

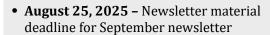
TIGHT LINES

info@santaluciaflyfishers.com | San Luis Obispo County |

Editor: Michael Powers



- August 14, 2025 SLFF Monthly Meeting, speaker Brian O'Keefe
- September 7, 2025 SLFF Fall Social
- October 9, 2025 SLFF Monthly Meeting, speaker Scott Sugimoto
- November 13, 2025 SLFF Monthly Meeting, speaker Skip and Carol Morris



Contact Our Club:

SLFF P.O. Box 166 SLO, CA 93406

EMAIL:

info@santaluciaflyfishers.com

WEBSITE:

www.santaluciaflyfishers.com



Don Wheeler Enjoying Summer Fun on the East Cape of Baja

In This Month's Newsletter

President's Message **August Meeting Halibut Outing** SLFF Fall Social Fall Western Sierra Outing Updated Manzanita Lake Outing Report Lake Almanor Outing Report San Juan River Outing Report Special Offer from California Fly Fisher

The Santa Lucia Fly Fishers fly fishing club was established in 1975 to give local area fly fishers of San Luis Öbispo, 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 saltwater surf, and freshwater rivers and lakes.

President's Message

By Eric Tinglof



Greyson starting his summer out right on the Lower Sac

This year, our Fall Social will again be at the Octagon Barn Complex on Sunday September 7th. It will be a dinner format, running from 4:00 to 6:30 PM. Food will be catered by Hanna's Street Tacos of Los Osos fame. Drinks, appetizers and dessert are included to round out the meal. Bring your own favorite alcoholic beverages. An ensemble will be performing live music focusing on jazz standards from the Great American Songbook. Throw in the special raffle of an "old school" Dave Scadden boat amongst other great prizes, and you've got a very fun evening. We only do two big social events a year. This is one of them. If you are a new member and don't know what our Club is all about, come to the Fall Social to meet your fellow fly fishers. It's a great group of people!

Bernard Pieters is once again leading an outing to Port San Luis on August 9th, targeting halibut. I have never been able to make this special trip before, but I am planning on learning the subtle techniques that are required. When other members in the Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International (SWCFFI) read our newsletters, I get a lot of comments about how lucky we are to be able to target halibut right here in our backyard. Come join Bernard and our Club on the 9th. Important information about this outing is contained later in this newsletter.

Speaking of Fly Fishers International (FFI), they just underwent another update of content on their website, focusing primarily on the casting section. If you are a member of FFI, you will find a lot of useful resources on this site.

I can't say enough about how much I am enjoying the second coming of the California Fly Fisher magazine. I liked it before it took a break. I love it now. The paper copy feels great in the hands (old school, I know) with a digital copy available as well. Please see their special offer in this edition of the newsletter.

SLFF MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

Thursday, August 14, 2025
The Milking Parlor at the Historic Octagon Barn

4400 Octagon Way, San Luis Obispo
(And via Zoom)

Doors open @ 5:45 pm. General Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Log-in instructions will be sent ahead of the meeting, for Zoom.

Flats Fishing - Bahamas, Belize, Mexico, Cuba

I have combined a lifetime of fly fishing photography with a lot of serious fly fishing. I published my first fly fishing photo when I was 16. That was 54 years ago! In that time, I have been very busy trying to fish and photo as many interesting places as possible. My angling travels have taken me to distant destinations like Cuba, Tonga, Bikini Atoll, New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Kashmir, England, Brazil, Nicaragua and many more. As much as I like trips to the Bahamas, Belize, the Yucatan, etc, I am just as much a home water fisherman. I moved to Bend, Oregon in 1975 and guided on the Deschutes, North Umpqua, and Klamath in California through the late 70's. I have been fortunate to live on steelhead rivers, bass lakes, plus trout streams like the Metolius River. Currently, I live in Eastern Idaho, near the South Fork of the Snake River, the Teton River and the Henry's Fork. Fly fishing is a great lifestyle!

I have enjoyed a nice working relationship with many magazines, newspapers, tackle catalogs, books, websites and seven fun years as co-owner of Catch Magazine with Todd Moen.

I have a simple website at <u>www.brianokeefephotography.com</u>



Member Presentations

Lew Leichter and Mark Shelton

For those of you that didn't attend our July 10th meeting you missed out on the reintroduction of our own members doing short programs on one their favorite fishing venues or trips. The meeting was cool with lots of questions and answers after each presentation. Members used a PowerPoint or a series of slides and each program was about 15 minutes.

We plan to schedule two of these next year and have selected our April 9th and October 8th meetings so we need six of you to raise your hands. At this time all we need is your name and the subject of your program.

Contact Mark Shelton or me to get on the list and thanks for participating.

Lew & Mark

Updating Contact Information on the Santa Lucia Fly Fishers website.

It is very easy to update addresses, email addresses and change passwords on the website. Log into the website with your username and password. Go into the "Members" dropdown under the SLFF logo and select "My Account". In "Account Details" on the left hand side of the page you can change your email address or reset your password. In the "Address" section you can change your home address. Then press the green "SAVE CHANGES" button at the bottom of each page and you are done.

Raffle Changes...

Lew Leichter

Rather than continue our gear raffle at our monthly meetings we're going to try something new, a 50/50 raffle.

As before we'll continue to sell raffle tickets. Tickets are \$5 for two (2) tickets or \$10 for five (5) tickets. At the end of the meeting one ticket will be drawn. The winner gets half the pot and the club retains the other half.

Manzanita Lake Fishing Report June 22-28 Bernard Pieters

On my way to Manzanita I was fishing first a few places in Oregon. Shady Cove on the Rogue is a destination, where the salmon fly hatch was supposed to be in full swing at this time of the year. The best fishing was in the evening till dark. On my last evening, I did a hard unlucky fall on the rocks, hurting my right shoulder.

After a few long minutes of lying there, I started to realize what just happened to me. I was able to move my painful arm a bit to relieve me of this uncomfortable position and walk back to my truck. A future MRI scan revealed substantial rotator cup damage. The use of my arm to cast and to fish is out of the question for at least several months. I informed the members that planned to come to Manzanita of my accident.

Some new to the lake changed their fishing plans and are hoping to come next year.

Terry Croxton and his wife Tina arrived for the outing in the beginning of the week, and had 5 days of nice weather in the seventies. He reported to me:

The nymph and dry fly fishing were slow. On the other hand I had a very good time fishing big ants close to the shore catching a wild trout slurping the ants on the water. On the more windy days the ants were also productive all over the lake for the whole day. There were almost no other fly fishers on the water. Also there were fewer park rangers to enforce the fishing and park regulations

Todd Tosse and his wife Martha arrived in the middle of the week and stayed for several days. Todd has been fishing the lake for over 25 years, and Martha for about 15 years. Todd reported to me:

Daily temperatures were in the high seventies and mid-forties for the lows. On most days there was some wind and a good ripple on the water, mostly sunny to partly cloudy. We experienced some light rain for a few hours. The nymph fishing was decent-to-good for us but required long leaders to be productive. The dry fly activity was daily sporadic and spread out all over the lake but still productive.

The cloudy, rainy day was superior to all the other days we were fishing. The lake was boiling over with trout surface activity, something that we were lucky to witness on our trip. The dry fly fishing was a blast and will be remembered for a long time. For several hours, Martha and I had strikes on almost every cast producing, a lot of 14 to 18-inches hard-fighting wild trout.

This is what Manzanita is all about and it brings us back year after year. Prepare yourself well for this beautiful stillwater, you will be glad you did.

See you next year at Manzanita!

Fishing Trip to Lake Almanor: A Week of Highs, Lows, and Hex Hatch Magic Kenneth Baldwin

Our week-long fishing adventure to Lake Almanor began with an eight-hour drive from Arroyo Grande to the Hamilton Branch area, where our rental cabin was located. The journey included a relaxing one-hour lunch break at the charming Putah Creek Café, a favorite stop along the way. We arrived late in the afternoon and were greeted by our fishing companions Art Chapman and Kevin Shaw, who had already headed out to fish the famous Hex Hatch with guide Joe Garza.

The next morning, Lou and I met Joe at the Peninsula boat launch and set off across the lake. The day started with a bang—Lou landed a beautiful 18-inch rainbow trout within the first 30 minutes. Unfortunately, that would be our only catch of the morning, as the fish seemingly vanished for the rest of the session. We regrouped over lunch and met back up with Joe at 4:30 p.m. for an evening trip to the west side of the lake. This time, the Hex Hatch delivered: I landed seven impressive fish, each over 18 inches, including a stunning 22-inch rainbow on a Hex dry fly. We returned to the cabin tired but exhilarated.

On Tuesday, we ventured to nearby Echo Lake, about a 30-minute drive, where the fishing was fair—several smaller fish ranging from 6 to 12 inches. Wednesday brought us north to Fall River Mills to meet guide George Durand on the legendary Fall River, California's largest spring-fed stream. Despite the river's reputation, fishing was slow, with few catches over 12 or 13 inches, though the scenery and peaceful flow made for a pleasant day.

Thursday began with a trip to another local spot, Crater Lake (not to be confused with Oregon's), where we spent several enjoyable hours landing 6 to 12-inch trout mostly on dry flies, with an ant pattern proving particularly effective. We had planned to fish the Hex Hatch

again that evening with guide Mark Antemarian, but an unexpected medical emergency forced us to cancel. Instead, we fished around the Hamilton Branch outlet and the main lake under hot, 80-degree conditions that stifled fish activity. We packed up on Saturday for the long drive home—ten hours with a lunch break at Casa de Fruta. Despite a few disappointments in fish numbers, the trip was memorable, highlighted by stunning scenery, great company, and a truly unforgettable Hex Hatch evening.





July 2025 San Juan Trip

Tom Fitzhugh

Once again, the San Juan River in New Mexico did not disappoint the 8 SLFF anglers who fished it the 8th through 11th! The trip, expertly organized and lead by Jim Snodgrass, provided 4 days of big rainbow and brown trout hookups on the drift, punctuated by excellent dining, outstanding accommodations and warm camaraderie.

Weather was sunny and dry, peaking in the mid-90s, but the breeze coming off the 45 degree water kept things nice in the boats. We fished 2 anglers per guide, rotating each day so we got to learn tricks and techniques from each guide. The density of fish and their size in the few miles of tailwaters that we traversed each day was amazing. Despite the continual presence of passing drift boats, the fish were not shy eating #22-#24(!) midge nymphs and dry Chubby's. 6X tippet was the order of the day, so the 20"+ pigs were a great learning opportunity for controlled hook-sets and patient fighting techniques.

Accommodations and guides were all provided through the Soaring Eagle Lodge, with our fully-equipped and air-conditioned cabins located right at waters edge, and excellent on-site dining provided both at breakfast and dinner. Adjacent cabins and common dining made opportunities every day to better know our SLFF members and to make new friends.

Overall, I give the trip 5 stars, and I'm already looking forward to doing it again in August of 2026!



The intrepid 8 SLFF anglers at Soaring Eagle Lodge



We'll have our special raffle with winners to be drawn on September 7th the day of our Fall Social (winners do not need to be present).

First prize will be a Dave Scadden Predator Lo Pro X (see picture below).

Second prize will be complete adjustable Tenkara Satoki kit.

Third prize will be one of Pat Jaeger's fish stick wading staff.

Tickets for the raffle will be \$25 each and are available to purchase on our website.

DAVE SCADDEN'S Predator LO PRO X

Donated by Dave Scadden

Daye's Outlaw Predator Lo Pro X Ultra Lite proves the theory that less is more. Over 10 lbs less to be exact, Yes, that's right, 10 lbs less than the lightest pontoon boat made. The new Predator tips the scales under 20 pounds. The new Predator incorporates our exclusive new rigid inflated floor system which gives you the ability to stand and sight fish. It is fully equipped with Dave's rack and pinion oar system, breakaway footrest bar, seat, and gear bags. Add a lifetime warranty, the new Predator is ready to rock!



- Length: 8' Width: 48'
- Diameter: 14"
- Weight: 16 lbs.
- Weight Capacity: 700 lbs.
- Frame: Framcloss Frame Material: Frameless
- Pontocns: Bladderless
- Oars: Alooa 6061 T65 Oar Locks: Rack & Pinion
- Seat: Portable EVA or Cushioned
- Rigid inflatable floor
- Breakaway footrest bar system
- Warranty: Lifetime

2025 Speaker Program Schedule Lew Leichter and Mark Shelton

DATE	IP (IN PERSON)	NAME	PROGRAM
	z (zoom)		
JAN 9	IP	JOE GARZA	YUBA
FEB 13		STEVE SCHALLA	GOLDEN TROUT
MAR 22	BANQUET	LANCE GRAY	NO CAL WATERS TOUR
			FEATHER RIVER, ALMANOR & MANZANITA
APR 10	IP	TIM FRAHM	TU CENTRAL COAST STEELHEAD
MAY 8	IP	AUDREY TAUB	BEAVERS AND WHY THEY MATTER
HINE 42	70014	DUIL DOMEST	CTU LIMATER A MICTA MEC
JUNE 12	ZOOM	PHIL ROWLEY	STILLWATER MISTAKES
JULY 10	IP	MEMBERS	MEMORABLE MEMBER TRIPS
JOL1 10	ir	WEINDERS	MEMORABLE MEMBER TRIPS
AUG 14	ZOOM	BRIAN O'KEEFE	FLATS FISHING BAHAMAS, BELIZE, MEXICO
7.00 2 1			CUBA
SEP 7	FALL SOCIAL		
OCT 9	IP	SCOTT SUGIMOTO	LOWER SAC FISHING TECNIQUES
NOV 13	ZOOM	SKIP & CAROL MORRIS	MAKE SOFT HACKLE AND WET FLY
DEC 11 IP		ANNUAL MEETING	& MEMBER
		SLIDE SHOW	

HALIBUT OUTING, PORT SAN LUIS - AUGUST 9th

Bernard Pieters

We fly fishers are always in search of new fishing waters, and have many times overlooked what our coastal waters have to offer. Until now, only a few members have some experience in how to fish productively for halibut. It is surprising, considering the fishing location "almost in our backyard", we don't see more members tapping into this great seasonal fishing opportunity.

When: Saturday August 9th.

Where: Port San Luis -Parking lot north of the pier.

Low Tide: 5:13 am (0.7 ft).

High Tide: 11:35 am (4.34 ft).

Gear up: Around 6:45 am.

Fishing: Around 7:15 am.

To the novice of our halibut outing: 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, with the exception of waves around high tide. This is the opposite of surf perch fishing, where we have constant wave movement. 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, combined with some good fishing tips is crucial, and can greatly improve your chance to succeed in your effort to catch the big prize!

Fishing from the shore can be done to high tide and slightly after high tide. It is advisable to bring your pontoon so you can explore more fishing water. FOR YOUR SAFETY, If you are using a pontoon boat or float tube, it is SAFER to land your pontoon back to shore at least 1/2 hour before or 1/2 hour after high tide. During this hour around high tide the waves are TURBULENT and make your landing much more DIFFICULT.

If needed, I can help you with your fishing set-up and flies, and give you advice to get you to a good start on the water

What to bring:

Gear: Rod 6 to 8wt with saltwater reel & floating line with 5 to 10ft intermediate poly-leader.

Leader: 9 to 10ft of 8 to 10lb mono tippet.

Flies: Clousers in white and chartreuse size 4 to 6.

Waders with saltwater booties or sandals; sunglasses and sunblock.

Note: PFD is REQUIRED for Pontoon or float tube.

If you have any questions, contact Bernard Pieters at 805 489 3085 bpieters84@gmail.com
See you on the water!
Bernard

Western Sierra Trout Outing - October 14-17 Eric Tinglof

We are pleased to announce our fourth annual Western Sierra trout outing centered on the dates of October 14th through 17th. If you want to come sooner or later, that is great. A group dinner is planned for Thursday night October 16th.

We will be fishing the South Fork of the Kings River again this year. The trout tend to be on the smaller side but that is what you usually expect with walking and wading small streams. The terrain can be rough at times, but access to fishing is generally available to all. And, what a magnificent backdrop: Kings Canyon National Park, Roads End and the General Grant big redwood grove make for an exhilarating trip to be sure.

If you are not in the mood for camping, the Cedar Grove Lodge offers rooms, but everything is starting to book up. Some members have already been able to make room reservations at the Lodge.

https://www.visitsequoia.com/stay/lodging/cedar-grove-lodge/

We have now secured five (5) campsites at the Sentinel Campground near the Lodge. This is the same cluster that worked so well last year.

If you are interested in joining this outing, please let me know ASAP.

etinglof19@gmail.com 417-861-0264



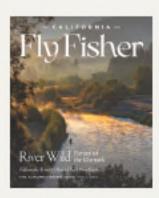


The Magazine for California Fly Fishers

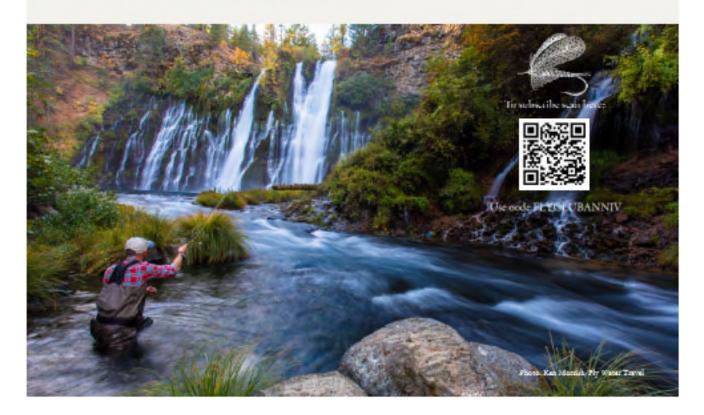
For more than three decades, California Fly Fisher has been the go-to publication for anglers who care about California's fisheries, wild trout, and the craft of fly fishing.

To mark their one-year relaunch anniversary, California Fly Fisher is offering club members an exclusive subscription discount—plus 10% off all merchandise

Don't miss an issue. Subscribe Today!



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2025 TENTATIVE OUTINGS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT NAME	CONTACT EMAIL
January - September	Surf Perch outings		donaldgwheeler@gamil.c
Dates TBD	SLO County	Don Wheeler	<u>om</u>
	Surf Perch outings		
	SB County	Ken Baldwin	klb1048@gmail.com
February 1 & 8 (make up			
Feb 22)	Casting Clinic	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
March - June Dates TBD	Santa Rita Ranch	Bob Bayer	rbayer319@gmail.com
Tieren jene zases 122		200 20,01	donaldgwheeler@gmail.co
		Don Wheeler	<u>m</u>
		Andy Harrison	aharrison99@att.net
Mary Data TDD	V: 4' - C	I am I at absent	lalaiahtan@hatmail.aam
May Date TBD	Kid's Camp	Lew Leichter	lsleichter@hotmail.com
June 22 - 26	Manzanita Lake	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
June 22 - June 28	Lake Almanor	Lew Leichter	lsleichter@hotmail.com
, and II , and I			
			lynda.and.jim@comcast.
July 7-July 12	San Juan River	JIm Snodgrass	<u>net</u>
August Date TBD	Avila Bay Halibut outing	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
September Date TBD	Easten Sierra	LEADER NEEDED	
October 14-16	Kings River	Eric Tinglof	ETinglof19@gmail.com
November/December	O'Neil Forebay		
November/December Date TBD	Striper fishing	Mark Shelton	mshelton@calpoly.edu
Other Possible Outings	Kern River	LEADER NEEDED	
	Yuba & Feather River	LEADER NEEDED	



Fly Fishers International (FFI) is dedicated, through education and conservation, to preserving the fly fishing experience. Conservation of our public waters and connected upland's is essential to our enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of fishes and their habitats and also the health of natural systems.

"When you teach a person to fly fish you have just created a conservationist"

- Lee Wulf





Pictured above: Asher de Callier with his prize trout.

"When we teach a person to fly fish, we just created a conservationist." Lee Wulff

https://www.swcffi.org/donate

or send a check to: Southwest Council PO Box 52, South Pasadena, CA 91031

If you would like to sign up for the Southwest Council Fly Fishers International's (SWCFFI) monthly newsletter, click here: http://eepurl.com/dEL97L

PRIVATE CASTING LESSONS AVAILABLE

While our six FFI 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

Arroyo Grande 550-9071 rbrthurd@gmail.com

Todd Tose

Grover Beach 904-5288. trtflyfisher@charter.net

Heleven 550 0500 fishes 144@gmail.com

Sally Stoner Halcyon 550-9509 fishsal44@gmail.com

Deb Cox Arroyo Grande 440-4344 <u>debgrainercox@yahoo.com</u>

SLFF MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

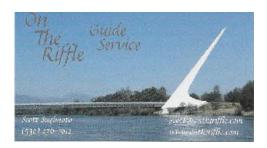
An individual regular membership is \$45.00 per year for 12 months (January through December).

Enrollment after July 1st is \$30.00 for the remainder of the year.

To join, please visit our website: santaluciaflyfishers.com

MEMBERSHIP FEES CAN BE PAID ONLINE New Members or Membership Renewal

GUIDE SERVICES:



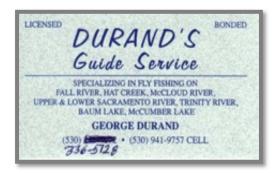








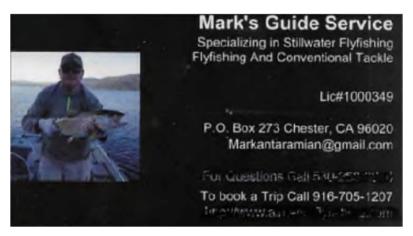








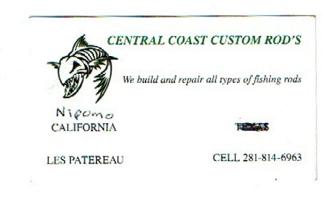






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