

2015 CLUB AWARDS

The Broken Paddle Award: for the member who has been involved in any humorous situation while on Club fishout. (A 'goof-up')

Jim Bjerrum

While fishing Little Virginia Lake in his float tube in June, Jim was having a hard time staying afloat.

Jim assumed it was because he hadn't been in his float tube in a while and that he was a little out of his element. As he continued to kick around the lake he was having more and more difficulty keeping upright. Jim kicked over to the far shore and figured he would re-position himself – As he neared shore he gave a mighty shove to get his rear end back in the seat and discovered that nearly all the air had gone out of his float tube.

It would have been funnier if Jim hadn't gotten himself into a close call with going completely under... but he kept a cool head and struggled to shore.

A cool head and a completely soaked Jim had to dry off on the bank and hike the long trail back to his car at Little Virginia Lake Resort.

Jim did the rest of his fishing that week from shore...

Honorary Lifetime Member: For a member in good standing, who has given exemplary service over a period of at least ten years, made special and unique contributions above and beyond what might be expected by membership.

Walt McIntyre

Walt has been a member of Flycasters since 1998. During that time he has been active in many aspects of the club activities. He headed up the club Merchandise store as well as being the Raffle Table Chairman, he has been Fishmaster on some of the most well attended fishouts our club has hosted including many trips to the Carson River and, of course the legendary trips to Pyramid Lake. He served on the club's Board of Directors for three years. He learned how to repair his own broken fly rods and now helps teach the rod building classes. When help is needed, Walt is always there.

The Editor's Award: Selected by the editor of Flylines for the member who submitted the best article or articles to the club's newsletter in the past year.

Frank Eldredge

Frank submitted a wealth of articles on conservation and a marvelous write up of his trip to Iceland --- and he taught Flylines editor Wade Goertz how to correctly pronounce "Skitt Fiske"

Honorary Members: presented to someone inside or outside the club for special service to the club. Membership is good for one year.

John Gudmundson

Even though John moved away from our area, last year he made all of the arrangements for the Flycasters to have a booth at the Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show. John has done the same thing again for the club this year. This is service above and beyond.

Herman Garcia

We all know the work Herman does for CHEER – Coastal Habitat Education and Environmental Restoration organization. We feel lucky that he has worked with us to clean up our creeks and rivers.

Member of the Year: for outstanding service to the club.

Steve Duckett

Steve hosted the club's first international fishout to Mexico and spearheaded the development of a fishout devoted specifically to new members and new fly fishers. He managed to bring a fresh perspective on club finances to the Board of Directors, which made some of the business of the club a bit easier to understand. Steve was a monthly speaker and a panel member twice. It was at his direction we now have spey equipment purchased and spey casting classes.

The Harry D'Angelo Award: for a member who gives significantly of his/her time and effort over a long period of time.

Wade Goertz

Wade has been instrumental in keeping the club running and the history present. He has been a Director, Vice President and President, Treasurer, Seminar Chair, and is the current Flylines Editor, as well as Webmaster. The club is richer for his presence.

The Ken Eugene Award: for a member who has performed a singular (or many) service(s) for the betterment of the club.

Hugh Miller and Don Chesarek

Our STEP – Salmon and Trout Education Program – has made a big impact in our area elementary schools. Over 50,000 students have benefited from the program. Hugh and Don have run the program for our club for years. They were recognized for their contributions by the NCCFFF in 2014.

The Jim Thatcher Award: for member who gives significantly of his/her time and effort, without regard to their own interest, for the specific betterment of the Club and it's activities.

Jo Hood

How many people in this room took casting lessons from Jo? Jo was President, Director, Membership Chair and Fly Casting Lessons Chair for years. Jo also ran the Summer Celebration and took on many responsibilities behind the scenes which contributed to the success of Flycasters. She has retired from the club but we want to recognize all the contributions she has made over many years.

The Houwink-Seldon Conservation Award: for the member who has contributed the most to conservation activities for the club, for the benefit of all fisherman, environmental improvements, local state or federal conservation activities or work in the NCCFFF.

Ray Chin

Ray has been a very active member of the Flycasters Conservation Committee for several years now. Ray keeps himself informed on the important conservation issues and brings them to the attention of committee and proposes actions to take to support or oppose the issue by the Flycasters members or the Conservation Committee. He has been the co-lead person for the solicitation of prospective fishing lodge donors for the annual conservation fundraiser. Ray has written articles for the "Conservation Corner" of the Flylines newsletter. He volunteers for other committee activities without being asked and often gives the conservation committee report at club meetings in the absence of the chairman.

The U. Shadsby Bulldrop Award: for the member who is the best teller of tall tales during the current year.

Bob Meacham

Bob is the keeper of much of Flycasters lore and legend. He not only knows where the bodies are buried, he can recount the details with a great deal of humor and panache. Sitting around the campfire or the dinner table listening to Bob talk about some of the club's most colorful stories is always enormously entertaining – Bob has no need to embellish or exaggerate since the truth is more than enough to leave us laughing and shaking our heads in disbelief. Bob's talent is in the telling as well as in the facts.

The President's Award: selected by the President for outstanding support during a year.

Dennis Jacobson

Dennis ran the raffle table during the first half of 2015, and then he took over the Membership Chair. He has been working with the County of Santa Clara to renew the pond agreement and was one of the three members who kept the ponds maintained during the drought.