



Ring of the Rise

January 2011



Official Periodical of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers Club

Gary Silveira, Newsletter Editor

President's Message: by Bill Darbee (Bill)

And a Happy New Year to each and every one of you fine folks. I hope your holidays were everything they could be for you. My resolution this year is to do more fishing. You would think this would be an easy one to keep, but, it seems the "honey do list" gets bigger each time I think about going, or the grandkids birthdays pop up. I'm definitely going to try very hard to fish more though.

We are going to be having our annual Fly Fisher of the Year dinner on March 12th. We will post the criteria we look at when choosing the winner. You can either PM or e-mail me (Bill) or Gary (CopperDropper) your nomination or call the shop. We will tally the votes and make the announcement. It's always a fun night so mark your calendars. The dinner will once again be at El Jacalito Grill. For all you new members this is a good opportunity to meet a lot of the good people in the club.

This past weekend, Jan. 8th & 9th, was a busy one for the club. We had our first rod building class of the year and had 7 participants learning the art of building a rod. Pete Emmel and Chiaki are fantastic builders and also excellent instructors. We thank them for sharing their knowledge with us.

Saturday and Sunday Guy offered casting and mending classes to club members and all who participated had a grand time and said they learned a lot from him. Several have been fishing for some time but said they walked away with new techniques and felt their casting was greatly improved. Guy has been certified by the FFF as a casting instructor, and we want to also thank him for his generosity in donating his expertise with us. One class more than returns the money spent on club dues.

Our guest speaker for the Saturday evening meeting was Ken Lindsey, owner of The Fisherman's Spot in Van Nuys. He gave a presentation on fly fishing South America. Ken had some photos of monster browns the area is noted for. If you can handle 17 hours on an airplane this would be a trip to put on your "bucket list." The meeting was well attended and several new members were there. We welcome them all to the club.

I know September and the Rendezvous seems a long way off, but it will be upon us before you know it, so we need to start our preparations for the big weekend. One of our members suggested a bounce house and activities for the youngsters and the board thought it was a great idea. We

feel this would make it much more family oriented and kid friendly if we had more to keep the little ones busy while we fish. More members would be inclined to bring their families if we had more to offer the smaller kids. If you have any ideas please don't hesitate to let us know.

Our Kids Academy is slated for May 21st, weather permitting. As the date draws near we will be needing some volunteers to help out. Shane is going to drive up and scout the area a couple weeks before to make sure the roads are open and the camp sites clear. For you new members with children, in case you don't know, they have to be 10 years of age to sign up. We usually limit the class size to 12 students. It's a fun filled weekend to introduce the next generation to fly fishing. They receive instruction in knot tying, fly tying, casting, entomology and then fish for golden trout. At the end of the weekend they walk away with a brand new fly rod and reel combo to keep. All of this is paid for by the club with money raised from the Poker Night, the Rendezvous and other fund raising events. Everyone that has gone through the academy has had a wonderful time and its quality time spent with your kids and grandkids in a beautiful area.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting. Until then, someone once said, *"For the rich, there is therapy. For the rest of us there is fishing."*



River Report: by Guy Jeans (Flyguy)

Hello anglers, this is a fly fishing report for the week of 1-20-11 written on Thursday 1-20-11.

The 20 mile roadside section of the upper Kern The upper river is at 1000 cfs as of today and looks beautiful and clear. The recent high water really cleared and cleaned the river very well. There are lots of rocks and gravel bars everywhere. The river looks very healthy. Very fishable! Fish are active with the warmer weather and water temps. There are fish being caught from Thunderbird down to the lake.

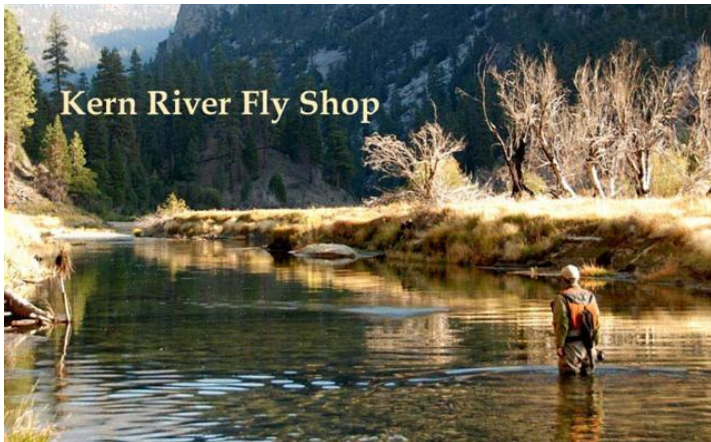
The 4 mile wild trout section Open year round. The Upper river looks very good as of today at 1000 cfs. Fishing a little tough up here. **Catch and Release barbless hooks only!!**

Lake Isabella This the place to be fishing now. Trout fishing has turned on in the lake. Big boils are being seen everywhere along the shore. Trout are feeding on the surface near North Fork Marina and Paradise Cove. Big trout stocking is planned this week in the lake.

Lower Kern The lower river is not fishing great. I've been doing most of my guided trips down here. Trout are taking small BWO emergers around 1:30 pm. Fishing isn't great and you have to work for them in hard to get to places. BWO hatch size 18-20 @ 1:30 pm. The lower river is 1329cfs (above average cubic feet per second for fishing) and the fishing is not great. Be very careful wading/fishing the lower. The small mouth fishing is poor above Erskine creek. Rainbows are turning on and hitting the surface. Hwy 178 open.

Tributaries of the North and South Fork Kern - Closed

South Fork of the Kern from Rockhouse North - Closed



Conservation Report: by Shane Goslin (fishinXJ)

The SSFFC has been invited to be a stakeholder in the design and rebuild of the Riverside Park in Kernville. The park has been in bad need of repairs for years, with the eroding shoreline and leaning cottonwood trees. The recent floods only exacerbated the problem.

Some cool history for the site known to us as Riverside Park but also known as The Kernville Whitewater Park. It was built in 1972 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was the first whitewater park built in the United States. The park has a 48 year history going back to 1963 of holding the annual Kern River Whitewater Festival. Back in 1963 Swanee may have been the only fly fisher on the river!

In 2008 Paddler magazine selected Kernville as one of the "Best Paddling Towns in the U.S." The park is multi-use and

becomes a circus during the summer months, but the rest of the year fly fishers use the area frequently. It is a great place to teach youngsters and new fly fishers the craft since it's stocked heavily with fish.

The consulting firm, Recreation Engineering & Planning <http://www.wwparks.com/index.html> is doing the design work. Their list of completed projects is impressive! Check it out on their website. They do everything from dam removal to fishery enhancement projects. In January they surveyed the park and riverbed to start the design process. Major parts will be shoring up the eroding shoreline, removing some of the soon to fall cottonwoods, terracing the shoreline for easier access and erosion control, boulder placement to create eddies for kayakers and fish, native plant reintroduction to further enhance stream habitat, and casting/handicap fishing platforms.

It's quite a vision. Here's a link.

<http://kernvillerriversidepark.com/index.htm>.

Listed below are stated goals off their website. They are also reasons the SSFFC board believes it is good to be involved in the project.

- Mitigation for loss of stream habitat and recreation.
- Now a multi-use resource at the Gateway to Sequoia National Forest.
- Used by thousands of residents and visitors to Kern and Tulare Counties each year.
- Majority of SNF users do not live in the area and are not aware of their impact on local resources.
- Need to attract them to a location and educate them before they disperse into the forest.
- Place interpretive signs promoting safety and stewardship. For example;
 - Wildfire prevention, swift-water safety, and camping and Recreational best practices.
- Cooperate with other organizations, agencies and user groups to hold events such as;
 - Swift-water rescue training, environmental awareness, recreational festivals, fishing, and fly fishing events.

Shane Goslin

Before



After



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

I'm behind and must skip the outings report for last month's outings (to be shared at a later date). I hate to do that but something must give.

Outings Award Program through DFG

(more info available on the CDFG website)

For those of you interested, the outings program for 2011 will target the following 8 heritage trout this season over the course of several trips. Kern River Rainbow, Little Kern Golden, California Golden, Coastal Rainbow, Goose Lake Rainbow, Warner Lakes Rainbow, McCloud River Redband, Eagle Lake Rainbow.

The requirement for documenting the Heritage Trout Challenge is to capture a photo of that fish where you catch it in the designated sections of the native drainage. Once you've assimilated 6 such photos, you print out the on-line application to fill out and sign for inclusion with your photos. This is then sent to the appropriate DFG location and gives the DFG the info they need to verify your accomplishment and to create your award. Therefore, taking a photo becomes essential in the Heritage Outings if you are interested in pursuing the award.



But that's not all ... there are other awards the outings program will achieve through the DFG recognition program. By targeting the following group of trout, several awards can be obtained in recognition of your trout diversity: Brown, Golden, Rainbow, Redband, Lake, Brook & Cutthroat Trout.

The first award comes when you catch 3 of these fish. Most of you have that already. The second stage is to catch 5 of the fish. The final stage is to catch 10 (including Chinook, Kokanee & Mountain Whitefish).

With each of the 3 levels, you receive a pin for your fishing hat or vest... this of course tells people you are a good fisherman and you also start catching more fish. Kidding of course, it's just a novelty program but by the end of 2011 we will have the opportunity to have completed the Heritage Trout Challenge as well as obtain 2 of the 3 coldwater DFG awards.

We will also have our first Ocean and Lakes outings which enable those of us who choose to do so, the opportunity to track progress on the saltwater and warmwater species as well. This of course can pave the way to the ultimate of all DFG fishing awards: the "Supreme Master Angler" award (accomplished by obtaining Master Angler awards in 2 categories such as coldwater and ocean, or coldwater and warmwater).



Supreme Master Angler Award

The awards themselves of course are meaningless without the knowledge and skill demonstrated to obtain them. And that's not to mention the memories created along the way.. but it's something that can give you yet another reason to dream of catching yet another new and interesting fish as you sit at home dreaming and scheming your plan to sample the countless beautiful creations with your deceptive trickery.

UPCOMING OUTINGS:

Jan 29 - 30 ~ Owens - posted on the forum (lots of people going up on 27th or 28th).

Feb 12 - 13 ~ Family outing - posted on the forum (thanks to the club for forgiving my scheduling folly).

Late February Kern 20 mile section (I'm open to the 3rd or 4th weekend of February for this) – this will be a good chance to practice for the March practice Team Trial. Don't underestimate how excited our competition is to hand it to

us on the Kern interclub tournament 2011. I'll be fishing this outing tournament style.

March 5 - 6 ~ East Fork San Gabriel Adventure outing (backpacking) – HERITAGE TROUT WATERS. Come catch your coastal rainbow in newly designated heritage waters. This is a great way to kill the winter nymphing blues with some cool dry fly action.

March 19 - 20 or 26 - 27 ~ The West Fork Conservancy will be hosting a Los Angeles Kids Academy based on the awesome Kern Kids Academy. Come help out and let the West Fork blow your mind.

April 2 - 3 ~ Southern California OCEAN OUTING mentored by Richard Cullip. Stay tuned for more details. We are extremely lucky to have Richard to mentor us on this outing.

I will field all questions on meeting locations and accommodations as usual, so contact me with any preliminary questions. In other words, please don't bombard Richard with accommodations/dates/times questions - that part is my responsibility.

Richard will help us to prepare via an article in an upcoming newsletter, and also offer some 'on the water' mentoring. This will be one you don't want to miss ... I think it also has the makings of a Family Outing.

April/May - we'll also have lake outings to Isabella (date TBD), Crowley (Date TBD), and Pyramid (Weekend of April 30, May 1)...

More to come on the 2011 outings schedule but wanted to give a taste...

Yours Truly,

Cris Miller (aka Dances with Bears)

Rod Building: by Pete Emmel (Pete)

Rod Building Tip of the Month 1/11

- #13 Glue a magnet or two to your wrapping station. It makes a great guide and scissor holder.
- #14 Different colored ultra wire makes great trim wraps. It wants to stay in place better than metallic thread.

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 next general meeting of the Southern Sierra Fly Fishers will be Saturday, February 12th 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 presenter will be David Wratchford, a Licensed Guide and self proclaimed "Fishing Fanatic" who guides for the Fishermen's Spot, Van Nuys, CA. David's presentation will be on fishing for Stripers in Southern California lakes.



David's Bio –

I was raised on Long Island, N.Y. where a neighbor introduced me to fly fishing at age 12. After a brief stint chasing Largemouth Bass and Bluegill I quickly graduated to the superb saltwater fishery that surrounds that area. When I wasn't working on commercial and party boats I was chasing Stripers, Bluefish and False Albacore on the beaches.

I started training horses at the age of 16 and soon moved to a ranch in Montauk, N.Y. simply fueled my passion for the salt. When I moved to California in 2000 I was introduced to the Sierra and the Pacific. It didn't take long before all my free time was spent exploring these fisheries and our local lakes. The next logical step was making such a pest of myself at the Spot that they had to hire me, and here I am. I became a licensed guide in early 2010 and have had fun guiding on the beach and local lakes and teaching surf classes for the shop.

Have Dinner with the First Lady of Fly Fishing



Joan Wulff

The Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers is holding a dinner event with Joan Wulff as the guest speaker. This event is still in the planning stages, but the date will be October 15th in the LA area. This is a rare opportunity to hear Joan Wulff talk about fly fishing.

Joan is a living legend at 85 years old. In 1979, Joan, with her husband Lee Wulff, started the Wulff School of Fly Fishing, located on the banks of the Catskill's best known river, the Beaverkill, birthplace of dry-fly fishing in America. Although Lee passed away in 1991, Joan continues to run the school to this day. In 1996 Joan offered the first-ever schools for instructors of fly casting, and became a consultant to the R.L. Winston Rod Company to further the development of tackle for women. She has written books and created DVDs on fly fishing and casting. She has also won numerous national and international tournament casting titles. In 1951, she won the distance event at 161 feet. She can also simultaneously cast two fly rods, one in each hand. This will be a very special event indeed.

Tickets will be approx. \$75 to \$80 and seating is limited. The SSFFC will probably purchase a table for 8 and maybe another depending upon membership demand. This way, we'll all be able to sit together. Please save this date. I hope many of you will be able to attend. Additional details will be posted as they become available. Please PM (*haramic*) or email me if you're interested in attending this exciting event.

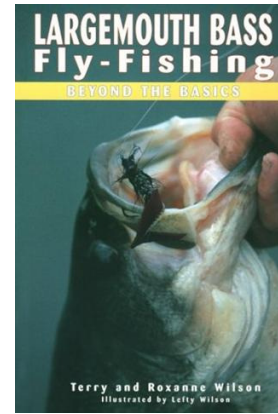
Here's a quote from Joan:

"I'm a very ordinary woman, who has had a very extraordinary life through the magic of fly fishing and I wish that for everyone."

Thanks,

Chiaki

Library Report: by Ryan Spanel (*Flyn Ryan*)



LARGEMOUTH BASS Fly-Fishing BEYOND THE BASICS

By: Terry and Roxanne Wilson

The pursuit of largemouth bass is nothing like dropping a tiny bit of feathers on the water's surface to anticipate the delicate touch of a brightly colored fish. It's lobbing a heavy fly into weeds where it's slammed by a predator capable of jerking the rod from the angler's hands if he's unprepared for the strike. It's stripping full-sinking line from the depths, horsing the fish through brush, grabbing slack line as the bass leaps and twists above the surface. It's hanging on to the fly rod with the hands as the fighter dives for cover, pulling the bass close to remove the fly, and experiencing the joy of setting it free.

Largemouth bass are unquestionably the most sought after warmwater game fish in North America. The same compact, muscular bodies that make *Micropterus salmoides* such an efficient predator also provide it with the speed and power to fight tough, acrobatic battles. They have a remarkable ability to adapt to their surroundings and thrive in natural northern lakes, prodigious southern impoundments, sluggish bayous, and the Mississippi River. Largemouth bass are at home in weed-choked stock tanks, rock-lined millponds, and crowded city parks.

Fly-fishing for largemouths goes far beyond surface flies on summer evenings. Success in all seasons depends upon learning to identify the best bass structure, adjusting tackle, understanding shallow, mid-depth, and deep-water tactics, and using the best presentations with reliable, innovative flies. Discover the times bass hit best, how to cope with weather changes, and how to determine a successful pattern. The Wilsons guide novice and seasoned bass stalkers to catching more largemouth bass.

Remember to contact Ryan (Flyn Ryan) if you are interested in checking out this book or any of the other publications or video's in our libraries archives.



Extended Body Mayfly

I figured since I am in Steve's extended body Mayfly swap I might as well kill two birds with one stone. So how about we tie one from the ground up? This will be a deer hair extended body. I like any flies tied with deer hair. They are flat out harder to sink in faster water.

This particular fly we are going to tie isn't exactly a "traditional" tie. I have over hackled it, as in the hackle is longer than a traditional parachute fly.

If you haven't fished the upper Kings, the water can be rough and fast, at least where the majority of my fish have been caught.and there you have the reason for the bigger than normal hackle. Usually, the upper Kings River will have a nice Mayfly afternoon hatch in the summer. The Mayflies up there aren't exactly midgets so we will tie this fly a little bigger.

One tying extra you will need is a sewing needle. Steal one from mama's sewing basket. The smaller the needle the better (my opinion). Clamp the eye in the vise. You will be making the tail on the needle and then be removing it from the needle.

Tying Tips:

When tying the extended body to not crank down hard on the thread. The tighter the material is tied on, the harder it is to get the tail off the needle. Trust me on this one.

When tying the body on the hook shank, the location can make or break the fly. Too far back, too far up the shank, too long or too short will affect the proportions of the fly.

Remember, it is an extended body. That means a #18 fly isn't really a #18 fly, it will be a bigger fly. So pick your hackle feather accordingly.

Get some blue deer hair to tie a longer body, without the tail fibers or curve, and you have a Damsel Fly pattern.

Save yourself some time and tie up several bodies at the same time.

Materials:

Hook: Partridge YK12ST Sedge / Caddis X-long

Tail: Paint Brush Fibers

Body: Deer Hair

Thorax: Gray Dubbing

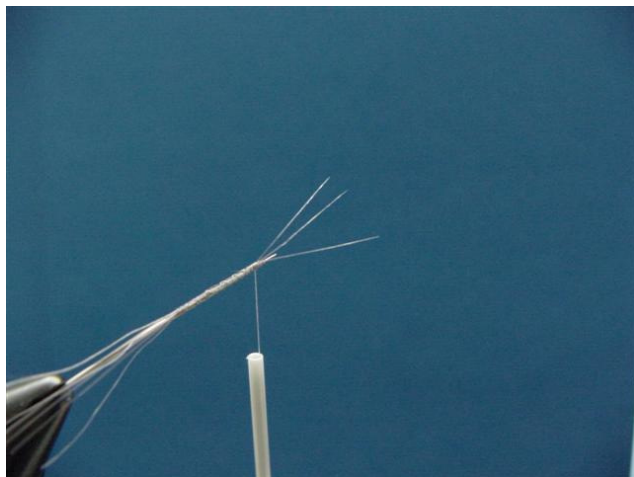
Wing: White Poly with Hot Pink Highlights

Hackle: Badger

Extended Body Tying Instructions:

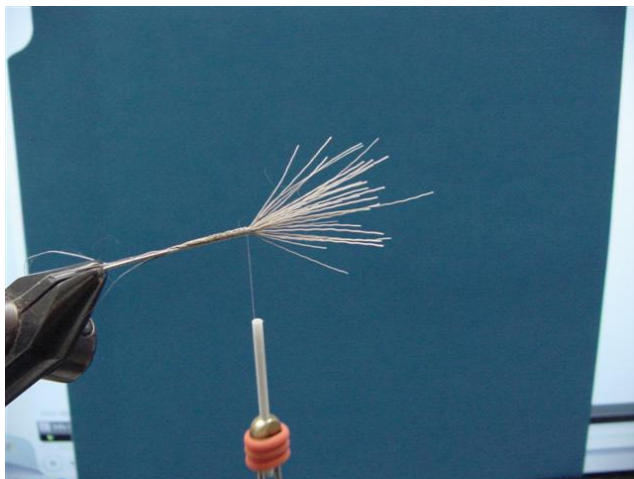
Attach your tying thread to the needle and tie a very sparse thread base.

Tie in three paint brush fibers or whatever material you prefer for the tail.



Return the thread back to the pointed end of the needle.

Tie in a small clump of deer hair, by the tips.



Fold the deer hair back over the needle and slightly roll it around the needle.

Spiral the tying thread down the needle and back up to the tie in point.



Tie off / whip finish the thread and cut off the excess.

Coat the body with head cement or whatever you prefer.

Remove the body before the glue completely dries or you may never get the body off the needle.

Before the glue completely dries form a slight curve in the body to give it that Mayfly shape.

Tie the body on the hook shank.

Glue the body at the tie in point; otherwise the body will have a tendency to spin on the hook.

The rest of the tying process is just tying a fly parachute style. It's the same process we did when we tied the Parachute Mosquito in a previous newsletter. If you don't know how to tie a parachute fly or have that issue, PM me and I'll send you the directions, no problem.

- Manage Stress
- Quit Smoking - Now
- Reduce, Reuse & Recycle
- Save Money
- Take a Trip
- Volunteer to Help Others

While those sentiments are all fine and good, and since they are "popular year after year," I can only assume that many within our ranks have made some of those very same resolutions again this year. But since we are talking about fly fishers here, there are always the additional resolutions focused on more important things. You know, like spending more days on the water (*like President Bill*) or possibly spending more time at the tying bench to fill and organize those fly boxes that always seem to be depleted or in disarray.

Maybe you resolve to get more involved in conservation issues or sharing your fly flicking knowledge with the next generation or those of your generation that are new to the sport. There's also the possibility that you will want to concentrate your efforts and resources to fish new waters or maybe it's chasing the California Heritage Trout Challenge that our Outings Chair is setting up on your behalf.

Whatever is most important to you and deserving of your personal resolve to fulfill this year, I wish you every success. That way when you inevitably hear others pine about how they failed to achieve their "*New Year's resolutions that are popular year after year*" you can proudly stand before them and say that you succeeded! Or at least you can brag about what a great time you had in attempting to realize your goal.

Additionally, I would be willing to bet that any resolution devoted toward your fly fishing interests will surely outlast the passage of time well beyond those intentions that are popular year after year!

I was going to say a bit more about this subject but I have to get to my tying bench because my boxes are in sad shape and I have a bunch of fishing to do this year!

Tight Lines, *Gary*

Message from the Editor: by Gary Silveira (CopperDropper)

With the New Year upon us it's once again time that we make those ever popular resolutions. As with most folks they are usually centered on self improvement or possibly strengthening or re-kindling relationships. As a matter of fact, USA.gov lists "*New Year's resolutions that are popular year after year*" as;

- Drink Less Alcohol
- Get a Better Education
- Get a Better Job
- Get Fit
- Lose Weight
- Manage Debt



Quotable Quotes

"The man who coined the phrase "Money can't buy happiness," never bought himself a good fly rod!"

~ by Reg Baird, from his video Labrador Trout ~

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	Pete Emmel	p_emmel5@hotmail.com	805-461-0968
Raffles Coordinator	Guy Jeans	guy@kernriverflyfishing.com	760-376-2040
Librarian	Ryan Spanel	drowningworms@yahoo.com	661-330-0105
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

