

ON THE FLY

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
FLY FISHERS CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY
OVER 50 YEARS OF SERVING OUR MEMBERS!



DECEMBER 2023

Inside This Issue

Important!! Our December 13 and January 10 Meetings will be held at The Duck Club in Irvine. We will be evaluating the use of this venue. Your feedback of the meeting experience is essential in the evaluation of this venue! See Page 3 for additional details and the Duck Club location. You may also find Duck Club meeting info on our Welcome Page of the Club website.

Also, please bring a new, unwrapped toy to our December meeting, and we will deliver them all to a local kids charity.

We will also have our annual election of the 2024 Board members at the next meeting. Still need a couple more volunteers!

Check the website Events Calendar and join in the activities of **YOUR** Club!!

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www.ffcoc.org



President's Message

President's Message by Brian Mayer

As we come to the end of 2023, I am looking back fondly at my Presidency of the Club, the trips I have gone on and the many friends that I have shared experiences with. The friendships I have found in this Club are truly rewarding.

This month's Club meeting will be at a new location with a new format. I encourage all Club members to attend and then answer our survey to help guide future meetings.

Bring a new, unwrapped toy to our December meeting, and we will deliver them to a local kids charity.

Do you want to do more for your Club? Would you like to help guide our Club's future? Consider volunteering for our Board of Directors. As a volunteer run organization, we rely on the help and dedication of our members. Many of the current Board members have been serving for quite a while. It is time for a new generation to take over the helm. For those willing to do more, we have open Board of Directors positions in leadership and administration. Education, outings, sponsorship, outreach, speakers, auctions, newsletters - all these activities require an active board and committee chairs.

The Board can use new members in any positions. Please feel free to contact myself or any current Board member to explore your participation.

Election for 2024 Board of Directors

At the December meeting, we will have our annual election of Board members. We will accept all nominations from any member of the Club at the meeting and then hold the election.

All members of the Club are welcome to attend the monthly Board meeting via Zoom. Come see what your Board does. Meeting information and Zoom connection are available from the Club website – the link is at the bottom center of the Club's homepage.

As our Club has grown and more people are attending our monthly meetings, we are quickly outgrowing our meeting location. Our Venue Committee is hard at work trying to locate another appropriate location. If you know of a meeting location that you think we should check out, please contact myself or any member of the Board with your suggested site.

Best regards,

Brian Mayer
President, 2023
president@ffcoc.org
(562) 619-9169



IMPORTANT!! FFCOC Meeting Venue for December and January

FFCOC December and January Meetings

To Be Held at the:
Irvine Ranch Water District Duck Club



When: December 13, 2023

January 10, 2024

Standard Meeting Times:

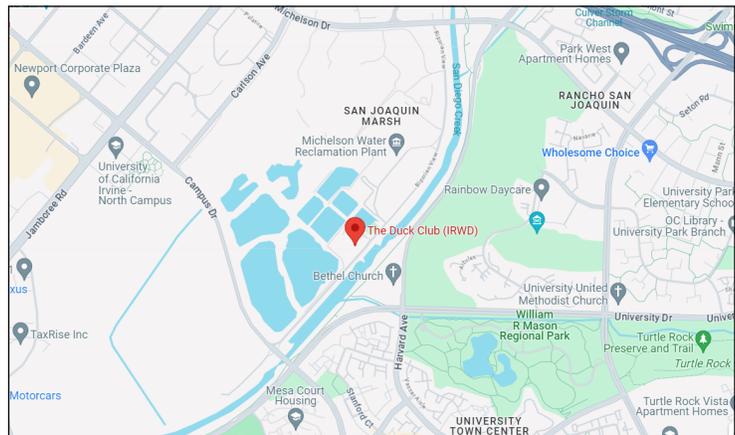
6:30 PM - Social Hour

7:30 PM - Speaker Presentation

9:00 PM - Meeting Concludes

Where: IRWD Duck Club
15 Riparian View
Irvine, CA 92612

Meeting Fee: None.



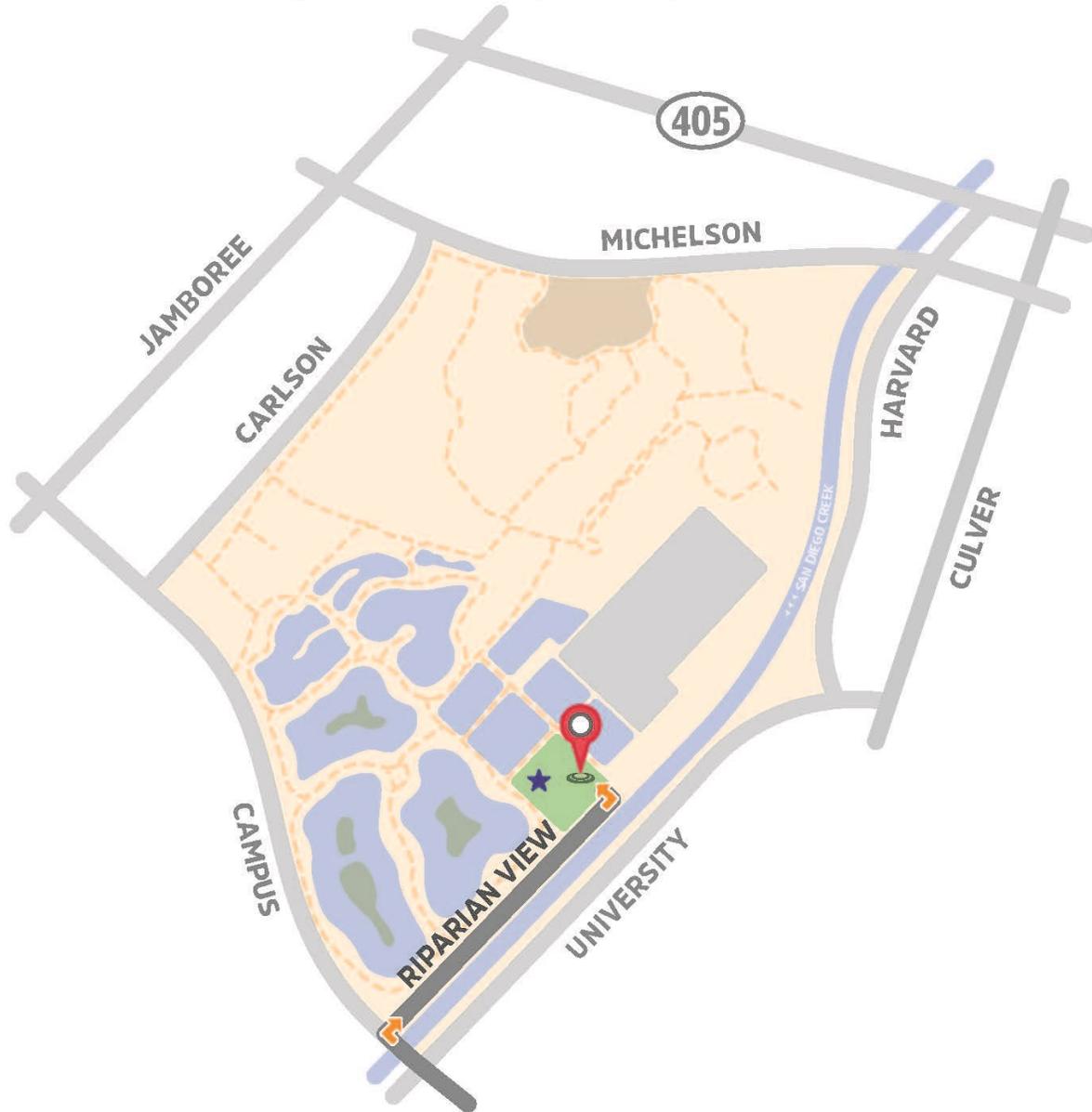
Come and join us to evaluate the use of this venue! We're looking for your feedback!!
And yes, guests are always welcome!

- The December and January Meetings will have limited refreshments available; bottled water and soda. No food or appetizers will be served.
- All meetings at the Duck Club will require member volunteers for room setup, cleanup and room breakdown at meeting conclusion. Additional meeting amenities (food and beverage service) will also require volunteers. We're looking for your feedback of this venue to evaluate its further use.

Duck Club Virtual Tour (YouTube): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWLhaxuB5IO>

Map to San Joaquin Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary and Campus

5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612



- Turn right onto Riparian View from Campus Drive.
(**RIGHT TURN ONLY** from Campus onto Riparian View, there is no access from Michelson.)
- Turn left into the Marsh Campus parking and overflow parking.
- ★ **San Joaquin Marsh Campus:**
Audubon House, Duck Club, Visitors Center
Sea and Sage House, and Learning Center



REV050823

2023 Speakers

MONTHLY SPEAKER PROGRAM

January	Chris King	The Wonders of Northern California	01/11/23
February	Gary Bulla	Baja Adventures	02/08/23
March	Abram Tucker (CDFW)	Inland Trout Populations in our Local Mountains	03/08/23
April	Landon Mayer	Guide Flies for Tough Trout	04/12/23
May	Marlon Rampy	Oregon's Redband Trout Routes	05/10/23
June	George Daniel	A Fly Fisher's Evolution	06/14/23
July	Alex Cady	Local Warm Water On The Fly	07/12/23
August	Club Picnic	William Mason Regional Park (Irvine) (Shelter #1)	08/12/23
September	Club Auction	Santa Ana Elks Lodge	09/06/23
October	Kesley Gallagher	The Royal Trout Slam	10/11/23
November	Rick Ferrante	Horse Packing in the Sierra Nevada	11/08/23
December	Michael Peters	Fly Fishing, A Little Something for Everyone	12/13/23

2024 Speakers (Preliminary)

MONTHLY SPEAKER PROGRAM

January	Glenn Ueda	Sight Fishing for Carp	01/10/24
February	Griff Marshall	Central Oregon Has It All	02/14/24
March	TBA	TBA	03/13/24
April	Steph Albano	Fanaticals and Henrys Fork	04/10/24
May	Matt Hakonarson	Iceland - Trip of a Lifetime	05/08/24
June	Tim Flagler	Euro Nymphing Made Simple	06/12/24
July	Doug Rodricks	The Eastern Sierra - a Guide's Fresh Look	07/10/24
August	Club Picnic	William Mason Regional Park (Irvine)	TBA
September	Club Auction	Santa Ana Elks Lodge	09/18/24
October	Simon Gawesworth	Fly Lines	10/09/24
November	Graham Day	Xcalak, Mexico	11/13/24
December	TBA	TBA	12/11/24

This Month's Speaker

Fly Fishing -- A Little Something for Everyone with Mike Peters



FFCOC board member Mike Peters has been fishing since he was just 3 years old! He fished with his grandfather on weekends as a kid. And at the age of 5 years old, he fished in his grandfather's pond every single day during the summer.

His presentation will offer a little something for everyone whether you like fishing in fresh water or salt water. There are simply numerous opportunities for the SoCal based angler including:

- THE SURF
- THE EASTERN SIERRAS
- CATALINA ISLAND
- ALASKA
- STEELHEAD FISHING IN VARIOUS AREAS

Mike grew up in Lakewood, CA. He was a standout track star and football player and went on to play running back and kick returner for OLE MISS.

Mike used to primarily fish the ocean and spent many hours on trips for tuna, shallow water rockfish and many other species. He has fished off of the coast of San Diego, and the Channel Islands near Ventura and Santa Barbara. Mike has fished all over the country for trout, in areas like Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Nevada, and also in Oregon for Steelhead.

He has also been fishing for salmon in Alaska for over a decade and currently holds a guide's license there. Mike also has experience fishing the Sea of Cortez in Mexico. In addition to all of his fishing experience, he also attended South Lake Tahoe Guide School and received professional training in the

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This Month's Speaker (Con't)

sport of fishing, which he loves so much.

Mike is currently a financial advisor at a major Wall Street firm. He resides in Long Beach with his family and guides inshore off of the local coast for ocean fishing, in local bodies of freshwater, as well as in the Sierra Nevadas and Alaska.

A dedicated father, Mike spends many hours developing his two sons into star baseball, soccer, basketball players, and of course fly fishermen.

Social media sites:

<https://longbranchflyfishing.com/>

[Long Branch Fly Fishing \(@longbranchflyfishing\)](#) • Instagram photos and videos



Club News

Proposed FFCOC 2024 Board of Directors

At the December meeting, we will have our annual election of Board members. We will accept all nominations from any member of the Club at the meeting and then hold the election.

(Status as of November 11, 2023)

Position	Member
President	????
Past President	Brian Mayer
1st Vice President	????
2nd Vice President	Ken Lindt
Secretary	Larry Roberts
Treasurer	Tom Sakai
Asst. Treasurer	Matt Conrad
Programs	Gill Realon
Membership	Ric Romero
Newsletter/FFI Liaison	Terry Roznos
Conservation	David Williams
Outings	Mike Peters
Website	Todd Gomez
Scholarships	Steve Watanabe
Member at Large	Tina Montemer
Member at Large	Lee Mueller
Non-Board Member Chairpersons	
Social Media	Kelly Yokoe
Trout In Classroom	Ronald Gregg

Club News (Con't)

Membership

Please Welcome Our Newest Members!

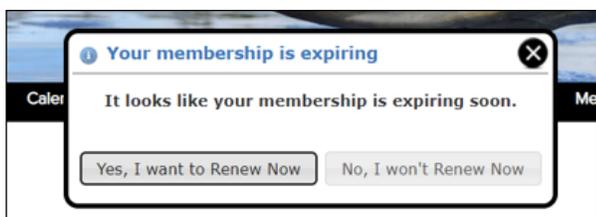
October

Kelsey Allison (Norco)
Barry Ewing (Laguna Woods)
David Griffith (Laguna Niguel)
Sean Sherlock
Rigo Valladolid (Whittier)
Scott Reitan (Dana Point)
Larissa Bahr (Tustin)
Nickolas Burciaga (Costa Mesa)

November

None to Report

Time to Renew Your Membership!



Does this pesky dialog box appear every time you log into the FFCOC website? Instead of clicking **CLOSE**, go ahead and click on the **Yes, I want to Renew Now** button, and follow the instructions to renew your FFCOC Membership for 2024!! Credit Card and Check payment options are available.

Keepers Wanted



Are you interested in a fly-fishing trip – someplace you've gone before or maybe someplace you've always wanted to go?

A great way to meet people and hone your fly-fishing skills, and ultimately have fun is participating in a FFCOC fly fishing trip, and one of the ways of doing this is being a Stream Keeper.

Every trip sponsored by FFCOC, and included in the FFCOC Outings calendar, has a Stream Keeper whether it's a multi-day trip or just a morning of fly-fishing at the surf.

Does this sound a bit too daunting? It's not. The FFCOC has a procedure specifically for Stream Keepers in the Members Only section of the FFCOC website, look in Document Folder Steamkeeper ([Documents - Fly Fishers Club of Orange County \(clubexpress.com\)](https://clubexpress.com)). Contact your Outings Director, Mike Peters, and there are many former and current Stream Keepers that will answer any, and all questions. This is a great way to get involved in your Club, meet other Club members, and mostly enjoy fly-fishing!

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Club News (Con't)

Newsletter

Newsletter inputs for the next (November) edition are due to the 2024 Editor by **Wednesday, December 27**, to meet publication deadlines. All submittals are gratefully accepted; Board Member announcements, Club News, Fish Tales, Fly of the Month, Outing Streamkeepers, or just general commentary from you (our readers)! Please send your inputs or suggestions to the 2024 Editor, Terry Roznos, at the email address provided. Thank you!! taroynos@verizon.net

FREE FLY FISHING CLASSES

2023 FFCOC On The River Classes and Clinic (aka Fly Fishing 101)



Dates:

Classroom Session

- Saturday November 4th, 8:30 AM
- Santiago Canyon College (8045 E Chapman Ave, Orange)

On The River Clinic (Kern River)

- December 2 and 3. The Outing has been moved to the Kern River because the flow levels for the Lower Owens River are projected to be too high for a successful Outing.
- 2022 participants please see note at end of article.

The Fly Fishing Club of Orange County's (FFCOC's) On The River Classes and Clinic program is in it's eighth year. It is a perfect way for new, and less-experienced, fly fishers to learn the art of fly fishing. The program which is open to Club Members intro-

duces participants to the fundamentals of fly fishing including the equipment, techniques and science of catching fish. The program is a great introduction to a sport you can enjoy for the rest of your life.

Joe Libeu, a member of the FFCOC, is a Fly Fishers International Certified Master Caster Instructor and professional guide. He developed and instructs Advanced Nymphing Clinics on the Owens River. Several experienced club members assist Joe providing hands-on training during the On The River Clinic.



The program includes everything needed to plan and prepare for a successful fly-fishing trip. Classroom training subjects include equipment, insect life cycles and how flies imitate them, how trout behave, clues as to what fish eat, stream care and etiquette, reading the water, nymph rigging and much more.



The On The River Clinic is held on the Kern River near Kernville. Many of the items discussed in the classroom setting are covered in the field. In addition, the on the river clinic includes reading the stream, entomology, casting, mending, setting depth of flies using indicators, and numerous demonstrations. The program includes fishing one-on-one with one of the more experienced club members.

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Club News - On The River Clinic (Con't)

2023 FFCOC On The River Classes and Clinic (Con't)

The On The River Classes and Clinic program is focused on helping new FFCOC members learn the basics of fly fishing and will be in follow up to our annual Casting Clinic scheduled for Saturday September 16th. Participation in the On The River Classes and Clinic program is limited. New Club Members and those who sign up at the September Casting Clinic will be given preference. Other Club members are welcome to participate if space allows.

Remember, the On The River Classes and Clinic program is only open to FFCOC members. If you are not a Club member you can join at our web site www.ffcoc.org or contact the Club's Membership Chair at membership@ffcoc.org.

REGISTRATION

Registration will open in mid-August. The date registration is scheduled to open will be announced in the Club Newsletter and on the website.

CLUB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are an accomplished fly fisher and know the Kern River, you would be a great candidate to work with Joe and provide instruction at the On The River Classes and Clinic program. Please contact Doug Jones if you can help. We will need eight to ten members to help with the training.

SPECIAL NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE 2022 CLASSROOM SESSIONS

As you know we did not have an outing for the 2022 session due to river conditions. If you completed the classroom sessions you are welcome to join us on the outings for the 2023 sessions. Also, you may consider attending the classroom session as a refresher.

Damage to the Upper Santa Ana River from Tropical Storm Hilary A Fish Tale Habitat Report by: Brian Mayer

For those Club members like me who have enjoyed fishing the upper Santa Ana River from the South Fork campground down to Seven Oaks, I have some unfortunate news. In August, Tropical Storm Hilary thoroughly devastated this section of the river and damaged Highway 38 in several locations. CALTRANS completely closed the highway for repairs, and only opened it to weekend traffic on November 17. At the end of the Thanksgiving weekend, I was able to drive up to the area and survey the damage and repairs being made. Water and debris flows scoured 50 foot wide sections completely stripping the trees and riparian willows. In some areas, the riverbank was eroded down 15 to 20 feet. Several cabins along the river had their foundations undermined by the rushing waters.

I think it will be some time before there will be any fish catching in this area.

Here are some pictures that I took at the bridge where Highway 38 crosses over the Santa Ana River and the area of the South Fork Campground.



Club News - Fish Tales

Wanted! Your Fish Tales!!

Have you been fishing lately?? Please share your story with our membership! Our readers enjoy reading about your fishing exploits!!

You don't always get to share your full stories at our monthly meetings. The Newsletter provides a great forum to share your stories!

Your tales don't need to be novels, or even short stories. A paragraph or two would suffice. Photos are great (as the old saying goes, "they are worth a thousand words")! Don't worry about the formatting or arranging. Just send what you've got! Your newsletter staff will handle the polishing!! Your Fish Tales are always greatly appreciated!

Please send your Fish Tale submittals to your 2024 Newsletter Editor, Terry Roznos at:

taronos@verizon.net

Thank you!

2023 Club Outings

Date	Destination	Streamkeeper
February 11	Women's On The River Outing (Classroom Session) Long Beach Casting Club (Clubhouse)	Kathy Kim
February 18-19 (Cancelled)	Lower Owens (Mentor Outing)	Doug Jones
February 25-26 (Cancelled)	Lower Owens (Women's On The River Outing)	Kathy Kim
March 12-14	Pyramid Lake (Nevada)	Paul Nakamura
March 18-19 (Cancelled)	Lower Owens (Mentor Outing)	Doug Jones
March 26-29	San Juan River (New Mexico)	Brian Mayer
April 13 (Cancelled)	Lake Henshaw Carp Throwdown	Mike Peters
TBA (May/June) (Cancelled)	Lee's Ferry (Arizona)	Melinda Burns
July 14-17	Hot Creek Ranch	John Williams
August 6-13	Yellowstone National Park (Montana/Wyoming)	Larry Behm
August 12	Club Picnic - William Mason Regional Park (Irvine)	Terry Roznos
September 25-29	Loa (Utah)	John Williams
October 13-15	President's Outing/Kern River	Brian Mayer
October 13-17 (Postponed to 2024)	Bridgeport	Terry Roznos
November 4	On The River Training (Classroom Session) Location: Santiago Canyon College (Orange)	Doug Jones
December 2-3	On The River Training (Kern River)	Doug Jones

Streamkeeper Contact Info (email and phone numbers) may be found in the Club Directory on the FFCOC Website.

2024 Club Outings - In Work

Date	Destination	Streamkeeper
March 10-12	Pyramid Lake (Nevada) Primary Guide: Joe Contaldi	Paul Nakamura
April 14-17	San Juan River (New Mexico)	Brian Mayer
July 12-15	Hot Creek Ranch	Don Tayenaka
October 7-11	Loa (Utah)	John Williams

Note: Contact Mike Peters with your Club Outing proposal, or for guidance on creating a Club Outing. Let's fill up this Outing page, and let's go fishing as a group!!!

Streamkeeper Contact Info (email and phone numbers) may be found in the Club Directory on the FFCOC Website.

2024 Outings - Pyramid Lake (Nevada)

Pyramid Lake Ladder Fly Fishing W/Joe Contaldi & Pyramid Lake Angler's Guide Service March 10-March 12, 2024



Come Out & Experience a Truly Unique Adventure!!!

Dates - Fishing 3 full days, March 10 – March 12, Sunday - Tuesday. Arrive Saturday March 9, depart Wednesday March 13.

Guide Assistance - Provided by Joe Contaldi and guides from Pyramid Lake Angler's Guide Service: [Pyramid Lake Anglers](#) Phone: 760-965-6527

Cost - \$ 250/Day/Angler with 2 guides + a separate cook. If we have 12 anglers there will be 3 guides. This includes hot breakfast and lunch, plus drinks.

Lodging Plans - Hotel in Sparks, NV – Western Village Inn & Casino, 800-648-1170. We won't book enough rooms to secure a block of rooms. Please call them directly ASAP, to get best prices. Option, stay at Pyramid Lodge in Sutcliffe, NV, 775-476-0400. Call them to get availability and pricing.

What you are responsible for - Your Transportation, Hotel, Meals (other than breakfast and lunch on fishing days at the lake), Guide tips, Fishing Permit from Piute Indian Tribe: \$62 for 3 day permit.

Fishing Gear - Rods/Reels: 9' - 8 or 9 wt. or 11' Switch Rod, with floating line for indicator fishing or fast sinking or shooting head line for stripping with a single hand rod. Tackle – Flies, adjustable indicators, 10-15# leader/tippet. Check their website for latest info. Ladders and Chair Ladders will be provided. Rods, reels & terminal tackle will be provided if you need them. You will also need warm layered clothing, waders and wading boots.

More Info -

- Deposit of **\$375.00** due ASAP after signing up. Final payment of **\$375.00** due no later than January 15, 2024.
- Make checks payable to the 'Paul Nakamura', and send to 12136 Marshall St. Culver City, 90230 or you can use Zelle or Venmo. Please contact Paul for account info.
- Contact Paul for details/info and to get on the Trip List. pnaka1946@gmail.com or 310-487-3367
- We will try to have Zoom meeting with Joe to get you acquainted with fly fishing Pyramid Lake. Tentative date will be in February after we get a club distribution developed.
- Pre-Trip Meeting will be scheduled prior to the trip and more details will be sent to members who have signed up for the Trip.

2024 Outings - San Juan River (New Mexico)

San Juan River, NM Outing

Stream Keeper: Brian Mayer, (562) 619-9169, bdmayer@hotmail.com

April 14 to 17, 2024



Please contact Brian Mayer, bdmayer@hotmail.com, (562) 619-9169 for questions, answers, information and to make arrangements.

We are planning another fantastic outing to the San Juan River in northwestern New Mexico for April 2024.

The clear river waters of the San Juan are the jewel of northwest New Mexico just a short 14 hour's drive from Southern California. The river is fed from the deep waters of Navajo Lake which provide nearly constant temperature and abundant food supplies. This means many large brown and rainbow trout with substantial fight.

I have made a block reservation at the Fisheads San Juan River Lodge for rooms and Guides, www.fisheadsofthesanjuan.com. Please contact me if you wish to attend this outing so I can assign rooms and fishing buddies. If you prefer to make your own arrangements, please feel free to do so.

Please Note: the Abe's Motel, Restaurant and Gas Station have permanently closed. It is up for sale and NOT operating at this time.

Fisheads Lodge also offers an All Inclusive option. This option includes room, guide and all meals (breakfast and special dinner menu) each day. Lunch is always included on guide days.

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2024 Outings - San Juan River (New Mexico)

Plan to arrive by Sunday, April 14. The general plan is to fish with guides Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 15 to 17. I strongly recommend you get a guide for at least two days to thoroughly enjoy all the fishing the San Juan Quality Water has to offer.

I will be coordinating a caravan for this trip. We will depart SoCal on Saturday, April 13 and spend the night in Flagstaff, AZ. We will arrive midday on Sunday, April 14 to the San Juan River and Fisheads Lodge.

For more information, please contact stream keeper Brian Mayer, bdmayer@hotmail.com or (562) 619-9169

If you plan to attend the trip, please call or send Brian Mayer an email so we have contacts for everyone.



HOT CREEK RANCH 2024

July 12-15, 2024



The cost of this trip this year is **\$500** per person.

The trip is full at this time, if you would like to be put on a waitlist, contact Don Tayenaka, dontayenaka@me.com, or call 949-292-8325

Monies need to be to our Treasurer, Tom Sakai
Deposit **\$250**. Due **Jan. 15, 2024**. Balance due **June 1, 2024**

Send Check Made out to: FFCOC

P.O. Box 23005 Santa Ana, Ca. 92711-3005

Trip starts Hot Creek Ranch July 12, 2024

Check in time is **4:00 P.M.** Friday **NOT BEFORE!**

Trip ends July 15, 2024 you must be out of the cabin by **10:00 A.M.**

You may fish the remainder of the day.

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2024 Outings - Hot Creek Ranch

You must be a Club member to attend.

You will need a signed release form on file for this trip.

If you have previously attended a Club Outing, and your form is on file, you are set.

Check with our Membership Chairperson to see if it is on file. Thank you.



Southwest Council FFI – News & Events

MICHAEL SCHWEIT | SPECIAL PROJECTS

I wanted to give everyone a heads up so you can block out your calendars for some great events coming from the Southwest Council FFI!

Bart Hall Shows

Bart Hall Show, Jan. 25-28 – we will be back at the show and presenting it as the ONLY Fly Show in SoCal. Great venue (Long Beach Convention Center), centrally located and a chance to get a casting lesson, tie a fly or bring a friend and introduce them to fly fishing! Vendors too, of course.



CATCH/RELEASE TOURNAMENT
OPEN TO ALL!

Fly or Spin for the Win

February 10, 2024
9am - 4pm • Pre and Post Event
Tri-County Fairgrounds • Patio Room

PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS. RAFFLES, TOO!

Get info at:
SWCFFI.org/Rodeo
or scan QR Code

818.601.9702

Trout Rodeo, Feb. 10 – Once again, we will host this catch and release event, open to fly and conventional gear, in the Owens Valley. Depending on weather, you could be fishing from the Upper O all the way to Lone Pine! Same rules as before, so bring your friends, club members and anyone else who likes a fun competition.



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL Southwest Council

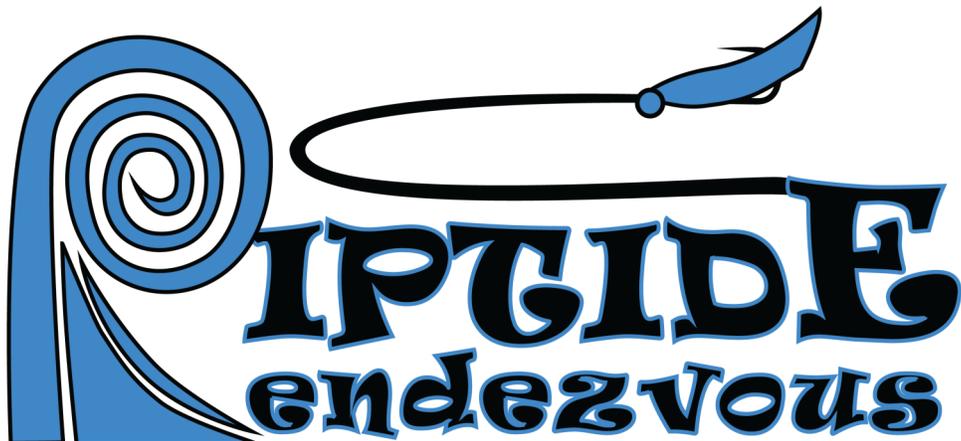
2024 FLYBUY

FlyBuy XIII, April 6 – Long Beach Casting Club – tying, casting, vendors and garage sale, all wrapped into one. And a great lunch to boot!



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL
Southwest Council

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Riptide
endezvous

May 25 - June 22, 2024

Riptide Rendezvous, May 11 (pre-gathering and info), May 25-June 21 (contest) - The month-long contest worked so well we are doing it again. Catch and release and open to both fly and conventional gear and this time, we are hosting a gathering two weeks before for people to meet each other, share info (or lie) and have a lot of fun. At a beach near you!

Details and more information, plus webpage links, will follow in the coming months so mark your calendar and let's have some fun in 2024!

Editor Recommended Read: Consider a subscription to the Southwest Council monthly newsletter. It is very well done! You will read about news and events of the SWCFFI, as well as the Club activities for all Fly Fishing Clubs in the Region (including the FFCOC). Your newsletter will arrive each month in your Inbox. Subscribe by clicking the link in the box below.

Subscribe to the SWCFFI Newsletter > Click Below

[Southwest Council Fly Fishers International \(list-manage.com\)](https://list-manage.com)



Southwest Council FFI – News & Events

MICHAEL SCHWEIT | SPECIAL PROJECTS



Greetings, we hope your holiday plans are going well. The Southwest Council has an event on February 10 and we would love to have your club participate. It is our Trout Rodeo and this will be the third year. We have team and individual categories so there is something for everyone. However, in the past two tournaments, only two clubs have participated and I am puzzled as to why. Let me tell you some of what I have heard and give you some food for thought (just what you need after your Thanksgiving feasts, right?).

1. "It will be crowded on the Owens" - this is a myth. On any given weekend from January through March, 2-3 clubs may be up there fishing with up to 100+ members. The Tournament has attracted far less and the clubs have avoided the weekend because of the fear of crowding. Instead of trying to coordinate your club outing for the same weekend (nothing wrong with that at all!), encourage a few members to show up and represent your club and win the team category.



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Southwest Council FFI – News & Events

2. "The Tournament is open to fly and gear"– True and most of us came from the gear world. It is still a catch and release tournament and the two methods of fishing compete in different divisions. Your club members can invite their gear friends and have fun together.
3. "Competition is not what fly fishing is all about" – If there was a \$10K prize, I could see that. But we give away a few rods and reels and some silly prizes too and have a lot of fun. On a side note, our audience is skewed to the younger age range; something the clubs are trying to attract. Come on up and talk to these folks and get them interested in fishing, and joining your club!

I think that is about it. Teams can be of any size and the cost is pretty minimal (\$25 individual and \$20 per team). Let's see if we can turn this event into a club gathering. More fun than Club Management Day!

Michael Schweit
Special Projects Director





Hi All,

It's that time of year again ... the Bart Hall Show is taking place at the Long Beach Convention Center from Jan. 25 through Jan. 28, and of course, we need volunteers.

Please look at the open shifts below and let me know if you would be so gracious as to help. The



Continued, next page →

Conservation and Fishing News



Bakersfield.com

Judge orders Bakersfield to keep water in the Kern River

By Lois Henry, *SJV Water*

Read Article: [LOIS HENRY: Judge orders Bakersfield to keep water in the Kern River | bakersfield.com](#)

CALIFORNIA TROUT



FISH · WATER · PEOPLE

Threatened Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Receive Help in the Walker Basin

By: *CalTrout*

In the Walker Basin, part of the Lahontan cutthroat trout's native range, CalTrout is partnering on restoration projects to eliminate non-native trout populations from the system and help maintain native populations.

Read Article: [Threatened Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Receive Help in the Walker Basin | California Trout \(caltrout.org\)](#)

CalTrout Successfully Defends Petition to Protect Southern Steelhead in Court

By: *CalTrout*

California Trout is leading the effort to list Southern steelhead as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act. On October 25, 2023, we're happy to report that we successfully defended this listing in California Superior Court in Los Angeles.

Read Article: [CalTrout Successfully Defends Petition to Protect Southern Steelhead in Court | California Trout](#)

PG&E Confirms Plan to Begin Full Removal of Eel River Dams

By *CalTrout*

With all in-river facilities removed; the Eel will be the longest free-flowing river in California.

Read Article: [PG&E Confirms Plan to Begin Full Removal of Eel River Dams | California Trout](#)

CalTrout's 2023 Annual Report is Released

By *CalTrout*

CalTrout's 2023 Annual Report is here!

Read Article: [2023 Annual Report | California Trout \(caltrout.org\)](#)



The True Cast - The Best Teachers in Trout Fishing...

By *Kirk Deeter*

Trying different techniques and learning from each fishing outing is a sure-fire way to become a great angler.

Read Article: [The True Cast - The Best Teachers In Trout Fishing... - Trout Unlimited](#)



3 Ways to Hone Your Fly Fishing (Nymphing) Skills

By Allen with *The Catch and The Hatch* in association with MidCurrent

Read Article: [3 Ways to Hone Your Nymphing Skills | MidCurrent](#)

Flies That Keep On Giving!

Fitsimon's Midge Adult

By Janna Roznos

During our travels this Fall, while in Glenwood Springs, CO (Roaring Fork Anglers), our guide showed us this midge in his fly box; the Fitsimon Midge. I found this midge on one of the Fly-Tying Facebook pages. It's a popular fly for the Frying Pan River, which is a tributary of the Roaring Fork River in Colorado. It is successfully used in western waters, anywhere trout are feeding on midges. I wasn't able to find a YouTube video to see how it was tied, so with just a picture and using fly tying materials I had on hand I experimented and came up with my version of the Fitsimon's Midge Adult. I tied up in several, in different sizes and in an evening had stocked my fly box with these flies – ready for my next fly-fishing trip. Can't have enough midges in your fly box; dries, emergers and nymphs! Here is my version...



Materials:

Hook: Dry fly hook. I used a Firehole 419, size 18

Thread: Uni 8.0 Cahill

Wing: Sparkling Emerger Yarn Clear/White
or an equivalent

Hackle: Grizzly Hackle

Thorax: Peacock Hurl

Cement: Loctite

Instructions:

1. Put the hook in the vise and wrap thread over the shank to the bend.
2. For the wing (sparkling Emerger Yarn Clear/White or an equivalent) measure it out at approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ length of the shank and tie this on at the bend of the hook, leaving the $\frac{1}{2}$ length hanging off the back of the hook. Make sure that the wing material doesn't roll off the top of the hook. Fold the excess material back (out of the way) and clip with a material clip.
3. Tie in a prepared grizzly hackle and wrap it forward covering about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the hook shank. Tie off and trim.
4. Tie in a peacock hurl (mine were pretty stringy so I used two peacock hurls) and wrap a tight thorax. Tie off and trim.

Flies That Keep On Giving!

5. Unclip the wing material (Sparkling Emerger Yarn Clear/White or an equivalent) and lay it over the top of the hook, parting the grizzly hackles and peacock hurl to either side. Tie off right behind the eye of the hook. Trim and whip finish, and glue (I use Loctite super glue, but even clear nail polish will work, too).

Enjoy!

Janna



FFCOE Leadership

Mission:

Encourage Angling with Artificial Flies (Fly Fishing)

Encourage Education and Fisheries Conservation, including Habitat and Watershed Conservation

Disseminate to the public the Results of the Club's Efforts

Encourage Youth to Follow Sound Conservation Practices

To **ACHIEVE** this the Club conducts various meetings, events and outings as documented in this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP is open to all. If interested, contact one of the Board members or come to one of the Club meetings.

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