

FINNY FACTS

Archived version

APRIL 2009

San Diego



Fly Fishers

Cleaner Water. Brighter Streams. Better Fishing.

Volume 14, No. 4

April Speaker

COMMIT, NOW, TO THIS TWO-PART PROGRAM:

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:

Monday Evening, April 6th: Louie Zimm will present a program on in-shore and bay saltwater fly fishing. Many of you already recognize Louie's long history of fly fishing research in our local saltwater. This is a program Louie originally produced as an intro-

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MEETING NOTICE

Monday, April 6, 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)

Scott Shenk and

Ron Nicholas

Thank You, Mona Morebello

The End of an Era

by Tom Loe

The end of an era...Eileen "the dove" Stroud passes on...

But her Pink Do-Dah shall live long!

For those of us fortunate enough to have known Eileen Stroud the stories I will tell you will be well understood. Her influence, innovation, and presence in the angling world shall be deeply missed by all.

Over a decade ago I was enlightened by Eileen and her husband Bill. They are the owners of Stroud's Tackle in San Diego, and have been so for as long as any can remember.

One can only be lucky enough to meet a person or two in their life that not only point out the paths you should follow, but also leave footprints in your soul that will keep you on those trails when you get lost. Eileen was one of those persons to me, and I know many of you that knew her would adamantly agree.

Each season Eileen would send her husband Bill "the mighty osprey" off with me to fish Crowley Lake for a few days each year. Ever the story teller, Bill would reminisce about Eileen's and his fly fishing history during our trips, and her reputation amongst the San Diego sport boat fleet.



The Mighty Osprey, Bill Stroud, and a brown caught on Eileen's pink do-dah. Jerry Galvan did net duty.

A petite and beautiful woman with a quiet demeanor, most first impressions could never consider her to be a threat with regards to the absconding of a jackpot pool to the casual eye. Her fishing prowess and consistency at taking home the jackpot for the big fish became such a common occurrence that she was "banned" from entering the pools in the San Diego sport boat fleet. The "dove" was a ringer!

An innovative and expert fly tier for both fresh and salt water species, Eileen once gave Bill and his deceased dear friend Jerry Galvan some of her

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: APRIL 2009

This month I would like to begin my message by thanking two of our members who have taken it upon themselves to provide other members with a special fishing experience.

First, I want to thank **Jonathon Hee** for taking time out of his busy schedule to set up the surf fishing seminar on February 29th. Fifteen to twenty members and their guests

received tips on equipment, flies and surf fishing techniques. The weather was beautiful, the surf was small, and the fish were few and far between. Well I guess that's why we call it fishing and not catching.

Kudos go to **Dick Mount** for arranging another successful Owens River trip. Dick arranged everything

from motel accommodations to the guides and lunches. I've been told that one of the 3 boats had over a 40-fish day. I think everyone who took part would agree it was a great trip!



PAUL WOOLERY

Our annual-fund raiser will be held on June 1, 2009. All the proceeds will go to conservation and education projects with an emphasis on local organizations and regional projects.

Letters containing six tickets for the raffle have been mailed to all members. Unfortunately, four envelopes have been returned because the mailing labels came off during the mailing process. If you have not received your raffle tickets and wish to participate, you may contact me by e-mail at

or telephone me at

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 6 for \$25.00. Please make checks payable to "San Diego Fly Fishers". Tickets will also be available at the April 6th, May 4th and June 1st meetings.

If you have any gently used fly fishing equipment and wish to donate it to the raffle please contact **Jonathon Hee**.

Our club will, once again, participate in the Day At The Docks. This annual event will be held on April 19th at the Point Loma Sport Fishing Landing. We are looking for volunteers to meet and greet the public, tie flies, and answer any questions about San Diego Fly Fishers. Rumor has it that **Louie Zimm** will be hosting breakfast at the San Diego Yacht Club once again this year. Contact **Louie Zimm** for additional information.

April Speaker

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duction for our Club mentor program. For those of us with some experience in fishing the salt, Louie has added a number of more sophisticated insights to ensure (as Louie promises) a successful day fishing for bass, bonito, halibut and white sea bass.

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 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 two meetings 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!

Anyone Interested in Kayak Fishing?

Members interested in Kayak Flyfishing opportunities in either San Diego Bay, Mission Bay, La Jolla or local lakes can contact Jim Castelluzzo.

Jim fishes the bays regularly and will gladly plan kayak trips with any interested members.

Jim Castelluzzo



The End of An Era

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custom midge patterns to use on Crowley. Mind you, Eileen had never fly fished Crowley.

Bill and Jerry greeted me on the boat at Crowley and Bill handed me the custom flies Eileen had made up for this trip. I looked them over and put them in the box without seriously considering their use. After all; I had developed accomplished patterns that were tried and true and nothing short of a mutiny would cause me to deviate from my babies!

The day went on with unusually slow fishing for August. During an extended lull in the action, Jerry politely asked if I would tie on one of Eileen's secret weapons for him. I begrudg-

ingly agreed mumbling obscenities directed towards my so-called business associates (the trout) who seemed to be on a hunger strike. I extracted a couple #18 pink bodied flies from the Dove's goodie bag and tied them on the leader as I was being told that Eileen had named this particular pattern the "pink do-dah".

Bill watched intently as Jerry made several false casts with his beloved 6 wt bamboo rod laying the rig down gently as a hummingbird with sore feet!

I regained position next to my buddy the Osprey looking forward to more jokes and stories of their past. I was

NOT expecting the instantaneous grab that Jerry received just a moment after he finished his cast. After taking a picture of Jerry's large brown; a glance at the grinning Bill was all I needed to go back into Eileen's bag of tricks and begin changing over to the Dove's patterns. "She makes good flies" was all Bill said as I watched Jerry set the hook on yet another fish. A special moment indeed. I silently and humbly thanked Eileen for providing us with the "pink do-dah" that day.

We shall miss you Eileen, I will miss you. Thank you for all you have done for the angling community and me.

Be the fly...Tom Loe

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ANNUAL RAFFLE AND SILENT AUCTION

The annual raffle and silent auction are rapidly approaching! Tickets have already been sent and extra tickets are available. We have some great prizes this year including two bamboo rods, one being made by Jon Holland and another donated by Tom Lucas. Additional rods, reels and gear will also be available. We will also have some great trips including a saltwater trip on the Altair with Louie Zimm as well as a trout fishing trip to Idaho. Club members have always been generous with donated items and we could use your help again this year! Whether it's a gift certificate from a local fly shop (Bill Stroud hasn't decided if he will reopen yet) or an item you no longer need, your donation is appreciated. It can be for either the raffle portion or the silent auction. You can give your donation to me, **Jon Hee**, or any member of the Board. We are just getting started collecting our prizes, but we will have some great stuff! Let's buy those tickets and make this event the best ever! Remember, it's for a great cause with all proceeds supporting our club's conservation and education activities.



FLY OF THE MONTH

MFC Para-Cricket

from Montana Fly Company-Size 10 and 12 (revised 11/27/07 - Lucky Ketcham)

Hook: Dry Fly, 2X or 3X Long, 2X Fine size 8, 10 or 12
TMC 5212, 200R, Mustad 94831, Daiichi 1280,
Thread: Black, flat waxed 6/0
Tail: Deer, dyed black, or moose
Abdomen: Black thread over deer hair, tapered.
Under-wing: 8 to 10 strands pearl Krystal flash
Wing: Coarse shiny deer hair
Legs: Black round rubber Madam X style
Post: White poly yarn or Hi-Vis
Hackle: Black saddle or neck, sized for larger hook.
Thorax: Black buggy dubbing or peacock herl
Head: Black thread.



This was a good fly on the Green River, June 2007. The cicadas were a small species with a sharply pointed abdomen. The wings were clear cellophane like with black veins. I think the brown trout were taking the size 10 and 12 as cicadas as well as a cricket. The flattened thread over the tapered deer hair looks very shiny. They might add a thin coat of head cement to get the effect.

Remember parachute and Comparadun dry flies usually have the post or wing at the 7/8 hook shank position rather than the normal $\frac{3}{4}$. Start the jam knot at this point to help you remember. Wrap a tight thread base to the bend. Select 8 to 10 coarse, shiny black deer hairs, clean and stack. Size the tail to extend 1 hook gap or less. Trim the butts to end at the 2/3 hook shank, a little longer the usual mid shank point. Attach the tail with loose wraps at the bend and tight wraps forward. The abdomen on this fly is a tapered cone, twice as wide at the mid hook as it is near the tail. Build up the front end with flattened thread. Flatten the thread by letting the bobbin hang and turn while lifting on the thread with your bodkin needle.

I found that adding the white poly yarn post before the wing is easier and gives a clearer point

of where to end the wing butts. There is less of a chance of crowding the eye if you set the post

location first. Cut a 2 inch piece of white Antron or 3 ply polyester yarn. Attach at the 7/8 hook shank position, just forward of the end of the abdomen. Wrap thread around the hook shank a few times fore and aft of the post and then hold the yarn tight while making 5 of 6 thread wraps up the yarn post and then 5 to 6 down. Always wrap the thread around the hook shank a few times fore and aft after wrapping a post. Pull on the thread to tighten. Position the yarn post on top, dead center and apply a small drop of head cement on the post and hook thread wraps, penetrating to the hook shank.

Select a small bunch of pearl crystal flash 5 to 6 fibers 2 inches long. Even the tips attach by the middle as an under-wing with the ends just past the tail. Fold the front half of the flash back to lock in; make three tight wraps over the fold and spread fibers evenly with your magic thumbnail. Over-wing: Select a small bundle of coarse, shiny black deer hair, about two match sticks in size. (15 to 20 hairs are enough to represent the black

Continued on next page



veins in the clear wings of the Cicada.) Clean out short hairs and under-fur. Stack to make tips even. Hold over the body with tips to the rear to size. The tips should be the length of the hook bend, but not as long as the flash and tail. Pre-trim the butts to the 2/3 point. Cut the butts blunt to make a shoulder up against the post. Use thread control while pinching the wing with your left hand. Tie the butts with three tight wraps near the post. Make 3 or 4 loose wraps to the rear to prevent flaring the coarse hair. Remember to make "soft pinch wraps" and pull straight down or straight up to keep the hair from turning to the far side. Thread torque on bundles of hair is always a challenge to keep the hair where you want it. All hair seems to act differently and you make small adjustments for each. Hard thin hair is easier for down wings rather than soft pithy spinning hair.

Add black round rubber legs Madam X style to each side, just behind the wing post. Rear legs extend to the tail, front legs are shorter. Attach a black saddle or neck hackle, shiny side up. Make the post more substantial with a thread wrap base up and down the post and quill. The hackle is now standing straight up, in front of the post. Wrap the thread back to the last

wraps on the wing. Attach 3 or 4 peacock herl and make a rope. Wrap the herl rope forward, covering the thread over the deer hair, between the legs, in front of the post, in front of the front legs. If necessary make a few double wraps in front of the post. You always want a level platform on the thorax when you make a parachute. End the herl rope at the back of the post and trim off excess.

Bring the thread back to the rear of the post and let it hang. (Like pool, you have to plan for your next shot.) Hold on to the poly yarn while wrapping the black hackle counter-clockwise around the post. Wrap the hackle with 5 or 6 tight turns, each under the next, ending near the body. Wrap the thread around the post, counter-clockwise, under the hackle and close to the body. Make three tight wraps while pulling on the hackle tip. I no longer try to tie the hackle at the hook shank. Just let the excess hang to the rear. Bring the thread the hook eye. Make a small thread head, whip finish and trim. Trim the excess hackle with just the tips of scissors. Trim the white post to be 2 hook gaps long. Add a small drop of head cement to the whip finish.

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.





DAVID COLLINS

**Any Questions?
Call David Collins at
7**

Green River Trip 2009

Join us this year as we again travel to the Flaming Gorge of the Green River in northern Utah.

This has been the club's premiere trip for over 15 years. The 10 people who went last year had a great time.

I reserve the cars, rooms and guides ... you book your own air travel. The cost of the trip including airfare, car transportation, lodging, fishing license and floating guide (for 3 days) is estimated to be \$1,400. Guides (tax and tip included) are about \$260 per day per fisher (a little more than last year), so if you decide to wade without a guide one or more days, you can save on trip costs.

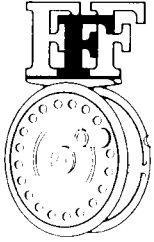
Plan to float at least one day though ... especially if you have never gone before ... it is a great way to see 7 miles of one of the most beautiful rivers you'll ever fish.

As it was last year, some of the guides charge a little less (though they still get raves from people who fished with them last year) ...I try to schedule it so everyone fishes with the less pricey guides, but if that is not possible, preference will be given according to who signs up first.

You have until April 1 to sign up, but the sooner you decide to sign up, the more likely that you will be able to book the ideal Delta flight to Salt Lake City (It is the least expensive and it is non-stop and its the one the rest of us will be on).

Please sign up soon! If we get more than 12 fishers wanting to go, early signup will allow us time to book more cars, rooms and guides as needed. I have all of the details. If interested you can contact me by:





From the FFF Clubwire News

By Pat Damico

Taken from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter, 2008

Fly Casting Reminders

All sportsman who excel, execute fundamentals with a minimum of error. The Federation of Fly Fishers, www.fedflyfishers.org has a booklet entitled, *The Essentials of Fly Casting*. These five essentials, when properly executed will result in fly casting proficiency.

There must be a **PAUSE** at the end of each stroke, which varies in duration with the amount of line beyond the rod tip. When fly casting, the weight of the line, not the fly, bends or loads the rod. A pause is needed to allow the line to straighten between the backward and forward cast, thus loading the rod. Failure to do this will result in a sloppy cast. (A smooth **Gradual Acceleration to an Abrupt Stop** is important. LK)

SLACK LINE must be kept to an absolute minimum. What causes slack? Movement of the fly line by outside forces such as wind or water, starting the cast with the rod tip too high, rough, jerky application of power, and poor timing between the backward and forward cast. The belly of line that forms

when the rod tip is held too high at the beginning of a cast is the most common. (Point the rod tip to the water and take up slack on the pick-up. Nick Curicione teaches to even extend the arm further to the water and slowly draw the line back to reduce commotion and vibrations that would scare the fish. LK adds)

In order to form the most efficient, least air resistant loops, and to direct the energy of a fly cast toward a specific target, the caster must move the rod tip in a **STRAIGHT LINE PATH**. The loop refers to the shape of the fly line during the cast. A tight or good loop is where the top and bottom strands of line are relatively close together. The larger the loop, the more air resistant and inefficient the cast will be, resulting in a loss of energy. If the top strand of fly line drops below the bottom strand, a tailing or crossed loop will result. This is always a fault in fly casting and causes “wind knots” in line or leader.

The **SIZE OF THE CASTING ARC** must vary with the length of line past the rod tip. A short line

requires a narrow casting arc, a long line, necessitates a longer one. The casting arc is the angle between the rod at the beginning of the casting stroke and at the end of the stroke. The casting stroke is the movement of the hand and arm to apply power to the rod. The backward and forward movement of the rod during false casting is an example.

POWER must be applied in the proper amount at the proper place in the stroke. Power is applied slowly at first, gradually increasing to a peak at the end of the stroke. The amount of power needed for each cast is influenced by a number of factors including the amount of line to be false cast, the total length of the cast, the wind direction, the weight of the rod and line, and the type of cast to be made. (If too much power is applied suddenly, at the end of the forward stroke a shock wave will be produced in the line that causes the dreaded “tailing loop.” Think smooth and steadily increase the rod speed to that abrupt stop at 11:00, shoot the line 5 feet over your target and then let the fly drop naturally to the target.)



Jesse Tuman reports fly fishing in the surf at Scripp's Pier, March 19th, 2009

Ifished Scripps pier for about four hours. I know that it's not great conditions but I got a few. I got a 20 inch halibut only an inch short—dang—and about an 8 inch halibut. I got both halibut on a clouser that was blue and white and I got a good sized BSP on a brown and white clouser. The barred surf perch started to have babies when I got her up and I was very surprised when she shot out live babies. I put them all in the water but I doubt they will live. Anyway it was a fun day and I would advise you all to try it some time. This was my first time and it was just as easy as fishing in the lake.

Lucky notes that Jesse found the larger female barred surf perch are having their babies. They are one of the few bony fish species that retain their eggs and have about 16 live babies. Many species of sharks have live babies by few bony fish like the surf perch. The young are about 1.5 inches long and 3/4 inch high. Just the right size mouthful for those halibut he caught. Follow Jesse's example and take a morning before work to hit the surf. I knew a surf fishing junky that worked for SDGE. He would take his vacation two hours at a time and hit the croaker hole at the foot of the Life Guard road at Black's Beach early in the morning for a several weeks. He would go into to work at 10 and still catch the morning bite. Way to go Jesse.

Fish Terminology for you to impress your friends:

Viviparous <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viviparous>> fish are fish which give birth to live young, the eggs develop whilst receiving nutrition from the parent./

Ovoviviparous fish <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Ovoviviparous_fish> - fish which give birth to live young which do not receive nourishment from the parent whilst in the womb.//

OVIPAROUS fish/ are those that lay eggs that are fertilized outside the female's body.

Catch Magazine Announcement To Clubs

www.catchmagazine.net and the FFF are working together to spread the word about the FFF, worldwide. Please see our beautiful ad in the Premier Issue of Catch Magazine. Brian O'Keefe and Todd Moen, of Catch Magazine, will design a new ad for the FFF in every issue. I think you will very much enjoy Catch Magazine and it is free.

Catch Magazine is the Journal of Fly Fishing Photography, Video and Film. Fantastic fly fishing photography, displayed in a modern, colorful and dynamic format make Catch Magazine a "coffee table book" and a film festival, in every issue. Catch Magazine is not going to perform very well on older computers, dial-up or on tiny monitors. Feel free to forward the link to a friend, neighbor or the office to see/watch Catch Magazine on a high speed Internet connection and a big monitor. It takes a few seconds to load, then sit back and watch the world's best fly fishing photographers do their thing.

There is a navigation link on the front page that will help you learn how to move through the magazine. Catch is an on-line magazine only.

All advertisers have a hot link-logo and one click will take you their web site. Catch Magazine is viewed in 75 countries and in over 3,000 cities. A new issue of Catch will be sent to you and your club on the first day of each odd numbered month.



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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 **May FINNY FACTS**
 articles---Friday April 17th.

Send articles to:
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 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



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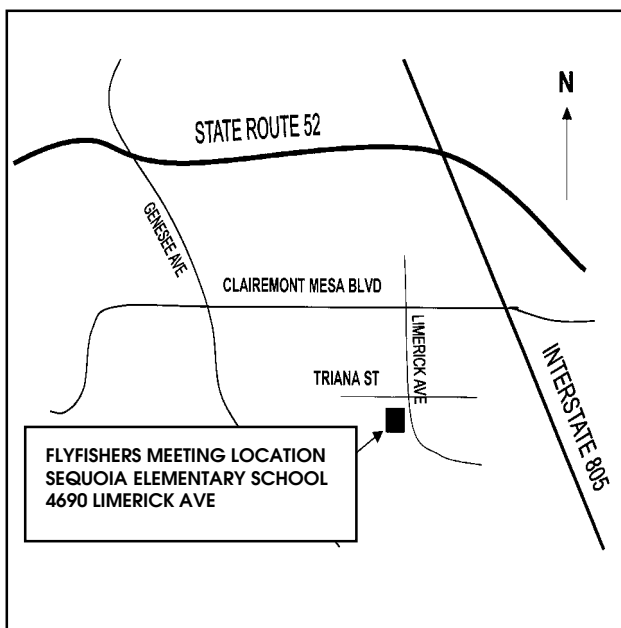
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Meeting Place for Workshops

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.



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