



## President's Letter

**A**nother year passed swiftly. My last letter for 2001 and time to thank the many SDDF members who made this year a great one.

We had a record setting Annual Raffle with ticket sales in excess of \$9,000.00. After expenses we had about \$6,500.00 to distribute to a number of worthy conservation causes. **Kevin Sophy, Warren Lew, Pat Case, Jim Reeg, Gordie Zimm and Sherry Brainerd** helped out in various ways. Also a tip of the hat to returning Master of Ceremonies **Bill Stroud** and that tireless hawker of tickets **Eileen Stroud**. The Stroud's not only were extremely generous in their donations to the Annual Raffle (and the monthly affairs as well) but they also allowed the club to use their shop as the mailing address for all our prizes.

While we're on the raffle front I can't say enough about **Larry Sorenson**. The good Captain has put on a superb year of monthly raffles. At our November meeting we raffled off three rods and a number of other terrific gifts. Larry says he has a lot of fun, shopping for thousand of dollars worth of fly-fishing, but don't forget that this is hard work.

And where would we be without the yeomen work of **Tom Lucas** and **C.T. "Ted" Reinert**? They sell the raffle tickets...every month, without fail.

Thanks also to that quartet behind-the-scenes stalwarts, **Mona & Sam Morebello, Vernon Westcott and Buck Parker**. Sam and Mona coordinated the setting up and breaking down of our meeting spot. Vern brews up a mean pot of joe each month. Buck is our new Captain Video, maintaining our extensive video, CD and DVD library.

**Sherry Brainerd** revived our

continued on page 2

## Volunteers and Docents Needed

**T**he Chula Vista Nature Center is looking for volunteers and docents. The Center's volunteers help in the bookstore, care for the animals in the aquaria and petting pool, and in the raptor and shorebird exhibits. The docents help with visiting school groups and weekend nature adventures. Docent training begins Wednesday, January 9, 2002.

For more information call Barbara Moore at

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CLUB BIOLOGIST

*It has long been known that time and tide wait for no man, including Bob Wisner. So I'll have to pass on my contribution for December FINNY FACTS due to various pressures. I'll try to make it up with the January issue.*

*But, I have time to wish you all a HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a VERY MERRY NEW YEAR.*

--Bob Wisner

## Christmas Banquet Slated for December 3rd Meeting



**T**he December SDDF meeting will take place at the Al Bahr Temple. This year the event will be catered by Pat & Oscar's (formerly Oscar's Restaurant). Like last year you may bring your own adult beverages if you wish (see page 3 for map).

Greet the 2002 president of the SDDF (he's the same guy as the 2001 president).

The final meeting of the year is always a fulfilled event. Hope to see all of you there.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: DECEMBER 2001

### President's Message continued from page 1

conservation efforts, bringing her expertise to the conservation chair. Her knowledge and experience helped the board craft a series of donations to worthy conservation organizations including a **\$3,000.00** donation to California Trout, **\$1,000.00** to the Chula Vista Nature Center, and two other gifts we plan to award in early 2002.

**Jack Bentley** continues on as Mr. Travel, tirelessly organizing trips for club members.

Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico...the man does get around. **George Gates** coordinates the excursions a little bit closer to home.

Our two Vise Officers, **Tom Smith** and **Gary Hilbers** have gone through more fur and feathers than they probably care to remember. You'll find them haunting the Fly-Tying congress each week, both in formal classes and informal get-togethers. Tom also published a fly tying book of the Fly of the Month.

Books were on the brain this year, with **Ed Velton** writing and releasing the much awaited club history. Filled with photos and reminiscences of years gone by, this is a wonderful retrospective of our club and some of the more interesting characters...I mean members.

**Rose & Roger Yamasaki**...the peerless editors of this particular fish wrapper.

**Ned Sewell, John Kasten** and their merry men/women provide an invaluable service to our club. Their casting clinic, offered to all comers, has always been a wonderful source of new members for us.

**Helen Grundler** takes care of those new members as the Membership Chair. She is also responsible for maintaining our extensive database.

**Dave Collins**, the Web Master. Our Website is informative, up-to-date and

it looks way cool.

**Nancy Fletcher**, our esteemed Secretary, has enlisted the assistance of husband **Jack** to become the club haberdashers, shamelessly hawking our logo items at each meeting.

**Jim Reeg** was responsible for an interesting line-up of guest speakers. As Program Chair, Jim brought us the likes of **Richard Louv, Harry Smith, Jan Kurahara** and **Eric Schubert**. Our speakers covered waters from Hot Creek and Lake Crowley to remote Alaskan rivers and Idaho.

We also owe thanks to the other board members

whom I haven't mentioned yet. These include **Mike Kaul, Art Reifman**, and **Carrie Christianson**.

**Bob Miller** for his work selecting the Club's donation of **\$500.00** worth of books to the San Diego County Library System.

**Tom Smith** (again) and **Bill Stroud** (again)...rod building mavens.

**Carl Stanzione** for his generous donation of a bamboo fly rod for our Annual Raffle. And, of course, thanks to the many members who donated gifts and gift certificates to the raffle, making it the success that it was.

If I missed someone I should have thanked, forgive me. But those I have mentioned in this letter deserve your sincere thanks and gratitude. They have volunteered a most precious commodity, their own time, to our club.

Thanks, ye brothers and sisters of the angle.

*Our December meeting will be held at the Al Bahr Temple at 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. Instead of our "pot-luck" format we decided to leave the pots at home and bring in the professionals. Pat & Oscar's will cater our feast. A nominal \$5.00 charge will be collected at the door.*

You may bring adult beverages for your personal consumption. Please, no rugby or college fight songs. We will also

raffle off a Postal Commemorative fishing print.

**Bill Stroud will award the gift certificates for the largest fresh water and salt-water fish. Additionally, he will present a gift certificate to the winner of the fly tying "competition." And some lucky club member will walk out of Al Bahr with a fez full of flies.**

Please e-mail your RSVP to our Website, [www.sandiegoflyfishers.com](http://www.sandiegoflyfishers.com), so that we can get a reasonable headcount. For those of you not connected to the World Wide Web ask a more technology-advanced member of the club to send an e-mail for you.

*A word about next year's President...me.* That's the word. I do enjoy being President of our august body, especially with the able assistance of our officers and board members, though I didn't anticipate becoming the "Papa Doc" Duvalier of SDFF. (For those who did not major in history, the aforementioned Papa Doc was the President-for-Life in Haiti. A Dennis Miller moment, sorry. For those of you who don't know Dennis Miller, you need to get out more.) The board has addressed this issue and has now identified the presidents for 2003 and 2004, maybe even 2005.

**We do, however, need some fresh faces. Just don't think about getting involved, get involved. Volunteer, take on a project, and assist one of the committee chairs, give of your time.**

*Finally, a long overdue thanks to City Lakes Manager **Jim Brown**.* For years we have been allowed nearly *carte blanche* use of Lake Murray Water Training Facility. Board meetings, the weekly fly tying congress, rod building classes, and even an occasional general membership meeting.

Because of the recent acts of terrorism and the concern over protecting our water supply, we are now unable to use that wonderful facility. We understand completely and we look forward to the day when we can return.

Jim, thank you for your generosity over the years. 🍷



JIM TENUTO



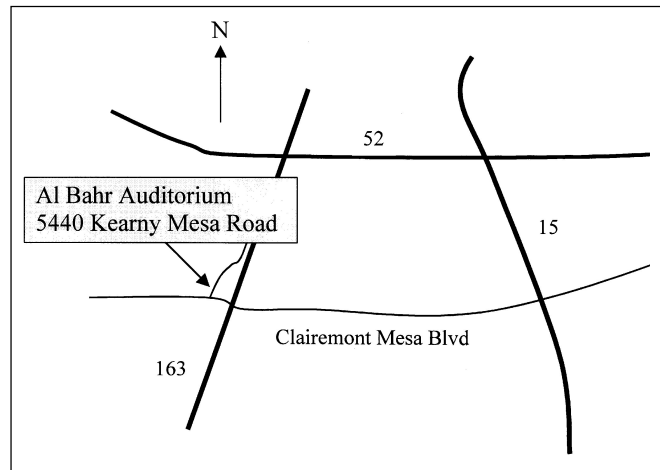


# December 3rd

\$500/ & ' 6:00 6:30 ( )



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## **SDFF MEMBERS OF THE MONTH**

Helen and Mike Grundler have been SDFF members for over seven years. Helen is in her second year as the Club's Membership Chairperson, and you'll usually see her at the front table helping with questions from visitors and taking your membership checks.

How did they get interested in fly fishing? Mike tried fly fishing over thirty years ago when they were doing a lot of backpacking in the eastern Sierra. Helen decided it was downright dangerous being near him when he was fly casting and always skunked him with her spinning rod anyway. Time went by, and they went to a Fred Hall fishing show. Helen happened to see Gretchen Yearous at the casting pond giving a casting demonstration, and saw her nice tight loops! She was intrigued, and decided to come to one of our meetings and find out more about the sport.

One Club member that had an impact on the Grundlers joining our club and enjoying fly fishing, is Carrie Christensen. At their first meeting, Carrie introduced herself and gave them such a warm welcome, that they wanted to regularly attend our meetings. So... why didn't I receive a warm welcome from Carrie, Gretchen, or Kim?

Helen grew up in San Diego, where her father was a commercial tuna fisherman. As she was growing up in Normal Heights, she enjoyed fishing with her younger brother at the sand pit pools in Mission Valley for bass and bluegill. Helen attended Rosary High School, and graduated from the University of Redlands

with a B.S. in Business. She was a marketing manager for Pacific Bell before retiring.

Mike, also, is a native San Diegan, whose parents owned a bakery on Adams Avenue. He attended Hoover High School and later received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and an M.B.A. in Marketing from San Diego State. Before retiring, he was a sales engineer in metal cutting tools and machinery.

This couple has been married for 41 happy years.

They have a son, Mark, who lives in Carlsbad with his wife Lori and two grandchildren. During the early years, they spent a lot of time fishing the Colorado River just above Yuma. Mike's dad, Bob, kept a trailer there at Imperial Camp and later Martinez Lake. Bob was actually crazy about fishing, and found a good fishing buddy in Helen.

Helen and Mike have had a long love of the outdoors. They are certified in SCUBA, have ridden motorcycles to explore Monache Meadows in the eastern Sierra searching for golden trout, and fished all over California. Their fishing trips have taken them to fish for salmon in the mouth of the Klamath River, and for salmon and halibut in Alaska. Their best fly fishing experience, however, was at Mike's cousin's private water near Julian. The occasion was a family picnic and overnight campout and they just happened to have their rods with them. In the evening they must have caught and released ten nice sized bass in about an hour...and repeated it the following morning. I believe I would enjoy fishing

like that! Mike says that casting from the pond's earthen dam is very forgiving of a lousy back cast.

In addition to fly fishing, this couple loves to hike. Last year, they hiked in Switzerland for two weeks in the mountains south of Interlaken. This is the area of the Jungfrau, the highest mountain in Europe. This year, they explored the Galapagos Islands, and other parts of Ecuador and Peru including Machu Picchu.

In between all of their activities, you may find Mike and Helen at the San Diego Maritime Museum where they are Docents. Or, when Mike is busy in his garage machine shop, Helen is active in the San Diego County Cymbidium Society. No... she's not waiting to be taken by aliens to a better place, she raises orchids!

--WARREN LEW 🌿



**HELEN AND MIKE**

## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL**

## **SEE YOU IN 2002**

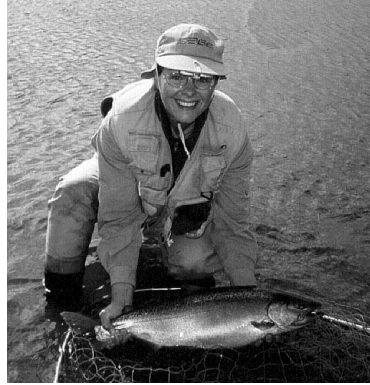




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## FROM THE CONSERVATION CHAIR

Thanks to the generous financial and hands-on support of the San Diego Fly Fishers membership, 2001 has been a great year for conservation. For those of you that may have missed a few meetings or Finny Facts articles, I thought it would be helpful to summarize the conservation and education activities the membership engaged in this past year.



**SHERRY BRAINERD**

The restoration of steelhead in San Mateo Creek has become a focus of many folks interested in local conservation. Several club members have put on their hiking boots and visited the stream with Allen Greenwood of San Diego Trout. For those of you that don't know, Allen is the person who has been leading the charge to restore the stream. From Allen and others, we've learned about the biology and the challenges involved in restoration.

From on-the-ground site visits, many of us have progressed to the scientific research lab. Several folks attended an "introduction to fish rearing" gathering at Hubbs Sea World Research Institute. Once the permit process is complete, we will become the surrogate parents for a bunch of baby steelhead and chub. When they are old enough, these fish will be planted back into San Mateo Creek. They then will form a new generation of breeding native fish.

Before the fish can go home, though, the stream needs to be made a bit more hospitable. Nonnative plants and animals introduced over the years will need to be removed. People have badly degraded the

steelhead fishery during the past century, and now people will be trying to undo some of those mistakes. So far, there have been two weekend clean-up projects open to club members, and in the future there will be more.

In addition to these hands-on activities, the San Diego Fly Fishers board also put your money to use. After researching the groups involved in the San Mateo Creek project, we determined that California Trout was doing an excellent job both on San Mateo Creek and on steelhead restoration throughout Southern California. Their conservation director, Jim Edmondson, has been the chair of the Southern California Steelhead Coalition—the working group of everyone involved in the issue. So, we had Jim come and give a program to the club on CalTrout's activities. We then presented him with a \$3,000 contribution to CalTrout to be used for Southern California issues and activities.

We have made some major progress toward getting steelhead back into a local stream. But, what about the rest of the conservation issues? This year, a lot of folks have been concerned about the future of our sport. Groups such as PETA have been spending a lot of time and money trying to convince kids that fishing is bad. The video game industry is providing children with total indoor virtual entertainment. If those groups succeed, it is quite possible that the next generation will not be interested in a wonderful sport, and they won't be trying to protect and restore the forests and watersheds crucial to healthy streams. In order to make sure that

we have clean water for generations to come, we need to teach the importance of a healthy environment.

In order to make a contribution to local conservation education, the board decided on a two-pronged approach. First, we will be donating club fly fishing equipment and a cash payment of \$250 to Hugh Marx's children's fishing education program at Lake Cuyamaca. Hugh is a fly fisher, and he does an excellent job teaching kids the basics of fishing. During the first quarter of next year, Hugh will be making a presentation to the club.

Second, on a more global scale, we decided to support one of the most important local nonprofits in the conservation education arena. As many of you know, the San Diego Fly Fishers' steelhead educational exhibit is at the Chula Vista Nature Center. What you may not know is that the Center teaches thousands of kids and their teachers about local ecosystems and conservation. We had **Error! Bookmark not defined.**, the Center's program director, come and speak to the club about the Center's activities. We then made a \$1,000 contribution to help fund their new trout education program. Those thousands of kids and educators will now be taught about such things as local watersheds, the existence and needs of trout and steelhead within those watersheds, human impacts on streams, and the historical significance of fish to local native cultures. Great stuff to launch future conservationists and fly fishers!

Thanks to all of you, 2001 really was a great year for conservation activities. Even better, we've still got some money in the bank to start off 2002. So, if you are interested in helping out with conservation, see me at the January meeting, or whenever the urge to volunteer strikes you! ➡





**JACK BENTLEY**  
**Any Questions?**  
**Call Jack Bentley at**

**It's Time to Plan for the Green River**  
**May 13-18, 2002**

Sign up now for the annual trip to the Green River, Utah. This is one of our favorite trips with beautiful scenery, clean water, and lots of dry fly fishing. This is one trip you won't want to miss.

For those of you who may want to drive instead of fly, contact Jack well in advance to discuss this option.

**Lees Ferry** trip is slated for April 1-5, 2002. Make your plans NOW!

Jack Bentley--

**Here is a BOOK REPORT on one of the books donated by the Club to the county library system.**

**BOOK REPORT**

Soon to be in the San Diego Library for check out:

**THE FLY TIER'S BENCHSIDE REFERENCE, TO TECHNIQUES AND DRESSING STYLES**

Ted Lesson and Jim Scholl Meyer

A book that provides you with all the methods you need for tying effective, attractive flies. No more flipping from book to magazine and back again - all the information you need is in one place

Through the focus is specifically on trout flies, many of the methods discussed can be used or adapted to dress patterns for other species. This encyclopedia of fly tying includes selecting materials, thread handling, hooks, mounting and trimming materials, weed guards, tails, ribbing, gills, bodies, underbodies, wings, legs, heads, eyes, and more. Materials covered include beads, foam, plastic, tinsels feathers and furs, you name it. With over 3000 full-color photographs and over 400 tying methods discussed, your entire fly tying questions will be answered. 444 pages

Bob Miller

**TROUT MAGIC**

Robert Traver

TROUT MAGIC is a warm, joyous, and maverick look at trout fishing and its attendant tall tales, strange happenings, and all-around fishing lore. Traver recounts the story of mysterious "dancing fly", speaks candidly about "kiss and tell" fishermen, debunks flyfishermen as the "world's greatest snobs" lets us in on the story Life missed, and takes us along on his strangest fishing trip. 216 pages

Robert Traver is the author of Anatomy of a Murder plus other flyfishing books.



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## **“How To”...SDFB Meeting Set-up and Breakdown**

### **SET UP**

- Arrive by 6:15 PM
- Unlock SDFB cabinet (located on stage left) combination lock #1-2-3-4
- Carry locker contents and blue plastic bin (on floor next to cabinet) to back of auditorium
- Vernon Wescott is usually there by 6:00 PM to set up condiment table and start coffee
- Set up tables next to back windows for name tag boxes
- Arrange table for raffle ticket sales
- Arrange 2-3 tables in front of stage steps for raffle items
- Set up microphone (located in box next to power panel stage left, top level)
- Set up slide projector and screen (extension cord in cabinet)
- Make sure faculty restrooms are unlocked and hall lights are on (see custodian)
- Check with custodian about heater for auditorium if needed
- Put out large trash cans and can recycle bin (from teacher's lounge)
- Set up 10 rows of 16 chairs (8 chairs on each side of aisle)
- Help enforce NO FOOD OR DRINK ON CARPETING

### **BREAKDOWN**

- Be sure all chairs and tables are returned to original positions
- Check and clean up trash, spills, and crumbs
- Turn off and put away microphone, screen, and projector
- Return coffee pot, condiment box, blue bin, and name tag boxes to cabinet. **LOCK CABINET!**
- Custodian is responsible for shutting down and locking up but please double check any windows that may have been opened

It is important that we keep this room in good order as the school uses this room first thing in the morning and they have no time to rearrange before the kids arrive.

A copy of this memo will be posted on the inside of the cabinet door (however, you will need to memorize our tricky combination, 1-2-3-4)





**PLEASE HELP STOP  
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**Proprietors**  
**Eileen & Bill Stroud**

**Cutoff date for *January FINNY FACTS*  
articles---Friday December 14th**

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

You can E-mail at

Thanks!!

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

Helen Grundler

### **LIFE MEMBERS**

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

### **HONORARY MEMBERS**

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler, Hugh Marx, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood

Winners of the:

### **GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD**

For unselfish and outstanding service  
to the fly fishing community

1991-Ned Sewell  
1992-Bob Camp  
1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud  
1994-Ed Velton  
1995-Bob Wisner  
1996-Gary Hilbers  
1997-Jack Bentley  
1998-Gordie Zimm  
1999-Gretchen Yearous  
2000-Tom Smith





**SAN DIEGO FLY FISHERS  
2001 OFFICERS**

President- Jim Tenuto  
1st VP- Jim Reeg  
2nd VP- Larry Sorenson  
Treasurer- Warren Lew  
Secretary- Nancy Fletcher

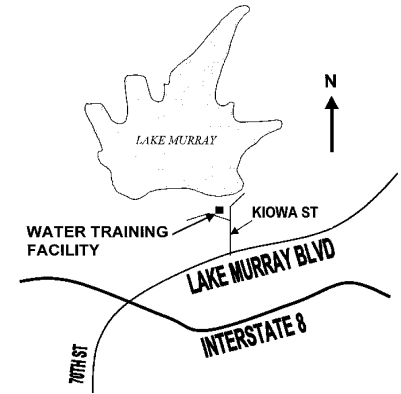
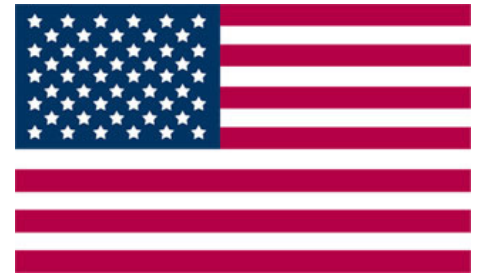
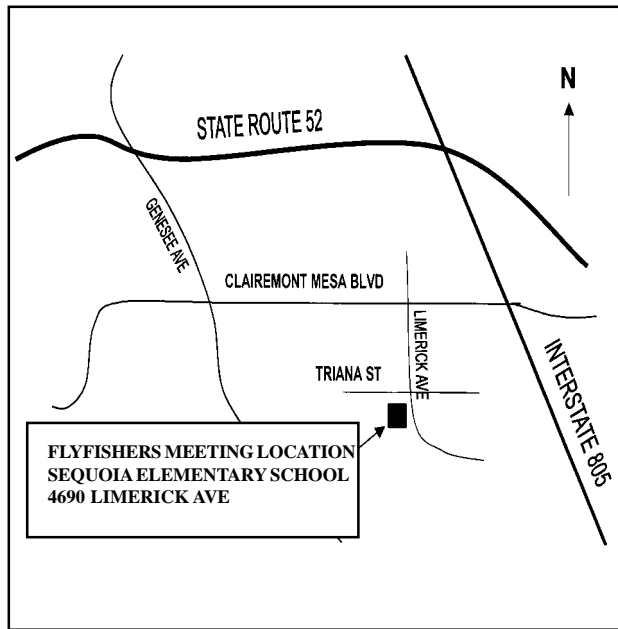
**DIRECTORS**

Sherry Brainerd  
Carrie Christianson  
David Collins  
Helen Grundler  
Mike Kaul  
Art Reifman  
Kevin Sophey  
Ed Velton

**COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSONS**

Advertising-Conner Cherer

Conservation- Sherry Brainerd  
FFF Southwest Council-  
SDFF Rep. Al Sorensen  
Fly Casting Clinic- Ned Sewell and John Kasten  
Fly Tying Clinic- Gary Hilbers  
Membership-  
Helen Grundler  
Member of the Month-  
Warren Lew, Howard McCluan



Meeting Place for Workshops  
SD Water Training Facility. Just before entering Lake Murray, turn left off Kiowa and go through 1st gate to 2nd gate. Turn right before 2nd gate.

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1457 Morena Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92110  
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Publications & Club Biologist-  
Bob Wisner,

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