



Ring of the Rise

August 2012

Official Periodical of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club

Gary Silveira, Newsletter Editor

President's Message: *by Bill Darbee (Bill)*

Hello everyone! I hope this finds all of you having a fun and fishing filled summer. This will be my last article as president of the SSFFC. It has been an honor and a pleasure but feel it is time for me to step down and hand over the reins.

One of the best things I have done in my life, other than marrying my wife of 45 years, Patty, was to take up fly fishing. Being raised in the small town of Roscoe, N.Y. in the Catskill Mountains and a nephew of Harry and Elsie Darbee, one would think I would have started then. Two of the famous fly fishing waters, the Beaverkill and the Willowemoc Rivers come together in the middle of town and are visited by anglers from all over who want to cast in these historic waters. I fished, but with spinners mostly as a youngster. The Darbees and Dettes were fly fishing and tying icons and I saw them on almost a daily basis. Roscoe was, and still has a population of 600 so everyone knew everyone. I had countless opportunities to fish with Harry but never took advantage of them. Talk about kicking yourself!!

We came to California in 1968 and it was around 1980 that I was introduced to using a fly and bubble on a spinning rod in Virginia Lakes above Lee Vining. We caught more fish than ever before and I was hooked. I bought a fly rod and never looked back. My son, Bill Jr., started at the same time and now my 3 grandsons have caught the "bug" and also want to learn how to tie. They have all done good old wooly buggers and did well with them. Another generation is coming through.

After I retired I fished the Kern quite often and through Guy, learned about the Forum on his web site. I looked at it on a daily basis. I heard about the SSFFC in Kernville and decided to attend a meeting and see what it was all about. I've been in other clubs but this one just had a different feel to it. The way people made me feel welcome, I knew this is the club I wanted to be a part of.

The year after I joined I was asked to be the conservation chair and the following year became the vice president. About half way through the year the president left suddenly and I filled in for what I thought would be the duration of that year. I ended up in that position for 5 years. Chiaki was appointed vice president and things really took off with his idea of the Rendezvous. It was posted on the Forum and it generated a huge amount of interest. Membership sky rocketed and we have continued to grow.

The first Rendezvous was a success and continues to be the highlight of the year for the club. It was really something to witness the first one as folks rolled into the MRA campground. At that time most of us had not met but had been chatting back and forth on the Forum. Names and faces were put with screen names and introductions were made. I've never seen a group of people come together and meld as quickly as members of this club. The first evening there must have been 40 people socializing and visiting around the camp fire as if we had known one another for years.

Some of the original members have left for one reason or another, but we continued to grow each year and the new members are welcomed and hopefully feel at home with us. We have people from all walks of life and backgrounds who have a common interest and passion....fly fishing. I guess that's the tie that binds us but there's more to it. I think it's just knowing you are part of a fantastic group of people.

I have met most of our members and look forward to meeting our newest ones at this year's Rendezvous. This club has given me a lot of good times and memories. I've made some very close friends through the years, and I appreciate all that you do to make this club what it is.

Voting for new board members takes place this month and it will be my pleasure to introduce the new president and vice president at the Rendezvous in September. There is no doubt the new officers will have new ideas and projects to make our club even better

Once again I want to thank every member for their support and generosity to make our club such a special one. To past and present board members who worked so tirelessly and volunteered numerous hours to our events, a heartfelt thank you. You guys are the back bone of our organization and made my job easy.

Hope to see some of you at the August meeting and keep in mind the Rendezvous is fast approaching and will be another grand old time. See you there!!

Bill



River Report: by Guy Jeans (Flyguy)

Hello everyone, this is a fly fishing report for the week of 8-1-12 written on Thursday 8-1-12.

The 20 mile roadside section of the upper Kern Best fishing is early in the morning around 5:30am till 10am. There is a major hatch of Caddis around 6am and 8pm and rainbows are looking up. Water temps are 55-60 early and pushing 70 degrees by midday above KR3 and the flows are around 188 cfs below KR3 (water temps below KR3 65 degrees) and flows are about the same from Fairview Dam to KR3.

The river is clear and you can wade, but be very careful and use a wading staff if you have it. There are some big fish being caught up and down the 20 mile section with the current emergency stocking of 2000 pounds of rainbows in the put and take section. I have been seeing some top water action on various dry flies like Stimulators, H&L Variants and Fuzzy Wuzzy's. Some fish are taking Yellow Sallies and Caddis dry flies as well. Some great nymphing action with smaller nymphs in sizes 18-20 like PT's, Redemption Nymphs and various golden stonefly nymphs in sizes 10-14. Most fish have been taken on the swing. Some folks are doing really well on soft hackles on the swing, buggers and various streamers.



Donny with a nice August fish and his dad Bill too!



Check out the Kern River Fly Shop Youtube Channel Link for "Tip and Techniques" at;

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=A5ca0SsGNsQ

Some other go to flies are Hares Ear nymphs of various colors. Great attractors right now are BH Pink Kern Emergers and Chartreuse Copper Johns and BH Prince size 16, Tungsten Teddy's size 10. 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 180- cfs and dropping = You can wade .

The 4 mile wild trout section Open year round The fishing above the bridge is good-water temps cooler. This is the best place right now for fly fishers and it is running at 500 cfs. **Catch and Release barbless hooks only!!**

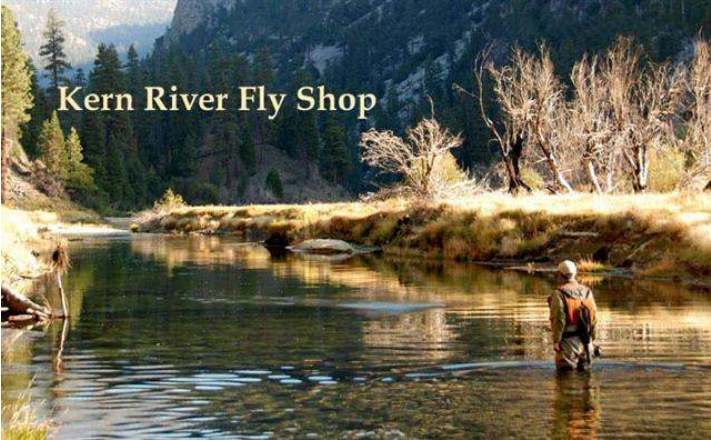
Lake Isabella trout fishing is fair near Camp Nine and Paradise Cove and fishing various streamers with a floating line or sink tip is getting the job done. Rainbows are looking up early in the morning and taking midges on the surface with some great top water action. Crappie and Bass fly fishing action is ok and Carp fly fishing is slow.

Lower Kern The lower river is fishing excellent. This is the place to be. The lower river is 900+cfs. Great flies to use down on the lower are Guides Choice Hares Ear size 12, Tungsten Yellow Sallie Nymphs size 14, Tungsten Teddy Pink size 10, Psycho Princes pink sizes 12-16, Copper Johns size 18 and WD40 sizes 18-20. Early morning hatches have been reported. Be very careful wading/fishing the lower. The small mouth fishing is ok. I'm getting reports that the lower river is fishing well for smallmouth out of the canyon.

Tributaries of the North and South Fork Kern Open

South Fork of the Kern from Rockhouse North Open

Guy



Conservation Report: by Shane Goslin (fishinXJ)

RIVER SIGNAGE APPROVED

California's Golden Treasure...

Special Fishing Regulations

On the Kern River and in Golden Trout Wilderness

Accept the Challenge
Use Only Artificial Lures With Barbless Hooks
Artificial lures are man-made lures or flies designed to attract fish. These do not include scented or flavored artificial baits.

Know Your Fishing Location
Check Your Dates and Limits

Kern River: Johnsondale Bridge to Rincon Trail cutoff.
Last Saturday in April through Nov. 15. Two fish in possession, minimum size limit: 14 inches total length.
Nov. 15 until the Friday preceding the last Saturday in April. Zero fish in possession, catch and release only.

Kern River above Rincon Trail Cutoff to Tyndall Creek.
Last Saturday in April through Nov. 15. Two fish in possession. Maximum size limit: 10 inches total length for rainbow trout only.

Golden Trout Wilderness excluding the main stem Kern River.
Last Saturday in April to Nov. 15. Five fish in possession.

Our State Fish

Gold can still be found high in the southern Sierra Nevada! The fabulous "golden trout" of this region is represented by two subspecies: the California golden trout and the Little Kern golden trout. The Kern River rainbow, a close relative, is also native to the upper Kern River.

The exceptional beauty and brilliant color of golden trout led to their designation as our State fish in 1947, and is one of the primary reasons for the creation of the Golden Trout Wilderness.

The continued existence of California golden trout are threatened by interbreeding with introduced trout. A major effort is underway to prevent the loss of this valuable resource. More information on recovery efforts to conserve our "golden treasure" can be found at www.californiagoldentrout.org.

Welcome!

Anglers

Special Fishing Regulations

Protecting California's Native Trout

The waters upstream of the Johnsondale Bridge have the purest strains of Kern River Rainbows in the world. Fish below the bridge have been hybridized with non-native trout losing many of the special traits of this unique fish. Special fishing regulations help keep the native populations healthy and ensure that the unique qualities of this fish are not lost forever.

The Kern River rainbow (*Oncorhynchus mykiss gairdneri*) is a subspecies of the Kern River golden trout. The golden trout are thought to be derived from the rainbows that were isolated about 75,000 years ago by glacial and tectonic activity. It is suspected that 10,000 years ago during an extremely wet period, redband rainbows or coastal rainbows migrated from the Northern Sacramento Basin to the Kern River system through the San Joaquin drainage into Lake Tulare. These fish hybridized with the Kern River golden trout to produce a unique subspecies: the Kern River Rainbow.

Pure strains of Kern River rainbows are now being reared at the Kern River Hatchery in Kernville. A program is in place to reintroduce these pure strains and keep non-native trout out of the upper river.

Distinguishing Characteristics

The Kern River Rainbow has irregularly shaped spots above and below the lateral line. The spots decrease as they extend towards the belly. Coloration is similar to the coastal rainbow trout, however the Kern River rainbow has a distinct red stripe with faint dark marks along the lateral line. The dorsal, pelvic, and anal fins have a white tip with orange tints along the belly.

Upstream from the Johnsondale Bridge

to where FS Trail 33E30 heads east to join the Rincon Trail:

- Use Only Artificial Lures With Barbless Hooks
- No Bait Allowed
- Know the Limits

Artificial lures are man-made lures or flies designed to attract fish. These do not include scented or flavored artificial baits.

Last Saturday in April through Nov. 15. Two fish in possession. Minimum size limit: 14 inches total length.

Nov. 15 until the Friday preceding the last Saturday in April. Zero fish in possession. Catch and release only.

¡ÁREA DE REGULACIONES ESPECIALES!

LÍMITE 2 PIECES DE UN MÍNIMO DE 14 PULGADAS DE LARGO (38.56 CM)

SOLO CEBOS ARTIFICIALES CON ANZUELOS SIN LENGÜETAS

PROHIBIDO USAR CAÑADA

After three years of delays, backburners, and waiting the new signage for the Forks of the Kern, Clicks Creek, Jerkey, Lewis, and the Johnsondale Bridge trailheads have been approved! The Forest Service took our input and designed signage touting the Kern River Rainbow, the Little Kern and California Golden Trout, along with the special fishing regulations associated with the Golden Trout Wilderness, Little Kern River, and the North Fork of the Kern on each sign. In the next week the designs are being sent off to the printing press and in late September or early October we hope install the new signs.

We will be asking for volunteers to assist with installation. The FOTK sign will be a whole new sign and location in the big parking area where the new trail has been made over the years. This is the only one requiring any construction skills. The other trailheads have existing signage and will be simply changing the posters and maintaining them. New printing technologies have dropped the cost of cool looking signs which are also durable and our club dues will pay for the annual maintenance and new posters when needed. Of course donations specifically to this cause are always welcome!

Note the SSFF and KRFF logos on the posters. This is a significant milestone for the SSFF. It shows the ongoing cooperation and relationship building with the Forest Service, the DFG, and our fellow club of the Kern, the Kern River Fly Fishers. All of us together can accomplish so much more. Our next goal, the Kernville Park and the South Fork of the Kern in Kennedy and Monache Meadows.

Cast it forward,

Shane

Outings Report: by Chris Chamberlain (ChrisC)

No report this month.

Check out Chris' posts on the forum for the upcoming outings;

August – Backpacking in Sequoia NP.

Chris

Rod Building: by Pete Emmel (Pete)

Heat and Stripping a Blank

You know how we always learn from the other guy? Well..... this month you can just call me Mr. Otherguy. I found out the hard way that there is a very fine line between enough heat to soften epoxy and plenty of heat to melt the blank. That fine line is about .05 seconds too long.

So, you have either an old rod you are going to re-furbish or you want to redo the rod you have already applied the finish to. Read the following to see how not to remove the old epoxy (Flex Coat).

I am building a rod for my 5 year old niece. Well I wasn't happy with the wraps and semi-blotchy bleed through, due to sorry CP application. We'll talk NCP thread vs. using Color Preserver in another article. Anyway, I stripped off the old finish and thread. No problem there. Then I used my heat gun to soften the Flex Coat so I could scrape with my thumbnail and the edge of a credit card. Everything went smooth until the last guide on the tip section. That's where the curse of the heat gun attacked. I had been very careful, up to that point, to not get the heat gun too close to the blank. Kept the blank turning all the time and only heated enough to slightly soften the finish. Last guide and I was getting a little impatient. The blank went for hard to soft without any kind of warning. "Poof" it was gone. So I have already ordered a new blank and have inquired with Batson if I can just purchase a new tip section.

So to sum it up: When you are using heat, keep the heat source or blank moving at all times. Use only enough heat to slightly soften the epoxy. **And above all have patience, patience, patience.** Thankfully it was a Batson RX6 which isn't all that expensive. But, it still cost me time and money due to re-work. And now, if I can't get just a tip section, I will have three leftover sections of a blank due to stupidity.

Also, as a reminder to those of you playing in the 2012 Rendezvous Rod Swap, tick tock the clock is ticking. Wait until the last minute to finish your rod and you may be the other guy we all learn from.

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)

The August General Meeting will be Saturday, August 11th 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.



The presenter will be Bill Lowe of Bill Lowe's Guide Service, Fair Oaks, CA. Bill's presentation will be on Spey Casting.

Bill is FFF Certified in both Single-hand and Two-Handed Casting, and Sage Schools Casting Instructor. He is also the Lead Spey Instructor at the Leland Sonoma Ranch.

Born and raised in the Sacramento area, Bill has been providing fly fishing instruction to all levels of fly-fishers and has been running a full-time guide service for the past 19 years. FFF Certified in both single-hand and two-handed casting, and Sage Schools Casting Instructor, Bill teaches beginning, intermediate and advanced classes and makes his home between the Yuba and American Rivers where wild trout, steelhead, striped bass, shad and king salmon are pursued. An energetic and communicative personality, your time spent with Bill is sure to be informative, educational and most of all fun!

For anyone that hasn't had the opportunity to speak with or spend time fishing with Bill, this will be a real treat indeed. Bill's easy going yet energetic style is truly a joy to be around. He speaks clearly and in a manner that everyone can understand, giving great detail while making the whole experience fun.

On Sunday, August 12th, Bill will be presenting an "on the water" Spey Clinic from 9:00 – 3:00. The cost of the clinic is \$150.00 per attendee and is limited to 5 – 10 participants. Bill will teach the switch cast, snap-T and double-spey from either the river-right or river-left direction. He will also have on hand Sage's complete line of Spey Rods in both the Traditional and European tapers (line-weights 6 through 9) so you can try them and decide which best fits your style.

Further details will be posted on the Forum and more information about Bill will follow next month.

SSFFC Nominations and Voting

Nominations for the SSFFC board were made during the month of July and voting started August 1st via email with the final voting occurring at the August 11th monthly meeting.

The nominations are as follows;

President: Chiaki Harami (Also Tournament Chair)
Vice President: Randy Skidgel
Secretary: Keith Pengilley
Treasurer: Pete Emmel (Also Rod Building)
Conservation Chair: Shane Goslin (Also Kids Academy Chair)
Outings Chair: Chris Chamberlain
Director: Gary Silveira (also Newsletter Editor)
Director: Guy Jeans (Also Education and Community Relations Chair)

SSFFC members can cast their vote at the Aug 11th meeting or send Bill Darbee a PM (Bill) or email (wdarbee@bak.rr.com) by Aug 10th.



2012 Rendezvous News

As previously announced, the location for the 2012 Rendezvous will be at our usual place:

**Mountain and River Adventures Campgrounds
15775 Sierra Way, Kernville, CA 93238**

<http://www.mtnriver.com/campground.htm>

Please mention you are with Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club when you make your reservations. We've been able to get a special discounted rate of \$36/night, two night minimum.

The Rendezvous schedule is as follows:

Friday, September 21st: Informal gathering, pot luck, catch up with old friends and meet new friends, talk fly fishing. Afternoon to evening.

Saturday, September 22nd: C&R Tourney, river clean up, casting contest, Voss rod swap, introductions to new Club officers, raffle, auction, head or tails, BBQ dinner, band and kegs. All day and all of the night (reminds me of a song).

Sunday, September 23rd: Recover and go fly fishing.

The Rendezvous Registration Forms are available for downloading online at the SSFFC Website (<http://ssffclub.org>) by selecting the Rendezvous tab along the top of the home page then clicking "[Download Rendezvous RSVP and Tournament Entry form](#)".

Currently the forms must be downloaded and printed then sent in with a check, however; Shane is working on getting the registration process as well as making payment via PayPal available completely online. Once completed, the entire process of registering, paying the Rendezvous fees as well as membership fees can be completed at one time.

Inter-Club Tournament

The Inter-Club Tourney will be held on November 3rd, the first Saturday in November. Try-out dates, to represent the SSFFC, will be held September 8th and October 13th. SSFFC will field two 5 person teams.

Try-outs will use the same rules as the Inter-Club Tourney. The top scorer (Top Dog) from last year's teams will automatically make the team. The top 4 scores from each of try-out dates will earn spots on the teams. The last (10th) spot will be the next highest score from the 2 try-out dates, to be known as the Wild Card. The next two highest scores are the alternates. The teams will be made up from the scores, the Top Dog and 4 highest scores will be Team A. Members can try-out both days.

We will need controllers again for both try-out dates and the Inter-Club Tourney. Anyone that can help will be very much appreciated. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Chiaki



SWCFFF Fly Fishing Faire

Classes & Free Seminars List

A jam-packed dawn-to-dusk schedule of fly-fishing classes, free seminars and activities is on tap for the Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers' first Fly Fishing Faire, Sept. 13-16 in Mammoth Lakes, announced Chiaki Harami.

Headquartered at Cerro Coso Community College, 101 College Parkway in Mammoth, the Faire will be a potpourri of the sport with clinics, workshops, films, casting, fly-tying, vendor displays and every aspect of the sport utilizing both the school and nearby Eastern Sierra waters.

Adult admission is \$10 with children and teens age 16 and under admitted free. One admission is good for all Faire days.

Some workshops and seminars will be included in the Faire admission; other classes have separate registration or instructor and materials fees. Hours are Thurs., 2-5; Fri., 8-5; Sat., 8-5; and Sun., 9-3.

Featured film presentation will be The International Fly Fishing Film Festival (IF4), 13 short and feature length films – about two hours – produced by professional and amateur filmmakers from all corners of the globe, showcasing the passion, lifestyle and culture of fly-fishing.

Effective July 1, all registration, class, film and seminar information is available at www.regonline.com/flyfishingfaire

A partial listing of seminars, classes and instructional sessions includes –

Thursday, September 13

Fish the Walker River in Bridgeport with Walker River Outfitters' Andrew Sears and Scott Freeman. Intermediate casting ability required. Bring waders.

Friday, September 14

CASTING:

- Fix your back-cast and resulting forward cast. Instructor Tim Lawson.
- Presentation and accuracy. FFF Certified Casting Instructor Paul Riegert. Some experience preferred.

ENTOMOLOGY:

- Hosted by Dave Parker. General introduction to the four most important orders of insects (mayflies, caddis, stoneflies, chironomids), including life cycles and key identifying characteristics

BUS TOUR:

- Mammoth to Bodie Ghost Town. An up-close and personal taste of the Eastern Sierra's scenic and historic treasures north of Mammoth Lakes with an extended visit at Bodie State Historic Park.

ON THE WATER:

- Beginning fly-fishing hosted by Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers. The basic casts needed in fly-fishing; both classroom and on-stream instruction.
- Intro to fly-fishing with spinning gear. Instructor Chad St. John demonstrates how to use spinning gear to fly-fish using dry flies and nymphs.
- Fishing Crowley Lake and other still waters with instructor and longtime guide Ernie Gulley.
- A four hour course teaching how to quickly identify insects and tie simple but effective patterns to match the hatch. Instructor Steven McGrath.
- Upper Owens Techniques. Instructors are guides Otis Hein, Brad McFall and Dave Neal. Students will rotate through three stations – dry flies, nymphs and streamers.

FLY TYING:

- Small flies for spring creeks with Dave Parker, former education coordinator of the Deep Creek Fly Fishers.
- Extended body flies with Naomi Okamoto, Pasadena Casting Club. Intermediate to advanced tiers.

Saturday, September 15

CASTING:

- Women only with FFF Certified Casting Instructor Kathy Kim.
- Improving Distance. Simple techniques that will add another 10-feet. Instructor Dok Arvanites.

- Double Haul. Instructor Joe Libeu.

FREE SEMINARS:

- Electrofishing Hot Creek with DFG staff from DFG's Heritage & Wild Trout Program.
- Fly-fishing the Eastern Sierra, Bishop to Bridgeport with guide and Hot Creek Ranch manager Kevin Peterson.
- Fly-fishing Hot Creek with Kevin Peterson. From line, flies, techniques to seasons.
- High Mountain Lakes with the DFG's Mitch Lockhart.

NON-FISHING:

- Beginning digital photography with instructor/pro photographer Michael Miller, California State University, Northridge; and Pasadena Casting Club.

TECHNIQUES:

- Build your own leaders. Includes required materials. Instructor is Hot Creek and Eastern Sierra guru Mas Okui, Sierra Pacific Flyfishers.
- Rod Building. Build your own fly rod (including materials) with instructor Chiaki Harami. Class includes lunch at the college. Minimum of 4 students.

BUS TOUR:

- Mammoth to Bishop and points in between including Convict Lake, site of the infamous 1870s shootout between prison escapees and a sheriff's posse.

ON THE WATER:

- Fish Crowley Lake with guide/instructor Ernie Gulley.
- Beginning Fly Fishing with the Fly Fishers of Orange County. Classroom and on-stream instruction.
- Better line mending with Granite Stanley and Cog McNeil, of The Troutfitter in Mammoth. Intermediate to advanced.
- Strategies for Fishing in the Wind with Cog McNeil, of The Troutfitter in Mammoth. Techniques and strategies to overcome the Eastern Sierra's most common and challenging weather conditions

CONSERVATION:

- Hot Creek Kiosk Dedication. Erected by CalTrout in 1993, the kiosk is a local landmark and serves to

educate the general public about the basic principles of fly-fishing and conservation. It had fallen into disrepair. Rehabilitation and refurbishing spearheaded by volunteers from Aguabonita Fly Fishers.

Sunday, September 16

ON THE WATER:

- Beginning fly-fishing. Taught by Santa Lucia Fly Fishers. Both classroom and on-stream locations.
- Fishing Hot Creek with Mas Okui. An experience not to be missed.
- Mending strategies and techniques for nymphing, dry flies and streamers with Kern River guide Guy Jeans. Learn stack mending, the reach cast, wiggle cast, pile cast, curve cast or just learning where to move or mend your line during moving currents to get a better or natural drift.
- Strategies for fishing in the wind with Cog McNeil of The Troutfitter in Mammoth.

Besides the virtual non-stop four day homage to fly-fishing, there will also be golf, spa sessions and other activities for the entire family added Harami.

For lodging and camping information and Special Faire Rates, contact:

- Convict Lake Resort. Jen Heintzelman, marketing@convictlake.com; 760-934-3800 x 46.
- Creekside Inn (Bishop). Jena Kautto, jkautto@westerninns.net; 360-719-1761.
- Snowcreek Resort (Mammoth). John Morris, jmorris@snowcreekresort.com; 760-934-3333.
- Double Eagle Resort (June Lake). Sharon Harvey, sharon@snowcreekathleticclub.com; 760-934-8511
- Adventures in Camping (Regional). Ryne Dore, rdore@adventureincamping.com; 760-935-4890.
- Alpenhof Lodge (Mammoth). Stacy Schaubmayer, Stacy@alpenhof-lodge.com; 760-934-6330.
- Crowley Lake Fish Camp (Crowley). Abbie, crowleylakefishcamp@yahoo.com; 760-935-4301.
- Travelodge (Mammoth). Young Kim, ykq0713@yahoo.com; 760-934-8240.
- Silver Lake Resort (June Lake). Andrew Jones, silverlakeresortfamily@hotmail.com; 760-648-7525.

The October General Meeting will be Saturday, October 13th 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 speaker for October is Rick Setina who will be discussing Tenkara rods. More information on Rick and his presentation will follow in the September newsletter.



SSFFC IS COMING TO A COMPUTER NEAR YOU

As previously noted in the “Rendezvous News” post above, the new SSFFC website (<http://ssffclub.org>) is getting closer to being completely useable for anything and everything SSFFC. Shane has been putting in some serious hours and at his last estimate, it is probably 70% workable with the last handful of bugs to work out.

When the site is completely usable, members will be provided a Username and temporary password (will need to be changed upon initial login) so that they may be able to access the “Member’s Only” section of the site.

The plan is that through the website, members will be able to access all club activity details, a current membership roster as well as current and archived Ring of the Rise Newsletters.

Membership applications and renewals will be available for downloading online for those that prefer to print out and mail with a check as well as being able to be filled out online and paid via PayPal for those that prefer that convenience.

If you haven’t already had a look at the website, you owe it to yourself to do so as soon as you can. I am sure you will agree that the potential that this new website offers is amazing and it will be exciting to see just where the adventure will take us!

Bill

SSFFC Member Profile: by Gary Silveira (CopperDropper)

Well it has been quite a while since a volunteer stepped up to the plate and offered to get the ball rolling again on the “Member Profile” section of this newsletter. This is a wonderful opportunity to share a bit about yourself with the rest of the club.

I want to personally thank Denise for taking the time to offer her story. Hopefully it will generate many more members to do the same. - Gary



Denise Randall

Denise is relatively new to the sport of fly-fishing, having only been honing her skills about four years. She’s been a member of the club for the same amount of time.

That’s not to say she’s never fished before. As her father likes to say, “She’s been fishing since she was old enough to hold a pole.”

When she and her husband, Scott (*Troutinator*) moved to California’s central valley back in 1996, they found more reason to fish the fresh water offerings in the area. Freshwater fishing was a relatively new experience for Denise, one of those adjustments made when she moved far, far away from the coast and closer to the many lakes, rivers, and reservoirs offered in California’s inland valley and nearby Sierra Mountain range. Bass and trout were the staples for their efforts, but eventually using bait and tackle loss any sense of challenge.

To fulfill a need to stretch his talents, Denise’s husband decided to turn his attention to fly fishing. At first it was a sport that Denise was more than willing to allow him to do on his own, thinking perhaps she didn’t possess the patience to learn a totally new technique with a purported lower success rate. Like many other things she said she’d *never* do, eventually she was convinced to give it a shot.

Just as she suspected, the art had a steep learning curve, one which left her often frustrated and skunked on the river. Stubborn as she can be, however, she stuck it out, taking lessons from fly fishermen more accomplished than she, until she began to see success. Initially she learned to nymph with an indicator but found only sporadic success. Less difficult to master was the dry-fly, a technique Denise found produced more rises and more fish to the net. For many months (years even) dry flies were her go-to method for catching trout, and her favorite fly proved to be the Goddard caddis.

Her skill at casting and catching improved simply by hitting the rivers any time an opportunity presented itself. However, Denise was always interested in continued

learning, working with and taken advice from guides on such great waters as the Owens, Kern, and Merced Rivers. It was during one of these guided outings she realized the worth of a method she had already learned, modified slightly – high-stick Czech-Nymphing. An easy technique to master, it allowed her to feel a greater percentage of the soft bites associated with trout feeding from the bottom. The results were greater catch rates and a personal best rainbow on the fly of 22” on a size 22 tiger midge that she tied.

Denise has found the art of fly fishing more rewarding than any other kind of fishing she’s attempted. Her favorite river to date is the Carson, not for the size of the fish, but for the adventure in catching them on this beautiful stretch of water and the variety of ways the water can present opportunities for hidden rainbows.

Since her developing her skill in fly fishing, Denise has expanded her talents into tying many of the flies she uses on the water. Additionally she likes applying her already artistic nature to the art of rod-building.

Without the support of the club, Denise would never have gotten so far or be nearly as accomplished as she is at the art. The members have given her advice, support (like all those supplies sent to her while she was on her Navy Deployment), and camaraderie. Even the first time going to an outing or a rendezvous they’ve always treated her like family.



Thanks again to Denise for the wonderful profile and insight into her personal journey with fly fishing.

If you are willing to share your story and keep this great section of the newsletter active, please send your profile to me at gfsilveira@charter.net or by PM on the Forum at “CopperDropper.”

Gary

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

WHEN THE ADDICT GETS THE DOLDRUMS

It’s July and hot. Too hot to fish! This is one of the times of the year that kind of gets me down. Not really down, but I sure get bored. The time of year I get the doldrums in a big way. When I get like this, I star to think. People that know me well, know this usually is a bad thing. That usually depends on what I’m thinking about.



Bill Darbee serving the next generation

Now I happen to be thinking about the Kids Academy I recently took part in. The Southern Sierra Fly Fishers annually hold a class for children (and usually their parents) to teach them a little about fly fishing. I’ve done this for a few years now and one thought keeps returning to me. What about all the people that so generously share their time and resources to teach a few kids to fish? I know many of these guys. To a man or woman, they are top line people. Character oozes from them. Lately, I’ve been thinking of how much these men remind me of the farmers I grew up working for as a teenager and young adult. These men of the land taught me much. I learned to give an honest days work for an honest days pay. To show up on time, ready to work. Life lessons learned that have served me well to this day. I learned much more than that from these farmers and their wives. I learned respect for others. I learned no to quit when things got tough. But more than that, these people gave freely of their time. I could go talk things over with Sid Long and walk away feeling better about teenage catastrophe. I could stop by Laurence Cox’ house anytime the light was on and he would make us a milkshake and talk to me. I always left with a smile and feeling good about myself. I was learning to be a good human from men that never told you how to do it. You learned by how they lived their lives.



This young man will learn much from his Grandpa, and a little about fishing along the way.

I recently had the privilege of fishing Hot Creek Ranch with my good friend and mentor, Chuck Newmeyer. I've learned much from Chuck. Many things about fly fishing, more about life. We ran into Chuck's friend Mas. Here I was with two Hot Creek legends that have spent a lifetime teaching others about fishing. Their students learned about more than fishing from these two.



Chuck and Mas, Hot Creek Legends

So back to the Kids Academy. These young fly fishers definitely learned about fishing at this event. How much do you think they need to be around the kind of people that freely give of their time and resources to teach them about fishing, while showing them how to be a good person?



Kindness abounds from this tying vise

I think that young people need to be around adults of good character. I know I had awesome parents and I REALLY needed that weren't afraid to set me straight, as best they could, forgive me when things went astray and laugh with me or at me as the case may be. The truth of it is, I needed those men that molded me into the man that I am today. No matter how many years it took for the lessons to kick in. I think the youth of today need us to step up for them as those great people did for me. As I look around at an event like the Kids Academy, and see all my friends happily showing children our passion, I get a really good feeling. Almost as good as one of Mr. Cox's milkshakes.

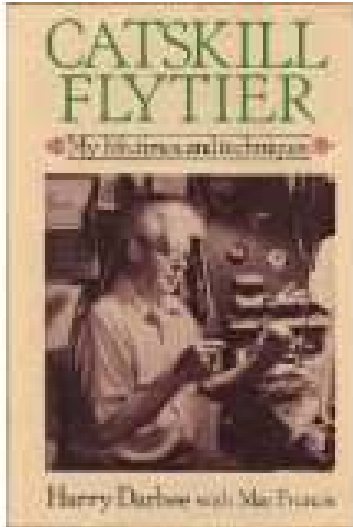
I would be remiss if I didn't include a picture of the man behind the Kids Academy, Shane Goslin. Shane is one of

my best friends and gives endlessly to his kids and any others around that need him so much. Shane being the man he is, didn't send me any pictures including him from the Kids Academy, so I took the liberty of using a favorite of my own. Thanks for all you do Shane!!



Blue Skies and Fishy Flies, *Allen*

Library Report: by Ants Uiga (Ants)



Catskill Flytier: My Life, Times, and Techniques

by Harry Darbee, Mac Francis, Francis Davis (Illustrator),
Illustrated by Francis Davis with an Introduction by Sparse
Grey Hackle

Hardcover, 174 pages
Published October 1st 1977 by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
ISBN 0397012144

Harry Darbee describes many things about the Catskill area. For those unfamiliar with this portion of New York State, the area is about a 3-4 hour drive from New York City. The Manhattan fly fisherman could drive up one evening and be ready to hit the water the next morning.

Harry and Elsie (his wife) began their fly tying business in 1927, just prior to the Crash of 1929 and following depression. The business sustained them for their entire lives, thanks to perseverance and innovative practices. One of the little things I noted about their fly tying was that they only used two colors of thread, black and white. The rooster and hen hackles were critical to providing a quality fly. Since hackle could not be reliably obtained, the Darbees took to raising their own roosters and hens. The incubator they used to hatch the eggs was donated to Catskill Fly Fishing Museum. Much of the current US produced hackle is the result of Darbees. The birds were never given away, but the eggs had a fairly wide distribution that help to build the overall fly-fishing / fly tying community.

Harry and Elsie were born in the area. Many other notable fly fisherman (and authors) made the Catskill area their home also. Art Flick's Streamside Guide was developed on the local streams. Edward Hewitt developed his own hatchery and maintained a fishing club on one of the rivers. Richard Tailleu, who wrote Fly Fishing for the Adult Beginner (my first SSFFC book review) gained much of his fly fishing experience in the area. These few authors are just a few of those that enjoyed the Catskill fly-fishing.

In addition to the development of fishing flies and techniques, the Catskill area was subject to the impacts of development. The strongest impact was the development of water supply projects for the New York City metropolitan area. Locally, that means that dams were built and spawning runs were blocked. The change in quality and size of fish that were caught over Harry's life are described.

Finally for another SSFFC connection, Bill Darbee (our president) is the nephew of Harry Darbee. When I mentioned to Bill about seeing the egg incubator at the museum, Bill recalls hearing that his uncle ate a lot of eggs.

The book was a joy to read and provide many interesting perspectives on fly-fishing. While some may think the Catskill or other area are past their prime, the lessons of the impacts and changes can apply to any area.

This book is currently out of print. While many out of print books are economically priced, this one is a collectible and priced accordingly. The least expensive used copy was about \$50 and a copy with Harry and Elsie's signatures was listed at \$185. I was lucky since I borrowed a copy from a fellow club member.

Ants

Fly of the Month: by Rob Buhler (clouserfreak)



“MICRO” CLOUSER”

Surprisingly my first introduction to the famed “Clouser” fly came from a book of trout fly patterns (Trout Flies by Dick Stewart and Farrow Allen) and not saltwater or bass patterns. The pattern listed consisted of dumbbell eyes, squirrel tail, and a little flash tied on 3x long trout streamer hooks in sizes 6-10. The pattern shown was tied by Bob Clouser and came with the books built in sales pitch at the bottom of the recipe, which reads, “The Clouser Minnow has developed a strong reputation for catching fish everywhere.” I was sold! Soon I had some eyes and squirrel tail to tie a few of my own.

My first testimonial came on the East Fork of the Carson River where I had backpacked about 5 miles downriver towards the Nevada border for a 3 to 4 night stay. Being

only a few years into my fly fishing learning curve, my first attempt was almost always with a dry fly attractor pattern. Nothing. No rises for my fly or any naturals on my first evening around camp.

The next morning started with dry attractors again followed by dry naturals like Blue Winged Olive Thorax Duns that had done well in the past. Nothing. Now it was Brassies, Hares Ears and P.T.'S with the same dreadful result.

Finding some fish feeding in a large bend pool that were holding in the lower currents, I again failed with the nymphs (admittedly probably due to presentation errors). Tying on my trusty Olive Wooly Bugger, I quickly caught one of these seemingly difficult fish. However there were many more fish in the pool that would not even acknowledge my passing Bugger. Now, digging deep into my fly box, I pulled out one of those squirrel-tailed Clouser's in red and natural tan. The first swing had a fish follow the fly through the entire pool, but not striking at it. On the next swing either the same fish or another followed the fly again. This time I let slack into the line halfway through the drift to dead drift and drop the fly back into the fish. As I did this, the fish perked up and followed more intently. The next strip ignited the fish into hammering my offering and I had a beautiful 14" Carson River rainbow coming to the net.

That day ended up with 7 Carson River bows to the net with the help of the Clouser, four coming from this challenging hole. Not only did I learn the deadly effect of the Clouser Minnow on this day, I also learned a great deal about streamer presentation.

The next time you run into some tough fish of any species, try tying on one of these Micro Clouser's and see how the fish react. These flies are great for trout, bass, carp, panfish and much more.

I use the term "Micro" Clouser for lack of a better description since I tie most of mine in sizes 10-14.

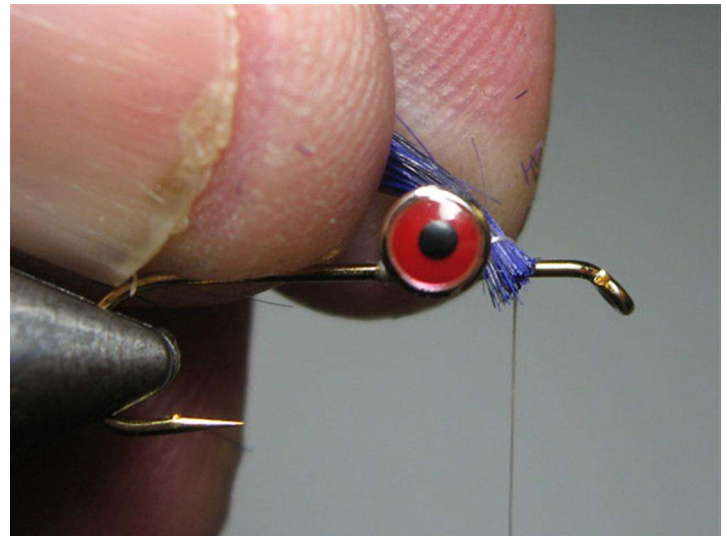
Materials:

Hook: 10-14 2x-3x streamer
Thread: 6/0 Black for dark flies, White for light flies
Eyes: Red Real Eyes Plus 5/32
Belly: Squirrel Tail Purple
Throat/Gills: Red Flash
Flash: Wine and Purple Krystal (any flash will do)
Back: Squirrel Tail Black
Head: Flash material
Epoxy: 5 or 30 minute Z-poxy

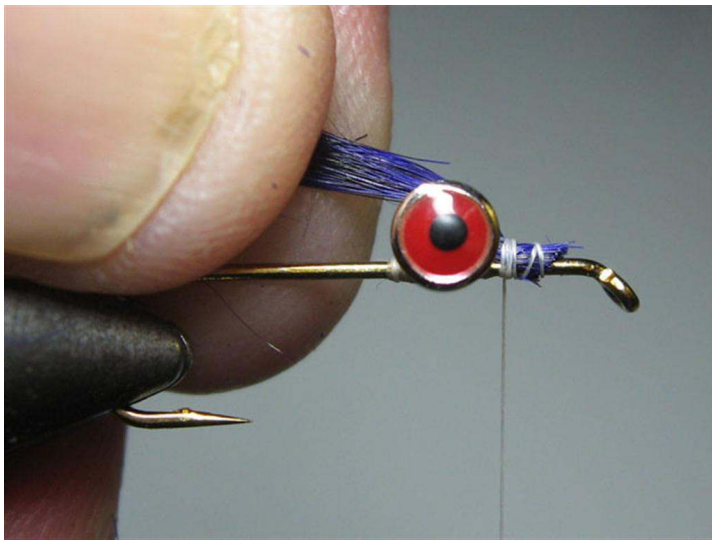
Tying Instructions:



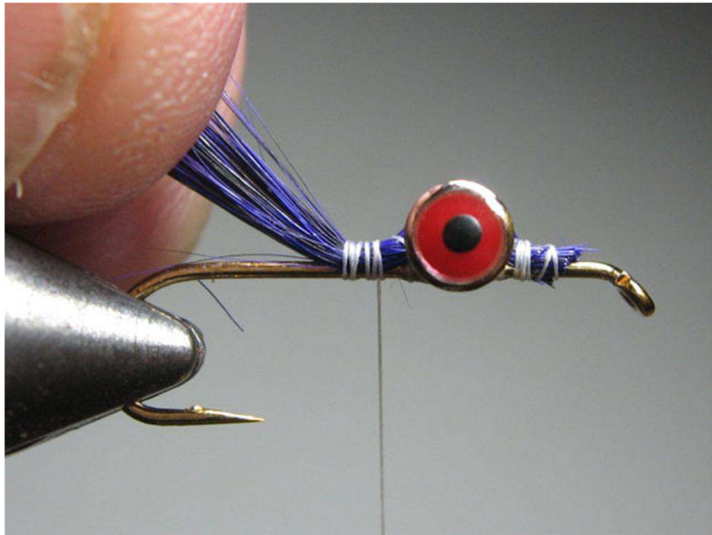
1. Debarb the hook before inserting into vise. Attach thread 1/3 of the hook shank behind the eye. Create a thread bump to help steady the eyes. Attach dumbbell eyes using criss-cross wraps of thread and a wrap that moves the thread in a clockwise direction, under the eyes on each side of the hook, but over the shank. Secure with AC glue if necessary.



2. Prepare to cut squirrel tail by holding the hair at a 90 degree angle to the tail, straightening the tips. Cut hair at the base of the tail while holding the tips with your other hand. Remove the fluff from the base of the clump by tightly holding the tips with one hand and stroking the short fluffy fibers from the base with the other hand. Measure hair from 1 and 1/2 to 2 times the hook shank length and trim fibers to prepare for tie in. Attach the hair clump in front of the dumbbell eyes, starting the wrap with the hair clump on your side of the shank.



3. As you continue your second and third tightening wraps, the clump should now roll onto the top of the hook shank. Secure with two or three more wraps.



4. Continue to hold the clump with your material hand up and away from the shank to keep it centered. Move thread under and behind the eyes, using a few thread wraps to secure the belly hair behind the eyes.



5. Select two or three red flash fibers and attach behind the eyes. Bring thread in front of eyes and wrap flash over the thread wraps creating the

appearance of flaring gills or injury. Tie off flash in front of eyes and trim excess.



6. Invert hook and prepare 6 to 8 strands of flash material. I do not use the "Fold In" method on these short flies and simply attach by trimming tips evenly before tying in, leaving no excess for trimming after.



7. Repeat step two for the back of the fly and smooth thread head. (I normally use a lighter color for the belly and darker for the back.)



8. For extra attraction you can add flash to the head of the fly prior to coating with epoxy. Tie in flash at the eyes and move thread to the rear of the hook eye. Wrap flash forward, tie off and trim. Add two to three half hitches or whip finish.



9. Coat the head, eyes, and a little hair with a light coating of epoxy.



Carp on Orange Micro Clouser.



Micro Clouser's



SSFFC member Derek Williamson with Kern River Rainbow on Purple Micro Clouser.

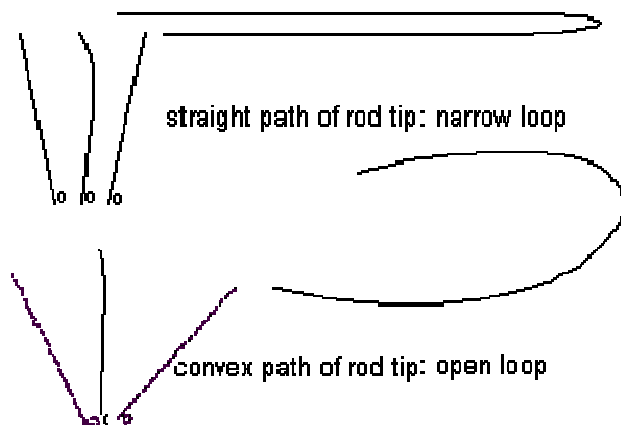


Crowley Brown caught on Purple Micro Clouser.

Rob



Tips & Techniques: by Ryan Buhler (ryan)



CASTING STREAMERS

One of the special draws of fly fishing is the cast. Much has been written about the beauty and grace of an angler casting dry flies to rising trout. It's amazing to watch a skillful caster flicking dries gracefully along the river and then along comes a guy chucking streamers. There is still some grace and beauty involved but it's like watching someone throw a discus compared to someone running a 400 meter race.

Most of us get introduced to fly fishing through dry fly fishing and the first thing we learn is the standard cast. Over and over we practice and soon we start getting our rhythm down and begin laying out some beautiful casts. Then one day a friend says let's go chuck some streamers.

When you get on the water he hands you something he calls a Clouser and it feels like it weighs more than the fish you are trying to catch. You don't want to seem like you don't know what to do, so you tie it on your leader. You think to yourself I've got this as you let out line and start to false cast and then release the line for your first cast. Then something happens that has never happened when casting you dry flies. That big Clouser smacks you in the back of the head, or worse hit the tip of your rod. After your friend stops laughing he comes over and offers some tips on casting streamers.

When you cast streamers there is still some beauty and grace involved it's just on steroids. Forget about being dainty and delicate it's time to be direct and forceful.

The main thing we learn with dries is a tight loop. With streamers you want to open up that loop and change your stroke so it's more of an oval on the back cast. Instead of a straight back cast move your arm out and make an oval back cast. Apply a strong wrist snap or power snap on your back cast. With streamers you're casting more weight so you have to be a little more forceful with your stroke and you have to slow down and wait for your rod to load properly. Apply more power on the forward wrist snap also.

This is a great time to learn the double haul. If you can hire a quality casting instructor it's well worth the money. With a

few adjustments to your casting stroke, chucking streamers can be just as graceful as casting dries, well almost.

Go out and practice!

Ryan

Message from the Editor: by Gary Silveira (CopperDropper)

Well it's Vows time and for the SSFFC that always means a time for the changing of the guards. Well if not the guards, then at least the elected board members.

Since I have been involved with this wonderful group, the ship has always been captained by Bill Darbee. Through his leadership we have remained a successful club with an ever expanding membership as well as increased opportunities for activities to participate in.

President Darbee has retained his elected position for five years, well beyond his initial intent. Luckily for the rest of us he has a problem saying "No" when he is needed. I'm guessing he never heard Will Rogers' quote, *"The man with the best job in the country is the vice-president. All he has to do is get up every morning and say, 'How is the president?'"*

I am confident that my personal feeling of gratitude for all his hard work is mirrored by all of the club's membership. We have been fortunate to have him at the helm for this long and we are equally fortunate to have Chiaki offering to step into the position. Chiaki has some big shoes to fill but without a doubt he is up to the task.

We will also be replacing our Treasurer and Membership Chair, Steve Dobbins who, although not in position as long as Bill, has certainly done a commendable job and brought those positions into the computer age. He will be turning over a well-oiled financial machine to Pete Emmel. As with Chiaki, we as a club are fortunate indeed to have Pete offering to take on this highly critical position. I am sure that like everything else he does, Pete's efforts with maintaining the clubs finances will be nothing short of stellar.

Although this time of year offers change within the leadership of the club, we can all rest assured that the "new guard" will certainly carry on and present their best efforts to keep the SSFFC moving onward and upward.

Tight Lines, *Gary*



SOUTHERN SIERRA FLY FISHER CLUB

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2011-2012

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@planetebay.net	661-428-5109
Outings Chair	Chris Chamberlain	chamberlain.c@gmail.com	661-619-6397
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	mrmasha@sbcglobal.net	949-466-6404
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



Proud to be a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers

Individual memberships available at www.fedflyfishers.org

Use Club Affiliation code 99792

