



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROY LITHERLAND

Fly fishing is a popular outdoor activity for people all around the world. Whether you're a seasoned angler or a beginner, there's something about the sport that draws you to the water. But while the experience of fly fishing can be exhilarating, it's important to remember that safety always comes first. In this article, we'll go over some water safety tips specifically for fly fishermen.

Wear a life jacket

The first and most important safety tip for any kind of water activity is to wear a life jacket. Even if you're an experienced swimmer, unexpected accidents can happen, and a life jacket can mean the difference between life and death. Make sure your life jacket fits you properly and is approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. Remember if it is cumbersome while fly fishing you won't wear it, and it is of no use to you. Spend some money as if your life depended on it.

Check water conditions before fishing

Before heading out to fish, be sure to check the

water conditions. Make sure there are no warnings of high water or rough currents that could put you in danger. Always follow the advice of local authorities and pay attention to weather forecasts. If there are any doubts about the safety of the water, it's better to wait for another day.

Never fish alone

It's always best to have a fishing partner when you're out on the water. If something were to happen, having another person there could save your life. Additionally, fishing with a partner can make the experience more enjoyable and provide an opportunity to learn from each other.

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FLYCASTERS CALENDAR

MAY

Friday - Sunday, May 5-7th

Scotts Flat Lake Fishout

Smallmouth Bass

Saturday, May 6th

Breakfast Gathering | 8am - 9:30am

Holder's Country Inn

10088 N Wolfe Rd, Cupertino

Tuesday, May 9th

Board of Directors Meeting | 5 - 6:30pm

[Zoom Link](#)

Wednesday, May 10th

Club Meeting | 7pm - 9:30pm

Moreland Apts Meeting Room

more information on page 3

Saturday, May 13th

Flycasters Banquet | 5pm - 9pm

Los Gatos Lodge

50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Road

more information on page 4

Saturday, May 20th

Flycasting Classes | 9:30 - 11:30am

Understanding & Efficient Casting

Los Gatos Creek County Park

1250 Dell Avenue, Campbell

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Stay aware of your surroundings

When you're focused on catching fish, it's easy to get caught up in the moment and lose track of your surroundings. However, it's important to stay aware of any potential hazards in the water. Be on the lookout for rocks, rapids, and other obstacles that could cause you to lose your footing. That overhanging branch 20 feet down stream is a trap. Get caught under it, and you won't come out. Take your time when wading through the water and always use a wading staff to help maintain your balance. Bring a first aid kit

Have a first aid kit

Accidents can happen even to the most careful of anglers, which is why it's always a good idea to bring a first aid kit. Make sure your kit includes items like bandages, antiseptic, and tweezers for removing hooks. Knowing basic first aid can also be helpful in case of an emergency.

Be cautious when wading

Wading through water can be one of the most enjoyable parts of fly fishing, but it's also where many accidents happen. Always wade slowly and deliberately, locating rocks and other obstacles with your feet before taking a step. Don't walk on the big rocks; step between the big rocks where the smaller rocks provide more stable footing. Make sure you have a good grip on the bottom before moving forward, and be aware of changes in the water depth. In rapid water, wade arm in arm with a friend.

Use proper fishing gear

Using the proper fishing gear can help prevent accidents and injuries. Make sure your fishing rod is sturdy and in good condition. Use barbless hooks to make it easier to remove them from the fish and reduce the risk of injury. And always wear the appropriate footwear for the conditions you'll be fishing in. If wearing waders, please consider using two belts, not just one. Consider a whistle.

Know your limits

One of the biggest dangers in any outdoor activity is overestimating your abilities. When it comes to fly fishing, it's important to know your limits and not take unnecessary risks. If like me you're not comfortable wading through fast-moving water, don't do it; join me in a drift boat. If you're not confident in your casting ability, practice in a safe environment before trying it on the water.

Bring a cell phone or emergency device

In case of an emergency, it's important to have a way to call for help. Bring a fully charged cell phone with you when you're fly fishing, or invest in an emergency device like a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB). Make sure you know how to use it before heading out on the water.

Respect the water

Finally, it's important to respect the water. It is far more powerful than it appears.

Saturday, May 27th

Surf Fishout | 8am - 5pm
Capitola

FLYCASTERS Code of Ethics

As a member of Flycasters, I will do all in my power to conduct myself in a manner befitting the traditions of our sport of fly fishing.

1. I will follow the fish and game laws wherever I fish.
2. I will support conservation practices in order to preserve our natural resources for this and future generations.
3. I will encourage the practice of "Catch and Release" in all but "put and take" waters.
4. I will encourage other fishers, whether they fish with flies or other means to abide by the same standards as expressed in this Code of Ethics, and I pledge to report any violations I observe to the appropriate authorities
5. I will always remember that my conduct afield is a reflection on our Club, its' members, and our sport, and I will endeavor to conduct myself accordingly.



MAY PROGRAM

Karim Abu Bakr

Fly Fishing in Brazil

Karim Abu Bakr is well known to a number of Flycasters members who have fished the Amazon Basin via Bucket List Fly Fishing Adventures.

Karim speaks 5 languages and has become indispensable at Bucket List where he is Partner - Host - Translator - and in charge of Media Production.

His program will focus on the magnificent fly fishing opportunities found in Brazil.



WEDNESDAY, May 10th at 6:30pm

IN PERSON / ZOOM Hybrid MEETING

In Person meeting at the Moreland Apts meeting room

An email will be distributed to all Club Members outlining the simple steps needed to take part and the needed login information.

THE 2023 MARTY SELDON CONSERVATION FUNDRAISER AND FLYCASTERS AWARD BANQUET



The last time we held our annual club "Banquet and Fundraiser" was in January 2020--yes, three long years ago, in the blissful pre-pandemic days. Now that we are finally emerging from the pandemic restrictions, the Board has decided it's time to resume our tradition of having a larger annual social gathering.

Saturday, May 13th, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Registration is now available online at www.flycasters.org

Use the Link in the lower left column of the Flycaster Home Page to register and pay. \$65 per person - pay via PayPal.

This event will be held at the **Los Gatos Lodge** at their poolside outdoor seating area (under a canopy, with heaters available if the temperature turns chilly). We have engaged the same caterer we have used at previous events, and the committee is working on other details such as providing a limited set of prizes (silent auction and raffle), keynote speaker etc..

- Frank Eldredge and Ray Chin, Banquet Event Coordinators

FLYCASTERS 2023 FISHOUT SCHEDULE

DATES	DURATION	LOCATION	FISHMASTER	STATS
Feb 5-12	8 Day	Peacock Bass Brazil	Rich Otto	Full
Feb 18-19	2 Day	Lower Yuba River	Lee Dorius	Full
Mar 28-29	1-2 Day	Rancho Seco w/ Granite Bay Club	Jim Isaacson / Jim Degnan	
Apr 17-20	4 Day	Pyramid Lake	Needs fishmaster	
May 5-7	3 Day	Smallmouth - Scotts Flat Lake Scout Trip	Lee Dorius / Jeff Lorelli	
May 27	1 Day	Surf Fishout	Luke Sing / Mike Lovejoy	
Jun 7-10	4 Day	Spicer Wilderness Canoe Trip	Greg Takata	
Jun 5-7	4 Day	Five Dot Reservoir	Jeff Lorelli / Phil Brouwer	
Jun 25 - Jul 1	7 Day	Montana Big Hole Lodge	Wade Goertz	Full
Jun/Jul	4 Day	Medicine Lake	Needs fishmaster	
Aug 2-10	8 Day	Golden Trout Pack - Evolution Valley	Lee Dorius	
Aug	4 Day	High Sierra Backpack	Bill Zuravleff	
Sep 14-17	4 Day	McArthur-Burney Falls / Fall River	Harris Hall	
Oct 15-20		Hat Creek, Baum & Manzanita Lakes	Phil Brouwer	
Oct 26-29	4 Day	Rogue River Steelhead Float	Roy Litherland	
Nov 8-12	5 Day	Klamath River	Frank Eldredge	
Nov 12-15	4 Day	Trinity River	Jim Isaacson / Mike Lovejoy	
Club Fishmasters: Lee Dorius and Jeff Lorelli				

A Fly Fishing Adventure in Patagonia

by Frank Eldredge

“Una trucha es demasiado valiosa para ser pescada una sola vez.” (A trout is too valuable to be caught just once)

Our group of eight anglers had endured 14 hours of flying time from San Francisco via Panama City to Buenos Aires, and after a brief night's sleep at our hotel in the Recoleta neighborhood of Buenos Aires we were in line at the domestic airport for our 2.5 hour flight to Esquel in the Patagonia region of western Argentina. In the check-in line one member of our group rummaged frantically in his suitcase and suddenly announced that he couldn't find his money belt that concealed his precious horde of dollars. A quick call by our travel agent Peter to the hotel resulted in a search of this person's room, but the money belt was not found. Oh well, there was no turning back now—we proceeded to check in and begin the final leg of our long journey to the fabled trout county of Patagonia.



As with almost everything on our eight-day adventure, things worked out for the best and our expectations were exceeded at every turn. Upon arrival in Esquel, another check of the suitcase resulted in a happy discovery of the money belt. Our cheerful lead guide Santi from El Encuentro Lodge was waiting for us at the tiny airport of Esquel with a large van to drive us the half hour distance to Trevelin, where we would be spending the night before continuing the next morning to our destination of “Brook Trout Base Camp” for the first half of our fly fishing expedition.

The view of the mountains and high desert terrain as we landed in Esquel reminded me of Sun Valley with its rolling, low elevation mountains and tree-filled ravines. Santi told us about the history of the area on our drive to our hotel, which included the story of how Welsh immigrants moved into this area in the 1890s, which is now part of the Patagonian province of Chubut. The name of the town derives from the Welsh word “trefelin,” which in native Welsh means “mill town”. By the mid-20th century, wheat production had declined and been replaced by cattle ranching, but the Welsh influence in the region is still an important part of the local identity and culture.

Once settled into our small and cozy hotel in Trevelin, we explored the nearby sleepy town of 9,000 people and found an Italian restaurant serving pasta and local beer. As we discovered, the first task at any restaurant was to negotiate the exchange rate for dollars, which is essentially a way to participate in the black market for dollars. Because of the astronomically high rate of inflation in Argentina (currently running at 100% per year), all of the local restaurants and businesses prefer that you pay in dollars. Bill Zuravleff put his rudimentary Spanish skills to work and negotiated a rate of 360 Argentine pesos to the dollar, which meant

that our dinner and drinks with tip worked out to about \$25 per person. (Even at the finest restaurants in Buenos Aires, we never paid more than around \$30 for a two or three-course gourmet meal accompanied by excellent Malbec wines.)



After a wonderful buffet breakfast, a phalanx of eight guides entered the hotel lobby and cheerfully greeted us. Names were exchanged and quickly forgotten, but the fishing portion of our adventure had officially begun. The guides and their assistants (four of each) grabbed all of our luggage and began loading the trucks for the day's journey. We quickly learned that going almost anywhere in this wide open, remote area of Patagonia involved long distances and driving times. The plan was for half of the group to stop along the way and fish a local stream for a few hours, while the other two

trucks would go straight to Brook Trout Base Camp.

Bill and I settled in with our guide Kevin and his assistant Hernan for the two-hour drive to the camp, which began with a steep climb out of the broad valley on gravel roads (the only type in this area after leaving town) that led us to ridges with expansive views of the southern Andes mountain range that featured snow-topped peaks and several large bluish-white glaciers. We were impressed by how wild and undeveloped the area was along our long and dusty drive. You need to plan your fuel purchases well because there are very few towns and just a couple places over a vast area with a gas station. Passing another car was rare, and the mostly barren landscape with its stunted trees, sparse vegetation, and rocky soil struck me as desolate and somewhat inhospitable but starkly beautiful. We were leaving the modern world behind and entering an area that has changed little since Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid spent their final days looking for the new Wild West. The two outlaws settled in the Patagonian town of Cholila, about a two-hour drive north of Esquel, where they helped run a cattle ranch for a short time in the beginning of the 20th century before fleeing to Bolivia and meeting their demise at the hands of a troop of the Bolivian military.

We stopped briefly to admire the stunning view of Vintter Lake, a massive lake surrounded by soaring, jagged peaks, which is the source of the river we would be staying next to for the coming four days: the Rio Corcovado. Brook Trout Camp is situated on property leased from a local rancher, and to reach it from the lake we passed through several locked gates that Hernan needed to jump out and open for us to continue. At the camp, we were met by our wonderful and friendly camp manager Caro, who showed us to our spacious African safari-style tents and then invited us to sit down in the shade of some trees to our first of many sumptuous meals. After lunch, Kevin told us in an excited voice to come quickly to see something in the sky. It turns out that an Andean condor was making a rare flight over the camp, and we arrived in time to see this majestic bird with a wing span of 9 to 10 feet soaring high above us before disappearing. What a welcome to Patagonia!

Our plan for the afternoon was to fish in the Rio Corcovado for Brook trout, which migrate from the lake into the river during the Fall to spawn. (We were visiting in late March, which is the equivalent of late

September in the southern hemisphere.) The strategy on the Rio Corcovado in the Fall is to intercept the Brook trout as they migrate down the river, and entice them to strike a fly when their primary focus is on the propagation of the species rather than eating. We used an exciting strategy: skating large attractor dry flies, which in my case resulted in some follows and a few grabs by smaller fish. Bill was able to land a couple nice Brookies (about 16 inches) on streamers, but in my case I mostly got in some first-day casting and wading practice.

Every night Kevin (and all the other guides) would present the fishermen with an array of options for the next day. A spring creek? A lake offering the chance to land a Rainbow trout of a lifetime? A freestone river with both browns and rainbows? Kevin quickly understood that Bill and I preferred opportunities for walking and wading, which put us on medium-sized rivers to smaller creeks where catch rates were higher but the average size was more in the 12 to 16-inch range—with the opportunity for occasional outliers in the 18 to 20-inch range.

One of the first discoveries about the daily excursions was the long driving distances involved: an average of 1.5 to 2 hours in one direction. We made the best of the journeys by listening to Argentine music, peppering Kevin with many questions about Argentine politics and culture, and soaking in the beautiful landscape. We would pass gauchos on horseback leading a cattle drive; see lots of local raptors by the roadside or flying overhead; and, witness how important the tradition of drinking mate (maté) is in Argentina. Maté is a tea drink shared by friends that is considered the national drink of Argentina. It is made using leaves and twigs from the yerba maté plant, a holly-like shrub, which are steeped in hot water placed in a leather gourd and drunk through a metal straw. Kevin and Hernan would pass the maté gourd back and forth for what seemed like an hour. I found the taste a tad bitter, although when Hernan added a little sugar it matched my taste buds better.

On the first day we fished a section of the Rio Pico, a small freestone river flowing through a meadow with cut banks and braided sections. The technique was casting a dry-dropper combination, typically a Chubby Chernobyl (or a foam hopper) and a nymph such as a Pheasant Tail, into narrow slots or up close against the banks. I connected with a beautiful 14-inch rainbow that took my dry fly on one of my first casts. There was lots of water to cover, so we kept moving and picking up fish in different holes (mostly on the nymph). Kevin impressed me with his determination to land a very large rainbow that we could see rising and taking naturals in the surface film and on top. We switched flies about ten times, and did get the large and selective fish to come up and almost take the fly a few times. But, now it was time for lunch!



Hernan had been busy while we were out fishing with finding a perfect shady spot in a grove of trees to set up our table (adorned with a tablecloth and silverware) for lunch. Out came the charcuterie to start the daily three-course lunch, followed by a main course with salad, and a dessert such as a raspberry mousse. We declined the offers of beer and wine so that we would only be dealing with bloated stomachs after lunch, not errant casting from consuming alcohol in the middle of the day.

In the afternoon, Bill found one hole where he was catching one nice rainbow after another. I fished my way through a wide pool in the river, and then put a cast into the riffles at the head of the large pool. It turns out that one of the largest rainbows of the trip for me was waiting to take my nymph, and as soon as I saw the dry fly go down I set the hook and watched line peel out as the fish ran into the deeper water. Kevin was close by with his large net, and after a few minutes of fighting the fish I lifted the rod and coaxed the fish into the net. Unfortunately, Kevin had a hole in his net, and the fish slipped through momentarily. Kevin instinctively flipped the net and captured the hefty 21-inch rainbow before it could get away. That was the highlight of my day, and Bill had many others to celebrate, too, as we lifted our traditional “end of the day” Patagonian IPA and gazed at the surrounding peaks.

Back at the base camp we gathered for Happy Hour, tasty hors d'oeuvres, and spirited sharing of the day's fish stories. Mike Culcasi and Rich Otto caught rainbows that looked more like steelhead (in the upper 20-inch range), and were just as beautiful as their sea-going cousins. All of the rainbows that we were catching are descendants of McCloud River rainbows that had been introduced into Argentina about a century ago by settlers from England who wanted to create a sports fishery for their leisure time. Originally, there were no trout or salmon in any of the waters in Patagonia. Brown trout and Brook trout were also added to the mix, thus making all the fish we were catching invasive species. The good news is that the non-native trout (although Brook trout are technically members of the char genus *Salvelinus*) are apparently not having a negative effect on the indigenous fish and other aquatic species, and the introduced gamefish are obviously thriving and providing a world-class sport fishery and lots of business for lodges and guides.



On our walks back to our tents after another gourmet dinner, we looked up to the crystal clear night sky and admired the Southern Cross constellation and the Milky Way. One big surprise, which we experienced on a couple nights, was seeing a string of Starlink satellites being released from a SpaceX rocket ship. They looked like a string of lights in the night sky and then quickly blinked out as they ascended to a higher orbit. Even in Patagonia, it is difficult to completely escape from modern technology and Elon Musk's latest enterprises!

After our four wonderful days at Brook Trout Base Camp, we departed for the main El Encuentro Lodge, a modern and comfortable building that is located on a perch overlooking the Rio Grande River (called the Futaleufú in the native Mapuche language), a tailwater that flows out of a large dam and reservoir in the national park. The views from our bedroom decks of the peaks in the nearby Los Alerces National Park, which was declared a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site in 2017, were stunning—especially at sunrise and sunset. It was relatively easy to get postcard-worthy photos in the early morning as the mist rose from the

river, Fall colors mixed harmoniously on the nearby slopes, and the snow-covered mountains loomed in the distance.

The main fishing destination during the next four days was fishing out of drift boats on the Rio Grande, which offered several different beats to allow our group to spread out. On our full day of floating the wide river (comparable in size to the Lower Sac), it was gusty and in the afternoon it rained hard. Despite the challenging weather, we did well using several techniques: streamers, dry flies, and dry-dropper combinations. By the end of the day, I was feeling worn out by the effort of casting into gales (45 miles per hour) and having the rain slam into us horizontally. But, we continued to pick up fish by casting to the edges of the weed beds and pulling streamers through the deep drop-offs. As we neared the takeout, Kevin decided that we should explore a side channel where we could see some trout rising. We placed some good casts, but after rowing up about 30 yards it was time to turn around and return to the main river. I made one longer cast to a deeper pocket next to a large weed bed, and immediately my dry fly moved and dipped slightly below the surface. I set the hook and knew that I had a substantial fish on the other end when it took off and started running towards the bushes along the channel's edges. I worked the tip and rod angle to keep the fish out of places where it could get tangled, and eventually it tired out. The prize we netted was my largest rainbow of the trip: somewhere north of 20 inches and quite hefty, with gorgeous scarlet coloring. I told Kevin that this was my "beer fish"—I put away my rod and savored an IPA and the surrounding mountain peaks as we motored to the nearby takeout.

It was hard to leave the lodge and our new friends on the last day of our incredible eight-day adventure, but the overall experience made such an impression on me that I plan to return. As the owner of the lodge, Benjamin Beale says, "the guests who visit us become part of our lives, part of our family". Next time, I want to try the early summer fishing (December) when there are other lakes and streams to explore, different hatches, and perhaps more dry fly fishing. Patagonia has become one of those special places that beckons me to return.

- Frank Eldredge

Several members of the group have reserved a week at El Encuentro Lodge in December 2024, and there are still spots available. Please contact Rich Otto at richotto@comcast.net or (408) 605-0385 if you are interested in learning more about the trip.



Striper sighting in Santa Cruz/Monterey Bay!!

Flycasters turning into zombies and foaming at the mouth, it is time.

Saturday, May 27th



Time: 5 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Where: Beer Can aka Summer Beach if you use Google Maps, at this location you will need to use the stairs next to the house on 1094 Via Palo Altos, Rio Del Mar.

What Methods: Flyfishing

- Fly Rod: 6 wt. or bigger
- Fly Line: shooting head or sinking line (one/two size above Fly Rod wt).
- Flies: For Surf Perch use orange bright or dark color. Size 4 hook.
- Flies: For Striper, Clouser/Deceivers, Chartuese or dark colors. Size 1/0 hooks.
- Leaders: 3 ft, 15 lb.
- Tippet 10 lb.

Spin fisherman are welcome!

Safety: WATCH YOUR BACKCAST! Do not hook beach walkers or dogs.

- Do not wade above your knees.
- No Lifeguards on the Beach, use a Buddy System.
- PFD or life jacket is required.
- ❖ Need to sign a Waiver NO FISHING (for insurance purpose) -See Club Website for Waiver form
 - **Best Breakfast in Town** - Mike Lovejoy makes an excellent breakfast, starting at 9 a.m. Address 115 Driftwood Ct, Aptos, please park out on the street.

Deadline: Need head count of who is coming to fishing/breakfast by May 17th. You can text me at **408-464-5793**. See you at the waves, Luke Sing

FLYCASTERS ANNUAL SUMMER CELEBRATION PICNIC AND BBQ

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13th

- 11AM TO LATE AFTERNOON -



Always plenty of food, fun, sun, and stuff to talk about

Our annual picnic is Sunday August 13th at the Los Gatos Creek Park in Campbell where our casting ponds are located.

All Flycasters and their families are invited to attend.

The cost of the picnic is \$15 each. Everything is supplied.

For that \$15 you will get BBQed Tri-tip, Brats, Super-Bowl Baked Beans, Potato Salad, and other sides. Drinks include beer, wine, soft drinks and water. And of course, dessert. Vegetarian options are available if you let Larry Sasscer know ahead of time.

Ldsasscer09@gmail.com or call (408) 693-0579

Parking costs \$6/car

You can park outside the park and walk in, or if you are a bona fide geezer, you can get a senior parking pass.

Register at the website [Home - Flycasters, Inc. \(clubexpress.com\)](http://clubexpress.com) go to Calendar – click on August 13th and follow the prompts – Register via PayPal

Get there early and spend time at the Casting Ponds

Tom Key and Dennis Buranek will have bamboo and fiberglass fly rods on hand to cast and experiment with.

CASTING POND – CLEAN UP

Volunteers Needed

- **Need the following Items for the Clean Up:**

- **Battery Powered**

- **Lawn Mower**

- **Saw**

- **Weed Wacker**

- **Human Power**

- **Pruning Shears**

- **Rakes**



- **Heavy Rakes**

- **Shovels**

- **Cleaning:**

- **Mowing Lawn**

- **Metal locker box edging**

- **Edging the sides of the pond**

- **Fence Edging**

- **Algae in Pond**

- **What you need to bring:**

- **You (of course)**

- **Boots (rubber/hiking)**

- **Waders/wading boots**

- **Good Spirit**

- **Gloves**

- **\$6.00 cash for Park Fee**

- **MAY 13, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.**

- **Where: Casting Ponds at Los Gatos Perc Ponds**

- **Contacts: John Bianchi (408) 761-6047**

Luke Sing (408) 464-5793

DID YOU KNOW?

FLYCASTERS HAS ARCHIVED A COMPLETE SET OF **FLY FISHING HINTS & TIPS** ON OUR WEBSITE

Once upon a time Bob Shoberg wrote a series of 30 articles regarding some of the very best fly fishing hints and tips for ALL fly fishers

Go to the website www.flycasters.org and click on the **Community** drop down menu

Choose **Club Documents** –

The 4th item from the top is **Fly Fishing Hints and Tips**

Everything from Bob Price's work on Knots to all 30 of Bob Shoberg's hints and tips

How to organize your gear

Strategies for fishing different kinds of water

Secrets learned from years and years and years of experience (*grin*)

How to enjoy more success on the water

Which flies to use and when

It is a very comprehensive library of valuable advice

There is a virtual treasure trove of useful information designed to help make
all of us better fly fishers

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Teaching Fly Fishing for Scouts

Wente Scout Reservation invites you to volunteer to teach fly fishing for one week between June 18 thru August 3, 2023.



The teaching sessions are at the Wente Scout Reservation. There are 7 weekly sessions 6-18 thru 8-3-23. Teaching days are Sunday thru Thursday of each session. Staff tent is provided as well as all your meals. Classes are two hours in the morning and two in the afternoon. Scouting is coed and at times space permitting adults take the instruction.

Wente Scout Reservation is located 140 miles north of Oakland and 6 miles east of Willets The lake is called Winawa and has a healthy population of largemouth bass and bluegill.

Fly Fishing Instructors have full access to the lake after classes and dinner. You can bring your own watercraft or use the row boats or canoes made available to those who would like to use them.

If interested email Gus Link at flylink48@gmail.com and he can answer questions or send a link to the Sign Up Genius site.

CASTING CLINIC

UNDERSTANDING & EFFECTIVE CASTING

Presented by Tony Yap

Saturday May 20, 2023, 9:30 - 11:30am

at the Los Gatos Creek Casting Ponds

FREE FOR MEMBERS*

“Presentation is everything” Understanding the mechanics of fly casting will go a long way to improving your accuracy and distance, and a more efficient casting motion will allow you to fish longer with less arm fatigue.

Tony Yap is an accomplished fly fisher, a fantastic teacher, and a very successful tournament winning fly caster, a four-time National Champion (senior Division). His list of accomplishments in competitive fly casting is truly impressive.

Bring your favorite fly rod. Anything between 5 and 10 weight, with a reel and weight forward floating line, appropriate leader and tippet and some yarn (no hooks).

Bring a notebook and pen to take notes. Use your camera or phone to video.

Be sure to bring protective eyewear. Sunglasses or eyeglasses - just as long as they cover your eyes. This is a requirement; without eye protection you cannot attend the clinic.

***Parking at the ponds is \$6 - payable at the kiosk - they do ticket non-payers**

NCCFFI: WOMEN CONNECT

Deschutes River - 3 Day Float



Celebrate Women in Flyfishing Month and join us on the NCCFFI: Women Connect Deschutes River 3 Day float down the famous Deschutes River Canyon, June 29 – July 1, 2023. We will be catching the end of the Stonefly Hatch and the beginning of the caddis. We'll meet in Bend on June 28 to check in with Confluence Outfitters in Bend and meet for dinner then start the float trip early on June 29.

Deep Canyon Outfitters/ Confluence Fly Shop leads the **Award Winning Multi-Day** fly fishing and camping trip, is the best way to fully experience the beauty and superb flyfishing the Deschutes has to offer. Throughout this 32- mile, **wild and scenic** section of the river, towering canyon walls and exciting white water guard pristine rainbow **trout and summer steelhead** habitat. Camping and fishing trips on the Lower Deschutes river are best enjoyed during the stonefly hatches of mid-May through June and the caddis/pmd hatches from July to September.



(Continued on page 18)

A 3 day camping trip down the Lower Deschutes River is as relaxing as it is exciting.

Your only job is to:

- Go fishing on one of the most famous rivers in America
- Eat great food from local Oregon farmers
- Sleep on comfortable, padded cots in your 3 season tent
- Repeat, repeat, repeat!
- Enjoy yourself as you experience a trip of a lifetime.

The “Bagger” will go ahead of you down-river, set-up camp, and have hors d’oeuvres prepared when you arrive at our mobile Mecca. Once in camp, choose to fish the prime water a few feet from your tent, or relax in the calm serenity of the outdoors. A gourmet dinner is served every night by our camp chef. Our camp meals are a source of great pride here at Deep Canyon Outfitters, and we feature **local, organic food** whenever possible.

After dinner there is time for drinks, discussing the day’s catches, and enjoying the starry night...that’s if you haven’t already retired to your tent’s comfortable cot. As the sun rises, so will you find hot coffee brewing, and a warm breakfast on the griddle. Then it’s off to the river with your guide for another great day of fishing.

Then trip is limited to 10 Participants

Cost of the trip:

FFI Members \$ 1,650.00 (with 4 or more participating on the trip) Non FFI Members: \$ 1,690.00
includes a 1-year membership to FFI Women Connect

Not Included:

- Gratuities
- Fishing License
- Transportation to Bend, Oregon: Closest Airport is Redmond, Oregon

Please contact Anne-Marie Bakker: ambconsulting@sbcglobal.net or 707-721- 6184 if you would like more information or would like to sign up for the trip.

Join Us in Celebrating Our 45th Anniversary at The Fly Shop®

**FRIDAY,
JUNE 9, 2023
10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**

2023 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON!

FORTY FIVE YEARS AGO it was my pleasure to meet two enterprising young men with a dream, Mike Michalak and Brad Jackson. They knew what they wanted. They understood Redding was the prime spot to open a fly shop, with the intersection of Interstate 5 and Highway 299 pointing the way to world-class fishing in every direction – north, south, east or west! I was in real estate at the time, and by the afternoon of the first day we met we found a small commercial spot behind a pizza parlor, and The Fly Shop® soon opened its doors. What started as a two-man operation has grown to what it is today, with the latest and greatest retail store, knowledgeable guide service, local private waters, and a world-class international travel service second to none!

None of this would have been possible without the support of all of you, our valued customers. We want to say thank you by having a free luncheon on June 9th, between 10 am and 3 pm.

With the heavy snowpack we have had this year, our local rivers look to be in fantastic shape by early June. Hat Creek, Fall River, Pit River, and the McCloud will be among the favorites. The Lower Sacramento River, one of our country's finest trout fisheries, will be ideal. Keep your fingers crossed for the Upper Sacramento.

We are grateful that several of our vendors will be here with the gear they sell, and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Our local fly club, Shasta Trinity Flyfishers, will serve the luncheon. Be sure to sign up for door prizes when you get here! If you have any questions or need further information, please call:

Sandy Watts at 530-222-3555
or email: sandy@theflyshop.com

As part of our continuing efforts to support our fly clubs/conservation groups, we are again offering to donate a \$50 Gift Certificate to those California fly fishing clubs who mention the event in advance in their on-line or print newsletter. Just send a copy of the announcement to the event coordinator, Sandy Watts, here at The Fly Shop® or email: sandy@theflyshop.com and we'll get the certificate sent immediately.

** If your club has received a donation, we hope that will suffice in place of a \$50 Gift Card.*



4140 Churn Creek Road
Redding, California 96002

800-669-3474 530-222-3555 email: sandy@theflyshop.com www.theflyshop.com

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Flycasters Inc.

and

Flycasters Conservation and Educational Foundation Inc.

Flycasters Inc., P.O. Box 821, Campbell, CA 95009

Meetings: Flycasters' general meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Moreland Apartments Community Room at the corner of Payne Avenue and Saratoga Avenue in San Jose. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. for socializing. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. The main program and slide show, as well as raffle follow the intermission.

There is ample parking on Payne Avenue and in the shopping center parking lot across Payne Avenue. Guests of club members and all interested visitors are encouraged to attend.

Membership: To become a member of Flycasters requires completion of a registration form plus an annual fee of \$50 for a regular membership, \$60 for a family or \$20 for juniors.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.flycasters.org

FLYCASTERS GALLERY

OLYMPIC PENINSULA | BOB'S 41 INCH STEELHEAD / SOL DUC RIVER



24-INCH BROOK TROUT | ROY



ARGENTINA | FRANK







NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FFI REPORT MAY 2023

MARK ROCKWELL, PRESIDENT, NCCFFI



I sit here thinking about what to write to all of you who are ready to go fishing, and wanted to remind you that **tomorrow, April 22nd is Earth Day, 2023.** It is a day to remind us that we only have one planet that supports life as we know it. There is only one earth, and it is our home. Take a look:

There are no borders. All of it is our home. We tend to identify only with the region that is close to us and our residence. Then identify with our state and our country. For most, the rest of the world is "over there". But, is it really?

I came to a difficult time recently when we moved to Santa Barbara and left Northern California. I miss all of you and the place

where all of my fly fishing life has been spent. I know little about the watersheds down here and most of what is trout country is a long way away. I still yearn for time on Fall River, the Lower Yuba, bass in the Delta, and steelhead on the north coast. I also miss the beautiful vistas - The crest of the Sierra, driving up Hwy 5 along the Upper Sacramento River, fishing on the Delta for stripers, and the ocean around San Francisco.

After reading a great book - ***The Sense of Wonder*** by Rachel Carson, I came to a new reality that has helped me with my move. In the introduction it says, "*She captures the essence of the wonder-filled world of children and stirs in us that ancient longing for unity with the living world.*" What I know for me is that when I'm outdoors I do feel more 'connected' to the planet, and it gives me a *feeling* like nothing else I do. This sense of connectedness started when I was about 8 or 9 and being at my grandparents cabin in the San Bernardino mountains. I'd spend the day fishing with worms in the creek and watch deer come for a drink, birds playing in the trees, a beaver swimming by, and fish swimming. Those moments changed me.

Then I grew up and went off to college, work and a family. As an adult I became connected to my work and family, but was uneasy inside until I got outdoors and re-connected with other planetary residents - trees, fish,

birds, deer, etc. Fly fishing was my vehicle to get connected again, and rediscover that child within me. I love that feeling, and do all I can to have that connected experience often. Ask yourself if this isn't true for you. Do you feel "more connected to the planet" when fly fishing. Is it the fishing that you love, or is it the sense of connectedness? Maybe it's both.

An experience I had in B.C. fishing steelhead was one moment I never forget. I was alone fishing a run at 9 p.m. in the evening in July (still light) when a nice fish grabbed my submerged spey fly. We fought for maybe 12 minutes and when I got her to the bank, grabbed her tail, eased the hook out, I was stunned by her beauty. Silver, sleek, clean, shinny, with a slight streak of rose on her cheek and side. She was Gorgeous! She lay on her side with one eye just looking at me, and I looking at her. We were one for that moment. I thanked her for the meeting, let her catch her breath, and let her swim back to complete her journey to spawn. At that moment I was totally connected - to her, the place and the planet. It was special.

Now, when I'm asked, "where do you live?" I respond, "**planet earth**". My residence is in Santa Barbara. To me, that response tells me I am still connected to Northern California, and I'm connected to all of the planet. I'm working my way through a new reality that is more comforting and wholesome. My home is our planet, not this one place. This has changed me forever.

So, this Earth Day, let's all think about what we can do to help the planet deal with we humans. We are currently a stressor to the planet, and we have to all find it in our hearts to act differently. Leave a light footprint as we walk, and use less, dump less, reduce our carbon footprint, call on our elected officials to move NOW on ways to reduce carbon. After all, we are taking care of our home by these actions.

Join FFI as a start: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>. They are our fly fishing brothers. A recent paper from FFI - ***A New Conservation paradigm*** - connects caring for our watersheds and the importance they play in sequestering carbon. Science now says that the plants and watersheds can sequester 37% of the carbon we need removed from the atmosphere. Learn more about this, and how you can help here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZdvXYBASbRvPb9IOv6XpQl06q6FhnoXo/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=103694342699691456221&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Happy Earth Day! We all live here together. Let's all find a way to help! FFI, NCCFFI, your fly fishing club are all brothers and part of the fly fishing clan. Let's play!

- Mark Rockwell, President, NCCFFI

FLYCASTERS PROUDLY SUPPORTS



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Submit contributions to
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