



Ring of the Rise

September 2011



Official Periodical of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club

Gary Silveira, Newsletter Editor

President's Message: by Bill Darbee (Bill)

It's here!!!! September means crowds are gone from the river and it's time for the Rendezvous once again! As far as fishing, this promises to be the best one yet. The water flows are dropping each day, the wading conditions are improving with the lower levels and the river temperatures have been in the 60's. There are a lot of quality fish being planted, many trophy size. The holdovers have been getting bigger and stronger for a fun fight and of course the wild guys are in there with the occasional brown being fooled by a fly.

The folks who fish the Kern regularly say the dry fly action has been phenomenal. Hopefully that will continue through tournament time as there is nothing as exciting as watching the rise to a surface fly. I think the number and size of fish caught and released in this year's Rendezvous will be off the charts. Get those entry forms completed and mailed in!! The next best thing to the fishing is seeing everyone come together and share stories from the past year. We should have quite a few new members attending for the first time and I am sure they will enjoy the friendship our club is noted for.

We had no nominations sent in for new board members so the present board will stay on for another term. I want to thank all who have agreed to remain and for everything they have done over the past year. There is a lot of behind the scenes work necessary to keep our club running from booking speakers, publishing the newsletter, budget preparation, paying bills, balancing bank statements, coordinating the Kids Academy and poker night, maintaining membership rolls, scheduling outings, casting classes, Rendezvous and a myriad of other responsibilities. These folks do a fantastic job and we wouldn't be the club we are without their dedication. A big thank you goes out to our board for all your hard work.

Ants Uiga will be taking over Librarian duties from Ryan Spanel. Ryan recently started a new job with many overtime hours making it difficult for him to attend some meetings. We want our library materials available for our members so Ants volunteered his services. Thank you Ants for stepping up and thank you to Ryan for holding down the position last year.

I want to also thank all of you who contribute to the newsletter for our benefit. I always look forward to Ryan and Rob Buhlers' "Fly of the Month" and "Tips and Techniques"

section. Pete Emmel always sends in interesting information on rod building too.

I know Gary has asked in the past for people to send in a "Member Bio" but it's been awhile since we have had any submitted. Hopefully we can spark some interest, send in your story.... it doesn't have to be Pulitzer Prize material. I know I enjoy reading about how members got interested in fly fishing, their favorite trips or how they are progressing. Gary works hard to put out a quality newsletter and I'm sure he would welcome anything you send in.

That's it for now... see you all in a couple of weeks...get ready for a fantastic weekend!!

Bill

River Report: by Guy Jeans (Flyguy)

This is a fly fishing report for the week of 9-3-11 written on Saturday 9-3-11.

The 20 mile roadside section of the upper Kern The 20 mile section of the upper river is fishing excellent. The river is clear and the fish are very active in the 60 degree water. Wearing waders in the morning is a must, but wet wading in the afternoon is very refreshing. There is some spectacular dry fly fishing from 6am till 10am and from 7pm to 8:15pm. The rainbow trout are keying in on Caddis and there some BWO's emerging as well. Matching the hatch is key and the rainbows are very selective on your offerings and your drift, "Drag is a drag my friends." Rainbows are focusing on tiny nymphs in sizes 18-24 when the hatch is not going off. Attractor nymphs such as Robo Pt's and Flashback PT's and the BSH yellow Kern Emergers are getting grabs as well. Mike Mercers Pink Psycho Princes are doing well too. There are some big trophy fish being caught and released up and down the river every day. Remember to catch and release those trophy fish so somebody else has a chance to enjoy those big fish too. Somebody else has probably caught and released that fish so you could catch it. Pretty Cool!!!

Upper flows are at 600 cfs = Excellent fishing!!!!!!

This is one of the times of year that the upper Kern fishes incredibly. Once the river starts dropping and the water temps hit 60 degrees, it's on!!!!!!

The 4 mile wild trout section Open year round. The fishing above the bridge is getting good! **Catch and Release barbless hooks only!**

Lake Isabella Carp fishing is fair.

Lower Kern Evening hatches are coming off and fish are looking up. The lower river is fishing good. The lower river is 1200+cfs (above average cubic feet per second for fishing) and the fishing is ok. Be very careful wading/fishing the lower. The small mouth fishing is turning on.

Tributaries of the North and South Fork Kern Open

South Fork of the Kern from Rockhouse North Open

Remember to release those wild fish or just try catch and release. Releasing a fish lets somebody else have a chance to enjoy that fish too!

Guy



Conservation Report: by *Shane Goslin (fishinXJ)*

Grazing Management Strategy for Kern Plateau Public Meetings

Our SWCFFF Conservation Chair Tim Bartley attended the first meeting and is asking for our input and help on the effects, good or bad, of the cattle grazing allotments on the Kern Plateau. The Forest Service is finishing a ten year study and is asking for public feedback. Personally, I'm not an expert on the Kern Plateau and could use input from people who frequent Monache Meadows and higher.

Recently, I spent time on the other side of the plateau and it seemed to me that horseback riders, 4WD's, and ATV's were causing more damage than the cattle. That may be controversial but people are not staying on designated trails or properly using "Leave No Trace" guidelines. Please contact me if you have input I can pass along.

661-428-5109 or sgoslin@planetebay.net.

Forest Service Press Release

*The Inyo National Forest will be hosting a second public meeting from **Sept 30 to Oct 1** to share data and information during the evening of Sept 30 followed by a field trip to some parts of the Mulkey allotment on Oct 1st.*

This is part of a new public collaboration effort in developing a grazing management strategy for the Kern Plateau. This effort will seek to reconcile divergent interests and resource needs by looking at a landscape-scale approach to resource use, conservation and restoration. The process will involve a collaborative dialogue between agency staff and public stakeholders. The success of the collaboration process will depend on participation from key stakeholders who have a vested interest in the long-term health and use of the Kern Plateau and its unique resources.

Subsequent meetings will provide updates on the upcoming NEPA analyses for the Templeton, Whitney, Mulkey and Monache Allotments and will provide the opportunity to discuss values and interests in managing grazing on the Kern Plateau. The goal for the first few meetings will be to launch a long-term collaborative effort to continually discuss and resolve issues regarding resource management on the Kern Plateau. If you would like more information about being involved or have any questions about the collaboration process, please contact Lesley Yen at (760) 873-2524.

Thanks for any input,

Shane

Outings Report: by *Cris Miller (Dances with Bears)*

Forks Outing – October 15th & 16th

This be a heritage adventure outing! Last year it was definitely one of the greatest backpacking trips we took, and for many reasons it's one of my favorites.

They have some decent campsites with some semi-permanent cooking facilities so it is also a great place to do a potluck and go all out in the dinner sector! Nothing beats a great dinner after a day of catching some KRR's.

Anyway, I know a couple of people who'd like to make this outing... I will definitely be there with bear bells on!

You can follow the forum post at: <http://www.kernriverflyfishing.com/cgi-bin/yabb/YaBB.pl?num=1313639210>

Cris

Rod Building: by Pete Emmel (Pete)

2011 Rendezvous Rod Swap

Ok, this is it!!!! Here are the final details before the Rendezvous. First off.....Git 'em done, and don't wait until the last minute. And you know who you are.

There is a slight twist to the swap. This year we are going to vote on the overall craftsmanship. Not the most expensive or elaborate rod, but the cleanest. As the Krylon commercial says "No runs, no drips, no errors." Pack 'em tight and finish 'em clean.

As a slight incentive for you to finish up and get the nod on the overall best craftsmanship, I am giving out a custom, hot off the lathe, Wedding Band reel seat and insert. The hardware is Nickel Silver with a Sycamore insert. She's all finished and glued up, ready to install.



Good luck.

Pete

Also, remember that SSFFC club members receive a 15% discount at Acid Rod. When you make your next rod building purchases please make sure to give Mark Griffin (Mark Griffin) a call at Acid Rod @ 909-394-7486 or stop by his shop at 910 N. Cataract Ave, San Dimas, CA and let him or Colleen know you're a member of SSFFC. - Gary

Check out the following link to see what Mark has to offer –

<http://www.acidrod.com/>



Club Meeting: by Bill Darbee (Bill)

There will be no September General Meeting due to the Rendezvous.

The October general meeting of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers will be Saturday, October 8th at 7:00 PM at the Kernville Chamber of Commerce building. There will be a

board meeting at 6:00 PM prior to the general meeting and all directors and chairpersons are encouraged to attend.

Our October presenter will be our very own Guy Jeans.

RENDEZVOUS

Date: September 17, 2011

Place: Mountain and River Adventure

15775 Sierra Way

Kernville, Ca 93238

(800) 861-6553

This is the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club major fund raiser and membership drive for the year and not to be missed. The morning starts with a partner C&R fly fishing tournament and river clean up. There will be El Jacalitos breakfast burritos and coffee for purchase at \$5. Upon your early afternoon return, try your skills at our casting contest. Raffle tickets will be sold for prizes galore and silent auctions for fantastic fly fishing items. Join in with our BBQ dinner and listen to great entertainment. The new 2011/12 SSFFC Board of Directors and Officers will be presented. This will be another fun filled day and always a blast.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE: \$25 (dinner is included) plus new Sept. 2011 to Aug. 2012 membership is also required. One year membership fee is \$25 for an individual membership; \$35 for family membership. Rendezvous and Membership applications will be emailed directly to current Club members (2010/11). Non-members may request applications via PM or email to Treasurer/Membership Chair Steve Dobbins (*TechGuy*) at skdsrpd@charter.net or Chiaki Harami (*haramic*) at haramic@aol.com. The maximum number of participants is 79 and we expect to fill all 79 spots, so please return application as soon as possible.

Check in: 7:30 to 8:30 AM

Announcements: 8:30 AM

Start fishing at 8:40 AM until 2:00 PM Sharp

Return check in: 2:00 to 2:30 PM

Casting Contest, raffle ticket sales and social: 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Dinner, entertainment and awards: 5:00 PM – ?

Rules of the Tournament:

- Areas to be fished are from the Johnsondale Bridge to the bridge in Kernville, this area maybe be

expanded based upon the number of participants.

- Fly Fishing equipment and barbless hooks only Catch and Release.
 - Maximum three flies at one time.
 - No flotation devices (No rafts, boats, tubes, bath tubs, etc.).
 - Return with a bag of trash that you picked up from your location (we will supply the bags).
 - All fishing will be done in pairs to verify catch (Please find a participating partner, if you can't, the tourney committee will do its best to assign a partner.)
 - 10 inch minimum for qualifying fish, round down to the nearest inch.
- * Trophy, prizes for biggest trout and most accumulated inches of trout. We will also have a kids division.
- * Prizes for best and worst dressed participant. (You have to wear it all day until return @ check in)
- * Prize for most trash collected

*** SOMETHING NEW ***

Based upon numerous requests, we are adding a new category to the Rendezvous Tourney:

DRY FLY ONLY COMPETITION

You will need to fish dry flies only and the most trout wins the special trophy. No 10 inch minimum length, no dropper, no split shots, no nothing. We expect many smaller wilds will be caught, so the 10" minimum has been removed. Two dry flies can be fished. Please write "DRY FLY ONLY" on the top of your score card, which will be handed out the morning of the Tourney. If you run out of room on the front of the card, please continue on the back.

Participants in this category will still qualify for the largest and the most, with the 10 inch minimum.

DINNER AND FESTIVITIES ONLY: \$10 FEE, for those who aren't able to participate in the Tourney, but want to attend the dinner, festivities and to support the SSFFC. SSFFC membership is not a requirement for this portion of the event.

We have many items for the raffle from a Guide Trip from Kern River Fly Shop, to books, hats, flies, discount coupons for Fly Fishing products and MORE! We will also hold a silent auction.

Chiaki

SWCFFF SECOND ANNUAL INTER-CLUB FLY FISHING TOURNAMENT

Don't forget about the SWCFFF Second Annual Inter-Club Fly Fishing Tournament. As the winning club last year we get the honor of hosting it on our home waters again.

This year's event will be held on Saturday November 5th. We are working to finalize the details and dates for the SSFFC Tournament Team Trials and will get those out once confirmed. We will also need many club members to assist as Controllers and, as with all of these types of events, I'm sure there will be other jobs that can use some assistance too. If you are able to assist please call the Kern River Fly Shop at (760) 376-2040 to get your name on the list.

Additionally, if you're able to make it up that weekend, don't forget about the annual Poker Tournament that will be held at Ewing's Restaurant on Friday, November 5th. As always, proceeds from this event go to fund the Kids Academy. The doors will open at 6:00 pm and the cards will fly at 7:00 pm. Please call the Kern River Fly Shop at (760) 376-2040 to hold a spot and register for the poker tournament.



An Evening with Joan Wulff

Presented by Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers

Saturday, October 15, 2011 at 6:00 pm



Joan Wulff is widely acknowledged as just about the world's most famous fly fisher. From 1937 as an 11-year-old caster in Patterson, New Jersey to 1960, she won numerous International and National tournament casting titles. In 1951, she captured the Fisherman's Distance event while vying against an all-male lineup. Joan cast a fly 161 - feet in one competition.

Through promotion of catch and release, she has helped sport fishing be accepted as environmentally-sustainable. Both Joan and her late, legendary husband, Lee Wulff, have had a positive impact on fly fishing. She has written numerous books and columns and been featured in highly successful fly casting videos and DVDs

This event, beginning with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. where Joan and her husband Teg Rogowski (a retired environmental-specialist attorney) will meet and greet guests, will include a sumptuous sit-down dinner with wine, brief remarks by a few people who know Joan well and then Joan will speak about her life. After her talk, she will do something she has never done before and that is answer any and all questions from the audience, no matter how long this might take.

The evening will be a once-in a lifetime event and even though Joan is 84, she is sharp as ever. This will probably be the last chance to spend such a lovely evening with such a magnificent lady. You wouldn't want to regret later on not attending this event.

The gathering will be held at The Olympic Collection, 11301 W Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles.

Also, payment is made to the Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, so money raised from the dinner will be used to fund *Trout in the Classroom*, casting and fly tying programs and ongoing support for local council activities.

Tickets may be purchased by calling 818-757-3474 or on the website, www.Southwestcouncilfff.org

SSFFC Member Profile: by Gary Silveira (CopperDropper)



Ants Uiga

Back in 2006, I was introduced to fly fishing at a private lake in Adirondack Park in New York. The club (one of many in the area) manages the lake as a fishery for native trout and restricts the use of the boats to paddle or oars. The boat used to get out on the lake was an 1890 St. Lawrence skiff. There is no recollection of catching any fish at the time, but there was a lot a fun beating the surface of the water with the fly line and enjoying the setting. The (fly fishing) hook was set.

Fishing activities were usually tied in with other water-borne activities since the 1950's. Fishing continues to be fun as a side activity when traveling. On the return trip from NY in 2006, the first fly rod was purchased at a antique shop in Iowa – a fiberglass Gladding McBean rod and reel for the price of about \$40. As with many things, the first cost is not the only one.

Since buying a house in Bodfish in 2002, the local fishing potential was marginally recognized. Catching trout in the Kern River has not been the easiest, even after joining the SSFFC and taking advantage of free offerings by the club in meetings, casting, nymphing, and rod building. Of course when I first joined, I did not realize much of the club activities were based on the wonderful online forum, but since I was offline in Bodfish, it was not obvious.

Eventually, and thanks to Alan M. (highflyer1), the first trout was finally caught on the Kern. There is a lot to learn on catching fish, and the learning steps come in topical spurts. First there was casting and presentation. Then there were fly rods, reels, and rod building. The rod building activities were more of a fun diversion than a direct link to trout catching. The fish catching is slowly increasing. The next study efforts in entomology, and fly selection should make a major difference. An early memory (of ignored advice) was that it is good to pick up a few rocks in the river and see what the trout have available for food. After ignoring that advice for too long, it is time to make that a priority.

However, the club and the forum provided lots of fun and enjoyment, even though more catching would be good. The diversity of ages and interests of the club members is impressive. In comparison, I can't tell you the number of other activities (vintage motorcycles, VW's, muscle cars) where the age diversity is not present.

The travel opportunities with fly fishing are endless from small creeks in the local area to as far as you want to spend the travel expenses. Of course, the Kern River Valley with the rivers, lakes, and creeks is a unique opportunity for a lot of fishing. With a little backpacking initiative, I should be set for life. Maybe, I might learn to tie a fly or two. Thanks to the support of the club, the members, and the forum contributors.

Ants

Ants - Thanks for the great profile! As a side note, Ants came up with the following potential club event that could be a great opportunity for club members to try something new. Make sure to respond to Ants and let him know what you think. – Gary

Vintage Fly Rods Demonstration Day

I have a suggestion for a SSFFC activity that needs the support and participation of other club members to be successful. Think about the options, and then let me know by PM on the forum (*Ants*) if you would like to participate.

It seems a demonstration day for Vintage Fly Rods could be fun and informative. However, the vintage fly rods I have in mind are in the collections of club members. The types of rods could be any vintage ones – fiberglass, bamboo, or even telescoping steel. I have heard about the steel ones and would certainly like to try one out on the water. I think it might be fun to try one of the old style self-retracting reels also.

In all cases, the rods are privately owned and not subject to replacement if damaged. Even though this is an activity that is limited to club members, the club will not assume any liability for damaged fishing gear. So, the participating folks need to be considerate of the rods. For example, it may be wise to use smaller size tippet on the borrowed rods and all other means to limit the possible damage. The demo location would be selected that does not require any vehicle travel.

My preference would be for the demo participants to use the vintage setups to catch fish. The time available might be ½ to 1 hour, depending on the interest.

The timing of the demonstration day would be the same weekend (or day) as the monthly meetings. If another activity were scheduled for the weekend, then a date without conflicts would be found.

I have some vintage fly rods that I would be glad to let others try – Gladding McBean glass rod (8-foot, 2 piece), a Horrocks-Ibbottson glass rod (8-foot, 2 piece, Red Wizard), and an LL Bean glass rod (9-foot 2 piece). In addition, there is an older bamboo rod (unknown maker 8-5, 3 piece) that would be also available. As far as I know, none of these rods are highly valuable as collectible, so I don't feel at great financial risk to have them used by others.

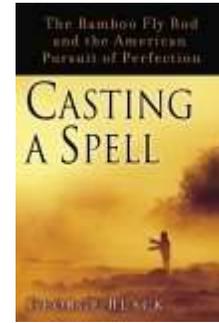
In your response, let me know if you have rods to offer for the demonstration or you would simply like to try some of them out. Once the initial information is tallied, it will be easier to figure out how to organize the demonstrations.

Thanks. This could be a lot of fun.

Ants



Library Report: by *Ants Uiga (Ants)*



Casting A Spell

The Bamboo Fly Rod and the American Pursuit of Perfection ~ By George Black

Published 2006, Random House, NYC

In our fly-fishing community, Peter Emmel, Mike St. Clair, and Chris Hynes, and others are building split bamboo fly rods with a passion that is only found in a few activities. The passion continues from the time the first American split bamboo fly rod was constructed by Hiram Leonard. Although our three-rod makers are not mentioned in the book, the passion that currently drives them as current bamboo rod builders originated before 1871 when Hiram Leonard built his first split bamboo fly rod. If the chief ingredients in building a bamboo fly rod are passion and a pursuit of perfection, this book does an excellent job of describing the history associated with bamboo fly rods. The book does not present techniques of construction or any of the many details that make up bamboo rod construction. Of course, any reasonably competent technician can be taught to build a bamboo fly rod. The passion cannot be taught. George Black presents an excellent story that may, if you are not careful, inspire that passion in you.

George Black does a wonderful job tracing the American history of the bamboo fly rod construction. The personalities of the notable bamboo fly rod makers starting with Hiram Leonard (born 1831) are described within the context of the cultural events at the time. The chronology concludes in 2006, the publication date of the book. The rod builders have one common trait – a devotion to producing a perfect bamboo fly rod. The goal is not usually reached – as any rod builder would agree. The author quotes Hoagy Carmichael as saying a very good rod is only one that has maybe 9 mistakes in the 1,000 or more steps needed to construct a rod that satisfies the builder's goal.

I have read this book twice and found the second reading to more enjoyable than the first. As Librarian of the SSFFC, I am not sure if the book is included in the current library. However, if **Casting a Spell** is not part of the current library, I will be sure to add it.

If anyone has suggestions for books or visual materials to include in the library and review, please let me know.

Please add a brief note to help me understand your suggestion, such as, as I found the descriptions easy to read, or I like the presentation of steps.

Ants

Ants - Thanks for offering to take the Librarian position and for submitting a great first book report. I know we can all hardly wait for next month's review. – Gary

Fly of the Month: by Rob Buhler (clouserfreak)



BIRD'S NEST

Designed by Reno, Nevada resident and Northern Sierra fly fisher Cal Bird, the Bird's Nest does not represent any one specific food, but is very suggestive of many. It is an extremely impressionistic fly that can be perceived by the fish as just about any underwater bug depending on its color and construction (see Cal's flies). Preferring to fish it on the bottom in riffles and pocket water, Cal usually weighted his flies, but one of my favorite Kern flies is an unweighted, wood duck dyed mallard Bird's Nest fished under a Stimulator or H&L Variant in size 12 representing the Yellow Sally nymph/emergent. A great trick is to use a powder floatant on the Bird's Nest to trap air bubbles and replicate an emerging pupa.

Randall Kaufmann notes in his book *Tying Nymphs*, that "Ralph Cutter, Sierra fishing expert says the Bird's Nest is his favorite fly." This does not go unnoticed in Ralph's book *Sierra Trout Guide*. Out of the 38 mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies that are listed, 27 of those have the Bird's Nest as one of, if not the only option for a pupal representation. A tie for distant second has the Hare's Ear and Pheasant Tail at 14 each, although these two flies are generally mentioned ahead of the Bird's Nest regarding must have flies.

The standard Bird's Nest is a great example of a fly tied "in the round", meaning it will look relatively the same observed from every angle when rotated 360 degrees.

Materials:

Hook: Wet/nymph 1x long, 8-18

Thread: 6/0 to match

Tail: Mallard or Teal dyed wood duck or to match

Rib: Brassie size Copper Wire

Abdomen: Original uses Australian Possum (I substituted a blend of Golden Stone Haretron/Natural Hare's Ear/Hare's Ear Ice Dub)

Legs: Same as tail tied full

Thorax: same as abdomen

Tying Instructions:



Smash or file barb on hook and insert into vise. Attach thread, cover shank and leave hanging at the 70% mark.



Select a mallard flank feather and remove fluff from base. Stroke fibers down to one side to even tips and cut or strip off a small section for tailing fibers.



Measure the butts from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ the hook shank and tie in on the top of the shank.



Wrap rib forward in 4-6 evenly spaced wraps. Use loop side of Velcro or your bodkin to pick out fibers here, it helps to make a buggier look and trap air in the fibers.



Trim butt fibers from tail and tie in wire rib.



There are several options for tying the legs in. You can select a feather with relatively even tips. Stroke back side fibers and cut a very small section from the top/center of the feather to allow remaining fibers to move freely, or...



Select a small amount of dubbing and apply to thread. Wrap forward to the 75% mark forming a level or slightly tapered body.



Select a feather with webby fibers and remove fluff from the base. Stroke down the fibers on one side of the feather

evening the tips. Keeping the tips even, either strip or cut a "sheet" of fibers from the stem.



Try to keep the "sheet" straight and measure to either the bend or rear of the hook.



Reach in with your material hand and transfer "sheet," wrapping fibers around the abdomen. Take two loose wraps before pulling thread tight toward you, flaring the fibers. If there are any major gaps, manipulate fibers and spread evenly around shank. Take a couple more securing wraps and trim butt fibers.



Attach another small amount of dubbing onto the thread and wrap a thorax. Create a thread head, apply three half hitches or whip finish and add a drop of head cement. Use looped Velcro or bodkin to pick out fibers being careful not to disturb thread head.

To give you some ideas of how you can tailor this pattern to meet your fishing requirements, here are some "book shots" of color variations of the Bird's Nest, tied by its originator.



Bird's Nest

Tan Bird's Nest tied by Cal Bird.



Cream and Olive Bird's Nest tied by Cal Bird.



Black and Brown Bird's Nest tied by Cal Bird.

Rob

Tips & Techniques: by Ryan Buhler (ryan)

The Skunk

We all want to catch fish every time we go fishing. At times, like this last month, that is easily done. Other times like winter or during run off or sometimes due to unknown factors, it can make fishing slow.

On these slow days many hours can be spent on the water with little action and getting one to the net can be a challenge. So what do we do when our Orvis application says "Fishing is excellent, bwo hatch in the a.m. followed by caddis in the afternoon." WE get on the water after sometimes driving for hours and find that the Orvis report was right for last week or two weeks ago or maybe yesterday but today is the exact opposite. No bwo, no caddis, water temps got colder, maybe a heat wave came in or the barometer dropped or rose. Whatever the case, the fishing doesn't look ideal.

Now what do we do? Sit around the truck thinking about a burger and beer. Then go out and half heartedly make a few casts and declare that the fish aren't biting and it's not worth trying? Or do we say let's go fishing and see if we can stick a few? Personally I like the second option. When I hit the water with a positive attitude and fish with a focused mind set good things usually happen.

When I hit the road with the purpose of going fishing and I reach my chosen water, with the first cast I make I've beaten the skunk. Just getting out and on the water then back home is a complete adventure but adding some fish on the end of your line makes a better adventure.

Here are some things we can do to help our fishing adventures be better.

At times, like on the Kern right now, everyone is catching fish. Almost every fly is working no matter how it is presented, but we know it's not like that all the time.

On days when it's slow fishing and nothing is working what can be done to increase our chances? First, watch other people who are fishing. Not only the ones that are catching fish but also the ones that aren't. With the ones that aren't catching fish you can learn what not to do. Then watch the ones that are catching fish and see what they do differently than everyone else. Watch their drifts and how they mend their line. Watch their retrieves and the type of water they fish. Kindly approach them and ask some questions about how they're doing. Most fishers when approached this way love to help out and will divulge all kinds of information about how they fish.

One of the first questions people ask is "what are you using?" Hardly anybody asks "how are you presenting your flies?" Proper presentation is 95% of the equation. It's far better to have the proper presentation and any fly than the right fly and poor presentation. This is where watching quality fishers and asking them questions can greatly improve your catch rate.

When you talk to someone, really listen to what they have to say and don't be afraid to try something new. The more techniques you can learn the better fisher you will become. Over time you will notice other fishers asking you questions.

On tough days when you know fishing is slow you just have to keep at it. If you know you have the right fly and presentation keep fishing knowing that the next cast might lead to the fish of a lifetime. After some hours of fishing like that and not getting any action it's time to try something else. Time to show the fish something they haven't seen. If you're fishing tiny mayflies with no success try tossing a size 10 royal stimulator. Or instead of fishing a matuka or bugger tie on a size 2/0 deceiver that you would use in the ocean. Many times I've been happily surprised when I try something out of the ordinary.

Knowing where and how to present your flies is the main thing to learn. No matter what style of fishing you do. It takes time on the water and a lot of practice to become a good fly fisher. Talking to other fishers and watching them in action can help speed things up.

Remember.... the fun is in the journey and there is more to our adventures than just catching fish..... but catching fish sure is fun.

Ryan

Message from the Editor: by Gary Silveira (CopperDropper)

The members of this club are a tremendously giving group of people when a need is defined, and I am thankful that Chris Chamberlain (*ChrisC*) has brought to our attention a need within our own ranks. Chris posted the following "Call to Action."

I think that anyone who has ever met Shane (fishinXJ) would agree that he works just as hard, if not harder, as anyone to protect our favorite streams and rivers. Part of that work involves his scout troop.

In that report, he mentions that some of the kids aren't able to go because they don't have the necessary resources and gear. Here's my call: Shane's group needs backpacking and camping gear. It doesn't have to be fancy or new; any old gear you have will be welcome. You can PM me for my address, and I'll take it over to him, or you can PM Shane and ask for his address.

Come on everyone! We've donated tons of flies and gear to all kinds of causes, and now here is a way we can help one of our own. - Chris

The "Call to Action" is to donate what you can and there will even be a special drop off location at the Rendezvous!

Tight Lines, *Gary*

SOUTHERN SIERRA FLY FISHER CLUB

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2010-2011

ELECTED POSITIONS			
OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
President	Bill Darbee	wdarbee@bak.rr.com	661-832-6952
Vice President	Chiaki Harami	haramic@aol.com	818-968-6872
Treasurer	Steve Dobbins	skdsrpd@charter.net	805-237-9566
Secretary	Keith Penguilley	kpengilley@earthlink.net	626-286-4536
Conservation Chair	Shane Goslin	sgoslin@planetbay.net	661-428-5109
Outings Chair	Cris Miller	cris.miller@westforksgrc.org	323-804-7329
Director	Gary Silveira	gfsilveira@charter.net	805-238-6619
Director	Guy Jeans	guy@kernriverflyfishing.com	760-376-2040
APPOINTED POSITIONS			
OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
Newsletter Editor	Gary Silveira	gfsilveira@charter.net	805-238-6619
Membership Chair	Steve Dobbins	skdsrpd@charter.net	805-237-9566
Education Chair	Guy Jeans	guy@kernriverflyfishing.com	760-376-2040
Fly Tying	Rob Buhler	clouserfreak@hotmail.com	949-842-2133
Tips & Techniques	Ryan Buhler	slumpbuster@live.com	949-240-7748
Raffles Coordinator	Guy Jeans	guy@kernriverflyfishing.com	760-376-2040
Librarian	Ants Uiga	mrmarsha@sbcglobal.net	
Tournament Committee Chair	Chiaki Harami	haramic@aol.com	818-968-6872
Rod Building	Pete Emmel	p_emmel5@hotmail.com	805-461-0968
Community Relations Officer (Publicity/Membership)	Guy Jeans	guy@kernriverflyfishing.com	760-376-2040



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