

MAY SPEAKER

Denny Rickards to Speak at May SDDF Meeting

For the past twenty-nine years Denny Rickards has had an opportunity to fish and guide anglers over some of the most challenging trophy trout waters in the Western United States. His simplistic approach and techniques on presentation have accounted for browns over 20 pounds, cutthroats to 15 pounds and rainbows in excess of 16 pounds.

Today, he is a full time guide on Upper Klamath Lake. Over 250 days a year are spent doing what he loves best: guiding, writing, tying flies, conducting fly fishing schools, and field testing and developing tackle manufacturer's products. His newly developed Crystal Creek Series graphite fly rods are being compared to the top rods in the industry.

As a professional fly tier, his suggestive patterns have appeared in various outdoor magazines and are on display at Cushners Fly Fishing Museum in Florence, Oregon. Based on recent reviews his new book and companion video "Fly Fishing Stillwaters For Trophy Trout" are now considered the "bibles" for fly fishing lakes.

When he isn't fishing or guiding, many

Fly Plate Fund Raiser

The Arroyo Fly Fishers is an all high school fly fishing club in El Monte. Anybody that knows of this club, which has a membership of about 50 kids, has to be impressed with their energy, creativity and resourcefulness...they put a lot of adult clubs to shame.

Their current project is to send six of their members to a summer youth camp hosted by The Fly Shop in Redding. The way they are doing this is by selling fly plates, ranging in cost from \$50 to \$160. These are beautiful fly plates, and are 100% money back guaranteed. If you are interested in purchasing a fly plate, please contact: Frank Kuhn, c/o Arroyo High School,

hours are spent studying trout behavior, their habitat, and the various insects found within their environment.

His knowledge and ability to teach others were a prerequisite to establishing his fly fishing schools, which have become a priority for anglers seeking the ultimate from their angling experiences.

SDDF Annual Raffle Set for June 5th

The **SDDF ANNUAL RAFFLE** has been set for **June 5th**. The Annual Raffle takes the place of the monthly meeting, and it is our biggest fund raiser of the year! **Raffle tickets are on sale now**—five for \$15—and can be purchased at the monthly meetings, from Stroud Tackle and San Diego Fly Shop, and from Patrick Case. In addition to the drawing of Raffle Tickets for prizes, we are also going to have a Silent Auction for the more unique prizes.

Departing from the last couple of years, this year we are allowing you to win as many prizes as you have winning tickets (you will not be limited to one prize, and there will be no trading). **Therefore, the more tickets you purchase, the greater your chances of winning one or more prizes!!!**

While retailers and equipment manufacturers offer the club discounts on fly fishing equipment and materials, **the success of the Annual Raffle relies on the generous donations of our members**. So please contribute generously to Annual Raffle—100 percent of the net proceeds go to SDDF community service and conservation activities! Items you can donate include rods, reels, all kinds of fishing equipment and clothing, tying equipment and materials, flies, gift certificates for equipment, dinners, and lodging, jewelry, books...and, of course, cash.

All donations can be brought to the monthly meeting, or brought or mailed to San Diego Fly Fishers, c/o

REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for the
May meeting
(report at 6:15 PM):
**Jerry Bower &
Don Miller**

Thank you, Mona Morebello

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, May 1, 2000
7:30 PM
Sequoia Elementary School
4690 Limerick Ave.
(See map on back page)



Every once in a while I hear someone question whether we are on the right track as a club. I recently had a conversation with a club member and former President, who challenged our activities over the past few years, and implied that others have also expressed concern whether our efforts and expenditures are appropriate. I thus decided that perhaps this month's message should be an open letter to the membership to state the thoughts of at least this President—which is one of the prerogatives of being King.

What are we doing? Are we spending our money on the right things? Are we serving our members? Are we serving our reason for being? As a starting point in answering these questions, the best place to begin is the mission statement of the club—because if you have a good mission statement, the answers to such questions are generally easy. An activity that supports the mission statement is generally good; if it does not support the mission statement, we shouldn't be doing it.

Our mission statement is as follows: *"Promote the sport of fly fishing with a fly rod through education and conservation."* This mission statement is contained in the first paragraph of our web site.

Certainly the most high-profile activity of the club is our monthly meetings, which are composed primarily of the programs. How do the programs fit within the mission statement?—they provide education in the form of fisheries, locally and afar, conservation, and technique. Sure, for many of our members, including yours truly, some of the programs may be little more than vicarious entertainment—but I, for one, think that is okay. We can all use

something to aspire to once in awhile.

The costs of individual programs range from token honorariums to several

hundred dollars—that is the reality of current speaker fees, airline tickets, hotels, etc. For this we spend approximately one fourth of our budget. To put things in perspective, the monthly programs are attended by roughly a *third* of the membership. Is the cost warranted?...in my opinion, yes.

What are our other activities? Every

Sunday morning we offer free fly fishing and casting lessons to the public, an obvious educational endeavor. Very few, *if any*, clubs offer this level of service to its members and the public. To put this into perspective, I recently read in the Winter 2000 issue of the FFF *"Flyfisher"* magazine that the national organization was celebrating its casting lessons program as a "big hit," having nearly 100 participants in the program during 1999. However, due to the weekly dedication of Ned Sewell, John Kasten, Marvin Darling, Ken Armer and others, the SDFF quietly puts about *twice* that many through our classes!

When I say "quietly," I mean they don't go around telling everyone what a "big hit" they are at Lake Murray every Sunday morning—but I assure you that they *are* a big hit with the couple of hundred that pass through Ned's classes each year. I would like to pass on an excerpt from a note that I recently received from a new member: *"Please accept my membership check as a thank you to the group for the lessons at Lake Murray. I have enjoyed myself and...I certainly will continue to work on my cast with the help of your knowledgeable volunteers. It is a great*

service. Thank you so much" I suspect it is comments like these that contribute to Ned and the other fellas going to Lake Murray each weekend. Is this a worthwhile activity of the club?...certainly so. And, yes, I accepted the check of the new member.

Other activities include our fly tying clinics—for beginners and advanced tyers. Again, due to the volunteer efforts of Gary Hilbers, Tom Smith and others, we are able to offer these classes for a fraction of what they cost through other sources. And we provide weekly "advanced" clinics by our resident senior tyers, as well as seminars by "celebrity" tyers two or three times a year. We often have to subsidize the tying classes. Is this a worthwhile activity and expenditure of the club?...in my opinion, yes.

Our other activities include rod building classes, also led by Tom Smith, long distant trips, led by Jack Bentley, and weekend trips, led by George Gates; in addition to the annual banquet, picnic and raffles to raise money for conservation.

Our conservation and public service activities are numerous, and are listed in the web site. Most noteworthy, SDFF was the principal contributor to a significant aquarium exhibit at the Chula Vista Nature Center, featuring trout indigenous to San Diego County. Last year we constructed the shade shelter at Lake Murray. We also frequently contribute considerable sums to California Trout, support plans to restore steelhead to San Mateo Creek, plant trout eggs in local streams, and monitor and lobby regulatory agencies on issues that affect sport fishing in the region. This year, one of our goals is to begin a feasibility study for the restoration of a local creek.

One activity that has fallen by the wayside is the woman's focus group, called the *Irresistables*. I would like to see one of our active female members revitalize this group. For those women a bit intimidated



PATRICK CASE



Kudos for Our Members



As I mentioned in my message this month, many of our members participate in numerous public service activities without a lot of fanfare. Last February 26, five members of SDDF—**Gary Hilbers, Lee McElravy, Emil Smith, John Beckstand, and Tom Smith**—put on a fly tying demonstration at the **Lake Skinner Fifth Annual Trout Fishing Derby for Kids**. How was the experience?...The accompanying “thank you” letter from Mark Lynn of the Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District says it all. *Patrick Case*

Dear Fellow Fly Fishers

There are many vices for our children in their early years to choose from. On February 26, 2000 at the Fifth annual Lake Skinner “Trout Derby For Kids” that is put on by Riverside County Parks, several children found a good vice. The derby was the big picture, with children standing on the banks of a cove at Lake Skinner fishing. Some there for the first time with a rod and reel in hand. There are many Volunteers who helped in putting it all together. Without these volunteers it could not have happen. Under the guiding hands of Mark Lynn this one too is safe in the creel.

There was also a small story in this big one, a call for help by Art Santore to other fly fisher who tied fishing flies. Surgery was going to make it difficult for Art to tie flies at the Fly Tying Demonstration. With hardly a week before the Trout Derby the call for help was answered by five ties.

The San Diego Fly Fishers Club brought their Vices in hand to the Derby at Lake Skinner. Gary Hilbers, Lee McElravy, Emil Smith and John Beckstand gave what they thought was their time to demonstrate the art of tying flies. The big picture here was of their vice called tying flies for use in fishing. Children in ages of five to fifteen stepped up to the table and watched wide-eyed as feathers were bound with thread to a hook held in a vice. These fellow ties had children lip hooked in no time by placing the bobbin in the Childs hand. Instructing these children of methods and ways to make a fly of their own hand.

After the experience at the vice they stood looking at their fly on their palm as if it would take flight. Running off to tell their friends about what they had made with feathers and thread. Soon others would step up to the vice and place their hand on a vice. A vice that fellow fly fishers know will take them to a far better place. Oh I know they might say it was no big thing they did that day to them selves.

Rewards come in many forms, some day while fishing on the bend of a river an unfamiliar face at first will approach. Looking deep into your eyes for a moment and say “THANK YOU for that Saturday at Lake Skinner at that Trout Derby. I now have a vice. From the moment I saw the magic of your vice, I have been got hooked on it”. Just one of the many children who walked up to our tables on that day and acknowledge the rewards known only to fly fishers.

** A Vice is my Vice- Not Drugs- Get Hooked On Fly Fishing**

PS: The biggest one we hooked that day was the county fire dept person, look for him soon in your club.

Art Santore

Thanks again to the Fly Fishers of south
Mark Lynn



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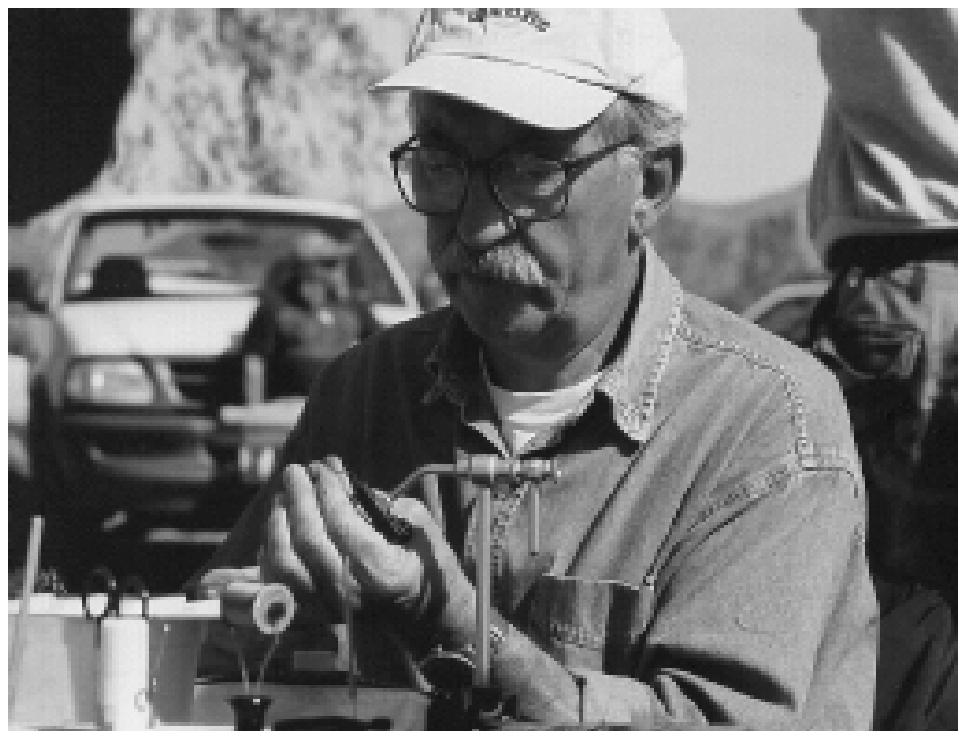
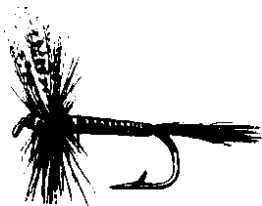
San Diego Fly Fishers Come to the Rescue at the Fifth Annual Lake Skinner Trout Derby for Kids



At left: Tom Smith showing some future fly tiers how it's done.



At right: Emil Smith working on a fly at the Trout Derby for Kids event at Lake Skinner.



Can We Save Our Dwindling Salmon Population?

A NEW ROLE FOR SALMON--BUT

it's always been:

We've all heard of man's inhumanity to the Pacific and Atlantic salmon. I'll confine my remarks to the Pacific variety but no doubt my statements would pertain to the Atlantic sort as well. Billions of dollars have been spent in an attempt to increase the salmon population which has been greatly reduced in numbers by overfishing and destruction of spawning environment in addition to blocking access to streams by impassable dams, many of which were once crowded with fish; now they contain very few, if any. It's a very sad story and of great discredit to mankind.

But man's actions appear to be boomer-anging and his great reduction in salmon numbers causing him other than food problems. According to a recent study on Oregon salmon, the few returning to spawn in their natal streams (about 2% to 3% of the original spawning masses) is not large enough a population to maintain the original role of stream fertilizers. One salmon biologist stated, "We have essentially starved our freshwater systems. The over 3 to 5 million pounds of salmon that periodically migrated from ocean to spawning areas voided a lot of fecal and other body wastes into the water, either to disintegrate into chemicals as it slowly sank or to accumulate on shallow stream bottoms prior to dissolving. Added to that were the many, many tons of decomposing carcasses following a spawn. All this added a very large supply of nutrients, enriching the stream bed, plants, and plankton species. We don't give much thought, if any, to the vast mass of fecal



BOB WISNER

waste and the decomposition of many billions of dead aquatic insects and larvae on nonsalmon streams and lakes; these offer an abundance of fertilizer. As we know, an infertile stream or lake also has poor fishing, poor reproduction, hatching and survival of young."

Back to salmon- man's reduction of numbers of salmon left too few individuals to defecate in streams, which in turn greatly reduced the number of post-spawning decomposing carcasses, and reduced nutrients returned to a stream. A study by Oregon biologists used ultra modern techniques to identify individual isotopes of chemicals such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and carbon, and track them to their source-which was the ocean. These marine findings (carbon and nitrogen) have been amassed in decomposing leaves and forest litter from trees growing along river corridors (salmon streams). The only way for it to get there was through migrations of salmon from the ocean.

Studies on the Snoqualmie River Washington, showed that as much as 40% of the nitrogen in the bodies of young coho salmon, and 60% of the nitrogen in young steelhead came from marine sources. When salmon carcasses were dumped in streams running into Willapa Bay, Oregon, higher densities of young fish gathered around the carcasses; they were feeding on the carcasses and on loose, drifting eggs laid in the rivers. This extra food meant a juvenile fish grew bigger before migrating to sea. It is well known that bigger fish survive better to grow and return to complete the life cycle -incidentally with increased spawn. Increase this with each spawning cycle and a population should bloom.

All this is an extremely interesting finding and a nice piece of research. It will most certainly benefit those streams up which spawners can still find the beds - of course streams with impassable dams will not be benefited; these usually are large dams, difficult to breach, if ever. Those streams may never again contribute a large number of young, unless adequate and very expensive fish ladders are installed. Hatchery raised young have failed to increase a viable population, or spawning runs.

But it may be of benefit to those few open streams and, hopefully, may aid in re-establishing races that now have so few individuals remaining that hundreds of successful spawns may be required to build an identifiable race or population. But, any little bit could be of great aid in increasing salmon stocks.

FLY CASTING AT LAKE MURRAY

Gentlemen and women--start your flyrods. It's trout season in the sierras. Or how about some local trout/bass fishing. Want to learn to flycast or just improve your skills? Join the San Diego Fly Fishers every Sunday morning from 9 AM until noon.

(See map on back page for location).





JACK BENTLEY

**Any Questions?
Call Jack Bentley at**

New Mexico on the Agenda for the Fall

San Juan River Trip October 8-13

This is a great trip, beautiful scenery, low water, easy wading, and everyone catches fish. **\$IGN UP EARLY.** An early commitment will lower your cost (Paul Mitchell and Lynn Atnip are helping with the planning). Call Jack Bentley for details at

Enclosed are some brief updates on projects that California Trout has been working on as well as an action alert for your membership... Thank you for your support of California Trout. We will continue to work to fulfill our mission to protect and restore wild trout and native steelhead and their waters in California so that we'll all have many years of fly fishing to enjoy in the future.

Melissa Miller

Marketing Communications Director
California Trout.

AND THE WINNER IS...?

Congratulations to all club members who have paid their current dues. You will continue to receive *FINNY FACTS*, wear an official name tag and patch, and best of all, be eligible for the monthly club drawing for cash\$\$\$\$. Name tags have been resorted. Those who have not renewed will find their name tags removed from the wooden cases. If you cannot locate your name tags, please visit the membership table at our next meeting.

Renew soon, be a Winner and support your club!

Single membership \$30.00 or Family membership (including spouse) \$40.00

Annual Raffle Ticket Bonus

Courtesy of THE FLY SHOP, a Sculatti Innovative Fishing Systems indicator kit will be given with each book of five tickets purchased. Hurry, this offer is limited to the first 150 books purchased! (Indicator kits will be distributed only at the monthly meetings).

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA TROUT

870 Market Street, Suite 1185
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415)392-8887

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VICTORIES

Santa Paula Creek (Southern California)

California Trout along with member and landowner, John Smith and attorney, John Slezak, successfully pressured the City of Santa Paula into working with the Department of Fish & Game and National Marine Fisheries Services to expedite the provision of fish passage over one of their dams. Work has begun on the fish ladder over the Harvey Dam at Santa Paula Creek (a tributary of the Santa Clara River) to provide passage for endangered Southern California steelhead. CalTrout will continue to monitor the situation to make sure that work is completed in a timely fashion and that the ladder serves its purpose.

Southern California Steelhead Recovery Coalition

Jim Edmondson, California Trout's Conservation Director, has been hard at work putting together a coalition of like-minded organizations to step up the work to save the endangered Southern California steelhead. In February, the thirty-three organizations that will be the charter groups came together to adopt bylaws and elect officers. Edmondson was appointed chairman. These groups represent over 200,000 Californians and 1 million U.S. citizens who have joined forces to save the steelhead and its habitat.

Southern California Action Item

For years Saint Louis-based Anheuser Busch has been grazing 900 head of cattle in the Inyo National Forest. The meadows that they use are also home to some of the



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It's Going Off at the Pleasant Valley Reservoir

Howdy friends and Sierra Drifters.

I sincerely wish you all good health and plenty of vacation days left to enjoy what promises to be a great season on the trout waters of the Eastern Sierra.

Lower Owens Drift Boat section:

When the wind is not blowing a gale, things have been pretty good. We are still encountering 3-5 lb. fish on many floats, numbers are down a bit as mid-days are very slow. This happens during longer sunny days folks. We are starting earlier to get the best of the a.m. bite before the shadows disappear.

Streamer patterns are still doing it for us, there is however, some increasing surface action, primarily with the blue winged olive mayfly hatch late a.m. No major pattern feeding, and the fish hit the streamers anyway if presented properly.

You may view these fatties by checking out our website at, <http://sierradrifters.com>, then clicking on to fish report.

Lower Owens, wild trout section:

Pretty dang good fishin'. The blue winged olive hatch mid-day is giving some bending of the rods to those who ply the surface. Nymphing with caddis and midge imitations would be my choice for fishing in this area. Use a two fly rig, maybe a yellow or golden stone fly nymph as an attractor, these guys are showing up also. Drop a caddis or midge larva off the stone and when weighted properly, good things will occur. The water levels are on the rise folks, so use caution when wading.

Pleasant Valley Reservoir:

SIERRA DRIFTERS



TOM LOE

Great balls-o-fire, this is the place! The D.F.G. has put multitudes of small Eagle lake trout this last year, and these guys are hungry and showing up in force.

If you have a bunch of flies that you look at but do not ever use, you know, the ones that have rusted hook stains on the foam or cork in your fly box. Break em out for this place. Use a dry as an indicator, hang a bead head off it about 2', and presto! Instant trout. The browns are still aggressive also, you will find some in the 16" range mixed in with the small rainbows. Surface activity is great also with small may fly patterns, or dark caddis in #16-20.

The trick here is to understand where the fish are depending on the status of the Power house, (hydro electric plant). If they are making power, the flows will be up. Go jump in your tube and drag streamers near the inlet. Olive and black patterns in sizes #6-12 will be fine. If the turbine is off and the river is low leading into the Reservoir, you will rip lips by using the aforementioned technique, (dry and dropper). It can be crowded here, so start early.

The Gorge:

Still excellent action for those who wish to hike. It is getting warm down in the canyon so bring plenty of water, and dress accordingly. The willows are starting to get green, this will further complicate matters by making the foliage denser. You must seek out holes in the brush and avoid spooking the fish. They are very eager if not alarmed. Fish upstream, use a dry and a dropper for best results.

Good place to go if you are hiding from the I.R.S., or irate mother in laws...etc.

Guide tips:

On a more serious note. Many times anglers with good intentions release fish improperly, and this I witness frequently. Please, please, keep the fish in the water as much as possible when practicing C and R. There is a great tool out called a Ketchum Release, Orvis product, sold at better shops, get one. These babies work very well when removing small flies. Avoid netting, or handling the fish if at all possible. Make sure those barbs are filed or smashed totally. This really insures a smooth release. You can get them out of your ear, appendages, hat, etc., faster and with far less associated pain as a bonus.

It is understandable when you finally fool Troutzilla, you want a photo. Please take time to revive the fish fully and release it in soft water so it may regain strength. This may take several minutes on larger fish. Hold the fish upright and lightly near the tail section, work it back and forth slowly, head into the current if present, until it kicks away. Avoid holding the fish near the mid-section, or head/gill plate area. Internal damage will kill the fish later. Keep your hands moist, and at all costs do not scrape the protective slime off the fish, this prevents fungus and infections of the fishes skin.

When releasing from a tube or boat, and it becomes necessary to net a fish, please use soft material, nylon or rubber net bags really help. Keep the fish submerged when removing the hook.

Throwing a fish back does not mean a contest to see if you can make the Olympic shot put team. Fish undergo severe trauma when caught, give them the chance to regain power and stability when put back.

Love them, then leave them...

Be the fly...

Tom Loe, Sierra Drifters Guide Service 🍷



FLY OF THE MONTH

Foam Cicada

Hook:	2 or 3XL Dry Fly Hook, size 6-10
Thread:	6/0 Black
Body:	Thin Black Foam Strips
Abdomen:	Orange Dubbing
Underwing:	Rainbow Crystal Flash
Wing:	Bleached Elk Hair
Head:	Thin Black Foam Strip
Thorax:	Black Dubbing
Legs:	Black Rubber



1. Start the thread 1/3 of the shank length back from the eye of the hook
2. Tie in foam body.
3. Dub abdomen back to bend of hook.
4. Tie off foam body.
5. Bring thread forward one third of abdomen and take a wrap around the foam body. Do the same at the two third point. Then bring the thread back to the start point.
6. Tie in underwing and wing.
7. Wrap thread forward to about one eyes length back from the eye and tie in head foam so it hangs out over the eye.
8. Dub thorax back to the start point.
9. Pull head foam back over the thorax and tie off and trim.
10. Tie in a pair of rubber legs on each side.

This fly is very effective on the Green in May. When you cast it, don't be afraid to let it spank the water and then dead drift it.

Gary Hilbers



President's Message

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by a traditionally male dominated sport, the *Irresistables* provide a unique opportunity for women to learn and fish together.

Is the SDFF serving its mission statement and the members of the club? Yes. However, above all, this is a fly fishing club. We are not Orvis, we are not the Sierra Club, we are not CalTrout, or any other organization. As Geoffrey Norman said, "Fishing keeps us—part of us anyway—boys [and girls] forever"...let's not screw it up by getting too serious about what we can and are willing to take on. We cannot be all things to all people, and we do not try to be.

What the club means to you is what you make of it...be it a place to socialize with your fishing friends and buddies each month, an opportunity to learn from the monthly programs, an opportunity to organize a fishing trip, an opportunity to learn fly tying or rod building, an opportunity to learn how to fly cast, an opportunity to contribute to conservation, or a chance to win a prize.

However, each year we offer the opportunity for members to get personally involved in the club, and hopefully improve it. If you would like to be a Board or committee member, please advise me or a current Board member. This is the best way to have your voice heard. Also, if you have an idea for an activity that you would like to head up, please let us know.

This month marks the beginning of ticket sales for the **Annual Raffle**. This is *the* big fund raiser for the year, and it is always a lot of fun! The Annual Raffle is scheduled for **June 5**, and takes the place of the regular monthly meeting. We estimate there will be on the order of 25 to 50 prizes this year, ranging from top quality rods to every sort of fly fishing paraphernalia you can imagine. As we did last year, we will also have a silent auction for those unique prizes that not everyone can take advantage of.

In conjunction with the raffle, we are also requesting the members to contribute to this cause. While we always solicit donations from the retail world, market pressures have caused this source of raffle prizes to substantially dry up. Therefore, we look to you, the members and friends of SDFF, to please contribute what you can to this conservation cause. It can be in the form of cash (virtually all the significant equipment prizes must be purchased by the club), dinners, stays at resorts, equipment that is in good shape, art, clothing, new cars...whatever. Please let us know of your contribution by the end of April.

There is a special notice of the rules on page 1 of the *FINNY FACTS*. Tickets are on sale now, and can be purchased at the monthly meetings, from Strouds Tackle and the San Diego Fly Shop, and from Patrick Case. Buy lots of tickets—which are five for \$15—support the clubs conservation activities, and have a great time at the June meeting this year!

Tight lines! 🦈

MAY CALENDAR

PROGRAM MEETING-1st-Monday, 7:30 PM, Denny Rickards.

GREEN RIVER TRIP-7th-12th-Sunday thru Friday, itinerary already set. Check with Jack Bentley if you need the information.

FISHING ON GLORIETA BAY-13th-Saturday, 7:00 AM, Check with trip leader Todd Shetter at for details.

CUTOFF DATE FOR FINNY FACTS ARTICLES-12th-Friday, Send articles to: Rose and Roger Yamasaki, 5415 Lodi Place, San Diego, CA 92117, You can E-mail at

Thanks!!

BOARD MEETING- Held the last Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the offices of ENARTEC, Inc. Call Pat Case to make sure meeting hasn't been postponed. All are welcome.

**FISHING SEASON IN THE SIERRAS HAS BEGUN.
LET'S GET OUT AND DO SOME FISHING!!**



**San Diego Fly Fishers
Week-end Trips
2000**

Trip Description	Length of Trip	Date of time of Year	Trip Leader
Bay fishing , Glorieta Bay	One Day, Saturday	May 13 th 7:00 A.M.	Todd Shetter
San Diego Lake fishing-Bass Lower Otay at the Concession Stand	One Day, Saturday	June 10 th 6:30 A.M.	Ed Velton
Surf fishing in San Diego Location to be announced	One Day, Saturday	June 18 th 6:00 A.M.	C.T. Reinert
Eastern Sierra	Weekend	September 22 nd to 24 th	G. Gates

If you are interested, call either George Gates or the Trip Leader.

Equipment requirements:

Bass Fishing

- Float Tube
- 6 wt. Rod with both a sink line and a floating line if possible
- Tippet material in the 8 to 10 lb. range, plus some 20 lb. for a butt section
- Fly's, woolly buggers in any color you like, but definitely some green, black and brown.
- Poppers for service fishing.
- Fly's should have weed guards if possible.

Surf Fishing

- 6 or 8 wt. Rod with sink tip line
- 6 to 10 lb. leader, non tapered, six feet in length
- Fly's include: surf perch size 6 & 8 and deceiver patterns 1/0 to 2/0



Warm Water Bucket

If Matching the Hatch Isn't Working Try Spinner Baits

Most bass fishermen will list spinner baits along with plastics (worms and grubs) as their most often used artificials. Spinner baits have some great advantages.

First of all they are weed resistant. The hook point rides up and the leading wire structure of the lure plus the line serve as weed guards. That's very important to the bass fisherman since his spinner bait might cost \$3.00 to better than \$5.00. The bass fisherman puts a chunk of hula skirt around the hook shank (which rides on the bottom of the assembly with the hook point up) and a couple of spinners on the upper wire structure (which spin when the lure is pulled through the water) and he's off and running with a very productive lure. Look in any lure catalog and you'll see many versions of spinner baits.

Fly fisher people can use spinner baits too. First of all you have to stay light. You can't cast a heavy lure and if you are fishing for bass you must cast often and reasonably accurate. Your spinner bait shouldn't weigh much more than your wooly bugger.

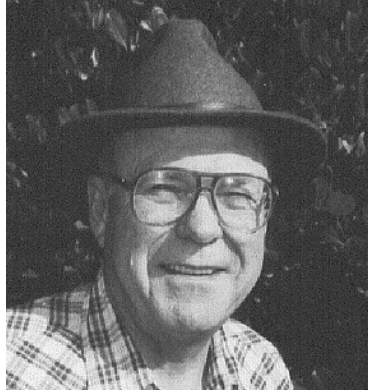
Start by selecting a hook with moderate heat treatment that allows you to bend it. Bend the eye of the hook in the direction of the point of the hook, like so:



If you now tie the hook to your line and

pull it through the water the point will tend to ride up because, in bending the eye toward the hook point, you place the center of gravity of the hook mass below

the eye. Moreover the line will act as a weed guard. Of course, it isn't very attractive in its present state so you've got to add a spinner to it. Do so by tying a small (00) spinner to a #12 or #14 swivel on the side of the hook shank that is opposite to the point of the hook; as show below:



ED VELTON

The easiest way to attach



the swivel is by using some strong thread and either super glue or fabric paint.

But before you start adding either paint or glue, put on a weed guard, to further enhance weed resistance. You can best do this by tying on a soft chunk of foam on the front end of the hook and trimming it so it doesn't interfere with hook up while providing additional weed resistance.

By the way, in addition the foam exacerbates the point up action.

Now you are ready to add fabric paint and, as you can see, you badly need some to cover up all the construction thread and hardware. It takes a number of coats.

First add your basic color, covering up all



the thread (for protection as well as looks). Then, 12 hours or more later, do a little touch up plus add the eye ball. After another 12 hours, you add the pupil and the eye sparkle. You are almost there now but hold on for another 12 hours and add a couple of coats of clear nail polish. There you are. You've got a hardy, light, fly weight, spinner bait that catches fish (sometimes) and is very very weed resistant.

How does our fly weight version compare



to the bait casting spinner. It's lighter; it weights little more than a wooly bugger. It's weed resistant too because the turned up eye, foam weed guard, and underslung spinner ensure the hook point riding up. Moreover, the foam weed guard and line act as weed deflectors. And, best of all, it costs about 25 to 50 cents.

It does take a number of days to complete the lure; about 4 if you let everything dry between workings. But the minutes of actual work are few; about 20 minutes.

The size 00 spinner works best with size 12 to 8 hooks. You need at least a 6 weight road and weight forward line; 8 weight is better. You can use anything from a floating to full sink line. Cast it right into the weeds. Most of the time you'll get it back; sometimes with a fish on it!



remaining habitat of California's state fish, the Volcano Creek golden trout. The cattle cause tremendous damage to the streams by trampling banks, dirtying the water and mowing down all the riparian vegetation. The yearly "rest" periods when the cattle are removed are simply not enough to allow the streams to recover. We are asking all concerned anglers to write Anheuser-Busch and ask them to remove their cows from the meadows for the next 10 years. Please write to: August A. Busch III, Chairman of the Board and President, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., One Busch Place, Saint Louis, MO 63119-1852. If you'd like a sample letter and more information, go to CalTrout's Web site at: www.caltrout.org.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA VICTORIES

First Conservation Plan Victory (Northern California)

We are pleased and excited to introduce CalTrout's- first new conservation staffer in over eight years. As part of our Conservation Plan, we proposed a new position in the "Golden Triangle" region of California that includes the Fall River, McCloud River, Pit River, Hat Creek and the Upper Sacramento River. Curtis Knight comes to CalTrout from The Nature Conservancy where he worked on their Sacramento River project and McCloud River Preserve. He has a Master of Science in Fisheries Science from Utah State University and a BA in Environmental Planning from California State University, Sacramento. Check out Curtis' new Web pages on his work in the Northeastern Area at www.caltrout.org.

Cutthroat Regulation Victory (Northern California)

CalTrout Northcoast Manager, Tom Weseloh, working with CalTrout Board member Nick DiCrocce and Conservation Director, Jim Edmondson, created fourteen recommendations for the pro-

posed changes to the Department of Fish & Game sportsfishing regulations. These recommendations were designed to increase fishing opportunities for anglers while protecting wild trout. One of the biggest successes was our ability to keep fishing for Cutthroat trout open from May to October on tributaries from Humboldt Bay to Oregon by calling for artificial lures only, barbless hooks and 0 limit. The original proposal had called for a total closure to fishing in these waters.

Check Dams in the Emigrant Wilderness (North Eastern Sierra Nevada)

Is there such a thing as a good dam? Yes, when that dam is a small, low check dam created over 50 years ago to provide a cool refuge for trout during hot summer months in a remote wilderness area. The Deputy Regional Forester for the Emigrant Wilderness, Robert A. Moltzen, has reversed the Forest Supervisor's decision on a series of small check dams that have been in place on Cherry Creek since before the area was declared a National Wilderness in 1960. The reversal means that there is a good chance that the dams will be maintained, and continue to provide badly needed trout habitat. We will need to follow up with the Department of Fish & Game and the Forest Service as they make a case-by-case evaluation of the dams. CalTrout Associate Governor, Jerry Yesavage, has played a key role in saving these dams.

Northern California Action Item

We are down to the final months in the decision to restore water to the Trinity River. This once thriving steelhead and salmon fishery has declined over 90% in the past thirty years because over 75% of the water had been diverted by dams from the river to corporate farms in the Central Valley. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt will soon be making the decision to return flows to the Trinity River. CalTrout and other environmental groups are calling for

the Maximum Flow Alternative which will return the river's water to over 80% of pre-dam flows. Write Babbitt today to tell him to return water to the Trinity! Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240. For more information, go to CalTrout's Web site: www.caltrout.org or to Friends of the Trinity River: www.fotr.org.

STATEWIDE VICTORY

Suction Dredge Mining

The California State Legislature this past summer adopted budget control language, approved by the Governor in the 1999 Budget Act, prohibiting the Department of Fish & Game from issuing special permits for suction dredge mining on or after January 1, 2000 until it has adopted regulations that will insure such operations are not harmful to fish and fish habitat. 🐟

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We Still Need an Ad Man or Ad Woman

The San Diego Fly Fishers is looking for a member to step up and take the chair of the Advertising Committee Chairperson. This person would be responsible for generating revenue for the Club through advertising in the *FINNY FACTS*. It's actually a really easy job as the advertising rates were previously determined and approved by the Board a number of years ago. They might need to be adjusted, but that should be easy to do.

If you are interested in doing your part to help the Club in an easy way, contact our Club President Pat Case.

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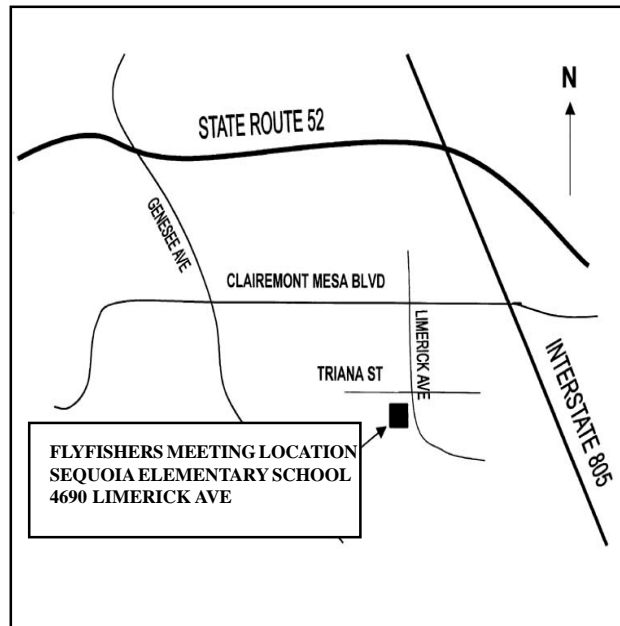
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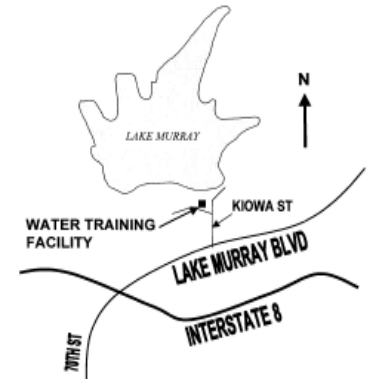
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