

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

JULY 2003

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 8, No. 7

July Speaker

Reel Women Coming to San Diego

For our July meeting speaker we are very excited to welcome **Lori-Ann Murphy**, based out of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, owner and operator of Reel Women Flyfishing Adventures. Her slide show presentation topic will be *Fly Fishing The Rocky Mountain West*.

This is a meeting you will not want to miss!

Marty Reed

Lori-Ann co-launched Reel Women Fly Fishing Adventures in 1993, the first company to offer women only trips all over the world. Since then, Reel Women has grown to include: women and men guided float trips, coed guide schools, basic fly fishing schools, casting clinics and an Orvis retail store & fly shop in

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REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for the
July meeting

(report at 6:15 PM):

**Bob Mosher and
Frank Kawasaki**

Thank you, Mona Morebello

Annual Raffle/Auction News



Eileen Stroud picks the first winning ticket to start off the San Diego Fly Fishers annual raffle for 2003. It just so happened that the ticket belonged to Bill Stroud.

It was only appropriate that the first prize winner of the evening was none other than Bill and Eileen Stroud, generous donors to the San Diego Fly Fishers annual raffle. It was pointed out in Jim Tenuto's introduction of the "Master" of Master of Ceremonies—Bill Stroud—that Stroud Tackle has been in business for 34 years! That says something about the way Bill and Eileen have been accepted by the fly fishing community.

Before the evening's festivities began, a tribute was paid to long-time member Bob Camp, who is retiring from fly fishing. Bob has donated to the Club all of his fly fishing equipment to use as the Club sees fit.

As usual there was a grand display of prizes from vises to rods, reels and float tubes. And also as usual there always seems to be a person who has much more luck than the rest of us. This year it was John Beckstrand. He probably won at least five prizes, one of which he donated back to the raffle prize fund.

At the auction table, members could bid on trips to Costa Rica, Alaska, the Green River, the Eastern Sierras, and the local salt water.

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, July 7th, 2003

7:30 PM

Sequoia Elementary School

4690 Limerick Ave.

(See map on back page)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JULY 2003

I hope you enjoyed the Annual Raffle last month, as I sure did! All right...you were a bit disappointed that you didn't win one of the Sage rods. But, I know it's going to cheer you up to know that the Annual Raffle brought in \$8,185 and the net proceeds will all be going to promote our sport and conservation. Thank you for your

generous support this year!

The Raffle would not have been successful without **Jim Castelluzzo** contacting the various fly fishing manufacturers for prizes and discounts, storing the prizes in his home, and heading up the Committee so that everything would go smoothly at the meeting. Thank you, Jim, for your valuable service to the Club and our conservation efforts.

In addition, I want to thank these Club members for their help:

Jim Tenuto, for arranging to have the raffle tickets printed up, and helping Jim C. select the raffle prizes.

Marty Reed and Jack Bentley, for the wonderful 2 for 1 trips to Alaska and the Green River offered at the silent auction.

Joe Bain, for providing the raffle drum, even though he couldn't even attend the meeting!

Bob Camp and Gary Hilbers, for the Bob Camp Conservation Fund prizes.

Gordie Zimm, who sold



WARREN LEW

tickets at the door on the night of the Raffle.

Mona and Sam Morebello, for helping the night of the Raffle, and staying late to make sure the unclaimed prizes were tagged.

Finally, a special thanks to **Eileen and Bill Stroud**, for their

numerous donations to the Raffle. Without their support, our club wouldn't be nearly as successful. In addition, Bill, thank you for serving as our master of ceremonies, as it is always an enjoyable evening when you are entertaining us!

Last month, there was an article in *The Boston Globe*, written by Jeff Jacoby, and reprinted in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* questioning the ethics of "catch and release" fishing. Words such as "cruel", "inhumane", "abusive", and "brutality" were used to describe our sport. Although the author claims he is not a member of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), I find it difficult to imagine that his article was not written without the organization's encouragement.

I try to be tolerant of other

viewpoints, and admittedly have changed some of my views over the years. What particularly annoyed me about his articles however, was that he implied that we are fish abusers, by practicing "catch and release". He claims that when we "play" the fish (forcing it to fight for its life), and then release it, that this is "...one of the hallmarks of an abusive relationship".

As a fly fisher, I fish because I enjoy being in the outdoors, and the challenge of catching fish without harming them. With flies, they are usually not hooked deeply, and have a very high rate of survival when released properly. If I felt it was torturing the trout and salmon I've caught, I would be the first to put my fly rods aside.

So, until it can be proven with more research that fish feel pain other than with unusually large doses of bee venom and acetic acid on the lips of fish, I'm going to enjoy myself and still take Communion.

Good luck on the streams and lakes this month!

—Warren



Annual Raffle/Auction News

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A big thank you goes to Jim Castelluzzo and his annual raffle crew who put on another tremendous evening. A special thanks goes to the following Club members for generous gift certificates:

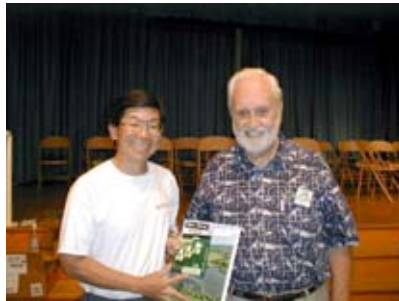
Oz Osborn
Gordie and Louie Zimm
Warren Lew
Belden and Pauline Rau

The following vendors have generously contributed their goods and services to the annual raffle:

Stroud Tackle
H&M Landing
Big 5 Sporting Goods
Lake Cuyamaca
G. Loomis Company
Sage
Redington
Buck's Bags
Wind River Gear
Renzetti Company
Regal Company

Congratulations to all of the winners and of course a big "thank you" goes to all of you who purchased tickets in support of the San Diego Fly Fishers. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year. 🍷

Upper right: *Good crowd once again for the annual raffle.*
Middle left: *FINNY FACTS editor gets lucky at the raffle.* Middle right: *The prize table never looked better.* Bottom right: *The Master, Bill Stroud.*



Reel Women

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Victor, Idaho. She was the first woman to become an Orvis-endorsed fly fishing guide in 1990. Lori-Ann has a distinct love for fly casting and was honored to win The Best of the West ISE Casting Competition this year. Her enthusiasm and dedication to our sport is unparalleled and guaranteed to be contagious for everyone around her.

Lori-Ann has been prominently featured in: The New York Times, CNN's Impact, Outside Magazine, ESPN, and Martha Stewart Living. She worked as the fly fishing consultant for Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon in the movie **The River Wild**.

Martha Stewart asked Lori-Ann to join her in the Wyoming Wilderness for four days of camping and fishing for a featured article in her magazine.

ESPN's Cumberland Street covered Reel Women's Big Horn River 2002 Guide School, and Lori-Ann competed in both the 2001 & 2002 ESPN Great Outdoor Games. She also guided Ethan Hawk on the Missouri River last summer for the Oxygen channel's **Free Ride with Greta Gaines** show. When Lori-Ann's not guiding on the river, she can be found giving presentations at sport shows and fly fishing clubs around the United States. 🦋

NOTE: For those of you who had raffle tickets but were unable to attend the raffle meeting, check the list on the next page for raffle winners in absentia and for directions on claiming your prize.



SILENT AUCTION

By Gary Hilbers

At the July monthly meeting, in addition to a great speaker, we will be featuring a silent auction of items donated by **Bob Camp**. Bob has donated his collection of high quality fly fishing equipment to the club and a large portion of it will be auctioned off at this meeting. Following is a list of some of the items that will go on the block at this meeting:

G. Loomis	2pc	9'	7wt	Marayat MR 7.5A w/ 2 spool
St. Croix	3pc	9'	8wt	5wf
St. Croix	4pc	9'	5wt	4dt
Penn	4pc	9'	8wt	9' Rod and Reel Case
Sage	2pc	7'11"	4wt	Double Case for 3pc Rods and Reels 9'
Sage	4pc	9'	5wt	Penn Rod Case for 4pc
Hardy Bros. Princess w/ 4 spools				9' Cables Rod Case for 4pc
6wf				
7wf				Several boxes of flies
7st				
8wf				Fly line drying rack with several lines on it.
Ross Gunnison w/ 3 spools				Abel Luggage set.
?st				
5wf				Miscellaneous art work.
6 Wulff Taper				
G. Loomis AD5				Books on tying, destinations, techniques, etc
?				
Cortland Magnum 140D w/ 2spools				
7sh				
8s				



Eureka! You Won The Sdff Raffle

If your name is on this list, it is your responsibility to pick up your prizes at the **July 7th** meeting. If you are unable to attend, please make arrangements to have a friend pick up on your behalf. The raffle committee is unable to keep bringing these items back and forth. Unclaimed items will be placed in future monthly raffles. THANKS.

Dennis Remillard
Joe Bain
Deacon Brown
Bob Buss
Aubrey Wendling
Joe McNamara
Donald Smith

Scott Johnson
Jim Randolph
Bob Wisner
Raymond Gill (2)
Albert Hinck
Tom Garcia
Howard Knop

Nancy Pitts (2)
Jack Craven
Grant Pasek
Belden Rau
John Grim
Mike Dillon
John Wohlfiel



At the Vice

The coming season conjures thoughts insects hatching and surface feeding fish. At least that is the fly fishers desire to catch fish with floating flies. Our desires do not always coincide with how the fish feed upon the insects that are available.

If we angling fly tyers want to fill our fly boxes with the flies that represent what the fish eat most, you might want to consider wet flies, soft hackle flies and emergers as the bulk of flies you carry and present to feeding fish.

It has long been felt that wet flies are perceived by the fish, as an emerging insect or a returning egg laying insect. The next progression was to imitate emerging bugs with simple soft hackle patterns fished down in the water column. The one thing I have noticed thru this progression is the move towards simplicity in tying these flies. Wet flies have all the parts of the insect. Tail, body, wing and hackle are all represented in the traditional patterns. Soft Hackle flies are usually just a very thin body of floss

or thread and a couple of turns of partridge, grouse or hen hackle. Both have been productive flies for many years and I still carry and fish them with success.

Fly tying anglers prefer to be as visual as possible, or at least most of us prefer to fish on or very near the surface of the water. Dry fly fishing seems to be the most popular method of fly fishing but it's not necessary the most productive during insect hatches. Fish look to get the most return for the least amount of energy expended so they will most often take an emerging insect before it is able to fly away. As fly tyers we can cash in on these statistics and fish emergers.

The old adage of keeping it simple applies to emergers. Some kind of trailing shuck to represent the remaining nymph, the newly emerged body and unfolding wings of the hatching insect are all that I have found necessary to tie. If you want to be a stickler to detail you can add legs but I would suggest a soft hackle material for additional motion.

Let's look at an emerger pattern by each individual part. The first material to be

tied on is the nymphal shuck (tail). With discovery of the properties of Antron yarn, this problem has become simple, as I use virtually no other material for this purpose anymore. Just remember that the shuck of the natural tapers and once you establish the length take a few extra cuts with the scissors and taper the material to appear more natural. The most predominant color is brown, but I pay attention to the actual color of the nymph. For the most part, my choice is brown for the shuck.

The body material available today is almost boggling, but I guess I'm a bit of a traditionalist, as I prefer rabbit fur dyed or blended the appropriate color. I want the body material of the emerger pattern to ride either in or below the surface of the water, not on the surface. I'm sure that the new synthetic dubbing will work for this purpose but I would suggest that you do not apply any floatant to the body.

The single most important part of any emerger pattern that you tie is the wing or partial wing I should say. What you are trying to represent is the unextended wing of the adult insect. As tyers, we

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JACK BENTLEY
Any Questions?
Call Jack Bentley at

San Juan River Trip Coming Up in the Fall

Start planning now for the San Juan River, New Mexico trip set for October 13th to the 18th, 2003. Jack will have all of the details soon, but block off this week for the trip you will not want to miss!

Annual Spring Fishing on the Green River

by Jim Bueche



George Bradley with guide Bruno on the Green River.

Last month 28 lucky fisherman and ladies floated and walked the two stretches of the Green River below the Flaming Gorge Dam in Northeastern Utah. By every account it was the best trip yet on the Green and it was the finest fishing experience of my life. It was also my first fly fishing trip and the first time ever that I lost count of the number of strikes and successful hookups. A lot of this success has to do with the skill, experience and coaching of our guides on the river.

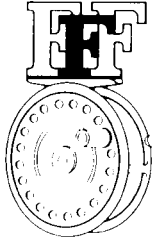
If you have not seen the country in this part of Utah, plan on next years' trip with your genial Den Mother – **Jack Bentley**. It was amazing to look through the crystal clear river water and witness the abundant trout each time. River otter and muskrat attended our daily fishing expeditions along with

hawks, eagles and other wildlife. Around our condos deer, elk (or was it moose?) were grazing with all the apparent concern of dairy cattle.

A few twenty - plus inch Brownies were reported taken during the week with everyone bragging about their successes with Rainbows, Cutbows and Brownies over fifteen inches. My

boat mates this week, **Dave Collins, Dick Mount, Les Schultz and Mike Paquet** all graciously allowed me, as a rookie, in the front of the boat, swearing it was the better fishing spot. After four consecutive days of being out fished at least 5 or 10 to one, it occurred that I was in the front just to stir up the trout for the convenience of my mates located aft. It certainly had nothing to do with experience or skill in fly fishing!





Submitted by Jeffery Sadler of the Long Beach Casting Club

Why I Catch More Fish Than You – KNOT!

For those of you who are still laughing at the thought of me catching more fish than you, STOP reading here. This article isn't for you, it is for the many people I have observed that need a few hints on how to become better. I have come off the stream with a casual: "I caught ___ fish (fill in the number)" and people will say: "Hogwash". The problem is that they may need more of a chance to catch fish.

If your fly ain't in the water, you ain't gonna catch a lot of fish. Period.

Clearly this article is aimed at the beginning fly fisher, the old pros are still laughing to think I'm better than they are, and they should laugh.

I have actually seen a beginner on a major destination trip in the water attempting to tie a knot and has a book open to learn how in one hand and a squiggly tippet in the other. While I absolutely applaud the effort, it's the timing that is rather weird. Learn to tie knots in the comfort of your living room, practice at home, at the clubhouse, on the plane to the Green River, but not (knot) on the stream.

So, you ask, how long should it take to tie on a new fly? 30 seconds, one half of a minute is more than enough time to reach in your vest, pull out a box, open it, select a fly, and tie it on. I didn't do this for a speed record and used a moderate sized fly (18) and standard 6X tippet. There are a lot of factors that can increase the time but basically, no fly should take over a minute no matter what. I can replace a tippet section in the same time, about 30 seconds.

What I'm going to tell you is my method. Lots of folks don't like it, some hate it; a lot use it. The reason is simple, it takes less time away from fishing than anything else.

The ONLY knot I tie streamside is an improved clinch knot to attach flies to the end of my tippet. My leader has a perfection loop (tied at home) at the end. My tippets are pre-tied with a perfection loop (tied at home) and coiled in small envelopes and I can easily carry 2 dozen in a small business card folder.

Even the most complex two fly bottom weighted nymph rig is pre-tied and all I need to do is remove the pre-tied rig at-

tach the loop to loop to my leader, tie on the two flies, attach a split shot and indicator and there you are, fishing. Clearly this takes more than a minute but not too many minutes. If you have to rig this on the stream from scratch, how many knots are required? (1) Perfection loop, (2) double surgeon's for the first fly, (3) double surgeon's for the second fly, (4) double surgeon's to keep the split shot on, (5) clinch knot for one fly, (6) clinch knot for the second fly, and (7) whatever method you use to attach the indicator. Phew, that's a lot of knots.

So, in a days fishing if we tie on 30 flies (not an unusually large number) and I take 30 seconds and you take two minutes, and we change 5 tippets and I take 30 seconds and you take two minutes, and if we change once from dries to nymphs and I take three minutes and you take ten, what happened?

The answer is my flies were drifting over trout for an hour more than yours were on that day and that is why I catch more fish than you do.




At the Vice

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have a wealth of materials to choose from for this important part of this pattern. Lately many tyers are using CDC feathers for the wings on emerges and rightly so as this feather has the properties that allow you to tie very realistic flies that float in the water's film. If you would rather not purchase these feathers, you can use a poly yarn clump and dress it only with fly floatant and this will work.

Another alternative to feathers is foam. By incorporating a piece of foam and then disguising it with a partial wing of say deer hair, the desired effect of the fly riding in the film of the water can be achieved. You will have to experiment with the size of the foam flotation you use, use too little and the fly will sink, too much will keep it high on the surface.

No matter what materials you utilize, you can increase your hook-ups this coming season by matching the body color and size of the insects that are hatching by tying up a selection of emerges, then tie them to your tippet and fish them instead of that beautiful dry fly that you labored over at the vise for so long.

(By John J. Prokorym of the Capital District Fly Fishers courtesy of the FFF ClubWire Email Newswire) 

How To Save Fish Hooks

Last year I was fishing the long pool below Cook's Falls on the Beaverkill, using my own version of the Dickey Fly tied on a No. 6, 3X-long Allcock's Model Perfect hook. This is a freak hook, and even when Allcock's hooks were plentiful it was hard to find. If I hadn't cadged a few from Walt Dette, the Roscoe flytier, I'd have been out of them.


Fishing Strategies: The Edges

Edges are any visible surface or bottom differentials, which for survival reason fish, tend to hold for protection or feeding. All animals in the wild instinctively calculate the minimum physical effort necessary to secure the maximum food value while remaining in the most protected cover available. This is a mouthful to say fish they are lazy, ignorant (compared to us) and predictable.

On the surface, edges are most easily determined. Examples are sunshade lines, riffle current edges of clear differences in flow velocities, water temperature changes, water clarity and surface structures. All fish instinctively tend to hold on, or in the immediate vicinity of, these locations. Bottom edges are less obvious but usually visible in good light with polarized glasses. In many cases bottom edges transmit to the surface as

current edges, boils, eddy and churning water. This brings up a less discussed issue of oxygen levels and temperature of the water, also contributory to fish selection of holding places. Generally, fast moving bubbly currents have more oxygen and deeper water is cooler, the more desirable conditions.

To further define bottom edges which are visible to the eye, examples are: depressions and outcroppings in the bottom, color or material changes, free stones or groups of them, continuous ledges, logs or brush piles, weed beds and river banks. Each of these have one thing in common which is essential to a holding position, that being a slowing or inhibiting of the water flow, be it ever so slight, in relation to the main current.

(by Roger Maler, President of the Southern Council courtesy of the FFF ClubWire Email Newswire) 


I hooked a twelve-inch brown at the head of the pool, and since I didn't want the fish I brought him in close and reached down to twitch the fly out of his jaw. Somehow I got my hand messed up in the slack leader, and the fish broke off and swam away with the Dickey Fly hanging on his jaw.

I tied on a new fly and was just about to start fishing again when I noticed something flash in the water nearby, and saw it was the same fish, lying on his side in a foot-deep riffle and rubbing his jaw against a rock to dislodge the hook. Because I wanted the hook back, I unslung my landing net, tiptoed slowly and carefully up behind the fish and slammed the net down on the water. It made a fine, big splash, but when I looked there was no fish in the net.

In a minute I saw the fish about twenty feet away, still trying to rub off the fly. Again I snuck up behind him, as cautiously as I could, and slapped the net down on him, and again he ducked away.

When the fish and I had repeated this routine three more times I heard voices, looked up and saw that six carloads of fishermen had stopped and were watching me. "It was hard enough when they brought in their spinning rods," one of them was saying. "This goofy bastard don't even use a rod!"

I thought of wading across the river and explaining the whole thing, but it seemed simpler just to throw rocks at the cars until they went away, so I did.

(from *The Best of Ed Zern* published by The Lyons Press.) 



**FREE CASTING LESSONS
EVERY SUNDAY 9 AM--NOON**

Join the San Diego Fly Fishers at Lake Murray to cast or improve your skills. Free instruction is available.

Bring your own equipment or use the club equipment, available from one of the instructors.

DIRECTIONS--

Take Interstate 8 to Lake Murray Boulevard. Go north on Lake Murray Boulevard to Kiowa Drive.

Turn left and look for people casting just as you enter the park. That's our bunch.

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Proprietors
Eileen & Bill Stroud**

**Cutoff date for August FINNY FACTS
articles---Friday July 11th**

**Send articles to:
Rose and Roger Yamasaki,
5415 Lodi Place
San Diego, CA 92117
858-274-2712.**

You can E-mail at Thanks!!

**Send change of address information or
Club membership renewal to:**

Gordie Zimm

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Gordon Foster (in memoriam), Bill and Eileen Stroud, Bernie Hammes, Hugh Turner, Nancy Pitts, Bob Wisner, Ken Armer, Glen Paul, Betty Coram, Ned Sewell, John Kasten, Leo Bergevin, George Beach, Bob Camp, Marvin Darling, Gene Jerzewski, Oz Osborn, Robbie Robinson, John Gauld

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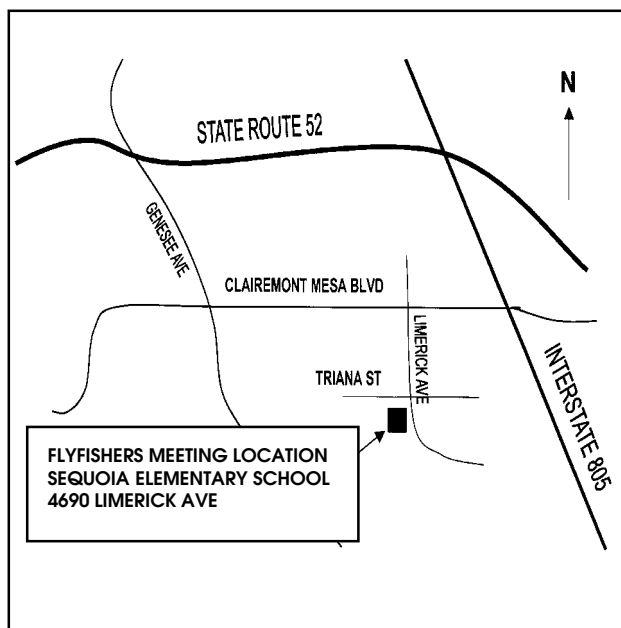
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Focus- Gretchen Yearous

Meeting Place for Workshops

San Carlos Recreation Center near Lake Murray. (We no longer meet at the Lake Murray Water Training Facility at Lake Murray). The address is 6445 Lake Badin Ave. To get there from Hwy. 8, take the Lake Murray Blvd. exit just like you were going to the lake. Instead of turning into Kiowa, keep going on Lake Murray Blvd. another 1.6 miles. When you come to Lake Adlon Drive, (first corner past Jackson Dr.) turn left. Go down three blocks and the recreation center will be on your right. It is on the corner of Lake Adlon and Lake Badin.



San Diego Flyfishers Headquarters
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