

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

JANUARY 2006

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 11, No. 1

It's Not Too Late

to sign up for the San Diego Fly Fishers **Annual Stroud Banquet** to be held at the Admiral Baker golf course clubhouse on Monday January 9th, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM.

\$20 per person. Sign up at Stroud Tackle or call Gary Strawn at

Lower Owens March 3-5

The Club trip to the Lower Owens River is scheduled for March 3-5, 2006.

I have made reservations at the Elms Motel. The cost of a two bedroom will be approximately \$50 per night.

Tom Loe has agreed to guide three anglers in the morning and three in the afternoon for his usual fee of \$610.

If you are interested call Dick Mount at

January 7, 2002 San Diego Fly Fishers Guest Lecturer — Mas Okui

Notes by Lucky Ketchum

Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers - Lectures on Hot Creek and flies that work at Hot Creek. At 72 he has had over 35 years experience fishing on Hot Creek and Hot Creek Ranch.

Prior to the meeting Mr. Okui demonstrated 3 flies. Discussion of flies during set up he said that he strives to create flies that are inexpensive to tie, easy to tie and that are durable. He has caught 26 trout on a single fly in an hour. He believes that all dry flies should have very slender bodies - abdomens.

Tip - To keep his dry flies light he ties all his dry flies on 3X fine Mustad hooks, Model 94833. Sometimes they are hard to find. He buys them in bulk and has a reseller's license if you can't find them. The hook is very fine and occasionally bends, he just straightens them out again. He has caught lots of large trout on the 3x fine hooks.

Tip - for hook storage box he suggests measuring the shank length on each size hook in millimeters and writing the number on the storage compartment. When he is in the field he measures the may fly body and tail length in millimeters, then chooses the correct hook size by

matching the mm measurements. He states that the Mustad hook series is designed to have 1 mm differences in size (length or gap). He likes Mustad hooks for the price and quality. Tiemco hooks are double the cost and double the thickness of Mustads.

Tip - to keep the cost down on flies he likes to buy a skeins of 3 ply poly yarn in dark brown, white, cream, yellow and orange for a lifetime supply of dubbing and wing materials. Of course he has commercial dubbing he purchases from Marriott's for \$1.95 or \$2.50 per package. The poly yarn is very durable, color fast and ties nice and flat on the hook. 150 yards of 3 ply is a only a few dollars, If you divide the yarn into plies and then divide the strand into 3 portions he gets 1350 yards for \$2. He wraps single strands of poly yarn on small cards for easy carrying.

Tip - He uses a plastic business card organizer for storage on his custom dubbing mixes. The notebook has about 15 pages divided into 5 or 6 plastic sleeves intended for business cards. He suggests using a paper punch to put an access hole

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JANUARY 2006

What a great year it has been for the San Diego Flyfishers! As I prepare to hand over the helm to your next President, **Lee McElravy**, I cannot help but reflect on how much work you all have put into the club this year.

W^e

started with the January 20th Boy Scout leader training session. The Star/Pal Chollas Lake kid's

fishing derby in February, (to be held again next year on Feb. 11th) was great fun.



LOUIE ZIMM

SDDF members assisted with the Junior Coastal Angling Tournament on July 31st, and another Boy Scout flyfishing session was held on Sept 7th in Point Loma.

Members took part in the National Hunting and Fishing Day at Lake Murray.

After demonstrating fly-tying at the April Day at the Docks, we then had a great time at the May Powder Horn Fly-Casting and Fly-tying instruction sessions for Venturing Scout leaders.

June rolled in with folks helping the Friends of Rollo Kid's Fishing Trip. The next day we had a successful raffle to earn funds for our conservation and education projects. On June 26th, members trained Boy Scouts the finer points of flyfishing at Lake Cuyamaca while other members assisted Lake Cuyamaca Rangers in recovering fish from the North Meadow section of the lake.

On October 22nd, club members taught fly casting to Venturing Scouts at the Mataguay Scout Ranch near Lake Henshaw. This was followed on Nov. 30th by twenty volunteers from SDDF and San Diego Trout investing "sweat equity" into our back country streams by replacing Rainbow Trout stocks that had been destroyed by four years of drought and fire.

During all this time the folks at Lake Chollas and at Lake Murray continued their great work on a weekly basis. The fly-tying congress met and also shared fly recipes with each other over the

internet. Folks also organized trips to the Kern River, Green River, and local saltwater hotspots. E-mail savvy folks at [passed on](#) much great info and added to our sense of fly-fishing community.

Also continuing their great tradition of service, the Wednesday group helped kids at Lake Morena and welcomed all others into our great sport.

Don't forget all the volunteers who set up chairs at our monthly meetings!

You may notice that I have not named individual names in this piece, for the number of members participating this year is too large. You all know who you are. My heartfelt thanks goes out to all of you!

Let's all get together and congratulate each other at the Annual Bill and Eileen Stroud Banquet on January 9th. I will be looking forward to thanking all of you, personally.





San Diego Fly Fishers

Annual "STROUD" Banquet

Monday January 9th 2006

6:30 to 9:00 PM

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

U.S. Navy Recreation Center

**Come celebrate another successful year for
San Diego Fly Fishers.**

**The price is only \$20 per person for a great buffet dinner in a
beautiful and convenient setting.**

**The \$20 price includes a door prize ticket!
The door prize will be an **Abel reel****

**Sign-up at the at Stroud's Tackle OR
call Gary Strawn at
Or use the attached mail in sheet (see next page)**

Spouses and guests are welcome!



SFFF Annual Banquet: Monday January 9, 2006

6:30 to 9:00 PM

Join us for a big Buffet Dinner and award Presentations

Location

Admiral Baker Field is located just off Friars Road, approximately 1 mile east of Qualcomm Stadium.

Directions: From I -15 take Friars Road east!

After you pass over the top of the hill, there is a stoplight at Santo road. Turn left onto Santo Road and then make an immediate right into Adm. Baker Field. Follow that road straight around to the Golf Course Club house. There will be plenty of convenient parking!

Menu

Salads:

Tossed Fresh Garden Greens with two dressings
Pasta primavera

Entrees:

Top Round of Beef and / or Chicken

Accompaniments:

Variety of potatoes and vegetables

Dessert

Mail In sign-up sheet

Name:

Guests Names:

Amount enclosed (\$20 per person):

mail payment to:

Stroud's Tackle

1457 Morena Blvd

San Diego, CA 92110

Mark: "Attn SFFF Annual Banquet"



FLY OF THE MONTH

Holiday Edition

SANTA RECIPE -- by Scott Sanchez

Hook:	Gold Eagle Claw Aberdeen 202 EL, sz 1/0. (Gold hooks)
Thread:	White Gudebrod, sz 6., or 3/0
Beard:	White crosscut magnum rabbit strip or cut from a hide.
Nose:	An oval-cut piece of pink 2 mm foam.
Eyes:	1/4-inch plastic pearl beads with pupils painted on them.
Hair:	White deer belly hair.
Hat:	White and red deer belly hair flared on hook.
Pipe:	Small black Rainey's cylinder foam with a tooth pick inserted in it.

Smash barb, cut off the point or super glue a glass or metal bead on the point for safety. Make a rather full beard from pure white rabbit skin. Scott's recipe calls for the beard to be cut from a magnum cross-cut rabbit strip. It needs to be at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide. I cut mine directly from a rabbit skin. Start with a square, about 5/8-inch by 5/8 inch. You should taper one side to make a smaller tie in point on the rabbit skin. I tried to make a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch flat area and took off about 1/8 inch of hide from each corner.



for the face and brim of the hat. Cut sections of deer hair about the size of a #2 pencil and make sure clean to out the under-fur with a comb. Stacking is optional. Leave the pointed tips on the clumps and start wrapping them with the tips toward the beard. You will want the long pointed tips to blend in with the beard on the sides and back of the head. The hat must be fairly long, so you will have to start spinning the red deer hair just past the mid-shank position. Mark the gold hook shank with a black Sharpe pen at the mid point to let you know when to stop. If you do not leave enough room, the

You do not want to have a long thread base on a hook that you want to spin deer hair on. Attach the thread with a jam knot on the shank at the bend of the hook. Make about 6 wraps of thread almost on top of each other and add some super glue. Attach the tapered section of the beard on top of the thread, press the leather around the hook and tie down securely with 6 or 7 wraps of thread. Keep the tie in point as small as possible. Make a half hitch or two and then super glue the thread wraps. Now think about the proportions of Santa's head and where the red hat should start. Santa's beard will hide the chin. You'll have to spin 5 to 7 small clumps of white deer hair

hat will look like a beanie. It might take 5 or 6 clumps of red deer hair to make the hat, depending on the size and how tight you pack the deer hair. When you get about 3/16-inch from the eye you will add two medium clumps of white deer hair for the ball at the end of the hat. Whip finish and trim off the thread.

Trimming - The difficult part of this pattern is the trimming of the face and the hat without cutting off the brim of the hat. Start by using your scissors to rough cut the fly into a large cylinder to get rid of the wild hairs and see clearly where the red begins. The brim of the hat needs to be almost 3/16 inch

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JACK BENTLEY

**Any Questions?
Call Jack Bentley at**

Plan Now for Green River Trip May 2006

Now is the time for club members to plan for The Green River (Flaming Gorge) trip in May 2006. This is the club's favorite trip.

DATES:	May 15---20th
ESTIMATED COST:	3 days fishing with guides: \$1,382
	4 days fishing with guides: \$1,720

Guides are **\$235** per fisherman per day and the river fishes best from a boat, but lots of wading space is available.

**SIGN UP AT YOUR EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY BY CONTACTING
JACK BENTLEY**

SANTA

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wide. Start the final trim with that in mind and start cutting the tapered red hat. Work around the hat cutting a little at a time, keeping it symmetrical. Trim the little white ball near the eye. As you get closer to the final shaping you can use a "new" sharp double edge razor blade and bend it to the curve of the hat. The razor cuts give the fly a neater look. Now use your scissors to create an area for the face. The face will be on the top of the hook. The bend and barb of the hook will be hidden in the long hair at the back of the head. The back of the head is the easiest. Just leave most of it long and shaggy and only make the cuts to round the top of the head and define the space at the brim of the hat. The face is a little trickier. Start trimming away a small area about the size of a dime, without cutting the rabbit fur beard or the brim of the hat. The size of the face depends on the size of the eyes you choose.

Sanchez said he bought a small string of imitation

pearls and attached them with Goop. After the eyes are set paint a black pupil on the front of each with a small brush or section of toothpick. A small white dot on the black pupil always makes eyes look better. I used some small to medium doll eyes with pretty good results.

The nose is a cut out of pink felt or 2mm foam. He did not make a mouth. Instead he marks the mouth by placing a small pipe made from a piece of toothpick glued into a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch slice of Rainey's black ant foam. To make the fire in the pipe add a drop of super glue to the bowl top and dip it in your red and white razor hair trimmings. The pipe is glued in place where the rabbit meets the deer hair.

I made a pipe using thick black plastic from an old hair brush, bent at a 90 degree angle. The bowl was made by putting a little super glue on the stem and wrapping a small strip of 2mm black foam around it. Trim the foam tag ends after they dry.



San Diego Fly Fishers Restock Boulder and Cottonwood Creeks

Finally, we made it happen! Wednesday Nov 30th, twenty hard working volunteers from San Diego Fly Fishers and San Diego Trout carried heavy buckets of rainbow trout over miles of incredibly rough terrain, to restock Boulder and Cottonwood Creeks. The great turn-out with only two days notice was amazing. The volunteers were rewarded with beautiful weather and a great trek through our local mountains, plus the special reward of seeing our beautiful native rainbow trout returned into pristine local creeks.

The Department of Fish and Game provided a tanker truck with more than 1,200 "sub-catchable" trout. Our SDDF board funded the purchase of buckets and aerators from our conservation funds earned during the annual raffle. The volunteers did the rest!

The trout appeared to survive the ordeal well. They sped off into the deep, dark pools, but some were observed feeding on surface midges within just few minutes. Terry Rodger's wrote a nice article on the front page of the East County section of the Union Tribune Friday December 2nd, (pictures by David Brooks)

and gave the San Diego Fly Fishers glowing credit. To view article on the web: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20051202-9999-7m2trout.html> .

Terry did a particularly good job of summarizing the bureaucratic problems with the USFS. They reluctantly gave in on Boulder and Cottonwood Creeks but declined to accept the prevailing scientific evidence and prevented stocking Cedar and Kitchen Creeks. I am confident that Allen Greenwood and the dedicated biologists at DFG will prevail and we hope to be calling on our volunteers again next spring to stock more creeks.

We should all be proud of our volunteers. They are by deeds the true conservationists!

Bruce Campbell,
Chuck Houser
Zwanny Erickson
Barbara Greenwood



GARY STRAWN

Dee Haller
Al Venton
Bob Stafford
Rosalie Reilly
Buddy Griffen
Ralph Neiger
Kris Tucker
Evi Tucker
Vern Wescott
Bob Jubenville
Mark Stuvetraa
Sherry Brainerd
David Collins





CALIFORNIA TROUT

No news isn't always good news.

In the case of H.R. 3824, Chairman Richard Pombo's bill that would gut many critical provisions of the landmark Endangered Species Act, the legislation is now pending in the United States Senate after narrowly passing the House of Representatives.

So far, this terrible bill hasn't emerged from committee to reach the Senate floor for a vote — but we've got to keep the pressure on to make sure that never happens.

[Forward a message to your Senators today, urging them to oppose H.R. 3824!](#)

As you may remember from some previous messages on this subject, the Endangered Species Act is vital in maintaining the river and ocean habitats upon which California fisheries depend. As Californians, we care about protecting wildlife and wild places in our state and across America for our children and our grandchildren to enjoy.

But if this terrible legislation is signed into law, H.R. 3824 would allow more pesticide runoff into salmon streams, require payoffs to developers, and make voluntary many habitat protections for the 270 threatened and endangered wildlife species in California, including salmon and trout.

That's why we've got to do everything we can — now — to make sure the Pombo bill never sees the light of day on the floor of the United States Senate.

[Urge your Senators to reject H.R. 3824 — and work actively to defeat it!](#)

We're lucky, so far, that the Senate hasn't moved H.R. 3824 forward. But we can't take anything for granted.

We've got to keep the pressure on, and let our Senators know that we're watching their actions, to make sure the Pombo bill is defeated in the Senate.

There's too much at stake to let down now.

[Please forward an email to your Senators](#) — and then [invite 5 friends to join our cause.](#)

Sincerely,

Brian Stranko
Executive Director
California Trout



FLY OF THE MONTH

ORANGE ROUGHY

Hook: TMC 2457 10 - 14
Head: Orange 1/8" Craft Bead Silver Center
Thread: Orange
Body: Orange Master Bright
Tail: Pearl Mylar



This fly is an adaptation of the Ultra Flash Midge by Harrison Stevens. I was looking for a fly that the crappie at Lake Cuyamaca couldn't resist. The fly is very simple to tie and very productive!

Tying Tips

Begin by crushing the barb, place the bead on the hook and put the hook in the vise. Start the thread behind the bead. I create a ball of thread behind the bead to hold it in place. Wrap the thread to the bend of the hook. Tie three strands of pearl Mylar at the bend of the hook to form the tail. The

length of the tail shouldn't be longer than the shank of the hook. Create a dubbing loop and dub the orange Master Bright up to the bead. Tie off the dubbing loop, cut the unused portion of the dubbing loop and whip finish.

Fishing Tips

After casting allow the fly to sink for 10 to 20 seconds. Use various retrieves, from slow to fast, interspersed with pauses. Lift the rod tip gently when you feel the strike to set the hook.

Paul Woolery

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.



Mas Okui-Notes

continued from page 1

in each of the storage compartments. Small noodles of dubbing are teased out of the hole. Note stagger the holes so that they do not line up and mix dubbing.

Tip – He stores his sized hackles in plastic zip lock bags. Especially his custom dyed hackles. For Coachman Brown he uses the dark brown Rite Dye to color small batches of hackle. He recommended Ray Bergman's book Trout. Bergman's favorite hackle color is Bronze Blue Dun – make it by dying light ginger hackle with Gray Rite dye. Mas had about 6 different colors/shades of blue dun hackle. In the old days he used to buy hackles by the pound, loose in bags, instead of on the necks. He has no objection to trimming the hackles on his caddis sedge patterns. The fish do not seem to mind.

Tip – He likes to use a standard non-rotating vise to keep the fly from turning when he is putting pressure on it. He said all dry flies of normal size should be tied with 6/0 thread as the 8/0 is not as durable and can cut the hackle or dubbing. The thread color should match the body color as close as possible. (Except that the Blue Wing Olives on Hat Creek have gray heads – so it is okay to use gray thread)

Tip – He recommends an Edington hair stacker for small flies, the small tube makes a nice compact bunch of even hair. He notes to take the time to pinch the hair and manipulate it into a tight bundle to make it durable. He ties his elk hair on the comparaduns with at least 8 tight wraps followed by half hitches after each procedure. Durability is important to Mas.

He likes to use an old Thompson whip finisher to make more precise heads than he thinks he can get with a newer Martinelli. He stressed the use of a half hitch tool and a hackle guard to make the heads without trapping hackle. His metal hackle guard is attached through an opening in the vise by a 5 inch white string attached to a ¼ oz. Lead Weight. It keeps it handy.

“Killer” - This fly evolved from gray sedge fly of the 1960's, a caddis pattern usually tied in dark brown, orange, green, gray, and tan.

Hook - Mustad 94833 3X fine dry fly hooks - sizes 16 to 22. He likes to use 18 early in the season and 20 or 22 later in the fall.

Thread – dark brown 6/0 – or color to match body.

Body – dark brown poly yarn split 1/3 – thin body.

Hackle - Coachman Brown - custom dyed with Rite Dark Brown.

Wing – White or Cream poly yarn.

Mount hook size 18 3X fine to keep light.

Attach thread at the back ¼ of the hook. – ½ hitch

Take 1 ½ inch of dark brown poly yarn, split into 1/3

Tie in yarn – ½ hitches to hold.

Select dark brown hackle about size 12, prep hackle clearing webbing. Now he uses Dr. Slick scissors to trim hackle to size 16 on 18 hook.

Tie in hackle with the dull side toward you.

Wrap yarn 2 times behind the hackle (no tail on caddis)

Then wrap the yarn flat, thin and smooth to about 2 eye widths back from eye.

Note the abdomen is very thin – about the width of Tiemco hook. You can't make a Tiemco this thin. The yarn flattens into a ribbon better

Than standard dubbing.

Wrap the hackle 1 ½ at the rear of the fly and then proceed to palmer the

Hackle forward leaving room for head and wing. ½ hitch ½ hitch.

Select wing of white, cream or yellow poly yarn for wing. Color is for Angler visibility only – uses yellow if fishing in white foam line.

Place wing slightly toward you to allow for thread torque.

Tie in wing, 2 soft loops pulled down straight to keep wing on top of hook. Pull up on yarn, lock in with several wraps behind and tight wraps on front.

½ hitch or two. Trim the front tag end.

Pull up on wing and trim at a 45 degree angle.

Length of wing should be at the bend of hook, end of hackle – but it can be

Longer if you have vision problems.

Now he trims the bottom hackle wraps even with the gap of the hook, leaving

The top and sides at about the size 16 for floatation.

This fly is very good on hat creek, and costs about 6 cents. 5 cents for the hook and 2 cents for materials.

Hot Creek Emerger - actually a comparadun - Pale Morning Dun

continued on next page



Mas Okui-Notes

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Hook – Mustad 94833 3x fine dry fly hook size 16 to 20

Thread – yellow 6/0

Wing – blonde elk hair – fine

Body thin noodle of yellow poly dubbing or poly yarn 1/3 strand.

Tail – none or optional shuck of sparkle Antron

Note – floatant is only used on the wing of this fly, the body rides Under the surface at an angle.

Mount size 18 hook

Attach thread at front 1/3 of hook (don't need to cover hook shank)

Select small bundle of blonde elk hair about the size of wooden match Clean and stack hair, take time to pinch and manipulate hair into tight bunch.

Position elk wing with tips pointing over the eye, approximately 2/3 of a

Shank length. Place slight toward the tier to allow for thread torque.

Use 2 soft pinch loops and pull straight down. Once secure wrap 8 tight

Turns keeping hair on top – not pulled down over sides of hook.

3 turns in front making a small cone then 1/2 hitch up to the elk wing.

Trim the butt ends of the wing, in a tapered angle. Now wrap over the Trimmed butt, pulling down very tightly covering ends, then wrap thread

To the bend in the hook make several 1/2 hitches to hold tight.

Now make a thin noodle of yellow dubbing, he rolled the noodle in his Palm, saying it is good to be a little sweaty to make the noodle tight. Attach dubbing holding tip at the

rear of hook, make several wraps, A half hitch then wrap thread sparsely to the eye.

Now attach the noodle of dubbing or yarn to hackle pliers and wrap Thin, flat, smooth wraps forward, to wing then in front of and under wing Make a slightly thicker thorax, tie down dubbing, and trim excess dubbing by pulling

Out. 1/2 hitch, Pull wing back, use hackle guard to keep from trapping Fibers form a small neat head, whip finish.

The wing on this fly is kept round and tight more like a post than A fanned comparadun. Floatant is only applied to the wing. The body floats under the surface film as an emerger.

The Hot Creek May fly hatches have been down in the last few years. The emerger patterns have been very successful since the trout are eating many of the May flies at the emerger stage. There are not enough adult may flies floating to make them the pattern for feeding. In 2001 the Rusty duns hatching early about May 30, 2001 (Memorial Day) He used this pattern with a root beer brown crystal flash body – he calls it a Root beer Float. He usually ties this emerger in about 6 colors. – Yellow Pale morning dun, blue wing olive green, crystal flash brown, muskrat, peacock herl, and gray Antron. You can add a sparkle Antron shuck if you like.

Hot Creek Mayfly Pattern — Adult pale morning dun - parachute style.

Hook – Mustad 94388 3x fine size 16 to 22

Thread – yellow to match dubbing Tail – 3 barbules of mallard flank or hackle – concave up

Wing – post – white or cream poly yarn

Body – custom blend of white, yellow and touch of green - thin

Hackle - Sandy dun – to make visible.

Ray Bergman's favorite hackle is Bronze Blue Dun – light ginger dyed gray

Take the time to capture adults on the water and measure the body and tails in millimeters.

Match hook size to body length. Usually size 18 in spring and 20 to 22 in fall.

The Hat Creek Mayflies have longer tails than usually. Make 2 1/2 times the length of hook shank.

Note match thread with body color, except that the blue wing olives have gray heads on hat creek, use gray thread.

Mount size 18 hook

Attach thread at front third of hook Select 2 inches of poly yarn for post – white, cream or yellow

Attach yarn post 2 eye widths from the eye, butts to the rear. Firm wraps Pull up on post. Make a small cone of thread in front of post to stand up 1/2 hitch

Now make the post more stable by making 7 wraps up post at base then 4 wraps

Down. 2 in front, two around base and two behind, 1/2 hitches to hold.

Trim rear of post. Wrap thread to the bend of hook to prepare for tail.

Select three hackle fibers; adjust to 2 1/2 times the length of shank,

Tail is tied longer than most patterns, concave curve up 1/2 hitch after each procedure.



Mas Okui-Notes

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Prepare a very thin noodle of pale yellow dubbing.

Attach dubbing at tail, wrap thin abdomen to post then under

And forward of post. Trim and ½ hitch

Select and prepare a dun hackle for parachute.

Size can be larger on parachute. Size 16 for 18 hook.

Leave a small section of bare quill at base of post to help

Start the horizontal wraps. Lock in the qui at the base and hook

Attach hackle pliers to hackle and wrap 3 turn up the post and then

3 turns down the post, the last 2 turns should be under all the others.

Tie down and trim excess hackle

Use Hackle guard to keep from trapping fibers

Form small head and whip finish.

This fly is also tied in green, rusty orange, tan, gray and brown.

Mas Okui fishes mostly dry flies on Hot Creek using 5 wt 8 ft. soft parabolic rods, 6 wt double taper line with extremely long leaders. 16 to 24 foot leaders. It is now hard to get the hard nylon leader material he uses to make his 22 and 24 ft. leaders. There was a formula for his leaders 2 years ago in fly fisher's magazine. He makes very short casts with no false casts. His cast is a modified steeple cast. He has to hold the line at the leader with his left hand and lift the rod up making a high 45 degree angle steeple cast, then with a side arm delivery makes an up steam bend. As soon as the line touches the water makes a big mend to allow a drag free drift.

He uses a Stephen Brothers – Graphite soft tip rod, made now in Flagstaff. He also likes some of his old fiberglass Fenwick rods. 7 ½ ft 5 wt. Most modern graphite rods are too stiff and fast for his method of dry fly fishing. 40 foot casts are the maximum he needs on the narrow Hot Creek. He likes the Cortland 444 peach colored double tapers. Light colors for visibility.

Hot Creek Ranch has cabins, private spring creek waters. You need to make reservations at least a year in advance. June 22 is about the best time of the year, but it is usually booked by his club for the 3rd week in June. Many slides of typical bends, riffles and under cuts were shown. Likely waters noted would include looking for cuts in shore, raise bumps on water means rock, fish current seams, foam lines, undercut banks. Notes that shallow weedy sections are often overlooked. Look for brown grass clumps next to green grass. Short casts with just a few inches of drag free drift.

Suggested breaking stream up in quarter sections, then methodically working the small pocket waters, starting down stream and close to you, working downstream to the middle, far side, then work the up stream close quarter and then finally the upstream far quarter. If fish is caught let it run down stream for landing in order not to put down the other fish.

He notes there are a lot of nettles along the stream, not good to wear shorts.

Promotes minimal contact with small fish during release, suggests reeling in the hook to the tip of the

rod and shaking the rod for release. Quicker release lets you get back to fishing and less stress on fish.

You can not wade into hot creek to retrieve a fly from rose bushes. Fishing is from shore, at least on the Hot Creek Ranch property.

He mentioned some other flies that will work

Schlagle Slayer - caddis with a gray turkey wing or gray mallard wing and peacock herl body.

Yellowstone cream caddis - twisted cream colored Antron segmented, with white or cream elk wing.

Peacock Elk - Small size 22 elk hair wing caddis with peacock herl body.

Nymphs:

Green rock worm - green twisted Antron body with peacock herl collar

Green Meanie

Pheasant tail nymphs – flash back and regular

Red rubber band worm was outlawed at some waters

Cream colored San Juan worm – grub


Brassie

WD 40

Caddis larvae with brown or green crystal flash bodies.

If there are reports of catches on beetles he just uses the dark brown “Killer pattern”.

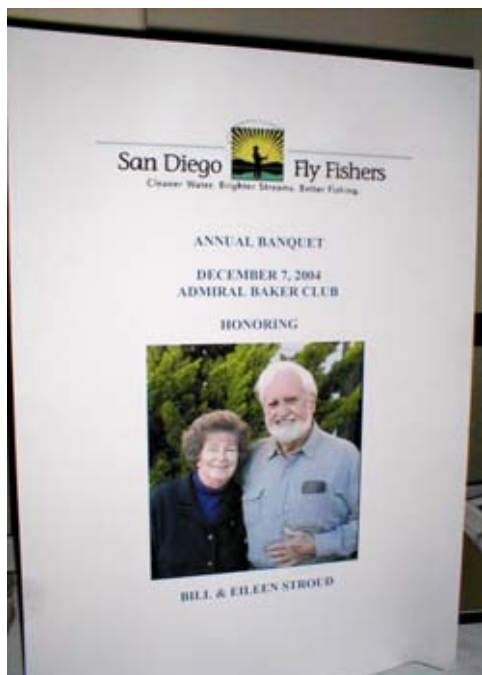
Mas Okui has been very successful on hot creek. He caught 26 fish in one hour on the Pale Morning Dun emerger pattern. The Killer pattern had caught 23 fish in an hour. He has given lectures at many of the Southern California Fly Fishing Clubs. He sometimes teaches at Marriott's teaching 8 fly patterns in 4 hours – cost \$50.

The on the river class at Hot Creek Ranch is about \$700 – 3 days. 



Recipients of the
Stroud Award

2004-Jim Brown



STROUD TACKLE

Complete Fly Shop



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- Loomis
- St. Croix
- Orvis
- Hardy
- Sage
- Redington
- Fly Tying Materials

San Diego Fly Fishers Headquarters



1457 Morena Blvd
San Diego, CA 92110
(619) 276-4822
www.stroudtackle.com
Proprietors
Eileen & Bill Stroud

Cutoff date for **February FINNY FACTS**
articles---Friday January 13th.

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

You can E-mail at finnyfacts@lycos.com Thanks!!

Send change of address information,signup for
electronic version of newsletter, or Club mem-
bership renewal to:

Lucky Ketcham
3510 Gayle Street
San Diego, CA 92115

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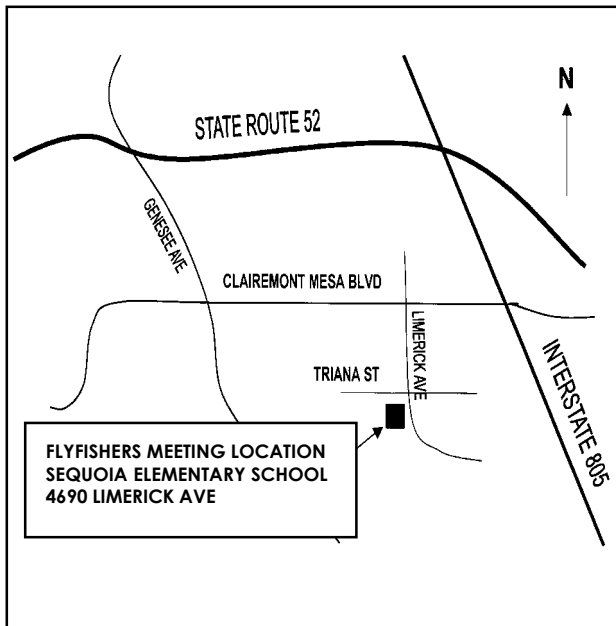
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 San Carlos Recreation Center near
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 Facility at Lake Murray). The address
 is 6445 Lake Badin Ave. To get there
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 corner past Jackson Dr.) turn left. Go
 down three blocks and the recrea-
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