



RING OF THE RISE

SOUTHERN SIERRA FLY FISHERS NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2018 has been a very busy year for Southern Sierra Fly Fishers. The overall membership age has become younger and us old timers think we can keep up with them. It's great to see the young guns take to fly fishing as if they've done this for decades. The large influx of women into fly fishing is another amazement. They listen and learn quicker. Of course, leading this charge is Celine. She's the Pied Piper of female fly fishers. Soon, she'll be guiding us and showing us the how's and where's to fly fishing. I was fishing the LA River recently and met a female fly fisher. I introduced myself and we discussed what flies were working. She began acting as if I was holding her back from fishing. I asked if she knew Celine. She nodded yes and I said "well, she my daughter." Only then, she started to smile and said "Wow, what a fly fishing family." I should be ashamed for saying such things, but I'm not. It's all in good fun. Through her Fly Gals Weekend, Celine brought in 30 new members into SSFFC.

We held two Kids Academy this year, which brought in another 20 new members. Yes, our membership is younger. We had some great outings in 2018. The January Lower Kings was very well attended and everyone had a blast with their (Steve) Harvey Slack Leaders tied special by Randy Skidgel. Our February Lower Owens trip was memorable as we were able to fish areas which were brush was cleared from the fire. Many members caught their personal best bass on the Kelsey Bass trip in April. Special thanks go to the Wilderness Fly Club for the invite. We held our inaugural Carpfest Tourney in May and hopefully a mini Carp circuit will start with the Carp Throwdown Tourney. The Grouse Valley Outing was like going to Vegas..... What happens in Grouse Valley, stays in Grouse Valley. I can say, members brought some great vinyl LPs played on Randy's turntable. Artist from Queen, CCR, The Who and Al Green. The Club was able to team up with Pasadena Casting Club in July and together we picked up lots of trash along the Kern River. The following weekend we fished the Central Coast above Morro Bay and toured downtown SLO hitting every ice cream shop in town. August saw us in the Eastern Sierras catching wild and native trout on the San Joaquin River and big Crowley hogs. The 2nd annual California Fly Fishing Open was held in September with even more teams (15) than last year. Also in Sept., we taught fly fishing classes to the Antelope Valley Veterans. The following weekend, we met them at the Kern River where they were able to use their classroom knowledge. In

addition to the Fly Gals Weekend in October, we held a Tenkara clinic. This Zen Fly Fishing technique was masterfully taught by our own Jon Hart. We also held fly tying and rod building classes. We even managed to take in a LA Kings game. #GKG. Yes, 2018 was a busy year!

This December Newsletter is an abbreviated one. However, our 2019 Outings Schedule follows. Many are repeats from 2018 and rightly so. Also next year, we will be bringing back the Club's Rendezvous event and we're planning a Montana outing. It appears 2019 will be busier than 2018.

I want to wish all our SSFFC family members and friends, the best holiday season ever. Give a big hug to everyone you know and a special one to young little ones. Please be safe in your travels and Happy New Year.

Chiaki

ANNOUNCEMENT

Ring of the Rise

Our monthly newsletter will now be available on our website. Check out our most recent newsletters at [Ring of the Rise](#)

2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Kings River Outing

Date: January 26-27, 2019

Location: Fresno, CA

Details: We will be staying in Fresno and meeting at Avocado Lake Park at 7:30am on the 26th with breakfast provided by Randy's Taco Van down by the river. We will also be meeting at [Sequoia Brewing Company](#) in the Tower District on Saturday night for a club dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange (\$10-\$20).

Lodging: For the "civilized" SSFFclub member, suggested lodging is at the Piccadilly Inn Airport. <https://piccadillyairport.com/>

For the "less civilized" SSFFclub member, suggested camping is at Riverbend Park just off the 180, east of Fresno. The campground which has RV hookups and tent camping is within walking distance from the Kings River and has bathrooms, showers and laundry. You can reserve online or call Connie. If you are a tent camper (\$20 per night) let Connie know you are part of Southern Sierra Fly Fishers and she will try to put us all in the same area.

<https://theriverbendpark.com/>

Contact [Chiaki Harami](#) to sign up.



Southern Sierra Fly Fishers

LOWER OWENS OUTING

February 23-24

Lower Owens Outing

Date: February 23-24, 2019

Location: Bishop, CA

Details: We will be meeting for breakfast at 7:00 am at Village Cafe on Saturday and then heading over to Pleasant Valley Campground 8:30 am by the Lower Owens Bridge. We will then meet for dinner at Pizza Factory, time to be determined. Discussions will be held at dinner to see if there's any interest in seeing the Petroglyphs on Sunday.

Contact [Chiaki Harami](#) to sign up.



February 23, 2019. 8:30 AM. Bishop, CA

European Style Nymphing

with Dave Smith of Snowbee USA

ESN Class with Dave Smith

Date: February 23, 2019

Location: Bishop, CA

Time: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Class Size: 10

Details: We will go over setup, flies, techniques and reading water. This is an on the water class, and we hope students catch fish but can't guarantee it.

Students need waders, tippet (7x-5x), tungsten flies, fly rods (9'-11'), reels, fishing license, water, food, polaroid sunglasses, hats and whatever else they care to bring. We will meet at the bridge at PVR Campground. Tungsten flies will be available for purchase.

Contact [Chiaki Harami](#) to sign up.



Southern Sierra Fly Fishers

KELSEY BASS RANCH

April 26-28

Kelsey Bass Ranch

Date: April 27-28, 2019

Location: Kelsey Bass Ranch, Snelling, CA

Cost: TBA

Details: We will be fishing with Wilderness Fly Fishers and Guy Jeans will be available for guiding.

Kelsey is a 125 acre isolated, private catch and release fishing lake filled with trophy size Florida Largemouth Bass. The lake is perfect for float tubing, wading or shore fishing.

Kelsey ranch is near Snelling, CA, about 20 miles north of Merced. Set your GPS for 7400 Merced Falls Road, Snelling, CA 95369. It will take you to the ranch entrance.

(Kelsey is about a five hour drive from LA.)

We have permission to camp next to the lake on a lovely park-like peninsula surrounded by prime angling. (Nearest motel = 35 minutes.)

Note: There is no potable water. It can be hot, so bring more water than you think you need.

Contact [Chiaki Harami](#) for more details or to sign up.



Rock Creek, Montana

Date: July 11-16, 2019

Location: Sky Ranch, Clinton, Montana

Cost: TBA

Details: Group Lodging at Sky Ranch. Group Meals. Walk and wade fishing.

RSVP by April 1 to [Chiaki Harami](#)

Carpfest

Date: May 18, 2019

Details: TBA



Grouse Valley

Date: June 1-2, 2019

Details: TBA



Mammoth Outing

Date: August 10-11, 2019

Details: TBA

Kid's Acad Poker Fundraiser

Date: September 20, 2019

Details: TBA



CFFO

Date: September 21, 2019

Details: TBA

