

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

MAY 2009

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 14, No. 5

May Speaker

PART TWO PRESENTED AT MAY MEETING

It is Spring, the best time of year for fly fishing in our local saltwater, including Mission Bay, San Diego Bay and the near-shore kelp. In preparation for what we hope to be a great season, we have planned a two-part series of programs: Part 2:

Monday Evening, May 4th: Once we learn from Louie "how-to catch them," Jim Sammons from La Jolla Kayak Fishing will share his secrets of "how to get to them" in a kayak. Jim's company is the pre-eminent

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MEETING NOTICE

Monday, May 4, 2009

7:30 PM

Sequoia Elementary School
4690 Limerick Avenue
(See map on back page)

REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for this meeting
(report at 6:15 PM)

**Heidi Brown and
Bob Blazer**

Thank You, Mona Morebello

SDFF at Boy Scout Fair

by Bob Pharoah

We spent a very long but rewarding day representing the San Diego Fly Fishers at the Boy Scout Fair held Saturday April 18, 2009.

Allen Thompson, Don Smith, Larry Sorenson, Lew Walsh, Lucky Ketcham, Norb Spitzer, Rich Strobel, Richard Bebusk, Robert McKay and Robert Pharoah were in attendance. The Fair was held to help Scouts

obtain the necessary skills for Merit Badge awards. The group provided instructions on tying flies and knots used to assemble a fly reel. Part of the Fly Fishing Merit Badge requires Scouts to tie two flies and catch a fish with them. Our group instructed the tying of a Woolly Bugger streamer and a foam ant dry fly. Each scout completed both flies demonstrating their new skills. Some even asked to learn more and tie more flies. They must also demonstrate the ability to assemble a fly reel by installing backing on the reel using an Arbor knot, attaching a fly line to the backing



using a nail knot, attaching leader material to the fly line using a nail knot, and finally attaching a fly to the leader using an improved clinch knot.

A total of 54 individual Boy/Cub scouts attended a least one of the instructions, but most attended both.

San Diego Fly Fishers provided a complete Fly Fishing Combo of a fly rod, fly reel and line to be awarded one lucky scout. One ticket was given to each Scout that completed at least one of the demonstrations, one ticket

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: MAY 2009

For those of you who attended our April meeting you heard a very interesting presentation by **Louie Zimm**. This presentation was part one of a two-part series on fishing salt water.

Louie also included a very detailed overview of the Marine Life Protection Act or MLPA. The MLPA has the potential of seriously impacting all salt water sports, not just fishing. I

urge everyone to support Louie in every way possible, whether it is just a simple thank you or writing a letter to your State Representative.

It seems that kayaks are replacing float tubes and even pontoon boats as a preferred method of fishing

from the water. Jim Sammons from La Jolla Kayak Fishing will present part two of fishing salt water at the May meeting. This should be a very informative evening.



PAUL WOOLERY

Cabela's will embroider our club's logo on clothing items in there catalog. We have prepared two logos, one for dark clothing and one for light items. See the ordering instructions on page 7.

The Federation of Fly Fishers is holding a fund-raising event in which you could win a 4 days, 5 nights trip for two to Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT. Proceeds will benefit FFF clubs, councils, and the national office.

Each ticket is \$20 or 6 for \$100. All

sold tickets must be returned to the national office by June 15th, 2009. The drawing will be held on June 20th, 2009. Winners will be notified by email. Please see me for tickets and additional information.

Lastly, if you are interested in seeing the return of native fish to the Santa Ysabel Creek and the upper Sweetwater River please write the Department of Fish and Game. Ask that they take the steps necessary to reintroduce trout and other native fish into these streams which once had native populations of trout and other native species. Currently both of these streams are void of any fish and they should be restored.

Address your comments to Mr. Ed Pert,

May Speaker

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San Diego source for fishing from a kayak, emphasizing in-shore fishing off the La Jolla coastline. Jim has traveled the entire Western Hemisphere refining his kayak fishing techniques and promises a fun- (and fact-) filled evening describing this unique fishing opportunity.

The next meeting will provide a special opportunity to share in the enjoyment of a resource we have only begun to appreciate. If you have never tried "fishing the salt," you do not want to miss this opportunity.

Buy Your Tickets NOW! The Big Annual Raffle is Coming June 1st



2009 Raffle and Silent Auction Are Coming Up June 1!!

Our annual raffle will occur on June 1st. It's coming up faster than you think so mark your calendar! Please remember, all proceeds of the San Diego Fly Fishers Annual Raffle are used for the club's education and conservation activities!

How can you help?

- Buy tickets!
- Buy more tickets!
- Buy a gift certificate from a local fly shop and donate it to the club
- Donate a new (or nearly new) piece of gear for the raffle or auction
- Ask a guide or lodge that you have worked with to donate (silent auction items)
- Did I mention buy tickets?

We're getting more prizes every day but we have already collected some great prizes! Below are just some of what you have to look forward to:

- Grand Prize*: Bamboo fly rod handcrafted by our very own Jon Holland plus matching reel and fly line.
- Pezon & Michel Bamboo Fly Rod donated by Tom Lucas
- Local saltwater fly fishing trip on the Altair donated by Capt. Louie Zimm
- 5 – Day all-inclusive fishing trip on private waters on the Big Lost River at the Bar 4-D Trout Ranch in Idaho donated by the Ranch
- Additional freshwater and saltwater fly fishing trips donated by Southern California guides
- Fly reels from Redington and others
- Graphite fly rods from Winston*, Thomas and Thomas, Powell and others
- Accessories including chest packs, fly rod/reel cases, fly boxes, books, DVDs, etc.
- Fly tying tools
- Gift certificates to So Cal Fly Fishing Outfitters and San Diego Fly Shop

If you're interested in learning about raffle ticket purchases, please contact Paul Woolery at

Raffle and Silent Auction Rules (The Fine Print)

- *You can win as many times as you have tickets*
- *If you have no use for a prize, or are just feeling generous, you may donate it back to the club on the night of the raffle*
- *If you are not at the raffle and win a prize you have until our September meeting to arrange to get the gift or else it becomes the property of the club*
- *A bid on the silent auction is firm*
- *If you cannot be at the raffle and wish to place a bid on a silent auction item, a designated proxy may place a bid for you, with a signed check in hand*
- *We will close out the bidding on silent auction items after fair warning*
- *If you are the winning bid for a silent auction item you must pay on June 1st (cash or check)*
- **There are 2 – 3 prizes, including the Grand Prize, which requires club membership and presence at the June meeting to win. If your name is selected and you are not a member or not present, you will receive the next prize on the list (except in the case of the Grand Prize drawing since it is the last prize drawn).*



FLY OF THE MONTH

Kim's Surfworm

Hook: Tiemco 300 (sizes 2-8) (6X Long, 1 X Heavy - streamer hook)
Weight: (optional) wire, barbell eyes, or bullet weights ahead of the fly, by choice
Thread: Olive or burgundy
Tail: Hot orange marabou, 3/4 - full body/hook length (use plenty of material for better action - olive green, red, white, and tan tails are also used)
Body: Medium rootbeer pearl chenille (use 'Large' size with #2 hooks). Weed guards (optional): 40# fluorocarbon, tied in when finishing the head



I also tie a 2-segment surfworm, adding foam under the body near the tail to float it off the bottom when pausing my retrieve. The two hook/body segments are joined using olive-brown embroidery thread.

Lucky's Notes: Kim Z fished the south SD Bay in the end of March 2009 for the first time. He reported catching spotted bay bass in the triple digits as well as 6 bonefish and several croakers. The surfworm pattern was working when his Clouser minnow was being ignored. In many cases he worked the patterns like drop shotting to keep good contact with the flies as he drifted with the tide. Remember Louie Zimm's tip to make the flies hit the bottom before the fly line. The spotted bay bass like to take the patterns on the drop and you will miss the bite if you have slack in the line or no direct contact. When in doubt set the hook when you think the fly just hit the bottom. Louie counts the fly drop down and gives it a strip just for insurance and often catches the first fish while others let fish spit out the fly undetected. If you wait for the fish to jerk your arm off, you will miss many fish.

Clam worms and other marine polychaetes live on the bottom where some are predators on the clam beds and others eat the rich organic ooze like earthworms. You should tie this pattern in

various styles with and without weight. The light weight worms will have more action but must still get to the bottom behind or above a heavy fly or bullet weight. The picture shows a worm with just lead wire wraps for weight. The photo in Kim's fishing report had a worm with heavy barbel eyes like a Clouser minnow. Steve Piper reports that Kim ties the marabou tail in a variety of colors.

Instructions: Select a long shanked streamer hook. The freshwater TMC 300 hook is 6X Long and 1 X heavy. (It is not stainless steel and will require a good rinsing and quick drying after use in salt water or it will rust.) You could use a 4X long streamer hook like a TMC 9395. Mount the long hook in the vise. Select a lead or lead substitute wire about the same diameter as the hook shank. Wrap enough turns of lead to cover the front half of the hook to about 3/16 inch from the eye. Save room for a tapered thread head. Attach the thread at the rear of the lead wraps and make a small thread dam. The trick to keep the lead coils from spreading with the thread wraps is to loosely spiral wrap to the front of the lead and make another thread dam. Then you can make a thread cocoon over the lead without spreading the soft coils. Continue a tight thread base to the bend of the hook stopping just above the bend. Coat the lead and thread with a thin coat of head cement to keep the lead from oxidizing.

Continued on next page



Kim's Surfworm

continued from previous page

Select a full hot orange marabou blood feather at least $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the 6X hook. Attach the blunt end just behind the lead wraps and wrap the thread to the hook bend. Attach a 4 inch strip of Root Beer Pearl Krystal Flash Chenille. Use medium for the size 4 and smaller and large for the size 2 hooks. Advance the thread to the front of the lead wraps and then follow with wraps of the chenille. I like a clean thread head on woolly worms and this type pattern. The trick is to wrap the chenille to the desired body length and then unwrap $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Cut the chenille and pick out the flash and fiber from that last $\frac{1}{4}$ inch leaving just a clean thread. Keep the chenille tight while wrapping thread over the clean bare thread. You will avoid having that ugly lump on the side of your thread head if you take the time to clean off that last quarter inch. Now you need to decide if you want to add two mono weed guards.

Weed guards are necessary in Mission Bay and many parts of SD Bay because of the eel grass. Cut two one-inch lengths of 20 pound mono. Take flat nosed plyers and flatten about 1/8 inch at one end and bend it in an L shape. Before building up the thread head, attach two weed guards at the bottom of the hook in front of the chenille. Make a few tight wraps and adjust the positions so that they are turned out at about a 30 degree

angle. Add a small drop of Super Glue and then continue to make a nice tapered thread head. The rear of the taper should be at least the size of the hook eye and taper to the front, just covering the gap in the wire loop of the eye. Add super glue to the head or several coats of head cement. The fly will be dredged through the sand and mud. A good coat of head cement is necessary for durability in the surf.

This pattern is a great one for just about any of our "friends" who roam the Southern California shoreline. It has taken halibut, corbina, yellowfin croaker, perch, mackerel, sand bass, calico bass, skates, and leopard sharks. It can be fished by stripping it in fast, working it slowly across flats, or by dead-drifting it in the current. I fish at least two to three of these flies at one time on my leader, especially when water visibility is less than good - this gives the fish a chance to hit the second or last one if they only get a flash from the first fly as it goes by. The Surfworm can also be fished ahead (towards the angler) of a clouser pattern in heavier currents, or with Bullet weights to get them down in the feeding zone. Anyone who has tied a wooly bugger should have no trouble with this pattern, which is also an easy one for beginners.



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.



SDEF at Boy Scout Fair

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per scout. The combo was won by a very happy Boy Scout, Nick Aline.



Nick Aline and father.

"Well done everyone. I have 47 red tickets from Scouts that expected to be present at the drawing and I had 7 that indicated they would not be able to be present at the drawing. A grand total of 54 individual scouts, I allowed one ticket per scout, that completed at least one of the two projects available. Most scouts completed both the Fly Tying and the Knots course. That is quite a good days work and I am sure you all are as tired as I am. I received a LARGE number of comments about how much they enjoyed the Fly Tying and wanted to do more of it.

Scout Nick Aline won the Fly rod and reel. He and his Dad were very happy. Nick was one of the last students taught by Norb.

Again, THANK YOU for doing all the work !!!!!"

Bob Pharoah—



Lew, Lucky, and Norb.



CABELA's EMBROIDERED CLOTHING



ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

Our Club logo may be applied to clothing items purchased at Cabela's. The process is as follows:

Two logo's are available: (1) A logo with blue lettering for light-colored items (logo no. 30016093) and (2) A logo with gold lettering for dark-colored items (logo no. 30015627).

Embroidered items are all ordered directly through the embroidery department, which can be reached at (877) 892-4424 (telephone), 800-237-4401 (facsimile) or embroidery@cabelas.com

San Diego Fly Fishers' customer number is 40479874. When placing an order, provide this number and the number of the logo which you wish to be applied to your item. Application of the logo is \$5.00 per item. However, please note that buyers will receive a credit from 0 - 10% when ordering embroidered items. By way of example provided by Cabela's, if you order the Bahama II Shirt, the regular price is \$34.95. If you order it embroidered, Cabela's will take 10% off the price, charging you \$31.46 plus the \$5.00 embroidery charge. (Your discount may vary depending on the item you order).

If you are ordering by e-mail or facsimile, do not include a credit card number. For security reasons, Cabela's will call you back for that information.

Obviously, the Club assumes no responsibility for your transactions with Cabela's. However, we can relate to you that Cabela's has been most gracious and cooperative in assisting us in this process and your Board would like to get your feedback once you have utilized this service.

Note: Ordering by telephone is by far the easiest way to order. Expect about 15 days for delivery.





Art Reifman sent me a photo he took of my son, Scott at the SDFE club picnic at Tom Loe's private pond.

This 11 pound trout was the second trout that Scott ever caught on a fly rod. The first was a 12 inch rainbow at the Wier pond below South Lake.

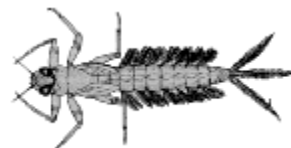
We had a great day watching some of the kids and members catch fish on Tom's pond. Gerry Cole's grandson caught a 9 pound rainbow, while all the older members were happy with the 2 and 3 pounders.

That trout had been planted as a 3 pound Alpers Ranch baby three years earlier. It was 11 pounds in 2003. I wonder how big it might be if it is still alive in 2009.

That was a great picnic. I didn't try to fish and helped the young people. The fish were taking size 18 Zebra midges on 5X tippet. We switched to a Trout Chow nymph on 4X tippet to keep from breaking off the big ones.

Trout like this swim in the Owen's River. We can only hope that some will take your fly on the March trip.

--Lucky





Support the Federation of Fly Fishers and You'll be entered to win a 4 days, 5 nights trip for 2 people at

Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT

www.fiveriverslodge.com

- Each FFF council will draw a winning trip (15 trips) retail value \$5300.00
- Winners will also be entered into a drawing for a trip to Cinco Rios Lodge in Chile
- All winners will receive a \$1000.00 travel stipend.
- Other prizes will be drawn – Rods, Reels, and other Gear!
- All new FFF members will be entered in the drawing. Recruit a new member and you'll receive a ticket too!
- Proceeds will benefit FFF clubs, councils, and the national office.

\$20 = 1 ticket or \$100 = 6 tickets.

Winners will be notified by email.

Based on double occupancy, two anglers per guide, and availability. Tips, licenses and tackle not included. Trips may be taken during the 2009 & 2010 season. A minimum of 4000 tickets must be sold before winners are drawn. Federation of Fly Fishers is a 501c3 Non-profit organization

No purchase necessary, void where prohibited by law



**Southwest Council
Federation of Fly Fishers**

**THIRD ANNUAL
RUSH CREEK CLEAN-UP**



Sponsored by:
SILVER LAKE RESORT

JUNE 20th 7:00AM TILL NOON
Meet at the Silver Lake boat ramp for signup at 7:00
Bring gloves, hat, and (Waders if you have them)
Trash bags will be provided

Bar-B-Que lunch provided by Silver Lake Resort after clean-up

The Council will be installing monofilament recycling tubes at key areas

Hope to see you there



Recipients of the
Stroud Award
 2004-Jim Brown
 2005-Allen Greenwood
 2006- Hugh Marx
 2007- Mike Rivkin
 2008- Bill Van Wulven



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Complete Fly Shop



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LIFE MEMBERS

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HONORARY MEMBERS

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler (in memoriam), Hugh Marx, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood, Mike Rivkin

Recipients of the:

GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service
 to the flyfishing community

1991-Ned Sewell	2000-Tom Smith
1992-Bob Camp	2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki
1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud	2002-Larry Sorensen
1994-Ed Velton	2003-Jim Tenuto
1995-Bob Wisner	2004-Joe Bain
1996-Gary Hilbers	2005-Jim Reeg
1997-Jack Bentley	2006-John Kasten
1998-Gordie Zimm	2007-Lucky Ketcham
1999-Gretchen Yearous	2008-Louie Zimm

Cutoff date for **June FINNY FACTS**
 articles---Friday May 15th.

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

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

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

Lucky Ketcham



SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS 2009 OFFICERS

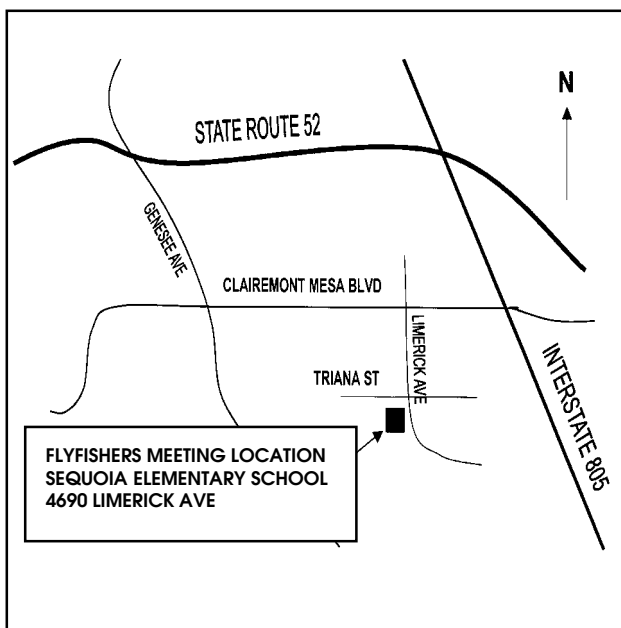
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Fly Tying Clinic-
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 Bill Hanson
Membership-
 Lucky Ketcham



Monthly Weekend Outings-

Dick Mount
Newsletter CoEditors-
 Rose & Roger Yamasaki
 5415 Lodi Place, San Diego
 92117, 858-274-2712

E-mail:
 finnyfacts@gmail.com
Programs- Lee McElravy
Raffles- Alan Thompson,
 Jonathan Hee (annual)

Refreshments-
 Maria Goldman

Rod Building-

Ron Meler
Trips-
 David Collins
Video & Library-
 John Beckstrand
Web Page-

David Collins
 www.sandiegoflyfishers.com
SDFF E-mail tree-
 Kim Jones,

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
10601-G Tierrasanta Blvd. #327
San Diego, CA 92124

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San Diego, CA 92124



**San Diego
Fly Fishers**

*Official Chapter of
Federation of Fly Fishers*

SINCE 1962