

SANTA LUCIA Fly Fishers



Tight Lines December, 2012

Andy Harrison, Editor (aharrison99@att.net)

<http://www.santaluciaflyfishers.com>

President's Letter

John Gierach: There is something in the air up here that makes us lie a lot. For instance, if we catch three trout you say you caught fifteen, and if you caught fifteen you say you caught three.

From our family to you and yours, Sylvia and I send our best wishes for a great holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

2013 DUES: Please take a moment and pay your \$35 dues. We will not require a renewal application unless your info has changed. Mail your payment to SLFF PO Box 166 SLO CA 93406 or bring it to the meeting.

NEW MEMBERS: Bob Bayer, Trish Curtis and Mary & Greg Lugo are our newest club members. Bob, Trish & Greg dove right in and took our beginners fly fishing course. They will also be participating in the beginners casting clinic. Thanks to David, Jim & Bernard for putting on these classes. We welcome them and look forward to spending time on the water with them someday soon.

WHY FUNDRAISING? A good question, let's look at what a balanced budget looks like:

We have 2 sources of income:

Dues (85 members @ \$35) \$2,975

Fund Raising (Income \$11,700 Costs \$5,700) Net income \$6,000

TOTAL INCOME \$8,975

We have 2 types of expenses:

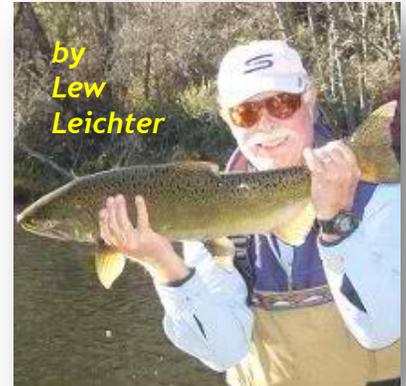
Fixed expenses: (Insurance \$1,400, Meeting room \$750, Dues (FFF & TU) \$450, Newsletter/website \$650, Other \$325) Total \$3,575

Discretionary expenses: Meeting speakers (6 @ \$400) \$2,400, Donations \$3,000

TOTAL EXPENSES \$8,975

As you can see our dues don't even cover our fixed expenses. Our fund raising efforts therefore allow us to have entertaining outside speakers at our banquet and about half our meetings and then support local conservation/education efforts (Trout in the Classroom, SLO Land Conservancy, Morro Bay National Estuary Program, etc.) To learn more about these three organizations we have added links to their websites on the home page of our website. I hope with this explanation we can all continue to support this effort. If you have questions or comments we'll be happy to discuss them with you.

(Continued next page)



REMINDER: a couple times recently we have had attendees at club outings or other events (classes etc) without signed Release Agreements (required for insurance purposes). If you are leading an outing or other event it's your responsibility to see this is taken care of. If they are on the roster we have the form; if not please obtain a Guest Release Agreement before proceeding. Suggest you have a couple copies (available on website). Thank you.

DECEMBER MEETING: We will start off by having our very brief annual meeting. Carlos Torres the Restoration Project Manager for the SLO Land Conservancy will bring us up to date on the restoration efforts on SLO creek (see below). Then it will be time for Mark Shelton to host our 3rd annual member year end slide show.

SAVE THE DATES:

- Dec 6th: Fly tying 6:30PM SLO Odd Fellow's Hall. Larry Sederberg will be tying the Kern Emerger.
- Dec 13th: Board of Directors meeting 5PM at Margie's. 6:30 General meeting at Margie's featuring SLO Land Conservancy and Mark Shelton's member slide show.
- Jan 19th: SWCFFF Club Management Day
- Jan 26th: Laguna Lake Pontoon/Kick boat test drives (see page 6)
- Feb 16th: SWCFFF Flybuy (see below)
- Mar 9th: Annual Luncheon at Madonna Inn (more later)
- Sept 20-22nd, 2013 SWCFFF Faire in Mammoth

SWCFF 2013 FlyBuy
February 16, 2013 9 am - 4 pm
Great Buys on New and Used Tackle
Benefit the Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers

LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB. 4901 East 7th Street Long Beach, CA 90804 Lunch \$10.00 for FFF members, \$15.00 others. Membership available at door. Please RSVP by January 23, 2013. Call 818. 757. 3474 or email: secretary@southwestcouncilfff.org

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FLY TYING 9-4

Learn from award winning fly tiers. Bill Blackstone, John Van Derhoof, Mark Kirchner, Maria Rivas, Graham Owen, Steven Fernandez, Dean Endress, Peter Koga, Lee Baerman, Carl Ronk, Naomi Okamoto and others. They will demonstrate their famous patterns and techniques! This event will feature 2 renowned Buzsek Award winners.

HOT CREEK LEADERS 10-noon

Hot Creek Guru Mas Okui will teach how to tie his famous freshwater leaders. The cost of the class is \$100.00. The leader kit will have enough material to create plenty of leaders to use throughout the season. The master will also instruct on how to cast these leaders. The class will be held from 10:00 am to noon. Limited to the first 10 people to RSVP by January 06, 2012. Please call 818. 757. 3474 or email: secretary@southwestcouncilfff.org

GARAGE SALE: 9-4

Please donate items for the fly fishing garage sale. Rods, reels, lines, clothes, vests or accessories. Anything not sold will be donated to Project Healing Waters or as needed by the SWC member

clubs. Items must be in working order and have a value of at least \$10.00. A great opportunity to dispose of extras and unwanted items of all matters fly fishing. *(Continued next page)*

Please give items to your SWCFFF representative or contact us directly. This is the perfect way to do spring cleaning and to help the SWCFFF!

CASTING 9-4

Take a quick lesson and receive pointers from our Certified Federation Instructors. \$1.00 per minute (15 minutes minimum). Your casting can be analyzed by one of our certified instructors. Get tips on your Single-handed, Spey or double-haul casting. See how you do in the Danish Casting Games! Come join in on the fun of casting!

SILENT AUCTIONS 9-3

For your bidding pleasure both select and special items will be on the tables all day. Bidding will be conducted or opened for 90 minutes at a time, all day. Come any time and place your bids!

LIVE AUCTION immediately after lunch

Special fly plates, unique specialized flies, private casting and special gear will be up for the exciting live auction. Don't miss it!

Next SLFF Meeting

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012 AT 6:30PM

MARGIE'S DINER, 1575 CALLE JOAQUIN, SLO



**Don't miss the ANNUAL SLIDESHOW!
Mark Shelton will be showing the slides
submitted by our members in 2012!**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Carlos Torres—Restoration Project Manager,
The Land Conservancy of SLO County**



Carlos Torres was born and raised in the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico. He attended the University of Puerto Rico to study Horticulture and then continued to explore and surf other islands when he transferred to the University of Hawaii. After graduating with a BS in General Agriculture and Tropical Forestry, Carlos worked on the Big Island in different field jobs from rare plant surveying to native plant nursery operation. Continuing his exploration of island ecosystems, he moved to San Clemente Island in California to work in a native plant greenhouse for a restoration project. Graduate school at Cal Poly brought Carlos to San Luis Obispo, where he studied restoration of rare plant species in the Guadalupe dunes for his Masters in Biology. While going to graduate school he worked in the Sierra Nevada, studying ferns and other rare plant species. Since 2010, he has been working for The Land Conservancy as the Restoration Project Manager, working multiple projects enhancing the habitat of Steelhead trout in San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed. *(Cont. next page)*

His other interests include; surfing, traveling, trail running, fishing, politics, organic farming, and keeping up with friends and family. When not out surfing around San Luis Obispo County, you will most likely find him hiking or exploring other special places of California.



Working Together to Benefit Fish

By Wende David, Development Director,
The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (LCSLO) is a local, non-profit, land trust working exclusively to protect and restore local lands for people and wildlife. Since 2009, The Land Conservancy and the Santa Lucia Fly Fishers Club have worked together in partnership to protect fish populations in San Luis Obispo County through conservation and restoration. Our successful collaboration has helped The Land Conservancy achieve important projects while engaging SLFF members as volunteer site stewards. Most significant is the financial support from SLFF which was leveraged by The Land Conservancy to improve the health and accessibility of prime fish habitat in local waterways, especially San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed.

Over the last three years, SLFF donations were utilized to make the following successes possible:

NATIVE TREE RESTORATION: In 2009 LCSLO purchased Sycamore trees and coordinated the installation of multi-year maintenance of the trees at Lower SLO Creek Floodplain Preserve. SLFF volunteers assisted with maintenance, and the trees are now established enough to thrive without additional care. (\$625 SLFF donation)

REMOVING INVASIVE ARUNDO: The full Restoration staff (seasonal field crew & leader, and Restoration Project Manager) spent several days in 2009 removing the most significant Arundo stand at "The Wall" and treating Arundo at other key locations along San Luis Obispo Creek; City of SLO has since taken over management of these areas. SLFF funds were significantly leveraged by contracting and utilizing pro-bono services donated by the California Conservation Corps. (\$4,200 SLFF donation)

Restoration staff spent nearly two weeks performing surveys, maintenance and follow-up treatment of invasive Arundo in the entire upper SLO Creek Watershed (north of Lower SLO Creek Floodplain Preserve). Every location and treatment area was mapped in the field to ensure project success and maximize efficiency. (\$3,500 SLFF donation)

In Spring 2011 our Restoration Staff treated the last stand of Arundo. The Santa Lucia Fly Fishers have been a critical partner in The Land Conservancy's efforts to achieve eradication of Arundo from the San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed. SLFF donations were matched and leveraged by approximately \$350,000 from other funders and project partners.

LEVERAGING SUPPORT TO DO MORE WORK: The AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Program (WSP) provided hundreds of hours of WSP member participation. WSP members performed follow-up surveys throughout the watershed to ensure that we understand the recurrence and extent of Arundo in the areas where LCSLO has worked. This program represents an additional match to SLFF investments.

Because of the great restoration efforts our partnership makes possible, The Land Conservancy is looking for continued support from SLFF to tackle invasive Arundo in local watersheds.

Arundo (*Arundo donax*) is an invasive non-native plant that is threatening California's streams. An aggressive invader, Arundo spreads quickly and can colonize from broken stems or roots that float downstream. Because of its rapid growth, it destroys fish and wildlife habitat by displacing native plants. Arundo is highly flammable, burning even when green, and it accelerates erosion by destabilizing stream banks. To sustain its rapid growth, Arundo consumes large amounts of water that native plants, fish, wildlife and humans rely on to survive.

While natural areas in other parts of California have been permanently altered by Arundo, San Luis Obispo County has the unique opportunity to proactively address Arundo infestations and limit its damaging impacts to local ecosystems.

In fact, efforts by The Land Conservancy and its partners are ensuring the eradication of Arundo from San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed, a significant habitat area for threatened (*Continued next page*)

south-central California coast steelhead and other sensitive wildlife. Initial removal of existing Arundo from SLO Creek Watershed was completed in fall 2011 along with sophisticated GIS mapping of each problem area. These efforts were primarily funded by agency grants from CA Department of Fish & Game, the San Luis Obispo County Weed Management Area group, the Avila 1 Trustee Council, California Conservation Corps, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, for a total of approximately \$350,000. Follow-up treatment was performed in 2012 and is required for at least 5 years to ensure the plant will not re-sprout on its own.

Because initial treatment to removal Arundo from the entire watershed has already taken place, the current need is for consistent follow-up over the next four years (at minimum). LCSLO has determined that a professional with local Arundo removal expertise is needed full-time for at least one week to monitor and address Arundo in San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed between 2012-2016. (Additional monitoring will likely be required on an on-going basis in the future, and project needs will be regularly re-assessed.)

Therefore, LCSLO has set a goal to raise \$2,000 annually for its Arundo Eradication Project to maintain and retreat Arundo in the SLO Creek Watershed.

To build on the past investments of the Santa Lucia Fly Fishers to help eradicate Arundo from the SLO Creek Watershed, LCSLO is seeking a multi-year pledge donation of \$10,000 over 5 years for continued follow up treatment between 2012-2016. This financial support would provide stable project funding and strengthen the relationship between our organizations. A partnership with SLFF at this funding level will also help LCSLO leverage additional funding from grant agencies to improve steelhead habitat and enhance local waterways.



Fly Tying Group to Tackle the Kern Emerger *by Larry Sederberg*

The next fly tying session will be held on the coming Thursday, Dec. 6th, at the SLO Oddfellows Hall (in the small meeting room to the right as you enter the hall), at 6:30 PM. The pattern will be the **Kern Emerger**, led by Larry Sederberg.

Guy Jeans of Kern River Troutfitter's came up with this excellent variation on the Hare's Ear Nymph with his **Kern Emerger** in 2004. It has many of the same components as a Hare's Ear Nymph but utilizes different materials which tend to be more flashy and give additional contrast. Guy uses a Peacock Herl body with a Black Dyed Deer Hair tail. The thorax consists of the Synthetic Living Fiber Dubbing that Paul Jorgensen introduced in a Fall Green Olive color. This dubbing has a multi-color blend and provides both translucency and sparkle. He produced it for Steelhead and Salmon but it is an excellent trout fly material as well. Guy will pick out the fibers to suggest legs or appendages. The foam wingcase helps lift the fly off the bottom and also gives the fly a color contrast that evokes attraction for a strike. For additional action, Guy will add rubberlegs. Beadhead patterns use the same thorax material but will not be picked out. A soft hackle of partridge or Brown Hen is used to accomplish the leggy look. The Kern Emerger has been the "go-to" fly at the Kern River since he introduced it and has been getting wide acceptance throughout the Sierras. The Kern Emerger is tied in sizes 10 through 18. The color of the foam wingcase differs according to season - red for Spring and runoff, yellow for Summer and Fall, and pink for winter. Larry fishes the Kern Emerger with a Kern Candy18 below it. He always uses flourocarbon 4x or 5x.



The November session was well attended, and involved the Hare's Ear pattern, led by Paul Crafts. The January session is scheduled to cover a blue/green Clouser streamer pattern, led by Andy Malovos.

Upcoming Outing

LAGUNA LAKE FISH-FLOAT

Sat. Jan 26, 9-12 AM

Ever wonder if there are fish in Laguna Lake? There are--bass and carp plus others! Have you ever wondered what it is like to fish from a floatation device? Mystified by stillwater fishing techniques and equipment? Want to fish for what Lefty calls "the most challenging freshwater fish"? Join us at Laguna Lake on Sat., Jan 26 for a discussion of stillwater craft and fishing techniques, a demonstration of various types of flotation craft and equipment, an opportunity try out a craft or two and then fish the lake. We will have several different types of flotation devices for you to try out and experienced boaters to guide you. There really are bass and carp in Laguna Lake and we will have someone to show you how to fish for them. Also plan on sticking around for a pizza lunch.



Bring a 6-8 wt rod with floating line and a 12-20 lb straight 5-8' leader, a few streamers or poppers, and beg, borrow, rent or steal some waders and flippers. PFD's are required. Various members and the club are making boats, PFD's, flippers and a couple of rods and reels available for participants to use so don't let lack of equipment keep you on your couch.

Meet at the ramada at the southwest end of Laguna Lake Park at 9 AM all ready to go for an exciting and educational day. Reservations required. This event has a maximum of 10 and a minimum of 6. If we don't get 6 reservations one week before the beginning of the event then it will be cancelled. If you already have a boat and feel confident about fishing from it but would just like to fish the lake then *Come On Out!* Contact Alex at chloefishdog@hotmail.com or 772-5694 for more info and to reserve spot. Chance of rain greater than 50% cancels and reschedules to following Saturday. -Alex Beattie

ATTENTION MEMBERS: ART CHAPMAN AND RICH CHUBON ARE SEEKING YOUR INPUT FOR NEW OUTINGS IN 2013. PLEASE CALL THEM WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS (ART 927-9660 OR RICH 782-9193) OR TALK TO THEM AT THE MEETING.

PAASKE'S TROUT LAKE *Here is a cool opportunity to catch some nice trout close to home.*



There is now a new fly fishing option in the area. Rick Paaske lives in Los Olivos and manages a 5-acre lake on a private ranch. He has turned this beautiful spot into a catch-and-release pay to play fishery. It is stocked with big triploid rainbows to 25" and is situated in a gorgeous setting in the



foothills of the valley. Price per angler is \$75. This would also be good for small club outings. The lake is steep-sided so float tubes or pontoons are best. Rick has found that six boats on the water at a time are great, and anything after that you should all be friends. Reservations and info: Rick Paaske, paasco@msn.com, phone 705-4005 (C), 688-6396 (H).

Past Outing Reports

O'Neil Forebay Stripers *by Art Chapman*

We held the O'Neil Forebay outing again this year on November 9-11. Seven members attended. Lew Leichter and Rich Chubon brought their boat as did Mark Shelton, whose son drove up from Cal Poly after class on Friday to fish with him. Alex Beattie and his son from Modesto camped and fished from float tubes.

Although the weather was unstable and we had a little rain on the trip up, we managed to slip around the rain squalls. The weather turned out to be perfect the entire weekend, with no legendary winds as sometimes happens on the Forebay. We met for dinner on Friday at the Basque restaurant, Woolgrowers, in Los Banos and had no problem finishing any extra food, thanks to David Shelton, who is as tall and thin as his Dad, but has the appetite of a football player.



Fishing wasn't great, but we caught multiple fish every outing from the boats. On Friday afternoon, as we were beginning to try our luck along the long rip rap dam on the east side of O'Neil, we noticed a boil of fish right up next to the rocks. We tossed our flies into the boil and immediately hooked two good sized stripers. After landing them, we saw the boil a few minutes later a short distance away. Again we managed to get to the boil in time and hooked fish. It appeared that the stripers were chasing a school of threadfin shad bait which just entered the



forebay from the canal inflow a short distance north of our location, trapping and attacking them against the rocks. That was fun. Unfortunately, on Saturday, the fish did not show off like they had the previous day. Because the action on the lake was sporadic, it helped to have the boats available to cover more water during the day.

Whether you have a boat or a tube, think about going next year, if you did not attend this year. It's a heck of a lot of fun to get a striper on a fly!

COME WET A LINE WITH US!

FOR SLFF MEMBERSHIP INFO, PLEASE VISIT

[HTTP://WWW.SANTALUCIAFLYFISHERS.COM/MEMBERSHIP.HTM](http://www.santaluciaflyfishers.com/membership.htm)

SANTA LUCIA *Fly Fishers*



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<i>Outings, Fresh Water</i>	Alex Beattie, Rich Chubon	<i>Library</i>	Steve Soenke
<i>SWCFFF Coordinator</i>	Lew Leichter		

Santa Lucia

Fly Fishers

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