

SANTA LUCIA Fly Fishers



Tight Lines

July - 2019

<http://www.santaluciaflyfishers.com>

San Luis Obispo, CA

Mike Powers, Eric Tinglof, Editors



President's Message – Rich Chubon

“Often I have been exhausted on trout streams, uncomfortable, wet, cold, briar scarred, sunburned, mosquito bitten, but never, with a fly rod in my hand I have been less than in a place that was less beautiful than” - Charles Kurait

New Member - Welcome aboard to our new member Ed Coming. Ed, I hope you will take some time to enjoy our monthly meetings and Club outings.

Why I Fly Fish - We are fast approaching that time of the year when we put our desires, our thoughts, and our hopes into action. Our fly fishing gear has been cleaned and organized, in preparation for this special time of the year. The next few months are the high season of our sport. During this time we will seek out the streams, the lakes, or the ocean in search of our favorite species of fish.

Have you ever thought about why we do this? Why is fly fishing so special? What is it about fly fishing that holds our attention when there are so many other sports or activities to choose from? For sure each of us has our own reasons for remaining involved in our sport.

I believe that there is at least one-character trait inherent in all longtime fly fishers, that is, we all approach water with an effort to learn. Aiding us in our fly fishing endeavors is our own curiosity – why is it that on a stream we know well are there times that any presentation we make brings fish to our fly and then a window closes so that even our supreme, technically perfect presentations fail to move a single fish. So then we rethink our technique, our fly selection, or our rigging in an effort to discover why. More simply said we learn something from our successes, but even more from our failures. It is the new discoveries we make with each failure that brings us back each year after year.

I also believe that there are two other ingredients needed to insure we continue our fly fishing journey. Those ingredients are Mother Nature and the friends we meet along the way.

If we fished only to catch fish, we would soon lose interest. When we step into a stream, it is the beauty of our surroundings that allows us to escape from the hum-drum of our daily life. Mother Nature provides us with sensual experiences that no photograph, no painting, no YouTube video can ever fulfill. Zane Grey put it best “If I fished only to catch fish, my fishing trips would have ended long ago”.

Finally, I believe that fishing experiences are enriched by the companions who have shared in those experiences. I am talking about those few buddies, partners, boat mates, or any other name you choose to call them who you can trust with the directions to your favorite fishing water or the loan of your new special 5wt rod. These are the guys or gals who freely share their own discoveries with

you and you in turn give them a new fly you created on your fly tying desk or new way to rig their fly line.

So, there you have it, fly fishing continues to be a part of my life because of the learning opportunities and discoveries it gives me, the beautiful surroundings it provides me, and the companions I have met who enrich that experience, oh yes and the occasional fish I may catch!

Long Time Members Leaving Area - Two long time members are moving out of our area. Mike Powers will be moving to Arizona. Mike has been our newsletter Editor and a Board member and has also assisted me in past rod building classes. Rob Phillips will also be moving out of area. Rob sponsored many fly tying sessions for club members at his Hole In The Wall Fly Shop. He also contributed many, many items for our club raffle, silent auction, and fly tying group.

Thank you Mike and Rob for all the contributions and support you have given our Club!

SAVE THE DATES

- July 4 Fly Tying; ***NO Fly Tying this month.*** Contact Jim Snodgrass
July 11:
5:00 Board meeting ... at IHOP SLO.
6:30 Monthly meeting
July 20 Halibut outing, Port San Luis; contact Bernard Pieters. 489 3085
or bpeters84@gmail.com
Aug 1 Fly Tying; Contact Jim Snodgrass; Odd Fellows Hall, SLO
Aug 3 Annual Club Picnic ; see below
Aug 8 ***No regular meeting this month***



2019 SLFF ANNUAL PICNIC AND HALIBUT OUTING

Please join us Saturday August 3th. 10:30 to 3?

The club will be providing sandwiches, so please **RSVP to Sheri Bryant (474-8950 or SPNB@aol.com) by July 27th** so we can prepare.

Time: arrive early, get in some practice halibut fishing and or enjoying the beach. Lunch will be served around noon.

Location: Between Avila Beach & Port san Luis in the area of Fisherman's Beach. Look for the bright red SLFF banner.

Food: Sandwiches, water and soft drinks will be provided. Members should bring:

A-M Desserts

N-Z Appetizers

Cost: Free

Raffle: In addition to the regular stuff we'll put together some special raffle items.

Beach Gear: Bring your own chairs, umbrellas, sun block, etc.

More on the halibut fishing when Bernard returns from his travels.

Contact Charlotte Kelley for more information.... cmkelley@netins.net.

Next SLFF Meeting

Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 6:30pm

International House of Pancakes (IHoP), 212 Madonna Rd, SLO

Anthony Carruesco – Seven Months of Steelhead Fishing in Northern California



Anthony found a passion for fly fishing at a young age. Following that passion to the foothills of gold country and beyond to the vast tundras of Alaska and finally back home to Northern California, where he has turned his passion into a career. Growing up in competitive sports and being a former collegiate athlete, his drive to persevere and always find his clients fish is apparent on the water. A natural leader, Anthony has put together a group of like minded guides with superior work ethics that want nothing more than to see their clients have a great time and be successful on the water. His

confidence and positive demeanor is infectious, and a trip with him is certain to make for some of his clients most memorable vacations. When he is not guiding you'll find him chasing the white ball on manicured fairways or chasing anadromous fish on the coastline.

Anthony will cover "Seven months of Steelhead Fishing in Northern CA", touching on the various rivers, including the Trinity, Klamath, Valley rivers - Lower Sacramento, Feather, Yuba and a larger segment on the Lost Coast Rivers - Eel and Smith (Winter Steelhead). We have an incredibly large window to legitimately target and catch Steelhead in Northern CA and the goal is to highlight these general locations and timing of the runs as well as touch on tactics and techniques we use to catch these revered fish in ever-changing conditions.

He will also have a short blurb on the Alaska Trip he hosts every year to the Kenai Peninsula to catch oversized Trout, Dolly Varden, Steelhead and Silver salmon.

HALIBUT OUTING, PORT SAN LUIS, JULY 20th - Bernard Pieters

We fly-fishers are all the time in search of good fishing water and overlook what great opportunity our coastal waters have to offer. Considering the fishing location "almost in our backyard" it is surprising we don't see more members tap into this great summer fishing.

For the last 3 years the halibut fishing has been good, and fish were caught on every fishing trip I did, with some days of 4-6 hook-ups per tide

To the novice of halibut fishing: yes you need some guidelines and help to have a chance to catch this fish!

We are fishing the calm waters of Port San Luis Bay where there is little wave-action and can be compared almost to a lake. Halibut fishing is not a numbers game: it's more like a cat and mouse game. Having the correct line, leader and fly set-up is vital to have a better chance of a strike. Besides halibut, the smelt (like a trout) can also be present in the bay and is a lot of fun to catch. However the more you focus on catching smelt the less chance you have of a halibut strike.

The fishing can be done from shore from 1 1/2 hours before high tide with this tide of 4.2ft. It is very advisable to bring your pontoon or whatever watercraft with you, so you can explore much more fishing water and triple your chances to catch some halibut. It is better and safer to land your pontoon back to shore 1 1/2 hour before high tide or 1 1/2 hours after high tide: during this 3 hours the waves can be more turbulent close to shore

I can help you with your fishing set-up and flies and get you started on the water.

WHEN: SATURDAY JULY 20th

WHERE: PORT SAN LUIS - Parking lot north of the pier.

LOW TIDE: 7:16 am, -0.03 ft

HIGH TIDE: 2:05 pm, + 4.2 ft

GEAR UP TIME: 7:30 to 8 am

FISHING TIME: 8 to noon?

WHAT TO BRING:

- ROD: 6-8 wt
- LINES: Floating or floating line with a loop to loop 10 to 15ft intermediate line
NO sink lines.
- LEADER: A spool of tippet of 8 to 10 lb.
- FLIES: Clousers - white and chartreuse, sizes 4-6 for halibut, 8-10 for smelt.
I can provide flies
- Waders, jacket, safety-belt, sunglasses sunblock, boots.

NOTE: PFD IS REQUIRED FOR BOATING

CONTACT: For any help call or e-mail Bernard Pieters at 489 3085 or bpieters84@gmail.com

See you on the water!

Latest on CDFW Regulations Update – Lew Leichter

For those of us that have been following the DFW proposal for updating fishing regulations, and for those of you that haven't - but should be - should be aware of these changes that could potentially have a negative effect on our sport, I want to share the following from Chris Leonard. Chris has been closely involved and following the developments. We'll keep you all updated.

FYI: **Chris Leonard** is a teacher at Mammoth High School. His greatest passions are education and fly fishing, making him a choice fly fishing instructor and on-water guide. He guides through Kittredge Sports during the summer, also weekends and holidays during the school year, on rivers and lakes.

June 2019 Inland Trout Angling Regulation Simplification Update

ARTICLE | *Chris Leonard*

Mammoth Lakes, California | 818-288-3271

For those of you wondering about where the California DFW Inland Trout Angling Regulation Simplification proposals are heading, I have an update as of the beginning of June.

On the morning of June 6, 2019 I received a text message from Mammoth fly fishing guide [Harry Blackburn](#) informing me that he had a chat with CDFW Environmental Program Manager Roger Bloom. Harry informed me that DFW is listening to the numerous voices of concern that they received regarding the proposal changes.

THEY RECEIVED OVER 5,000 SOLICITED COMMENTS DURING THE OPEN PERIOD OF ONLINE SUBMISSION.

Roger also received a lot of phone calls during March and April from concerned sportsmen and sportswomen. Harry informed me that Roger believes change – whatever form that may be, unbeknownst to anyone yet – would happen at 2021 at the earliest.

I called Roger Bloom myself to clarify. I had a lengthy, good conversation with him. He told me that they are compartmentalizing the various 5,000 submitted comments into identifiable groups of representation. They sorted through the data, and identified sources of comments, then grouped those sources together. It was obvious to DFW which comments came from outfitters, guides, spin anglers, fly anglers, etc.

"WE HAD A SPECIAL FOLDER FOR INFLAMMATORY REMARKS," ROGER JOKINGLY TOLD ME.

No doubt DFW stuck their neck out when they rolled out the possibility of revolutionary changes to trout fisheries across the State of California. I joked with Roger that it was like he put on a deer costume, and ran around the woods during deer season opener. He replied that the vast majority of submitted concerns were rationale and on target.

Roger informed me that DFW is analyzing the grouped data to find consistency across all groups. That will likely drive any change to inland trout fisheries that occurs. They will not collect any fish census data until they have an idea of what changes may take place.

HE TOLD ME, "THERE IS NO PURPOSE IN SPENDING THE RESOURCES TAKING A FISH COUNT OF HOT CREEK, FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE KEEP HOT CREEK FLY ONLY."

Valid point. As a guide myself, I asked what becomes of the data collected from guides on the Guide License Daily Trip Logs. He would like to see those logs become computer driven so they can at least look at that data across the state – but this is beyond his decision making. It comes more from enforcement.

As they sift through all the data, Roger believes change won't come down the pipeline until March 2021. What I gathered from conversation with Roger is that DFW is listening to the thousands of concerns, and has decided to take a breather before continuing further. I'd expect some change. No one knows what that will look like yet though.

MONO COUNTY DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JOHN PETERS IS HOSTING A TOWN HALL MEETING AT THE BRIDGEPORT MEMORIAL HALL IN BRIDGEPORT ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, AT 6PM.

At the time of my conversation with Roger, he informed me that Mono County District Supervisor [John Peters](#) is hosting a Town Hall Meeting at the [Bridgeport Memorial Hall](#) in Bridgeport on Wednesday, June 19, at 6PM.

Roger will be there with DFW staff to field questions per the direction reg changes are going. DFW is sending a new fisheries biologist to the Eastern Sierra – Russell Black. Mr. Black will work with current DFW Field Biologist Jim Erdman. DFW feels that they need a bigger presence of representation in the Eastern Sierra. I agree.

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- **THREE CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS SENT A LETTER TO DFW EXPRESSING STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CHANGES.**

- **THE CITY OF BISHOP AND INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ALSO EXPRESSED OPPOSITION.**
-

Former City of Bishop Councilmember and current Chairperson of the Inyo County Fish and Wildlife Commission Joe Pecsí informed me that three California State Assembly members sent a letter to DFW expressing strong opposition to the proposed changes.

The City of Bishop and Inyo County Board of Supervisors also expressed opposition. Groups from outside the Eastern Sierra region, such as the [Pasadena Casting Club](#), also took an official stance against the proposed changes.

DFW is all ears open. This is great news. I will keep you abreast of new information when I learn of it. No decisions have been made yet. Keep voicing your concerns if you have them.

Chris Leonard

Mammoth Lakes, California | 818-288-3271



**There will be no fly tying sessions
July 4th 2019!!**

The July fly tying would fall on the July 4th holiday. So there will be **NO** fly tying sessions in July.

We will resume our sessions again on **Thursday, August 1st** at 6:30, at the Odd Fellows Hall in San Luis Obispo.

The Hot Finish – SEA JAY Overniter, Sunday, June 23, 2019– Andy Malavos

Filling in for SLFF members who were busy in the trout world , Mike Forrest, Rocky Tussey, Peter Van Hest, and Erwin Goldbloom from the Saltwater Fly Rodders club joined myself, and SLFF-member Jim Small aboard the SEA JAY, Sunday, June 23, for a trip to Santa Cruz Island. Jim and I are active members of both clubs. Sunday would be almost a carbon copy of the SWFR club's gray morning of Calico tidbits, and hot sun-filled bite Saturday. We were treated to barracuda passing through, and a long yellow tail battle won by skipper Donnie Fuqua, who defeating the kelp monster by maneuvering the SEA JAY. Amidst our Calico frenzy, Peter Van Hest caught a very nice large Barrie in excess of 30 inches in length, and a vigorous 2 pound white fish.

A few other short Barries were caught and released. However, Rocky Tussey's fly rod took a terrific hit. The fish immediately ran for the kelp. Rocky kept up the pressure on the fish-his gear held up and so did he! After about 30 minutes, it was a standoff. Skipper Donnie maneuvered the boat. A chunk of kelp broke off, and there was a 10 pound yellow tail holding a white flag. Tuna and noodles. Laughter and excitement are a great way to end a fun trip.

Note to the reader: The Channel Island fishing regulations allow for catch and release of ground fish (Calico Bass) in some areas, catching/keep, and no fishing in others. Conventional party boats usually do not enter areas where catch and release is mandatory, fly fishing only boats do.

P. S.

After more than 10 years organizing our annual trips, Kathy and I are moving back to Southern California. I hope the SLFF club continues the yearly trip on the SEA JAY.

PRIVATE CASTING LESSONS AVAILABLE

While our six IFFF certified casting instructors generously put on a series of free casting clinics for our club members each spring we wanted you to know they are available for private casting lessons throughout the year. If interested please contact them directly for additional information.

Bernard Pieters Arroyo Grande 489-3085 bpieters84@gmail.com

Eric Sherar Atascadero 423-0170 esherar1@gmail.com

Bob Hurd Arroyo Grande 550-9071 rbrthurd@gmail.com

Todd Tose Grover Beach 904-5288 trtflyfisher@charter.net

Chad McPartland Paso Robles 441-0744 chadmcpartland@gmail.com

Sally Stoner Halcyon 550-9509 fishsal44@gmail.com

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Santa Lucia



Fly Fishers

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SLFF MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

An individual regular membership is \$35.00 per year
For 12 months (January through December).
Enrollment after July 1st is \$20.00 for the remainder of the
year.

To join, please download the Membership Form from our
Website:

<http://www.santaluciaflyfishers.com/membership-3>

Send completed form with a check for dues to:
Santa Lucia Fly Fishers

**Come wet a line with us! Thank you for supporting those
who help support our chapter.**