



TIGHT LINES

<http://www.santaluciaflyfishers.com> | San Luis Obispo County | Editor: Eric Tinglof

Save-the-Dates

- 10/8/2020: Club Meeting (via Zoom)
- 11/12/2020: Club Meeting (via Zoom)

All other events are postponed, tentative, or cancelled until further notice

Contact our Club: **SLFF**

PO Box 166

SLO, CA 93406.

Announcement

Introducing HubSpot
and SLFF166@gmail.com

Our club now has its own email and HubSpot account. We'll soon be using it to distribute the newsletter and other club eblasts.

To keep these from going to your junk mail or spam, please add the following email to your contacts &/ or safe senders list:

slff166.gmail.com@hubspotfree.net

In this month's newsletter



A Brown caught on a dry during the Trico Hatch.

Bighorn River, Montana

- Board member message from Bob Bayer
- Krab Creature - fishing for corbina
- Details on upcoming events....and more!

The Santa Lucia Fly Fishers fly fishing club was established in 1975 to give local area fly fishers of San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, Santa Maria and northern Santa Barbara, CA, of all skill levels, participation in a club to learn, share and experience the challenges of our sport in salt water surf, and fresh water rivers and lakes.

Board Member's Message

Bob Bayer



October is a great time to fish in California; trout, steelhead or Bass. The weather is cooling and the fish are eating well, getting ready for the winter doldrums. In the past couple of years about mid-October I have traveled to the Klamath River in a camper to fish for steelhead, 1/2 pounders and occasionally hooking an adult fish. I like to start fishing the river just east of Happy Camp and then go west downriver to Orleans about 60 miles. There is a problem now in 2020. Happy Camp was destroyed by the Slater fire on September 10th leaving about one-third of the inhabitants homeless and two people dead. This fire has consumed 140,000 acres

around the Klamath River. It appears this is a poor time for a visit. The locals are probably not up for having a sportsman wandering around town. The fishing may be way off and the air quality will be bad. This seems to be the major theme of 2020, all recreation plans must be scrapped at some point.

But I learned a lesson in late May of this year. Stage one covid-19 was in place and the governor said stay home, no one wants visitors to their town now. I had delayed my yearly trip to Baum Lake by two weeks already. But I wanted to fish very badly. Baum was rumored to be closed and 95% of the campgrounds would not make a reservation. I convinced myself I could make campsites in the National Forest. If Baum Lake was closed I would figure out other waters to fish. I would stay away from the locals and all of us would be safe. I went on the trip. All the campgrounds were closed. I made do. Manzanita Lake was locked up. I fished Lake McCumber, Hat Creek, Baum Lake, Lake Almanor, Echo and Silver lake. The fishing was good to really great. The locals were very happy to see me, no apprehension at all. I think seeing a visiting fisherman gave them a sense of normalcy, that regular activities will recover. If it's May, we (the locals) expect to see fisherman.

The takeaway of the story, if you want to fish in October, go do it. Figure out a way to get to desirable water and the details will work out. The air may be smoke tainted but we have survived that in Slo County already. The locals will be fine with you being there. You will remind them that normal times will return. Beside, we kind of add a comical twist to most any environment with our funny shirts and funny talk of hatches and leaders and sink tips and caddis pupae and woolly buggers, etc, etc.

So my plan is to go to Northern California week 3 and 4 of October. Not certain what water I will fish but the fires haven't got to every lake and stream so there will be water to cast to. Fishing report to follow. Hope you have a fishing report for October also.

Upcoming Zoom Meeting Schedule

I was really disappointed when only 18 of us showed up for the September meeting (and 9 were board members that had to be there).

In an effort to boost attendance we're going to change to a 6:30 start time. With the zoom format the meetings only last about an hour.

Here is a preview of our scheduled presentations for the next several months. We have some cool speakers and presentations. We hope to see more of you there.

10/8 Lance Gray Fishing CA valley rivers Lower Sac, Feather & Yuba
11/12 Andres Gonzalez (thanks to Diane Whitehouse) Fishing Elk River BC
12/10 Skip Morris Fishing for largemouth bass and bluegills
1/14 Jon Baiocchi High water tactics
2/11 Jim Cox Fishing the John Day OR
3/11 Brad Abbot (thanks Rick Sample) Owyhee River OR program
4/8 May Ann Dozer (thanks again Diane) Fishing Central OR
5/13 Jeff Currier Fly Fishing in and Around Jackson Hole WY
Hope to see more of you zooming.

Lew

2021 Board Member Candidates

I'm pleased to announce the following slate of candidates for our 2021 Board:

Bob Bayer
Sheri Bryant
Robert Hartzell
Charlotte Kelly
Lew Leichter
Bernard Pieters
Rick Sample
Rick Saval
Eric Tinglof
Don Wheeler

Lew

NEXT SLFF MEETING

**October 8 , 2020 at 6:30pm via Zoom
See separate email for log-in instructions
(it will be sent one week in advance of the meeting)**

October SLFF Meeting

Lance Gray

"Fishing Valley Rivers"



"Fishing Valley Rivers" is our newest presentation. This presentation outlines what, when and how to fish Northern California Valley Rivers. The Lower Sac, Yuba and the Feather River are the best trout and steelhead fishing throughout the year. Fall and Spring being the best months. I spend tons of time guiding and fishing all

three of these rivers and what you see during the presentation is what we are doing every day on the rivers. The presentation will cover flies, equipment and rigging.

Lance & Kirsten Gray

Lance and Kirsten have more than 50 years combined experience in fly fishing. Lance started fly fishing with his father and brother Lincoln at age 7. In his teens, he began tying flies commercially for shops all around Northern California. At 17, he went to work at

Powell's in Chico, working in the fly shop and building rods. He guided for Powell's, conducted fly-tying and fly-fishing schools, and traveled.

In 1993, Lance and Kirsten started Saltwater Innovations, a company that manufactured and distributed products for saltwater fly fishing. Lance's Crystal Popper, Gray's Billfish Fly, the KO Charlie line and the Raghead Crabs are all Saltwater Innovations products. Kirsten worked behind the scenes, handling the day-to-day operation and running the manufacturing floor of the company.

In 2003 they launched Lance Gray & Company, a full-service outfitter offering guided trips, fly-fishing schools, workshops and a travel agency. Lance conducts presentations at fly clubs and outdoor shows and supports local groups like Cub Scouts and 4H. He's a signature tier for Aqua Flies, pro staff member for Sage and Rio and is a featured writer, with articles published in Angling Trade Magazine, California Fly Fisher, Fly Fishermen, Sierra Fisherman and Northwest Fly Fishing.

Kirsten is a fantastic photographer who's had images published in periodicals and on websites throughout the outdoor industry.

We'll be sending out the meeting invitation about a week before and hoping to see you there.

Valley River Handout for Zoom Meeting

Lance Gray

"Fly Fishing is our Passion" – That's the cornerstone and slogan for our family-owned and operated company. Lance Gray & Company is a full-service outfitter that offers our guests the best fly-fishing experience possible.

Every excursion is much more than just a drift down the Sacramento River or an evening of fishing the "Hex" hatch on Lake Almanor. It's an experience that our guests talk about for years.

We offer guided drift-boats trips, fly-fishing schools, fly-fishing workshops and worldwide travel. We pride ourselves on service, attention to detail, honesty and plain hard work.

Fly fishing is truly our passion

Lance & Kirsten Gray

Fly Guides

Recommended Equipment

Rod 9–9 1/2 6 weight Reel Smooth Drag
 Weight Forward WF6F Split Shot Leaders 9-14 foot tapered to 3x &
 5x Grays Indicator Leader

Recommended Flies Lower Sac

Fox's Caddis Poopah Olive 12-14 Fox's Caddis Poopah Cinnamon 12
 Thurman's Birds Nest Brown 14-16 Lance's X-May Olive 16-20 Lance's
 Black Sabbath 14 Sweet Pea 16-18
 Rubberlegs Brown 4-8 Lance's X-May Emerger Brown 16 Lance's X-May
 Emerger Olive 16 Lance's Yuba River Caddis Olive 16 Lance's Yuba River Caddis
 Brown 16 Lance's X-May Soft Hackle Olive Size 14

Recommended Flies Feather River

Fox's Caddis Poopah Olive 14 Lance's Grannom Bird's Nest 14 Thurman's
 Birds Nest Brown 14-16 Lance's X-May Olive 16-20 Sweet Pea 16-18
 Lance's X-May Emerger Brown 16 Lance's X-May Emerger Olive 16 Lance's
 Yuba River Caddis Olive 16 Lance's Yuba River Caddis Brown 16 Sucker
 Spawn 10
 Lance's Fireworm Natural 14

Recommend Flies Yuba River

Fox's Caddis Poopah Olive 14 Lance's Grannom Bird's Nest 14 Thurman's
 Birds Nest Brown 14-16 Thurman's Bird's Nest Olive 14-16 Lance's X-May
 Olive 16-20 Lance's X-May PMD 18-20 Unit Skwala Size 10 Yuba River March
 Brown Emerger 14 Lance's X-May Emerger Brown 16 Lance's X-May Emerger
 Olive 16 Lance's Yuba River Caddis Olive 16 Lance's Yuba River Caddis
 Brown 16 Lance's Fireworm Red 12 Rubberlegs Orange/Olive/Coffee 6
 Slumpbuster Olive Size 6

YUBA RIVER GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

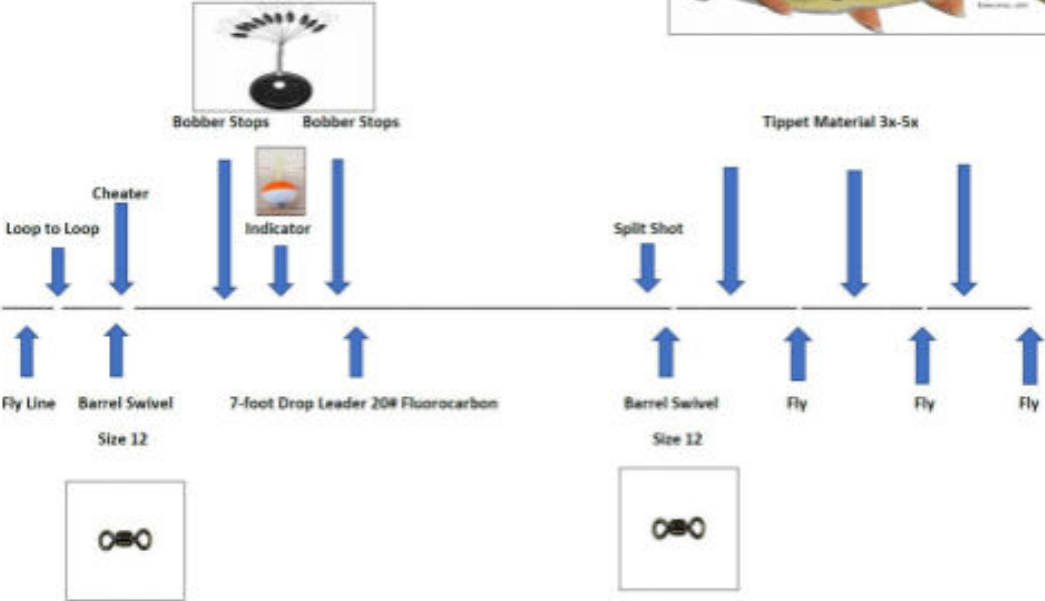


FEATHER RIVER OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA





Dead Drift Rig



www.lancegrayandcompany.com

Forums on our Website

By Lew Leichter

Thanks to Robert Benassi the forums page is up and running so let's start using it. To find it click on the members only drop down on the home page and the members only tab. Here is where you can ask questions, post info, etc.

Categories are:

Fly Tying

Member Classifieds (looking to sell something; here's the place to do it).

Outings Trips (looking for someone to go with you or info on a place; here's the place to do it).

Website Feedback (questions or problems or suggestions: here's the place to get answers).

I encourage us all to take advantage of this rather than our having to send eblasts.

Thanks.

Club Donations

Every year, our club makes donations to various organizations keenly related to our sport.

This year is no different. We recently made donations to these worthwhile groups:

Cal Trout; Trout Unlimited; Western Rivers Conservancy; Morro Bay National Estuary Program; Creeklands; Project Healing Waters; Casting for Recovery; Save Bristol Bay; Almanor Fly Fishing; Land Conservancy of SLO and the Southwest Council IFFF.

We received the following thank you's from some of these fine organizations:

What a pleasant surprise this morning to find a check in the mail from the SLFF! In these crazy times, we're grateful that you haven't forgotten about us.

Sadly, as Charlotte well knows, we've had to suspend our volunteer monitoring efforts due to COVID. Right now we're in the midst of planning on how to best bring back our volunteers. One of the limitations in reinstating volunteers is having enough equipment to minimize contact between people. We plan to use the SLFF donation to help purchase additional water quality monitoring equipment. This will allow us to collect important data to track creek health and fish habitat quality while following safety best practices to keep everyone healthy.

Thank you so very much. And remember, if you'd ever like us to present at one of your meetings, we'd be honored!

Ann Kitajima
Assistant Director
Morro Bay National Estuary Program

We also received the generous donation to CFR,SoCal from SLFF and are so grateful! Retreats in the works for 2021!!

I'd love to get more Central Cal Women with breast cancer to apply.

Thank you!
Carole
Carole Ontiveros, Volunteer
Coordinator/Retreat Leader
Southern California, Casting for Recovery

Krab Kreature

Fishing for Corbina

A number of us enjoy fishing the surf and targeting surf perch. When you've had your fill and looking for the next big challenge try targeting corbina.

I was introduced to corbina a number of years ago by club member and former owner of the infamous Hole in the Wall Fly Shop, Rob Phillips. Rob has recently relocated to the deep south and is now chasing red fish and other species in the gulf.

Honestly over the years I have only caught one and have recently decided I want to spend more time. Unfortunately, we have to travel to Southern CA beaches (Santa Barbara and south) to find them.

Here is a neat article Rob put together a number of years ago.

Lew

Getting from K1 to K5 in 5 easy steps

I learned about fishing for Corbina while stopping for a short fish along "La Conchita" beach north of Ventura Ca. I was fishing for Barred Perch but noticed another fly guy just wading ankle deep doing more looking than casting. We chatted and then we strolled the beach till he spotted a Corbina in that same ankle deep water. We spooked it and it did a fast track out to deeper water. There wasn't much about Corbina in the internet back then. I did find out that their prime food source was Sand Crabs. So I tried some flies for them and got mostly refusals. I did have some success with one fly that I wasn't in love with so I tried to build a suitable Sand Crab Imitator. I called the series Krab Kreature or the K series.

The current version is here because of several previous vetoes from corbina. The Clouser Chassis versions, aka bonefish style flies all scared the poor shy creatures to the next county. After several version failures, I came to some criteria. It needed to land softly, keeping its shiny side up was important, and it needed to dig like a real sand crab. My answers were to come thru revision.

Revisions:

In version K2 I found some Mustad 7826 double hooks in my menagerie from days gone by in the conventional fishing time and space consortium. I settled on a #4. Built with some with Roe Yarn to simulate roe, and chamois for that soft-shell shellback and then some legs from some Hootchie skirts I used

Rob Phillips. brittp2@mac.com Dauphin Island, Alabama

for Salmon trolling for some moveable invitations. They worked sort of but were rejected a lot. They rolled a lot like dead sand crabs, live sand crabs never roll, they swim to the sand and DIIIGGGGG. I have witnessed Corbina cruise right on by dead, rolling sandcrabs, so stability and live food was important. K3 found some "stability adjustments" to the hook, like spreading the points outward and bending the eye upward. This gave the stability I wanted. K4 and K5 came in with a stabilized shank and a better choice of legs.

K5 is good for about one to two days fishing then it just dulls out. Those hooks digging all day put a unsharpenable situation on the fly and it is retired. K5's have caught a bunch of other species of fish, from steelhead to crappie and Ladyfish in the Gulf as of this date. Have fun and make some K6's, or K7's.....

Tools for this fly

Hook Prep, Bending the eye, Securing the open hook, Chamois prep. Leg tie in.

Recipe:

Hook: #4 Mustad 7826 Double

Thread: UniThread Fire Orange 6/0

Shank Stabilization: .035 lead wire

Roe Sack: Hot Orange Roe Yarn

Legs: Speckled Round Rubber, med. or Hoochie legs if you got 'em

Underbody: Pearl Cactus Chenille, med

Carapace: Chamois strip

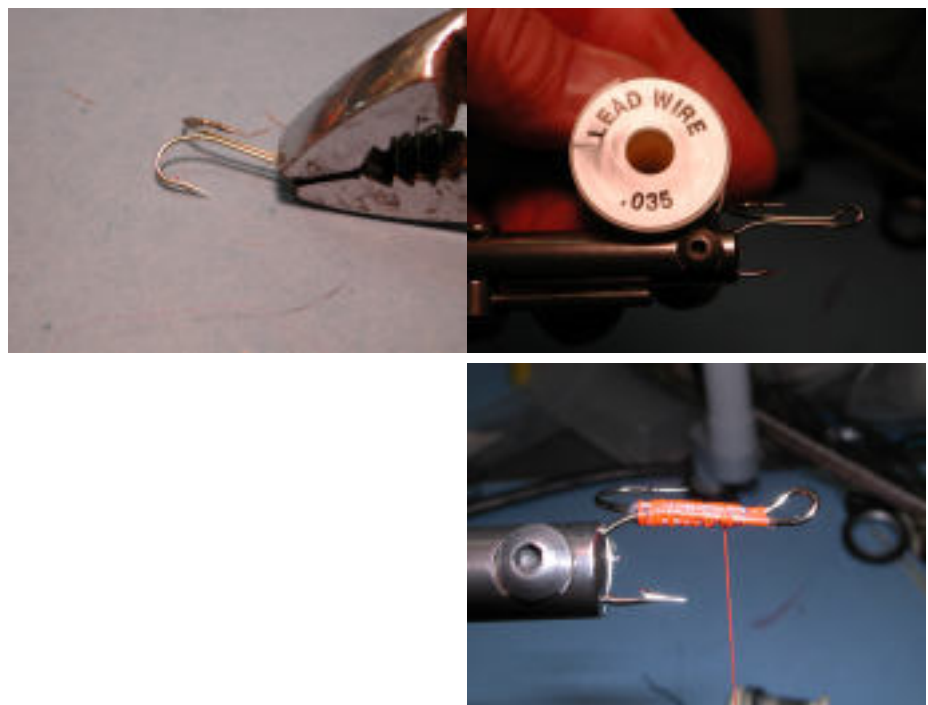
19 pic sequence

- pic of bending of eye
- pics of securing open hook
- pic prep of chamois
- pic of leg tie in
- pic of leather tie off

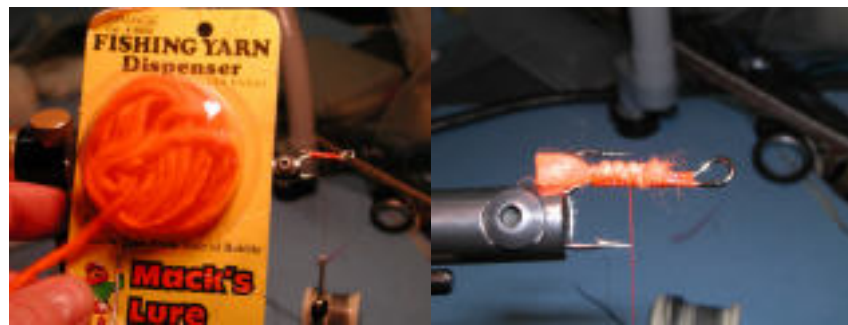
Hook: #4 Mustad 7826 Double



Bending the Hook gets the tippet out of digging into the sand and weakening it and flattening the points to have it land FLAT. Stabilizing the Hook, it is a OPEN Loop hook



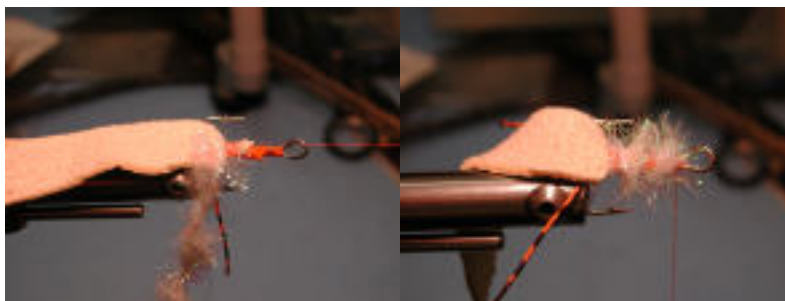
The Egg Sack the basic color of sand crab eggs



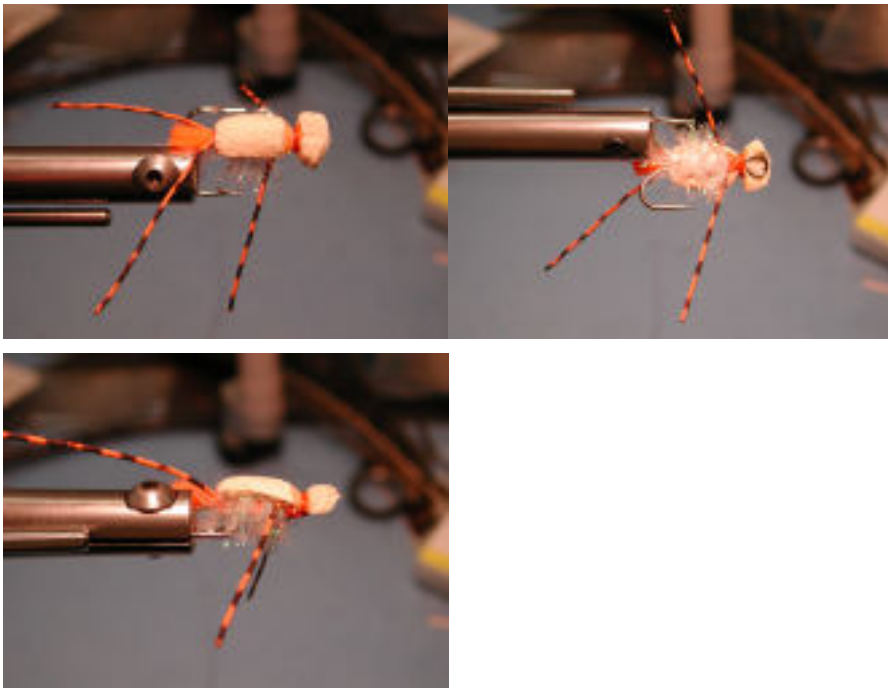
Rear Legs - Shell back Prep is about 1/2 inch



Tying in the Shell Back and the under body and front legs



Pulling over the shell back and tying it down



Learning the Corbina Shuffle

Years ago my son Paul and I were on a Patagonia store run down Ventura way. We parked along a bit of beach called La Conchita. He was anxious to surf, I would watch or fish for perch. The low surf was not that inviting to me, so I watched. Then a lone fly rodder walked along the wet line just holding his rod, he was heading up beach but paying attention to the surf line. I figured that I'd give it a try. Out I waded with Perch gear in hand, the lone fly rodder came back down the beach and I backed out to chit-chat. He was fishing for Corbina and he asked if I'd like to join him. Sure. We walked south in ankle deep water with the occasional wave coming up to our mid calves. He swung his rod and pointed to a ghost and then a zipper of water heading for the Channel Islands. I sort of saw the fish, saw the afterburners, and arrived at High anxiety about catching one of these Grey Ghosts.

I wasted a lot of gas getting to know a little about the right choices about when to fish the corbina. Some fun too. New beaches, tides, wind, wave incidences. A Lot.

Perch fishing is blind fishing and Corbina fishing is mostly sight fishing.

To see the fish, to not cast, to wait, the beach currents, to get into position were all to be learned. I can see this will take quite a few words.

Damn, so I'll just tell you how I do it.

The beach setup:

Here the wind and the current is from right to left. The fish will face into the current, they don't know about the wind yet. The sun is in the left quadrant during most of the day. South. The best is when the wave incidences is above every 14 seconds, with a incoming tide.

Social distancing is so important in corbina fishing. 100 feet minimum. They are very, very shy fish and will exit the beach at almost nothing. Especially a GROUP of bipeds.

Holding fly in hand and a few loops of line in your rod hand. Enter only up to about mid calf. Turn Left and move South shuffling your feet slowly. When a wave come in on you STOP. Look all around you from your feet out as far as you can see the sand. When the wave is on its way out again, start shuffling again. Prime viewing is looking parallel with the beach looking south. Look down and then out then scanning all around you. I've seen fish right at my feet. Because of glare and foam only about 35 feet is visible. You only have about 5 seconds to cast to a fish, so be prepared. If you see one behind you, don't cast to it, rookie move. Move up beach and get ready for the next wave to cast at the fish.

Shuffling is important in more ways than you would expect. The food corbina are looking for are for the most part Sand Crabs. They will probably jump on anything but Sand Crabs are their prime targets. Dig some sand crabs and then throw them into the water and see

what they do. Swim to the sand and then burrow in creating a ever so slight sand swirl. Evidence of life. Shuffling hides foot steps. And lessens the "movement" that will push fish off of shallow water very quickly. Another reason to shuffle is to "kick" a stingray if they are around, and they could be. Shuffling will not get you stung but push the ray away.

Rob Phillips. brittp2@mac.com Dauphin Island, Alabama

PRIVATE CASTING LESSONS AVAILABLE

While our five 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 also 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

Sally Stoner Halcyon 550-9509 fishsa144@gmail.com

SUPPORT IFFF AND YOUR LOCAL FISHING OUTFITTERS

Do you want the SLFF Club logo embroidered on any garment? **Contact R & T Embroidery...**
current cost \$7.75 each.



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 here:

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

Patrick Jaeger
Fly fishing Guide
SPECIALIZING IN THE WATERS OF THE
EASTERN SIERRAS & NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
LIC.# CA 2002
(760) 937-2310
2327 Stone Circle • Bishop, California 93514
esguidejaeger@hotmail.com • jaeger-flyfishing.com



**Northern Sierra's Premier
Fly Fishing Guide Service**

Jon Baiocchi, Owner
530.228.0487
BaiocchisTroutfitters.com
baiocchistroutfitters@yahoo.com

Licensed • Bonded • Insured



Mark's Guide Service
Specializing in Stillwater Flyfishing
Flyfishing And Conventional Tackle

Lic#1000349
P.O. Box 273 Chester, CA 96020
Markantaramian@gmail.com

For Questions Call 530-228-7117
To book a Trip Call 916-705-1207
http://www.marksguideservice.com

SOARING EAGLE
LODGE

SAN JUAN RIVER NEW MEXICO

JEFF MASSEY
Owner
info@soaringeaglelodge.net
505-632-3721


LICENSED BONDED

**DURAND'S
Guide Service**

SPECIALIZING IN FLY FISHING ON
FALL RIVER, HAT CREEK, McCLOUD RIVER,
UPPER & LOWER SACRAMENTO RIVER, TRINITY RIVER,
BAUM LAKE, McCUMBER LAKE

GEORGE DURAND
(530) 736-5288 • (530) 941-9757 CELL
736-5288

On The Riffle Guide Service



North Sacramento
(530) 270-7012
get@ontheriffle.com
www.ontheriffle.com

Home Waters Guide Service
Serving Fly Fisherman since 1984

Captain Mark Pinto
209-581-FISH

ORVIS® ENDORSED GUIDE
PintosHomeWaters@aol.com Calif. DFG Guide License #909
pintosehomewaters.com U.S. Coast Guard - O.U.P.V. #2795365



**STILLWATER
GUIDE SERVICE**



FLY FISHING EXCURSIONS

Chris Wharton - Owner chris@out4trout.com
Trophy Trout Specialist **775-851-1558**

JORDAN ROMNEY

FULL AND 1/2 DAY GUIDED FLY FISHING TRIPS
CLASSES, CLINICS, AND HOSTED TRAVEL

530.304.8421
JORDANROMNEY@GMAIL.COM

Beryl Rea 760 872-9836



**TROUT
SCOUT**

Lance & Kirsten

Guided Trips \ Fly Fishing Tours
Instruction \ Consulting \ Journalist
Travel



PO Box 962 - Willows, Ca 95988
530-517-2204
www.LanceGrayandCompany.com

SLFF CLUB OFFICERS/DIRECTORS/ COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
OFFICERS		<u>HOME</u>	<u>CELL</u>
PRESIDENT	LEW LEICHTER (ACTING)	934-2476	452-0497
VICE PRESIDENT	(VACANT)		
SECRETARY	SHERI BRYANT	474-8950	448-3369
TREASURER	ROBERT HARTZELL		650 722-1186
<u>DIRECTORS</u>			
	ART CHAPMAN	927-9660	540-1093
	RICK SAVAL		702 806-9436
	BERNARD PIETERS	489-3085	
	MARK SHELTON		459-7863
	BOB BAYER		434-7905
	CHARLOTTE KELLEY		515 669-6987
	ERIC TINGLOF		417 861-0264
<u>COMMITTEES</u>			
CONSERVATION	TOM NICKELSON		286-6881
	RON BRYANT	474-8950	709-2987
	DOUG DANIELS (TIC)	937-0376	760 258-5045
MEMBERSHIP	MARK SHELTON		459-7863
	ERIC TINGLOF		417 861-0264
NEWSLETTER	ERIC TINGLOF		417 861-0264
PROGRAMS	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
	ANTHONY BOZZANO		801-0517
OUTINGS SALT WATER	JIM SMALL	733-1428	680-7917
	DON WHEELER	434-5089	610-3158
	NEAL BROWN	356-6038	781 789-3377
OUTINGS FRESH WATER	RICK SAVAL		702 806-9436
	KEN BALDWIN	481-8027	440-4200

<u>EDUCATION</u>			
ROD BUILDING	BOB BAYER	782-9193	434-7905
	JIM SNODGRASS		235-3738
CASTING	BERNARD PIETERS	489-3085	
	ERIC SHERAR	461-3333	
FLY TYING	JIM SNODGRASS	925-5426	235-3738
	MIKE GRIFFITH		464-0622
BANQUET & BBQ	SHERI & RON BRYANT	474-8950	448-3369
WEBSITE	ROBERT BENASSI	541-2080	235-9713
	ART CHAPMAN	927-9660	540-1093
FUND RAISING	BOB BAYER (GEAR/ SPECIAL ORDERS)		434-7905
	MARK SHELTON (GEAR)		
	RICK SAMPLE (MEMBER GIFTS)		235-3551
	LEW LEICHTER (GUIDES/ GEAR)	934-2476	452-0497
LIBRARY	STEVE SOENKE		550-1715
SWCIFFF COORDINATOR	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
NOMINATING	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
	BERNARD PIETERS	489-3085	
	MARK SHELTON		474-7863

Questions or comments on the monthly newsletter? Contact: etinglof@lorencook.com