

# ON THE FLY

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE  
FLY FISHERS CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY

50 YEARS OF SERVING OUR MEMBERS!



April 2017

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## Website:

<http://www.ffcoc.org>

## President's Message



## Club Meeting:

April 12, 2017  
Phoenix Club  
1340 S. Sanderson, Anaheim, CA  
6:00 pm - Wet Flies Social Hour  
7:00 pm - Dinner and Program  
Dinner & Program - \$35.00 Cash  
Program Only - \$12.00 Cash  
\$1 Fee for Credit Cards

## Board Meeting:

April 17, 2017 - 7:00 pm  
Montesilla Mobile Home Park  
15601 South B St., Tustin, CA  
7:00 pm  
Club Members are Welcome

Do this more often!

Melinda C. Burns, FFCOC President

At Pyramid Lake

### *Fishing Utah's Prolific Provo River with Spencer Higa*

By traveling for a couple hours in the air, or spending a day driving, you can be standing in one of the best fly fishing rivers in the western United States. Utah's Provo River, not too far south of Salt Lake City, is a true fly fishing mecca just waiting for all of us here in SoCal. The Provo is one of Utah's best fisheries and holds good numbers of both rainbow and brown trout.

The river is usually described as being broken into three sections: the upper, the middle and the lower. Although the upper section consists of mainly private land, the middle and lower sections have very good access for anglers. These sections of the Provo hold dense (and we mean dense) populations of brown trout and ample rainbows as well. The fertile tailwaters below both Deer Creek Dam and Jordanelle Dam produce so much forage that this river easily supports both high numbers of trout, as well as some very large trout.



The popularity of fishing this river can tend to “educate” the fish, so fishing at times gets a little technical, but good hatches come off throughout the year. So these steady and prolific hatches improve your chances of fooling the fish when you cast flies that match the natural insects.

Our guide on this great western river is a good friend of our club and has been with us before. Spencer Higa last visited SoCal five years ago when he showed us fishing throughout his entire home state. This time he will focus on his special river. Spencer grew up in Orem, Utah, just minutes from the Provo, which he started fishing when he was 12. If he wasn't fishing with his dad, his mother would drive him up to Provo Canyon, drop him off so he could fish and then pick him up hours later. So Spencer has been fishing the Provo for more than 30 years.

He began his formal guiding career at age 21 and has been guiding waters

throughout Utah ever since. Currently Spencer is the Fishing Manager at Falcon's Ledge, a lovely lodge that was awarded the Orvis endorsed Lodge of the Year in 2012. He has a team of guides that he's helped teach about all the rivers in the area. As a side-note, while guiding, Spencer created the fly pattern Higa's SOS, which now catches fish around the western U.S. Another inventive and creative endeavor began a few years ago when he and a couple friends started manufacturing "Tacky Fly Boxes," which are today sold in fly shops around the country. And along with guiding and helping run Tacky Fly Fishing, Spencer is a filmmaker, having produced several films that have been selected to run during the International Fly Fishing Film Festivals. This hobby has taken him to New Zealand, Alaska, Canada, and just recently, Iceland.

During his presentation, Spencer will show and tell us about techniques he has learned, top fly selections and the best access points on the Provo to help you achieve success. He enjoys sharing his love of our sport with others, but his true passion is seeing people enjoying the waters he grew up fishing. If you want to learn more about Falcon's Ledge and the fishing opportunities Spencer is in charge of, go to:

[www.falconsledge.com](http://www.falconsledge.com)

Please join our friend, Spencer Higa, as he guides us down the Provo River.

See you there...  
Andy Frumento

## 2017 Meeting Dates and Speakers

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
1-11-17	2nd Wed	Pat Jaeger	“Tenkara and How It Helps Your Fly Fishing”
2-8-17	2nd Wed	Beau McFadyean	“The Missouri and Big Horn Rivers”
3-8-17	2nd Wed	Joe Contaldi	“Fishing High Sierra Waters”
4-12-17	2nd Wed	Spencer Higa	“Fly Fishing Utah’s Provo River””
5-10-17	2nd Wed	Andrew Harris	“Five Rivers in Five Days”
6-7-17	1st Wed	Gary Borger	“Fly The Angler’s Predator””
7-12-17	2nd Wed	Al Quattrocchi	“Fly Fishing the Surf”
8-9-17	2nd Wed	Peter Koga and Zino Nakasugi	“Fly Fishing Hawaii”
9-13-17	2nd Wed	FFCOC Auction	-----
10-11-17	2nd Wed	George Daniel	“Streamers”
11-8-17	2nd Wed	Ernie Gulley	“What Trout Eat”
12-13-17	2nd Wed		HOLIDAY PROGRAM

**NOTE:** ALL PROGRAMS WILL BE LOCATED IN THE PAVILION EXCEPT:  
 JUNE – LORELEY ROOM  
 SEPTEMBER – MAIN BALLROOM

# Auction 2017

## Update of the Month

Yep, the Auction is still a while away.

Remember to mark your calendars: Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

This month's article answers the question as to "Where does all that wonderful stuff come from?".

Well, from a few places: Firstly, from our generous members who donate some great "gently used" and even new items. Maybe stuff you've outgrown or don't use anymore but is in great shape and may be of use to someone else or a special item you would like to donate. Secondly, from stuff we buy to offer at the auction. And Thirdly, from companies and service providers, like guides and resort operators. Many of the providers have been very supportive of our club and we are truly appreciative. This month we're sending out letters to over 150 product and service providers asking for their support for this year's auction. If, in your travels and adventures, you come across a potential supporter, please let us know and we'll follow up with them. Offering deals, like 2 for 1, or discounts are a great way to get exposure to our club and our members and for many it's tax deductible.

We've already started to collect some great items and are looking forward to a great auction.

Until next month,

Thank you,  
Art Prangley, 2017 Auction Chair

# **Buy Local!**

## **Support Bob Marriott's Fly Fishing Store!**



We have the good fortune of having a well stocked and easily accessed Fly Fishing Store in our area. In a continuing effort to provide good service and support the needs of the local fly fishing community, Bob Marriott's Fly Fishing Store has created a rebate program for club members. Bob Marriott's will rebate 2% of the purchase price of goods you buy to Fly Fishers Club of Orange County. In addition they will set up a rebate account in your name and rebate another 5% in store credit to you for use as partial payment on future purchases! Very generous, indeed!

See the back last page in this Newsletter for the address and phone number.

Thanks to Kevin Bell, General Manager at Marriott's, for including us in this program!

By Richard Fanning



## 2017 Outings and Events Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OUTING/EVENT</u>	<u>STREAMKEEPER</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
January 7	Fishing Newport Peninsula	Art Prangly	714 270-7090
Cancelled	Surf Fishing	Jim Edwards	714 337-5899
February 25-26	On the Water Training, Bishop, CA	Doug Jones	714 697-2222
March 11	Casting in the Park	Art Prangley	art@sbcglobal.net
March 13-15	Pyramid Lake, NV	Jim Wright	714 679-6638
April 3-5	San Juan River, NM	Brian Mayer	562 619-9169
May 22-26	Lee's Ferry, AZ	Melinda and John Burns	951 415-9920
June 2-4	Fish Creek, Sierras	Brian Mayer	562 619-9169
July 10-14	Back Country Horseback Trip, June Lake Loop	John Williams	951 236-0862
July 14-17	Hot Creek Ranch, Mammoth	John Williams	951 236-0862
August 26	Casting Clinic, Mile Square Park		
September 21-23	Circleville, Utah	John Williams	951 236-0862
September 26-29	Loa, Utah	John Williams	951 236-0862
October 2-6	Loa, Utah	John Williams	951 236-0862
October 20-22	President's Outing - Kernville	Melinda Burns	951 415-9920
November	TBD		
December	TBD		

# Casting in the Park



## **The First Session on March 11th Deemed a Success!**

The first session of FFCOC's Casting in the Park was completed on Saturday, March 11th at Irvine Regional Park. The turn out of club members was good and the weather perfect for the event.

Art Prangley coordinated with club members to participate in the event and Master Casting Instructor, Joe Libeau, organized and oversaw the casting activities.

The event was an opportunity for club members to ask questions and get improvement suggestions about their casting skills.

Participants said the clinic was helpful and it was decided to hold another one in the upcoming months.





# San Juan River, NM Outing

## April 2 to 6, 2017

Spring is just around the corner and we are planning another fantastic outing to the San Juan River in New Mexico. The clear river waters of the San Juan are the jewel of North-west 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.



Many of the club members have stayed at the Fisheads San Juan River Lodge [ (505) 634-0463, <http://www.fisheadsofthesanjuan.com/> ], and the Abe's Motel just across the street [ (505) 632-2194, <http://sanjuanriver.com/> ]. Both have very reasonable rates and can arrange guides as well. There are other accommodations as well. If making reservations at Fisheads, please let them know you are part of the FFCOC group. Contact Brian Mayer for full details.

This year, we are planning for fishing on the weekdays when all the kids have returned to school and we won't have to compete with the local weekend fishers. Plan to arrive on Sunday, April 2. If you arrive early enough, you may have the opportunity to wade fish the lower quality water. The general plan is to fish Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. These are the days that you should consider arranging guides. 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. Both Fisheads and Abe's offer package deals for two and three days guiding with lodging. Prices are the same as last year for guides and lodging.



For those non-fishing travelers, there are several historic and interesting areas nearby to explore. The city of Aztec offers some shopping for Native American products and Durango, Colorado is a short drive away as well.

We have generally gathered as a group for dinner each night. Although there are limited choices in Navajo Dam, we usually go to the city of Aztec (short 20 minute drive) for dinners at the local Chinese restaurant and Mexican food restaurant.

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

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



# Lee's Ferry Outing 2017

## May 22-26, 2017



### 3 openings left

### Reserve your spot today!

The Colorado River is described as "The World's Largest Spring Creek" that boasts 15.5 miles of clear running tailwater fishery flowing from Lake Powell.

Come join Honey Burns and I along with 10 other lucky club members as we fish one of the waters of the 7 Natural Wonders of the World. This trip will consist of 3 nights lodging at the Cliff Dwellers (2 Adults per room) and 3 days of guided fishing (Drift or Wet Wading). I have reserved Rooms 27 -32 along with, each room has two beds. But if you want the room to yourself then you pay the full price. Each room is \$85.28.

We also have the following guides reserved: Jeff English, Skip Dixon, Natalie Jensen, Tyson Warren, Dale Gauthier, and Kevin Campbell. Guides are \$450 for 2 fisherman.

This cost of this trip is approximately \$845 per person. This does not include tips for the guides, meals or transportation.

Sign ups are now being taken. You can sign the Outings Sheet at the next meeting or you can call or me to place you on the list, 951.415.9920 [mel11755@pacbell.net](mailto:mel11755@pacbell.net).

Melinda and John Burns  
Streamkeepers



# Fish Creek Outing – June 2 to 4, 2017

Sign-ups are open for the trip to Fish Creek. This year, it will be the first weekend in June.

This is a camping outing to the Southern Sierra's Kern River Plateau area close to Kennedy Meadows. The camp ground provides cold water and out houses only. Most people will be camping in tents; however, small camping trailers and motor homes are allowed. We will be fishing for small golden trout in small water creeks, so bring your small rods (3 weights and less). The fish are generally very eager, so this is an excellent trip for the novice and experience fisher-person as well.

If interested, contact Brian Mayer [bdmayer@hotmail.com](mailto:bdmayer@hotmail.com), (562-619-9169).



**UPDATED!**



## **Fly Fishers Club of Orange County Hits The Trail**



## **Five Days of Backcountry Fishing**

**July 10-14, 2017**

**Cost: \$1,224**

**\$200 non-refundable deposit is required to hold your spot,  
Make Checks to "Frontier Pack Train" and send to John Williams**

**Stream Keeper: John Williams 951-236-0862**

**19859 Calle Cadiz Walnut, Ca. 9178**



Bring gear in nylon duffels - sleeping bag and pads separate

- Liquor should be labeled and checked in separately

**We will be traveling to 9,000' elevation the first day and eventually to 11,000' elevation. Please come a day or two ahead of the trip to acclimate to at least 7,000'. Drink plenty of water and limit the alcohol intake prior to the trip; Altitude sickness can ruin a trip.**

- **Fishing equipment:**

4-6 weight Rod and Reel with floating line.

7 to 9 foot leaders 5x bring 4,5,6 and 7 X tippet

Split shot BB and smaller

**Flies:**

- Parachute Adams #14-18
- Stimulator in orange #12-16
- Caddis #16-18
- Hopper #10-14
- Griffith Gnat #16-22
- Klinkhammer #16-18
- Glo Bug #16 Orange
- Woolly Bugger #8-12 Black & Olive
- Bring what you own already; there are many flies that work well in the high altitude backcountry of the Sierra's.
- The above list of flies has worked well for me in the past.
- If you have any questions or concerns please call John Williams 951-236-0862

suggest bringing saddle bags or backpacks unless pocket size.

- No alcoholic beverages served or included in trip fee but you can BYOB but the weight counts against your 40lbs limit.
- Transportation provided for return to June Lake for trips terminating at other road heads.
- Trips will terminate at 4:00 p.m. the last day.
- FRONTIER does **not** treat the water. Bring your own filter pump or purification tablets.
- Frontier furnishes stock, packer, cook, food, and camping equipment. Private tents for couples or singles will be reserved by request. All trips are outfitted with chairs, solar showers and privy.

#### Other Details

The Pack Station can Supply Bear Boxes \$5.00 each per day.Box Size 16" x 16" x 24"

Wilderness Permit \$5.00 per person additional

#### **Personal Checklist**

- Sleeping bag/foam pad or air mattress
- Flashlight/extra batteries
- Coffee mug
- Broad brimmed hat (must have string to keep from blowing off)
- Camera, extra SD card and extra batteries
- Rain pants & coat or slicker
- Riding boots & camp shoes
- Insect repellent
- Sun Screen and Chap Stick
- Polarized Sunglasses
- Bathing suit
- Hat protector from rain
- Heavy Jacket
- Canteen
- Personal hygiene kit (including towel)

**Please use biodegradable soap and shampoo.**

### **Itinerary:**

**\*Day One:** Meet at the Pack Station in June Lake at 7:00 a.m., when breakfast will be served. We will partner you up with a horse to match your ability and then ride into the beautiful Ansel Adams Wilderness. Our lunch and fishing stop will be beside Crest Creek, where there will be plenty of Spawning Rainbow from Gem Lake. We will then continue to our first camp at Clark Lakes. There will be plenty of time to fish that evening for Brookies in the four nearby lakes.

**\*Day Two:** After breakfast, we will take a day ride to Thousand Island Lake and the headwaters of the San Joaquin River. There, you will fish for Rainbow/Golden hybrids. Our emphasis is on catch-and-release. After dinner, we will be fishing the Clark Lakes.

**\*Day Three:** We will break camp in the morning and travel to Algers Lakes, stopping along the way to fish beautiful Rush Creek, known for both Brookies and Rainbows. At our base camp, you will have the best opportunity for catching large Golden Trout. We will spend the balance of the day fishing near camp.

**\*Day Four:** The group will have the whole day to fish Algers Lakes and find your favorite spot. You can expect to catch Golden's from 10-16 inches.

**\*Day Five:** Fish in the morning. After having lunch at the camp, we will return to the Pack Station, arriving at 4:00 p.m.

### **What to Expect:**

- Check in time is 7:00 a.m. at Frontier Pack Train in June Lake.
- Breakfast is served the first day while gear is packed on the mules. The last meal furnished is lunch on the last day.
- Dunnage limit is **40 lbs. per person**. This includes sleeping bags, fishing gear, liquor.
- Frontier provides a saddle bag for trail essentials. We do not

# Flies That Keep On Giving

By John Williams

**Simple flies work as well.** I just returned from Lee's Ferry, the fishing was very slow but I didn't give up hope, I tried many flies in my box and the squirmy worm was the answer. This worm is one of the easier flies to tie but oh so effective.

## The Squirmy Worm



<b>Hook:</b>	Daiichi 1160 #14 or similar
<b>Thread:</b>	UTC 140 Fluorescent Cerise
<b>Bead:</b>	1mm – 1.5mm inside opening bright red bead
<b>Worm:</b>	Squirmy Wormies or Sili Worms Red or Hot Pink Hot Pink pictured
<b>Head Cement:</b>	Super Glue Gel Formula
<b>Bobbin Threader:</b>	Folded fine wire for threading the material

Slide the threader into the hole in the bead and let extend 4mm beyond the other side of the bead. Pull the desired length of wormy material from the package; I usually use ½ a piece for each fly or slightly less. Slide about 2mm of the wormy material through the threader and pull the end through the bead. Grasp the slight protrusion of the wormy material and pull it until you reach the half way-point. Pinch both sides of the wormy material on either side of the bead to stretch it and slide the hook through without hooking the material in the gap. Place the hook with the bead on it in your vice so the shank is level. Slide the bead and material to the rear as far as they will go. Smear a slight amount of super glue on the middle of the hook shank and run the thread from just forward of the center of the shank to 3mm toward the rear. Before the glue sets slide the bead to the center of the shank. ***It is possible to cut through this material with your thread so soft tension on your thread is a must.*** Make three wraps of thread at the center point over the material and then three wraps of thread on the shank of the hook under the material to hold it in place. Run the thread behind the bead and make the same number of wraps on that side repeating the shank wraps. Run the thread to the front side and smear a slight amount of super glue on ¼" of the thread and make several wraps on the shank and whip finish. Cut the thread and let dry, your done. You can vary the length of the worm material.

## FFCOC 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 meetings.

### Board of Directors and Activity Leaders:

#### President

Melinda Burns  
president@ffcoc.org

#### 1st Vice President

Auction Chairperson  
Art Prangley  
1stvpresident@ffcoc.org

#### 2nd Vice President

Casting Clinic  
TBD

#### Past President

Jim Edwards

#### Treasurer

Brian Mayer

#### Secretary

Doug Jones  
secretary@ffcoc.org

#### Newsletter Editor

Richard Fanning  
newsletter@ffcoc.org

**Programs** - Andy Frumento\*

**Outings** - John Williams\*

**Webmaster** - Jim Wright

**Conservation/FFF** - John Burns\*

**Raffle** - Dawn Martin\*, Charlene Hanson\*

**Membership** - Vern Martin\*  
membership@ffcoc.org

**Trout in the Classroom** - Melinda Burns, Jim Wright\*

**Fly Tying** - Doug Jones

**Federation of Fly Fishers Liason** - Jim Wright\*

Rosie Portillo\*

\* = At-Large Member, FFCOC Board of Directors

## Support Our Local Fly Shops



**Bob Marriott's Fly Fishing Store**  
2700 W. Orangethorpe Ave.  
Fullerton, CA 92833

**Hours:** Mon-Sat: 9am - 6pm  
Sun: Closed

**Phone:** 714 525-1827

**E-mail:** [info@bobmarriotts.com](mailto:info@bobmarriotts.com)



#### His & Hers Fly Fishing Shop

359 N. Old Newport Blvd.  
Newport Beach, CA 92663

**Hours:** Mon-Fri: 10am - 6pm  
Sat: 9am - 6pm  
Sun: Closed

**Phone:** 949 548-9449

**E-mail:** [hisher1666@aol.com](mailto:hisher1666@aol.com)