



Ring of the Rise

May 2015

Official Periodical of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club

Gary Silveira, Newsletter Editor

President's Message: by Chiaki Harami (*haramic*)

The 2015, tenth year, Rendezvous anniversary is in the books. I want to thank everyone that attended. Your participation has helped SSFFC continue its important programs and projects for another year. I hope everyone had a great time like I did. This Vous was the first one for our many of our new members and 10th for many of us old timers.

The main purpose of the Vous is to get together with old friends, talk fish stories and make new friends. The secondary purpose is to raise funds and bring in new members. I believe both missions were accomplished. Our Kids Academy program is so important that we held two special raffles to raise earmarked funds. We had a donated Yeti cooler and 4 fly boxes containing approx. 250 flies from our top fly tying members: Rob and Ryan Buhler, Allen Bell, Adam Petuskey and Bill Hammons. These items were almost enough to fund the 2016 Kids Academy. We just need a little more from the Kids Academy Pokers night and we will be set for 2016. Plans for another Yeti cooler are already underway and this Yeti will be taken on the road to many shows, outings and awarded at the 2016 Vous.

Big thanks go out to our friends: Freddie, Phil and Tim for cooking the best tri tip and chicken BBQ dinners. Outstanding job gentlemen, the food was delicious. A special thanks goes out to the Woodward Brothers for their donation of their Montana cabin and another special thanks to the Barnes Family for their winning bid on the cabin.

The Stoneflies rocked the canyon with their fun music and grew a big dancing crowd. Big thanks also go out to everyone that donated raffle items. We also provided space to our important vendors and programs: Redington/Sage, CFR and Sierra Nets.

Thank you to everyone that helped pull the Vous together. Most importantly, thank you to the members that donated, participated and funded the SSFFC. This club is for you, the best Fly Club in the world!!!!

Thank you,

Chiaki

River Report: by Guy Jeans (*Flyguy*)

Upper Kern (20 mile section) River flows are excellent for wading at this time. Water temperatures in this section are fluctuating between 50 and 60 degrees. Rainbow trout and the occasional brown trout are getting very active on the surface with the recent Golden Stone fly emergence and hatch. There is an abundance of black micro Caddis and trout are focused on them as well. Great dry flies to use at this time are Black Caddis, H/L Variant, Stimulators and Ant and Hopper style patterns. Great nymphs to use are Tungsten Yellow Sallies, PT's and Redemption nymphs.

Upper Kern (4 mile-Wild Trout Section) Special fishing regulations in this section of the Kern. No bait fishing is allowed and no barbs on your hooks.

Upper Kern (Forks of the Kern) Special fishing regulations in this section of the Kern. No bait fishing is allowed and no barbs on your hooks. **All fish caught over 10 inches must be released. Only 2 fish 10 inches or smaller can be kept in this section.**

Lower Kern (Lake Isabella Dam to Democrat) Ok for trout but excellent for bass fly fishing.

Lower Kern (Democrat to Kern Canyon Entrance) Fantastic fly fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass at this time.

Lower Kern (Kern Canyon Entrance to Oildale) Fantastic fly fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass at this time.

South Fork of the Kern This fork of the Kern River is too low to fish this season.

Tributaries of the North Fork Kern River - The small streams that feed the north fork Kern River are very low and not fishing them is recommended to protect the fishery.

Lake Isabella - The lake is very low, but the fly fishing is excellent for crappie, largemouth bass and carp.

As a reminder, the fishing reports are available in video format on Facebook and can be accessed via the forum under the heading "Kern River Fly Fishing Reports - Daily Video and Kern Fly Fishing Reports."

Guy



Conservation Report: by *Tim Michaels*

No report submitted this month.

Tim

Outings Report: by *Chris Chamberlain (ChrisC)*

No report submitted this month.

Chris

Rod Building: by *Pete Emmel (Pete)*

No report submitted this month.

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 & Activities: by *Chiaki Harami (haramic)*

Our next General Meeting will be held Saturday, June 13th. The meeting will held at the Kernville Chamber of Commerce, starting at 7:00 pm, with guest speakers being our very own Beuhler Brothers, Rob and Ryan. They will be

presenting *"Flyfishing Lake Crowley from a Personal Watercraft."*

Ryan and Rob Buhler have been fly fishing for nearly 20 years primarily in the Eastern Sierra and Southern California mountains. Over the last 5 years they have expanded their fly fishing into the salt, most of this being done in the harbors and beaches of Southern California, specifically in the Dana Point area. Ryan and Rob are both longtime members of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishing Club and greatly enjoy teaching classes in fly tying, helping out newer fly fishers at club outings, and passing along their passion for the sport. Both are also current pro staff field representatives at Togens Fly Shop.

This presentation will cover several of the options, including the positives and negatives for fishing Crowley Lake form personal watercraft like float tubes, pontoons and kayaks, to get you into those trophy trout that Crowley is famous for. The different flies and techniques used on the lake for all seasons will be covered in detail, as will rigging for streamers and stillwater nymphing. Secrets of where to fish and the many different areas to access with your craft to find productive fishing will be revealed!



This should be another of the Beuhler's awesome presentations. It looks like the river is fishing well, so let's all get together for a nice day of fishing and a great club meeting.



The following flyers were sent by the Southwest Council FFF, providing opportunities to its members.

THE SOUTHWEST COUNCIL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

The 23 Independent Clubs of Southern California and Southern Nevada

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery Summer 2015

June – September 2015 / Silver and Slinkard Creeks, CA

Volunteers are needed this coming summer for a landmark conservation project in the Eastern Sierras. Take part in the restoration of Silver and Slinkard Creeks as habitat is returned to the region's majestic native fish, the Lahontan cutthroat trout. This project will occur from late June through September.

Volunteers will work in conjunction with paid interns to clear brush around both waterways, as well as assist in the removal of the invasive brook trout. Experience with hand and power tools will be particularly valuable. Participants will be asked to arrive on a Thursday and contribute through the weekend.

The project is a joint effort of a consortium of the region's fly fishing and conservation groups, including the Southwest Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, Cal Trout, Trout Unlimited, California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Please join us in this daunting yet rewarding undertaking, and in the process learn more about this coveted species and habitat.

For more information, contact Jack Marshall at conservation@goldenstateflycasters.org or

805-966-7773.

SOUTHWEST COUNCIL FLY FISHING FAIRE 2015

October 16 - 18, 2015 / Bishop, CA

A date and location have been confirmed for the 2015 Southwest Council Fly Fishing Faire. The event has moved to the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop, CA, which offers a tremendous increase in space for vendor displays, classes, entertainment, and food. There are currently only five booths left.

Online registration opens August 16th. Cost of admission is \$15. For more information and class registration, visit <http://southwestcouncilfff.org/> or call 818-200-1499.

A colorful flyer for the 2015 Southwest Council Fly Fishing Faire. The top section features the IFFF logo and the event title '2015 FLY FISHING FAIRE' in a banner. Below this, it says 'BISHOP Tri-County Fairground October 16 - 18' and 'SOUTHWEST COUNCIL IFFF In conjunction with Inyo National Forest'. The middle section lists activities: 'Something for everyone, all anglers and fly tiers. Classes available for beginners through advanced. The classes for beginners, the equipment will be provided. Many on-stream workshops available. Learn from the pros how to cast, tie and catch!'. A large image of a rainbow trout is featured with the text 'EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN THE FUN!'. The bottom section provides details: 'Date: October 16 - 18', 'Location: Bishop Tri-County Fairground', 'Hours: Friday and Saturday: 9-5 Sunday: 9-3', 'Entrance fee: \$15.00 for all three days, \$20.00 for families up to four members. Eastern Sierra residents get \$5.00 discounted admission.', 'Online registration opens August 16', and 'For more information and registration for classes: southwestcouncilfff.org or Call 818/200/1499'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner.

Hopefully some of our club members will be able to take advantage of these opportunities being offered.

Chiaki

Tippets from the Fly Addict: by Allen Bell (Raider)

Pteronarcys Madness!!!

Several weeks ago a friend called and told me he saw some strange bugs on the Upper Kern. He was amazed at how big these things were. He had no idea what they were....But, I did!!! Pteronarcys Californica, Salmonflies!!! The hatch of hatches!! I was excited, but reserved. Many times I have tried to time the emergence and missed. These big stoneflies hang around for a while, two to three weeks, and are on the water more at the end than the beginning, but I still like to catch them at the very start.

I called Shane to try and set up a trip. It didn't take a great deal of convincing and Shane was aboard. We meet at the bridge and ride at dawn. Well, we would leave at what passes for dawn with us, around 8:00. Oh, and there isn't much riding involved, we walked at 8:00, hey, that's as close as I ever get to ride at dawn, who cares, we are searching for Pteronarcys!!

It was a nice walk, I am thankful to be able to make that hike again. I saw water I liked to fish, so we decided to get down there and start fishing. It wasn't long until Shane was yelling about fish coming up to take his dry. That is always good news. I started slowly, which is kind of normal, but soon I was into a nice fish, these are all wild Rainbows, spunky and beautiful.

All the sudden, I heard Shane yell for me. He had just walked up to a rock that a Salmonfly was emerging on. He just missed the bug leaving its former home. The first thing I noticed was that these insects aren't that bright orange they are so well known for when they come out. They are the light brown color they are in their nymphal stage. We watched our new friend walk around for a while and he soon started becoming more colorful. We started looking and found that there were many of his friends around. We had hit the mother lode.



Our new bestie!

I had an almost realistic sized fly, but I have another pattern I tie just for this occasion. I call it *Pteronarcys Rex*. I tie it in size 10. That's way too small, but the fish take it better than they take the real sized one.



As the sun came up and the day warmed, fishing improved in a big way. We were both taking fish on both the dry and nymphs under these huge dry flies. Nothing really big, but we both were into some nice fish for this water.



The beauty of the Kern in the morning!

As we fished the day away, the fish started getting bigger and a little more often. I had one of those fish you don't soon forget attack my dry. As luck would have it, Shane just happened to be looking up when the fish took my fly. I guess the best place to catch a fish is right in front of a friend. This wasn't the normal Rainbow. This was a Brown. Better, it was a sixteen inch Brown. Not a common catch here. That made my day and surely made the hike out much easier.



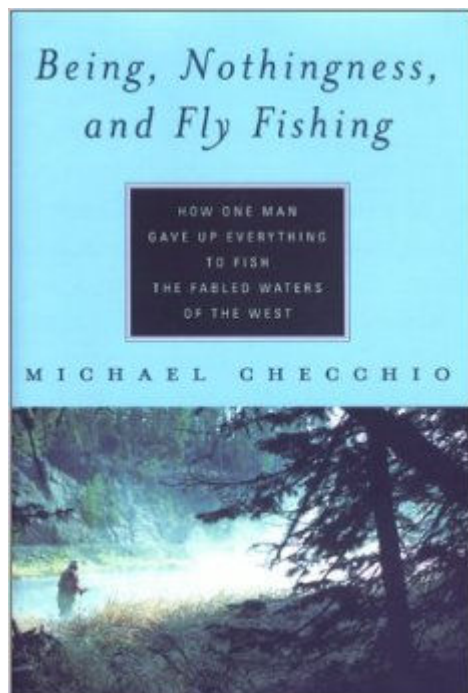
My catch of the day!

Too soon it was time to begin the long walk out of this beautiful place. We didn't talk much on our way back to the truck. Shane doesn't get to fish nearly enough and I'm sure he was savoring the time he was able to spend on the water. As for me, I don't get to spend enough time with Shane. I was savoring the time I got to spend with my friend. Sometimes I think we get too into what we are doing and forget whom we are with and where we are. It was fun to catch a nice fish; it was also fun seeing those magnificent orange bugs. It was definitely the most fun spending an afternoon with my friend!!!

Blue Skies and Fishy Flies....

Allen

Fly Fishing Book Review: by Ants Uiga (Ants)



Being, Nothingness, and Fly Fishing **How One Man Gave Up Everything to Fish the Fabled Waters of the West**

By Michael Checchio

The Lyons Press, Guilford, Connecticut Published 2001
217 pages

If you are uncertain whether a book is an enjoyable read in regard to fly fishing, check the publisher. Of all the books that I have read by The Lyons Press (or slight name variation), I have always been entertained. In talking with the Buhler brothers, I heard similar comments from them. As a fly fishing author, I had no information about Michael Checchio. The publisher's record encouraged me to buy the book. There were no disappointments.

The author is insightful and humorous at many times. Before heading out the fabled waters of the west, Checchio was a fly fisherman in New Jersey. His suggestion for a key piece of equipment to enjoy fly fishing based in NJ was to obtain an out of state fishing license (at least go to Pennsylvania). After chasing after trout in NJ, I understand the suggestion.

Michael Checchio presents an entertaining account of his travels and fishing locations. The descriptions are not a substitute for detailed information about the streams, hatches, and fish that may be present during a season. However, the descriptions give a broad viewpoint that may encompass history (fishing and otherwise), demographics of the local residents, and general description of the fishing community.

Checchio begins his western travels in Jackson Hole Wyoming. Comments from a guide showed that even though the scenery is spectacular, the conditions for trout to grow as large as Yellowstone streams are not present – too cold, lots of snowmelt, lower alkalinity resulting in less bugs. Also, the fishing season improves in late summer or early fall, so as the leaves are turning, the fishing is at the peak. The cutthroat trout are abundant and easy to catch. The wildlife is spectacular. If a decision is to be made where to fish, these comments and other ones in the book may influence your decision as to where to go and when. The author provides comments on other streams along the way as he moved on to Yellowstone Park. A trip planner may want to have a map handy and check river locations and distances while reading this book.

The next stops were around Yellowstone Park. The fishing opportunities are abundant and overwhelming. In reviewing guide books for the area, I was overwhelmed. The comments Checchio made on the various areas won't make my final decisions, but it will lead me to ask the right questions and help plan my travels. The descriptions are fun to read. The meandering travels work to explore Idaho and head north into Montana. Finally, the author heads in Oregon and works his way through Northern CA. A similar wandering adventure seems likely for me, so comments about crowds, weather, fishing, and locations give me information to make travel decisions. Of course, being at the sites adds to the choices.

The chapters were nicely written. Some had been sent to other sources for publication, so a change in writing style appears on a sudden basis. None of the style changes detracted from the pleasure of reading and thinking about heading out.

Since The Lyons Press is no longer in existence, the book is not available from the original source. A simple online search revealed used copies from \$0.01 (plus shipping). I suggest spending a little more for nice copies. You may want to enjoy it at least once before referring to it for ideas and reference information about the areas visited.

AntsYour SSFFC Fishing Book Aficionado

Fly of the Month: by Rob Buhler (clouserfreak)



Savy Stone (Yellow Sally)

There are many quality dry stonefly patterns on the market today that catch fish, but most of them have certain inherent drawbacks. Stoneflies are generally large, so many patterns incorporate a longer hook shank to accommodate materials and provide an adequate silhouette, which “hinges” when fighting fish and leads to increased “LDR’s”. Other flies have extended bodies, but many of these are very stiff and either have the fish pushing them out of the way as they take or rejecting them immediately because they don’t give like a natural bug. With the Savy Stone, the extended body, which allows for a shorter hook shank, is made from a flexible rubber (Flexi-Floss, Super Floss, Ultra Stretch etc.) that is soft to the touch, tempting the fish to hold it just a second longer and gives a little on the take.

The Savy Stone is a mix of several tying styles from some of my favorite patterns with a furled extended body and a wing/hackle combo reminiscent of the E/C Caddis parachute. It’s this mix of the extended body with the parachute hackle that separate it from many others and allows the fly to sit “in” the surface film, not on top of,

providing the imprint on the water of the natural unlike many traditional stonefly patterns like the Stimulator and other vertically hackled flies. A multi-hued abdomen and contrasting thorax create a realistic color scheme that can often trigger takes. In addition, female sallies have a red hue on the rear of the abdomen that is another strike trigger and is easily incorporated with a permanent marker.

You may be thinking that I have made a spelling error, but the namesake for the Savy Stone is my niece Savannah (nickname Savy), but I have been told that it is quite a savvy little fly. :)

Tie some up, throw’em in your box and go fishin’!!

Materials:

Hook: size 14-2x short emerger (Tiemco 2487 equivalent)

Thread: UTC 140 Fl. Red or FL Fire Orange

Abdomen (extended body): 1 strand each Togen Ultra Stretch in yellow and golden midge and 1 each Super Floss in pale olive and light brown(sub as necessary)

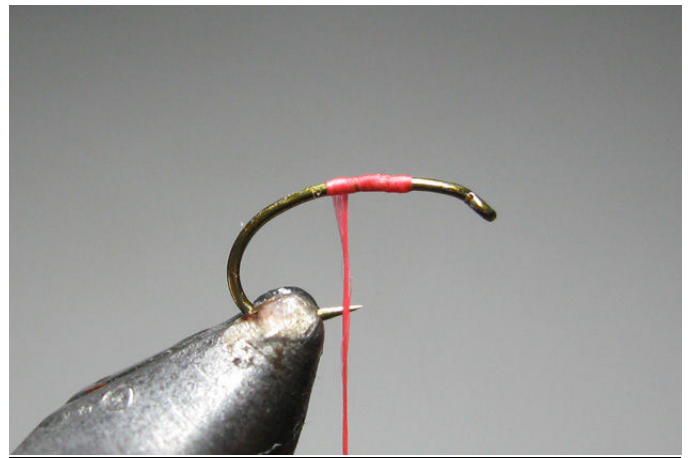
Thorax: 60% Ginger Variant Antron, 20% orange Antron, 20% orange ice dub

Underwing: Pearl Blue Angel Hair

Wing: White or light deer hair

Hackle: Cree, grizzly or ginger

Tying Instructions:



1. Debarb hook, insert into vise and attach thread at 70% mark and wrap back to mid shank.



2. Prepare floss strands. Attach a pair of hackle pliers or hemostats to one end for easier furling with multiple strands.

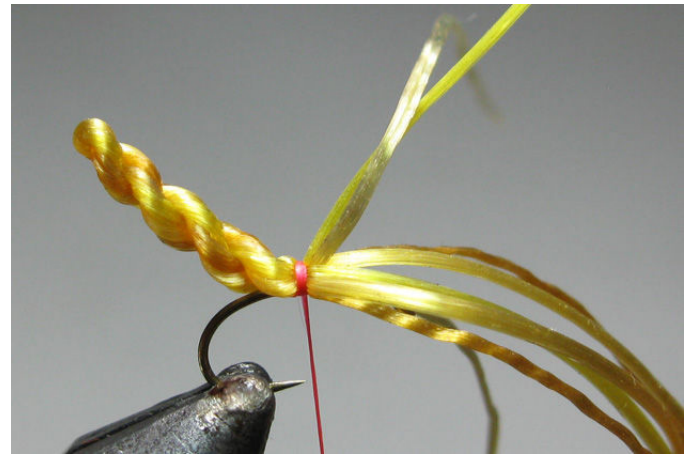


3. Hold one end of floss with thumb and fore finger and spin the pliers/hemostats to furl material. It may need some playing with to get the furl to start in the middle of your rope strand. I will pull it in the center after spinning to start the furl where I like it.



4. Now switch to your bobbin hand and measure for tie in. With three to four furls extending on a size 14 hook, the overall length is about 14mm, the max for a yellow sally adult. To tie smaller sizes reduce

materials and length of furl to accommodate hook size.



5. Tie in furred floss at mid shank with a few of tight wraps.



6. Trim butts at varying lengths to avoid a steep drop off and secure them to shank with thread wraps.



7. Select a small bunch of Angel Hair fibers (15-20), trim tie in ends, and attach to the top of the shank. Do not trim ends!



8. Apply a thin layer of dubbing to thread and wrap thorax, ending with thread at the 80-85% mark on the shank. I feel that the contrasting abdomen and darker thorax is a strike trigger that most naturals have.



9. Select appropriate size hackle (14) and pull barbs from the bottom 1/8 to 1/4 inch. Attach stem to the thorax area on the near side of the shank with a few tight thread wraps and the concave side of the feather facing up or slightly towards you.



10. Select a small bunch of deer hairs (about 20), removing short or broken tip hairs and stack. Measure tips to extend nearly to the end of the

abdomen and tie in with a one loose gathering wraps and two-three tightening wraps.



11. Optional: Add a very light amount of dubbing and cover thread wraps. Add one wrap in front of deer hair to post up.



12. Trim butts. Leave a little longer than you would for an elk hair caddis to help hold parachute.



13. To prepare for winding the hackle, move the thread behind the wing while going under the hackle stem and over the angel hair. This is where the excess angel hair comes in handy to pull down and out of

the way while moving thread to opposite side of the shank. This should prop up deer wing.



14. Wrap hackle clockwise around the deer post three times, passing each wrap under the last. While holding the feather on the near side of the shank, take thread and circle clockwise moving thread under the hackle and over the eye. Trap down excess feather while proceeding around the post, carrying over the abdomen and angel hair, but under the parachute hackle. Do this three times and on last wrap come up from opposite side of the shank where the thread started and move under the eye.



15. Pull hackle back, create thread head and half hitch or whip finish. Trim excess thread and excess hackle. Add a drop of head cement for more durability. Trim excess Angel Hair even with or extending just past extended body. Color tip only of body with red marker. (Note the few hackle barbs below the thread wraps on near side of hook. I missed these when trimming excess hackle and did not see until viewed on a computer. This is not a big deal to the fish, but could be cleaned with one scissor snip for fishermen.)

Rob

Tips & Techniques: by Ryan Buhler (ryan)



Simms guard socks are the newest product I have recently tried out. I found them to be another fantastic product from Simms.

They are 3mm thick and come in right and left for a better fit. Perfect for wet wading the Kern or when you are in your float tube or pontoon trolling in your fins. In your float tube they help keep you warm and not wearing your waders makes it possible to pee without getting out of your tube. You can fold them down for a gravel guard or pull them up for more warmth and comfort. Give them a try they come in different sizes for a more custom fit.

Ryan

Message from the Editor: by Gary Silveira (CopperDropper)

I so enjoy writing my "message" after completing the editing of the rest of the newsletter. It gives me a chance to review the edition in its entirety, and always leaves me amazed at the depth of articles and information provided by your contributors.

From Chiaki's review of our 10th annual Rendezvous, through Raider's story and pictures of the Kern's salmonfly hatch, Ants review of Michael Checchio's book (*which I have already ordered based on the review*), yet another of Rob's amazing ties and Ryan's review of his latest gear, this issue of the Ring of the Rise, once again, should have something for everyone.

As President Chiaki stated at the end of his contribution, "This club is for you, the best Fly Club in the world!!!!"

Tight Lines, Gary



SOUTHERN SIERRA FLY FISHER CLUB

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2014-2015

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|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
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