link](#)

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President's Message



Jim Castelluzzo
September, 2022

president@sandiegoflyfishers.com

We have some exciting destination trips coming up in September in Montana and Mexico. Tim Huckably is leading a group to our annual trip to the Clark Fork and the Stillwater River in Montana for Brown and Rainbow trout. John Ashley is leading our Baja group to La Ventana , Baja Sur in search of big Rooster, Dorado, Wahoo, and a host of other colorful in shore coral species. We have been tying flies and gearing up for both these exciting trips.

Locally, the Eastern Sierra has been calling and anglers have been pulling some nice rainbows and browns out of Crowley and the Owens River. I expect the hopper action should get very exciting this fall.

Our warm ocean waters have brought the blue fin, yellow fin and Dorado onto the 9 mile bank. Several of our members have been landing 15-20 lb tuna on the fly rod. I landed a Dorado on the troll while casting for Dorado on the kelp paddies north of the Coronados. The surf is always an option to hunt for Corbina and spot fin croaker, although I haven't seen the numbers We've seen in the past. I always patrol the surf with my fly rod in the early summer mornings.

We are organizing a group to support the Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge Program and will conduct this training at our lake Murray Casting Gazebo on Sunday Mornings. Frank Beaty, our Merit Badge Lead, is assisted by Mel Ochs and Alan Thompson in this effort. Also, I've been working with Conway Bowman to organize a casting clinic and fishing day for Cast Hope at our Lake Murray Facility.

Gary Strawn advised that we will have at least one classroom set up with Trout in the classroom this fall. He will also have a group completing the fence work at the Golden Trout Wilderness assisted by Sherry Ashbaugh. We are also supporting the California Coastal Conservancy along with Cast Hope in our outreach and conservation efforts . My motto is fish hard for 6 days and pay it forward on the 7th day. There is great need and our efforts are well placed.

Excerpts:

"Poets talk about spots of time, but it is really the fisherman who experience eternity compressed into a moment. No one can tell what a spot of time is until suddenly the whole world is a fish and the fish is gone."

—Norman McClean

"Never Leave fish to find Fish"

—Moses, 1200 BC

"Most fisherman use the double haul to throw their casting mistakes further."

—Lefty Kreh

Speaker Program

Monday, September 12, 6:30 p.m.

Gretchen Yearous

Certified Fly Casting Instructor



Tips and Tricks to Catch More Fish!

50 years flyfishing, starting with creeks in Boulder County Colorado, rivers in 5 Western states, float tubing lakes and salt water bays. Fly casting Instructor certified (CI) through the Federation of Flyfishers in 1994. Taught 27 years - Organized and taught multiple flyfishing subjects and fly casting for San Diego Flyfishers women's focus workshops, International Flyfishing Women's convention, Federation of Flyfishers Southwest conclaves, and Fred Hall Shows. Fly tier. Past President of San Diego Flyfishers. Fly casting articles published in the International Flyfishers Instructors newsletter – the Tailing Loop and in other newsletters. I am the media representative for six years for flyfishing the pre-season premier bass lake opener - Barrett Lake- to report the fishing conditions before the lake opens.

Southwestern Yacht Club

2702 Qualtrough Street, San Diego, CA 92106

[Map](#)

Have a suggestion for a guest speaker?
Contact: Tim Huckaby [Speaker Programs](#)

Happenings

The **September 17 Lake Hodges** outing is canceled due to the lake being closed for dam repair. Outing will be replaced with an 11:00 a.m. fly tie event at **Bay Park Fish Co.** to tie flies for roosterfish at La Ventana. Everyone welcome!

Our **women's program** is in need of gently used fly tying vices and tools. If you have any gear you no longer use, please contact Brooke Sargent: [Women's Programs](#)

Rod Building

Stay tuned for when classes will resume

Space will be limited to ensure quality time for each student. Dates will be announced in the *Finny Facts*. In the interim, if you are beginning your own project and would like some advice or recommendations, please free to contact [Jack Duncan](#)



Slay the Bay Women's Outing on August 12th!
A good time had by all!

Please send news, updates, reports, notes, tips, etc., to be shared on this page.
Editor: editor@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Feature Article

Rescue at the Forks of the Kern

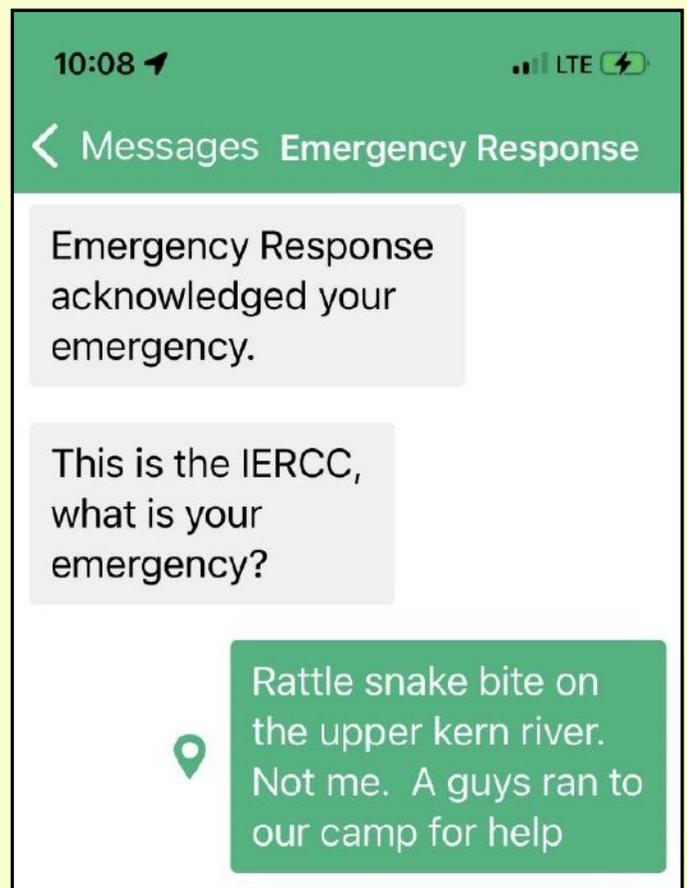
An amazing lifesaving story that took place on the 2022 annual trip to the Upper Kern River, by way of the Forks of the Kern Trail, with the San Diego Fly Fishers.

By Tim Huckaby
timhuckaby.com

*I will never forget the look on that kid's face when he ran into the Huck Site Yelling, "My brother has been bit by a Rattlesnake!" I have seen that look before. You never forget a look of fear like that. I focused on remaining calm for that kid—who is now a lifelong friend, Stephen. But, on the inside I was wiggling out. I briskly walked Stephen to my InReach device on the other side of camp and pressed the SOS button. That's a first. I have never discharged a bear spray. I have come close. **But, now I have pressed the SOS button on my Garmin InReach.***

It was fairly late in the day. My buddy Mike from Atlanta, a first-time fly fisher, and I hiked the long two miles back up and over the mountain back to the Huck site after a long day of battling kern river rainbows (KRR). We passed John and Delia Cooley going the other way on the trail... going up river to get in another hour or so of fishing before dark. The Cooleys have a ton of wilderness experience so I didn't even think about worrying about them. I knew that Pauly was way up river... like 6 six miles... so, I didn't expect him back until the sun went down.

As mike and I hiked back I did notice looking down from the trail that three young backpackers had moved in on the upriver side of the mountain (rattlesnake creek pass) while we were fishing upstream from them. There is really no trail down to the river from there so I liked their choice of scrambling down to the primitive site that exists down below. Plus, they were on top of one of my favorite fishing holes. One I always take beginners to. My wife has caught fish off those rocks... Mere, my niece and nephews... Vickie and Alyssa who I taught just a couple weeks before. They have all caught fish there. And even on this trip Bruce Bechard from SDFF called it "his hole". Little did I know how big those rocks would turn out in this story.



Feature Article, cont.

Well, tradition at the huck site involves happy hour: a little food and sipping JD while we watch rises to the point where one of us musters enough strength to get up and cast at them with a size 18 anything.

Then Stephen ran into the Huck Site Yelling, "My brother has been bit by a Rattlesnake!" It was 6:03PM when I sent the SOS on my Garmin InReach Satellite Communicator device.

While assuring Stephen everything would be fine, I asked him some simple questions and found out his brother Nick was bit and that another friend was with him. Stephen literally ran the 1.25 miles over the mountain (rattlesnake creek below) on the trail down-river to the huck site where we were. He was breathing pretty hard when he ran into the Huck site.

What I didn't know... because I was focused on Stephen and getting a plan from the IERCC (The International Emergency Response Coordination Center) was that Steve Massey, Ryan Tracey and Patrick Cooley from SDFF, were forming a plan to run and hike back with Stephen to Nick, the victim at the bite site. All this coordination was going on behind me. I found out later they were getting ready for the hike/run up stream to the site of the incident (putting on proper clothes, shoes, etc. grabbing water) and Steve Massey was getting his trauma bag which included a stethoscope and blood pressure cuff, along with helicopter landing panel, and signaling mirror.

Well, Stephen noticed the SDFF rescue team first and said, "I should go with them." I said "Yes" as Ryan approached me. Ryan and I made a plan. I'd drive Comms from the Huck site with IERCC while they ran back to Nick, the rattlesnake victim. I have a decade of messaging experience on the InReach and it just works better when standing still while the satellites are locked. I told Ryan that once he got there to do an SOS from his own InReach device so that IERCC could lock the coordinates at the site of the victim. Then Ryan and I could do InReach to InReach messages from our devices to update on status between Nick and the IERCC.

From John: *"Delia and I were walking back on the trail towards basecamp when we heard yelling from a long way down the mountain at the river. We could see someone waving at us but couldn't understand what the person was yelling. Delia and I started to turn to continue hiking when the individual started yelling again; we heard the word "SNAKE." Delia and I stopped and debated what to do. We then heard the phrase "SNAKE BITE." We quickly formulated a plan. Delia started running to the Huck Site while I started plunging down the several hundred foot drop to the river."*

Delia ran into Ryan, Steve, Patrick and Stephen com-

ing the other way. She turned and joined them on the trek to Nick, the bite victim.

From John: *"When I arrived a few minutes later I found two guys in their 20s. The victim, Nick, was calmly sitting on a rock holding an electronic e-reader. Andrew, the guy who flagged us down, was standing nearby holding a small first aid book. Nick pointed to his ankle where he had circled with a black Sharpie pen two large puncture wounds and had written the time of the bite – 4:55 p.m. Nick proceeded to list all of the classic venom symptoms he was experiencing, including swelling of the ankle and a metallic taste in his mouth. Nick and Andrew referred to their first aid books. Nick said the only viable treatment was to remain calm and try to get to a hospital within 6 hours."*



Southern Pacific Rattlesnake



Western Diamondback

Feature Article, cont.

There was no possible way to get to a hospital in six hours—unless we could bring in a helicopter. I told them that my wife was running to camp where we had a satellite communicator and – bonus – a Navy Corpsman. Nick and Andrew were very relieved to hear that information.

There were now five SDFP people on site with Nick (the bite victim) his brother Stephen and the other friend. We'd learn later how important and how lucky it was to have that many people on site.

From Ryan: *"Somehow Steve Massey ran the whole way and carried the stretcher in flip flops which were destroyed by the time he made it back to camp. When Patrick and I saw him take off with just those and a med kit, we both took a minute to load our bags with water and head lamps. Really glad we did because that came in handy on the way back."*

From John: *"Thank God Corpsman Steve was there. He quickly asserted control and started questioning Nick about his condition. Steve removed a stethoscope and blood pressure cuff from his heavy medical bag. Meanwhile, Ryan moved into a clear view of the satellites executed an SOS on his Garmin InReach."*

From Steve: *"When I got there, Nick was in mild pain and started to show symptoms from the Hemotoxin. Began by taking his vital signs- Blood Pressure, pulse, and respirations. Nick had an elevated Blood Pressure and was complaining about respiratory discomfort, along with pain radiating throughout his body to include his head."*

The bite was on Nick's ankle. Steve told me later doing a tourniquet was not an option because the poison was already coursing throughout his body.

I had already warned the IERCC that they were going to get a 2nd SOS from the victim site and they confirmed with me when they got it. Ryan and I were now "InReaching" each other with updates as the info poured in.

From Steve: *"Nick was calm until the toxin caused muscle spasms, nausea, and just sheer concern for his life. I told him to focus on breathing and keeping his blood pressure down- heart rate down to slow spread of venom through his bloodstream. When that started to calm him down and the pain increased. I recommended he find a Mental (happy Place) and focus on that until extraction. I held his hand until it was time to move him to helicopter."*

Then the wait...I got the ETA on my InReach from IERCC: "40 minutes". Ryan got "30 minutes" shortly thereafter. The five from the SDFP crew had the two other boys gather up all their backpacking stuff for the hike back to the Huck site.

From Steve: *"Stephen, Nicks brother found the snake and got my attention. I went over with Patrick and John and saw that it was a juvenile not adult rattlesnake. Knowing this made more sense as young rattlesnakes cannot control their venom discharge, which is why Nick's medical symptoms had become so severe."*

Those of us who live in rattlesnake areas like California know the juvenile rattlesnake is the most dangerous. What I understand to have happened is Nick accidentally dropped a piece of trash and the wind got it. He ran for it before it went over the rocks and into the river and stepped right next to the juvenile rattlesnake. It bit him immediately without even rattling. It rattled as it slithered off to a crevice in the rocks.

From Steve: *"Every 5 or so minutes I was retaking Nick's vitals and they were definitely on the "not so good side", but not terrible yet. Nick was concerned about making it out alive and I calmed those emotions as best I could."*

From John: *"Our group cheered at the first sounds of the helicopter. It overshot us and disappeared up the canyon. But two minutes later the helicopter returned, circled and broadcasted over its loudspeaker that they were going to land 1/4 mile up river. We listened in complete disbelief as the voice on the loudspeaker directed us to hike up with Nick and meet the helicopter. Nick was in no position to walk anywhere. I was concerned he may lose consciousness at any moment. We quickly formulated a plan. Ryan and I ran up river to try to convince the helicopter to land closer while Steve, Patrick, Stephen and Andrew would do their best to carry Nick up river."*

From Steve: *"When the helicopter arrived on scene it made several passes to look for a safe landing zone. It was just in time as Nick's lip were turning blue (cyanotic). On their final pass they told us on the loud speaker that they were landing a 1/4 mile down river. Now that might sound easy- but man we are talking about moving a 165 LBS kid along a goat trail through God's country with no stretcher. Not an easy or even safe plan, but it was all we had so we made it happen! Ryan and Patrick along with John made movement to the helicopter to talk with the medic. They came back with a backboard to carry Nick instead of the way we were carrying him."*



Feature Article, cont.

Unfortunately, the helicopter could not make a safe landing on the side of the river where Nick was. It had to land on the other side of the river, ¼ mile away. That meant everyone carrying that kid on a stretcher across the "Killer Kern" as the sun went down. Various folks slipped and fell on that journey across the river. But, Nick was not dropped into the water.

From John: "Ryan and I took off running cross-country up the canyon to find the helicopter. After ~10 minutes we spotted the distant lights of the helicopter – in a meadow on the opposite side of the river. A man in a flight suit was approaching on the opposite side. After yelling back and forth across the river brought us to an impasse. I didn't think we couldn't hand-carry Nick to the helicopter and the flight medic on the opposite bank said the helicopter couldn't land any closer to the victim. But the helicopter had a backboard and the flight medic offered to carry it across the river and help carry Nick."

At the same time, Steve, Pat, Stephen and Andrew carried Nick along the river towards the helicopter. Delia was there and had seen the helicopter land from her perch on the trail and ran back down the mountain to guide the group to the helicopter's location. The group carrying Nick was exhausted, but they had gotten Nick several hundred yards farther up the canyon closer to the helicopter. When the two groups met the flight medic began to examine Nick while Ryan and Patrick assembled and secured the backboard. After Nick was strapped to the board, our group of six grabbed the backboard while Delia led and cleared the path.

From John: *I thought carrying the backboard would be easy. However, Nick was heavy, the trail was rocky and narrow, and it was now close to 8:00 pm and getting dark. We walked up river for a while then carefully went down the steep riverbank to enter the water. Delia grabbed people's phones and Nick's e-reader before lighting up the river with a headlamp. The water was opaque and up to our waists; we could not see our feet or the many large rocks under the surface. None of us were wearing wading boots or had a wading staff. Steve was only wearing flip-flops. Frequently, someone would yell out "stop" or "slow down" as they lost their footing, twisted an ankle or banged their shins on a rock. I think each one of us fell in the water at some point while struggling to keep the backboard above water. I remember worrying during the crossing that Nick may survive the snake bite but drown during the river crossing.*

From John: *The helicopter pilot was waiting for us at the top of the bank. He took the flight medic's spot on the backboard while the medic ran ahead to get an IV ready for Nick. We all walked the last 100 yards and loaded Nick – still on the backboard – into the helicopter.*

Our group then backed off and took cover behind rocks and trees to avoid any debris kicked up by the helicopter as it took off."

It was now 8:40 PM. It was dark. So the five SDFP members and the two boys with all their gear walked back the 1.25 miles to the Huck Site over the mountain to camp in the dark of night. The rest of the SDFP group at the Huck site waited nervously. It was now after 10PM. When I saw the flashlights coming down the trail I thanked God in relief.

From John: *"After the helicopter flew away, we plunged again into the river. We had to cross the river again to get back to the Huck site. This time without having to carry Nick, but still difficult because it was dark. Steve gave up trying to wade in his flip-flops and simply swam across the river."*

From John: *"Ryan, Steve, Patrick, Andrew, Stephen, Delia and I hiked back to the site of the snake bite, gathered our own personal gear, distributed Nick's gear among us, and slowly started hiking back up the mountain to the trail. At the top, Delia and I found our fly rods where we had dumped them along the trail, and the group started walking the mile back to basecamp. We arrived around 10:00 p.m. – more than four hours after the ordeal started. Patrick's girlfriend, Sarah, had dinner waiting for us."*

Stephen and his friend ate dinner at the Huck site, got refilled with water and hiked back to the trailhead in the dark to their vehicle to make the journey to the Visalia Hospital where Nick was taken by helicopter. Lots of "thank-yous" and hugs before leaving.

I have messaged with Stephen numerous times since the incident and happy to report that Nick will be fine, but has a road to recovery. He was discharged from the hospital a full week after the incident. It's now many weeks since the incident yet, he's still swollen and there is still a lot of pain. But, he's not dead. All in all, he received 22 vials of antivenom.

I'm trying not to be overly dramatic, but these five San Diego Fly Fisher members (Steve Massey, Ryan Tracey, John, Delia and Pat Cooley) saved that kid's life. They are true heroes. Of course, it would have been a lot worse without a Garmin InReach to "call in the cavalry".

Steve Massey



Planned Trips 2022

September 1-4 Stillwater Montana unguided,
(arrangements with Tim Huckaby)

September 4-7 Stillwater Montana guided

September 17 Lake Hodges, **Canceled**, Lake is closed for repairs.
Join us for fly tying at 11:00 a.m. at **Bay Park Fish Co.**

September 26 -

October 1 La Ventana, Baja

October 22 Lake Cuyamaca

November Shelter Island

December Otay Lakes



**Ask Kai about
a custom mug!**

For more information contact [Kai Schumann](#)

or look for details in *The Indicator*.

Questions? Contact us at outings@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Fly of the Month

Sardina Pattern

"...my friend Guy has had great success using this fly fishing with Gary Bulla out of **La Ventana**. Guy tells me that they deliberately keep their flies subdued with little or no flash. Guy tells me that the bait does vary in color especially depending on how long they are in the bait tank and perhaps other factors he is not sure of. They think the flies tied with a pale olive back have been the most effective in the past but always take materials down with them to match size and color hues of the season when they are fishing."

Link to tying instructions [HERE](#)



Materials

Hook:	Gamagatsu SD17 3/0
Thread:	Venus Mono
Eyes:	3D holographic
False eye:	Black Sharpie
Hook Guard:	Chartreuse Krystal Flash
Belly:	Flash blend white
Lateral line:	EB Fiber, tan or gold
Back:	Flash N Slinky, olive

To Join the **Thursday Night Fly Tying Congress** Zoom meeting, 6:30 pm [Click Here](#)

Casting Corner

San Diego Fly Fishers Casting Program 2022

Sunday fly casting instruction at Lake Murray with [Alan Thompson](#) at 9:00 am.

In the meantime, if someone has a question or a trip planned and needs some assistance please email me at the email address below to discuss. I am often able to provide private or semi-private instruction.

Casting Skills Challenge Program: The FFI has reintroduced a program they call the Casting Skills Challenge. It is designed for the experienced beginner caster as well as intermediate and advanced fly fishers. It is meant to be a fun way to study, practice and challenge oneself in a progressive fashion. We will be offering this program to SDFP membership in 2022. More information on the program can be found on the FFI website.

Several of our club members have been working on completing the FFI Fly Casting Challenge Program.

Intermediate Casting Clinic: Activity continues with clinics at Mission Bay on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.



For questions please contact: [John Wylie](#)

Conservation & Education

Planning for the October Fence drop at Casa Vieja Meadow is in the works. Contact Gary if you want to take part in the camp/work/fish activity.

Email Link: [Gary Strawn](mailto:Gary.Strawn)



If you know of a good conservation project that needs support, please share your ideas with the committee. conservation@sandiegoflyfishers.com

Women's Program

"A great group of Fly Gals gathered on August 12th for the 'Slay The Bay' event hosted by SDFF Women's Programs. The ladies took skiffs out of Coronado for a great day of fly fishing in San Diego Bay. It was tough conditions, but the ladies prevailed!"



Teresa with a Spotty!



Maria and Michelle!



Analiza from Orange County!

Questions or suggestions Contact Brooke [Women's Programs](#)

Project Healing Waters

Project Healing Waters

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing is a nationwide non-profit dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education, classes and outings. The Program has been in existence since 2006. Our San Diego Program is one of 200+ such programs in the U.S. Each Program is organized and maintained through a local fly fishing club. Our San Diego program is actively supported by the San Diego Fly Fishers.

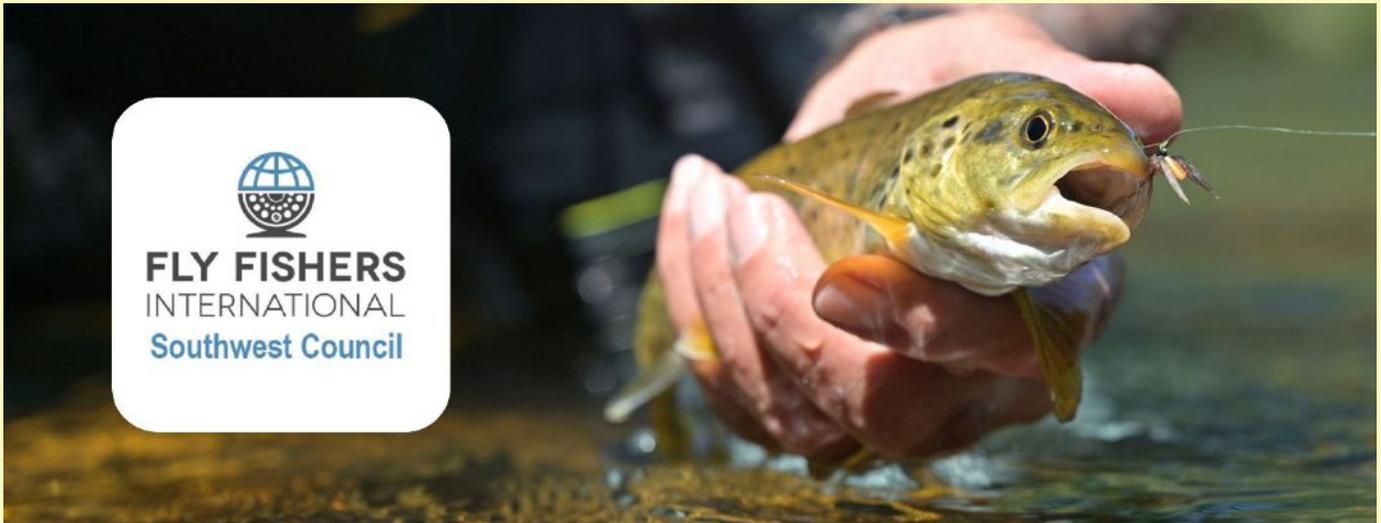
We currently have eleven SDFV Volunteers and thirteen PHW Veteran Participant. Our summer programs are currently meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Santee Lakes in Santee. This is a fee lake, but if you wish to join us, simply advise the gate guard you are with PHW and entrance is free. All disabled military, active duty or retired, are welcome to join us as a Veteran Participant. If you are a member of SDFV, an experienced fly fisher, and want to join us as a Volunteer, we would love to have you. For our Veteran participants, no prior fly fishing (or any fishing) experience is necessary. There is no charge for this program and all fly fishing and fly tying equipment and material are available free of charge.



Please RSVP to our San Diego Program Lead, [Lee McElravy](#) We are happy to address any questions you may have to help you get started.

Please look at our Club's PHW Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/PHWFF.SDFV/>

SWCFFI



Direct link the [SWCFFI](#) web page!

Who or What is the Southwest Council?

The Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International represents all of Southern California and Nevada. Fly Fishers International is a 54 year old international non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the sport of fly fishing through Conservation, Restoration and Education. Fly Fishers International and its Councils are the only organized advocate for fly fishers on an national and regional level.

The **SDFF** is affiliated with the **Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International**

[John Wylie](#), Representative

For more information or to join FFI visit: <https://flyfishersinternational.org/>

Membership

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

**Ready to renew your membership with San Diego Fly Fishers?
Please support your club by planning to renew for 2023!**

[Renew online](#)

We are all about fishing and having fun!

Don't miss out! Join or renew!

You can renew your membership on-line through the SDFF website, or you can renew in person at our monthly programs; or you can download an application on our website and mail a check to

**SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS
C/O Stroud Tackle
1457 Morena Blvd
San Diego, CA 92110**

Questions? [Alan Thompson](#)

Or Renew at the next Monthly SDFF Meeting

SDFF has four membership levels

Individual.....\$40

Family.....\$50

Individual Military.....FREE (Active Duty Only)

Renewing your membership (or your family's) is simple.

Click here to [Join](#) then follow the instructions.

Volunteers Needed

San Diego Fly Fishers is a service organization.
So please ask yourself...

"What service can I provide to my Club"?

Service Opportunities

Fishing Outings

This is a chance to help run a fishing outing for Club members. We are seeking volunteers to organize a day of fishing on our local waters. It's fun and easy. Pick your favorite water and contact

[Kai Schumann](#) and we will help you get started.

- ◆ Pick a local lake
- ◆ Pick a location for the bay
- ◆ Pick a location for the surf

The whole idea is to involve more members in creating fishing events and get us on the water monthly.

Fundraising

- ◆ **We need 2 or 3 more volunteers to help serve on the committee**, please consider helping out. No volunteers, no fundraiser!

Greeters are needed at our Monthly meetings! We are planning to have 2 or 3 greeters at each event to help new people into our Club. It's a great way to serve the Club and meet new Fly-fishers. Please contact [Jim Castelluzzo](#)

Project Healing Waters

- ◆ Help with this important program that serves Veterans in need.
- ◆ If you know of a Veteran in need Please let us know!
- ◆ Contact: [Lee McElravy](#) to learn how you can contribute.

Women's Program

- ◆ Please contact Brooke Sargent [Women's Programs](#) for information and way to get involved.

Fishing!



Jim's Dorado



Kenai River Rainbow



Gretchen's Sutherland Bass



Michael's Yellow Lipped Emperor Fish



Surely foul-hooked, if mullet ate clousers, we'd all have caught a hundred of them.



**Stephen's
Jetty Calico**

Please send us a picture from your trip! Sandiegoflyfishers.com

Guides and Resources

San Diego Fly Fishers does not endorse nor recommend any particular Guide or Business.

This Information is intended to provide the reader with known providers of services related to fly fishing in our local area and in California. This is not intended to be a complete list of available services.

Guides

Eastern Sierra:

[Sierra Drifters](#)

[Sierra Troutdoorsman](#)

[Pat Jaeger Fly Fishing](#)

[Kern River Fly Shop](#)

[Wild Fly Anglers](#)

Northern California:

[Acosta Fly Fishing](#) (Steelhead)

[Fine and Far Fly Fishing](#) (Steelhead/Spey Trips)

[Baiocchi's Troutfitters](#)

San Diego Bay/Surf/Lakes:

[Conway Bowman](#)

[Alex Cady @ Fly Stop](#)

Fly Fishing Equipment:

[STROUD TACKLE](#)

[THE FLY STOP](#)

[Flies by Favorite](#)

River Flows and Reports

[Dreamflows](#)

[USGS Flows](#)

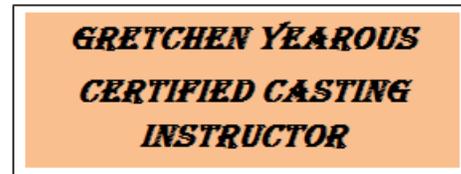
[California Data Exchange](#)

[Lower Owens River](#)



Alex Cady of The Fly Stop

Thanks for supporting San Diego Fly Fishers



We need your help getting rid of Carp at Lake Cuyamaca!



CARP ANGLERS WANTED:
CONVENTIONAL ROD AND REEL, SPEAR OR BOW:
Kill a Carp and FISH FOR FREE! Or, TENT CAMP FOR FREE!
PROOF REQUIRED!

LAKE CUYAMACA NEEDS YOUR HELP! KILL A CARP!

Board of Directors

San Diego Fly Fishers Board of Directors 2022

James Castelluzzo	President
Vice President	vacant
Andrea Rae	Treasurer
Mel Ochs	Secretary
Alan Thompson	Membership Sunday Fly Casting
Bruce Harris	At large
Mark Hedderson	Editor Finny Facts / Indicator
Tim Huckaby	Speaker Programs Fundraising/At large
Brooke Sargent	Women's Programs
Kai Schumann	Outings Coordinator
Gary Strawn	Conservation
John Wylie	Casting Program Instruction SWC-FFI Liaison
	Committee Chairpersons
Jack Duncan	Rod Building
Lucky Ketcham	Fly Tying Congress
Lee McElravy	Project Healing Waters
	Web Master
David Collins	Internet Resources Admin

The Indicator

Emailed twice a month
with updates and break-
ing news!
Make sure you are on the
list to stay informed.

Follow SDFF adventures
and news our FACEBOOK
page. Post your own
adventures and
pictures.

[San Diego Fly Fishers](#)

The Board meets at 6:30 PM on the last Monday of each month at the San Diego River Park Foundation Office on Pacific Hwy. (Currently held on Zoom.)

For Directions to all Club Meetings, Clinics and Fly tying classes visit our website at:
[Activities Maps](#)



Tailing Loops

The Editor, Firmly Invested

When I first took up this sport about fifteen years ago, I bought what then seemed a pricey \$100 five-weight (not a Sage or Winston, obviously). I quickly discovered the extended cost, collecting all the necessary items that would show the world I was a fly fisher. Chief among these was a fly fishing vest.

The classic image from the 1930's was a man in a red plaid shirt, hip waders, a fedora and pipe, and a wicker creel, standing mid stream with a bent rod and a fat rainbow leaping in the foreground. By the 1970's, the iconic look was evolving into a ballcap and a multi-pocketed vest. I've heard that the venerable Lee Wulff invented, or popularized the fly fishing vest, but regardless, it became an essential part of the outfit. I had to have one.

My first vest was from Strouds. A bit spartan (with the look and feel of ancient inventory), yet it performed it's job adequately. Before long, however, I felt the urge to upgrade. I bought a Redington, and then a Simms, and then a scaled-down in features (but certainly not in price) version from Patagonia. That's not including the two I received as gifts. After owning five vests, I've realized I really don't like wearing them.

I do like a shirt with a few chest pockets, and I can usually fit everything else I need in a waist pack. I bought a used five-dollar sling pack at the last SDFF yard sale, which doesn't have the capacity of a vest, but slides onto one's back so as not to be in the way. It's perfect. If I need to bring more, I'd rather just put it all in a backpack.

Recently I've noticed more fishing vests on streamside spin casters than fly fishers. Even the bait soakers have added the Walmart version to their attire, giving them an air of authority as they stand, reading the water, Styrofoam worm container in hand, Bud Light in the other, drawing thoughtfully on a cigarette. Well, it is more practical than those plastic two-tray boxes we all lugged along in our formative years. And who am I to judge?

Of related interest is the lanyard, and one of my buddies is an all. He not only wears a full vest, but also necklace with every imaginable trinket that a fisherman might need hanging on his chest. It has spools of tippet, hemostats, nippers, a thermometer, zingers. Sort of reminds me of a voodoo charm, minus the chicken bones and a shrunken head. When he approaches a stream it sounds like a one-man band street performance.

Anyway, I'm not anti-vest, but most days I don't need one, or five. (Look for my collection at the next yard).



The humble beginnings.



Who says your fishing accessory can't be a fashion statement?



Wear this to prevent injury during full frontal impact.