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## ANNUAL SPFF PICNIC

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 14**  
**9:00 AM until 2:00 PM**  
**Rincon Beach Park, Carpinteria**  
**(Highway 101 @ Bates Road)**

by Glenn Short

***We hope to see you at our annual club picnic which is our August meeting. We will have free food and beverages to enjoy with friends while escaping the Valley's heat. Rincon Beach Park has shade, picnic tables, real bathrooms, an outdoor shower, and convenient parking. We will be outdoors with cool ocean breezes, so although we're still in a pandemic we will be in a nice outdoor environment.\****

*\* If you are not fully vaccinated and boosted, please wear a mask. This is now particularly important with the dominance of the BA.5 variant, which is exceptionally transmissible regardless of your vaccination status.*

**SIERRA PACIFIC**



***Kevin will again host a fly fishing "garage" sale with great deals on lightly used gear to benefit the club. If you have serviceable fishing or outdoor gear you would like to donate, contact Kevin Radanovich <[kevin@greenwall.us](mailto:kevin@greenwall.us)>.***

(Continued on next page)

## ANNUAL SPFF PICNIC: AUGUST 14 (CONT.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

*You can surf fish during a rising tide, enjoy a walk on the beach, or just visit with friends. The best fishing is expected between 6:00 and 9:00 am, and experienced club members are usually on the beach before 7:00 a.m. There are articles on surf fishing on the club website, and the staff at the Fishermen's Spot are very knowledgeable if you need advice.*

*Remember your license with an Ocean Enhancement Validation if you plan to fish.*

*Please join us! There is a paved walkway down to the beach if you want to fish or walk in the surf.*

**Sunday, August 14**

9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

at

Rincon Beach Park

Carpinteria

(Highway 101 @ Bates Road)

*Low tide: 6:01 a.m. High tide: 12:24 p.m.*

*Alcohol is permitted for those over 21.*

*Smoking is prohibited.*

*Dogs must be leashed at all times.*

**Directions:** <https://www.google.com/maps>



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Ress

This month's column will be brief, as all of my plans for July have been cut short by Covid. After an initial bout at the beginning of the month, resolved by taking Paxlovid, I was one of the lucky ones who had a rebound infection. This cancelled my trip for the GSO, as well as in person fly tying, as I was still testing positive. It was negative by the first day of the GSO but too late to go. Arrrgh! Elsewhere in the newsletter you will see the reports that show what a good trip it was.



As if that wasn't enough, my daughter and granddaughter came for a visit this week, bringing with them Covid apparently contracted on the plane from San Jose or shortly before. Mira and I are still testing negative but waiting for the other shoe to drop. All of this is not meant to elicit sympathy, but to explain why I have nothing fishing related to write about.

Last month I asked for suggestions for new places where we might arrange a club trip; so far I have a few suggestions but would welcome more. Where have you fished that we all might like to go?

We are still looking for suggestions for conservation projects to support. We have funds not spent during the pandemic, so we are anxious to get back to this important work.

Finally, I would like to remind all of you to continue the annoying, uncomfortable, aggravating process of masking and social distancing indoors. The longer this pandemic continues, the more good stuff we will miss. I'm sure you're as tired of it as I am.

Tight lines!

## MEMBERSHIP

by Jay Bushore

The members of Sierra Pacific Flyfishers look forward to meeting you. We hope to get to know you better at the monthly dinner Meetings, in our educational programs and on the water. New membership signup is at [spff.org/New\\_Member\\_Signup](https://spff.org/New_Member_Signup).

SPFF always welcomes new members. Please welcome and introduce yourselves to our newest members:

**Tim Turpin**  
**Jaki Cox**  
**Arun Ahuja**  
**Frank Ruger**  
**Rich Fricke**



## STEVE EBERSOLD PRESENTED RETIREMENT PLAQUE

by Jim Fleisher, Outings Chairperson

At the GSO Saturday dinner, the club presented Steve Ebersold a plaque for his many years of service to the club as the Education Chairperson. He held this position from 2008 until 2021. He was instrumental in our Introduction to Fly Fishing (ITFF) program and many other educational activities. He has annually led the GSO outing to Big Springs. In addition, he has arranged our GSO barbecue for many years.

The club thanks Steve for all his service.



## DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President .....	Richard Ress
Vice President.....	Bernie Ecker
Secretary .....	Jody Martin
Treasurer .....	Mike Hembree
Calendar Maintenance .....	Tom Wright
Communications .....	Bill Luddy
Conservation .....	Bill Luddy
Development Chair.....	Rich Hoffman
Education .....	Rick Russo
Education.....	Michael Peratis
Head Fly Casting	
Instructor .....	Marshall Bissett
Head Fly Tying	
Instructor.....	Michael Peratis
Librarian .....	Tom Wright
Membership .....	Jay Bushore
Newsletter Editor.....	Ed Swanson
Outings .....	Jim Fleisher
Programs .....	Marshall Bissett
Raffles.....	Steve Esgate
Special Projects .....	Glenn Short
SWCFFI Representative .....	Tom Wright
Technical Advisor .....	Aran Dokovna
Web Master .....	Renato Colantoni
Web Master .....	Cece Rubin



## CASTING CORNER

by Jody Martin  
SPFF Secretary and SWC Casting Director

Hi everyone,  
I missed the deadline for last month's newsletter, so we are playing catch-up this month.

**June's question was:** Name three things that have to be done differently as you increase the amount of line that you are casting as you go from 30 feet out to 50 feet (adding additional line does not count as one of the things you have to do; that's a given).

**Answer:** 1. Widen your casting arc (sometimes called rod arc). 2. Increase the duration of the pause on your backcast and forward cast. 3. Increase force. (Can you think of other changes you would need to make?)

**Question for July:** What are three ways that you can alter your cast to deal with a slight wind blowing onto your casting arm from the side? Why do you need to make any changes at all? What is the most important consideration that you need to take into account when the wind is blowing?

### This month's questions (True/False):

1. A weight-forward fly line has more weight and thickness in the first 30-or-so feet of line, with the remainder of the fly line (the running line) of uniform thickness and weight.
2. A double-taper fly line is thicker and heavier in the middle section, with both of the end sections (the first and last 10 feet or so of line, for example) composed of thinner diameter line.
3. Overlining a rod refers to using a heavier weight line than the rod is rated for.
4. In general, composite graphite and boron rods are considered more flexible and "slower" rods than are same-length rods constructed of fiberglass or bamboo.

Feel free to email me with your answers, questions, or suggestions for future topics! [jmartin.nhm@gmail.com](mailto:jmartin.nhm@gmail.com)

Thanks for playing, and keep casting!  
Jody

## SPFF EVENT CALENDAR

### AUGUST

Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	3
Board Meeting (via Zoom).....	4
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	6
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	10
<b>Annual Family Picnic .....</b>	<b>14</b>
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	17
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	20
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	24
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	31

### SEPTEMBER

Board Meeting (via Zoom).....	1
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	3
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	7
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	14
<b>General Meeting &amp; Presentation</b> <b>(Fly Fishing Photography for</b> <b>Everyone" with Brian O'Keefe).....</b>	<b>15</b>
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	17
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	21
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	28

### OCTOBER

Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	1
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	5
Board Meeting .....	6
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	12
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	15
Fall SWC Quarterly Meeting .....	15
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	19
SWC Women's Outing with Beryl Rea .....	20-22
<b>Dinner Meeting and Program (A</b> <b>Saltwater Checklist" with Al</b> <b>Quattrocchi.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>GSO - Great Summer Outing.....</b>	<b>22-23</b>
Fly Tying (in person and Zoom) .....	26

# GREAT SUMMER OUTING (GSO): 2022

by Jim Fleisher

The “First Annual” Great Summer Outing (GSO) took place the weekend of July 22-24 in Mammoth Lakes., There was a great turnout of enthusiastic club members and families. The weather cooperated and temperatures were not too bad, especially for those groups that went to Yosemite Park.

The various club-member led outings were generally well subscribed. I again need to thank all the volunteer trip leaders including Roger Backlar, Steve Ebersold, David Hoffberg and Cece Rubin. There were only positive reviews on all the trips. It seems like everyone caught quite a few fish.

I particularly want to thank Rick Russo, our education co-chair, for arranging the Entomology presentation by Robert Younghanz. There were sessions on Friday and Saturday and they proved to be enormously educational and entertaining. We learned many new things collecting our specimens from the stream bed. In addition to the expected caddis and blue wing olive nymphs, we even found some insects no one expected to see, like salmon fly nymphs and green drake nymphs. Lots of worms in the water, so keep making those San Juan worm patterns!!

As in the past, Michael Schweit arranged the group campground site and we had several happy campers.

The Saturday night barbecue at the Breakfast Club arranged again by Steve Ebersold and his sister Sue provided the finishing touches on a great weekend. Always an excellent dinner and desert with opportunity for great fish stories and camaraderie. We even gave out a few prizes.

Included are some representative pictures of the weekend for your enjoyment.

See you next year in Mammoth Lakes.





## GREAT SUMMER OUTING (GSO): 2022 (CONT.)





# BENNETT MINTZ: ONE REALLY GOOD GUY IN THE WORLD OF FLY FISHING

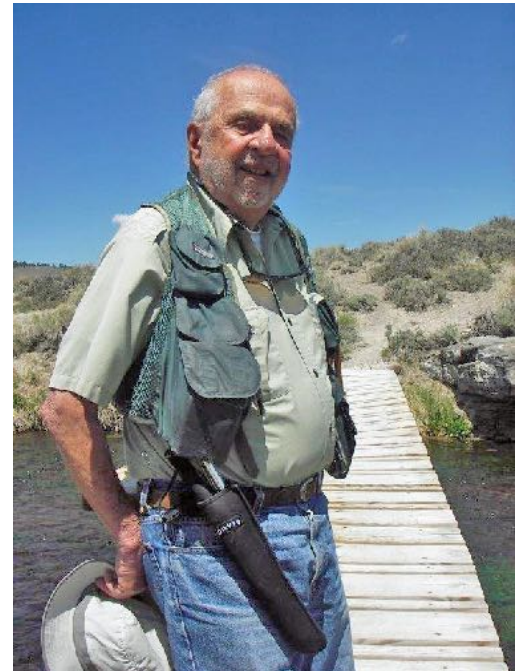
by Michael Schweit

I have always thought that we should let people know how and why they matter to us while they are still on the same earthly plane as the rest of us. Eulogies and Celebrations of Life make the survivors feel better but gosh, if you have something nice to say, tell them while they are still here!

To say I have known Bennett Mintz for a long time is an understatement. He is one of those folks that has always been there and remains to this day. I have been involved with fly fishing since about 1982 and Bennett was there from the outset. He is one of the founding members of Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers (1972) and it is often said that he gave casting lessons to Jesus. Or was it Moses?

During the clubs growing years, Bennett served on the Board and helped guide it's growth and he was instrumental in making sure that club functions made it into all of the local newspapers (remember those??). He has always been a fount of information and history and was someone anyone could turn to with a question or observation. Hard to believe but for all of our interactions, I have never fished with the guy. His stories have stories and are always good for a laugh. I cannot say we always agreed on everything, but to his credit, while he could be a curmudgeon, he could also pause and say "maybe you have a point".

Recently, due to aging issues, Bennett sent out a note out (included below) that he was giving up his yearly reservation on Hot Creek Ranch. Also below is a response to that, written by one of his long-time friends. Good thoughts and points for us all. As the dolphins said in the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy and I paraphrase for Bennett, "So long and thanks for all the fish". You are one helluva a person! MS



**It's a sad, sad day for me. After 61 or 62 years, I have given up my reservations at Hot Creek Ranch. I can no longer walk the stream. I can no longer bend over to net a trout. I am a danger to myself and others.**

**No complaints. Over the decades I have probably caught as many or more trout from Hot Creek as anyone. My largest was a 20-incher on a #20 fly. I can still tie a 22 on 7X tippet, but I can't walk, I can't stand very long, and my lack of balance ruins everything else.**

**It was a grand run.**

**Tight Loops . . .**

**Bennett Mintz**



## BENNETT MINTZ (CONT.)

Bennett got a nice note from friend, writer, and psychologist Paul Quinnett that I thought you'd enjoy). Paul is the author of Pavlov's Trout, Fishing Lessons, and a number of other books.

I heard a rumor that generations of trout in Hot Creek had a huge party Saturday night to celebrate the end of 60+ years of predations by one of the most skilled deceivers in their collective sore mouth memories. There were toasts all around that they could once again feed safely on something floating in the film or dancing on the surface.

And I am right behind you. I sat down on a low rock beside one of my favorite pools on St. Joe last week to address a tangled line, and it was touch and go whether I would get up again. After my stroke, the doctor said I could not fish safely without a lot of rehab. So I did the rehab. Just bought the tools and moved them to the cabin and got most of my mobility back. But not the sense of safety while afoot. My dad called it getting "tippy."

I have, however, made a mental list of what I call "geriatric holes" on the Joe, which are easily-treaded 15 degree inclines over pebbles or sand to fishable holding water. There are only a few such spots in 140 miles of river, so I'm thinking to petition my government to establish the Older American Angler Act which would, among other things, restrict access to these waters to the frail, disabled, and elderly. Using only a tiny fraction of the money I have paid in taxes over my decades of working, they could toss in a few trail improvements, a hand rail or two, and some benches upon which to rest these old bones.

Grand run indeed, my friend!



## SOUTHWEST COUNCIL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2022

by Leigh Ann Swanson  
President, Southwest Council of FFI

Every year the Council Award of Excellence is presented to those individuals in each Council who have made outstanding contributions to FFI at the local or regional level. Criteria are determined by each Council President, and the award is given in the name of Fly Fishers International by each Council President. This year the award is presented to three highly deserving individuals in our Council. All three have gone above and beyond the call of duty for many years and are always there to help when we need a helping hand.

### THE RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR 2022 ARE:

- **JOHN VAN DERHOOF** - John is an MCI (Master Certified Casting Instructor), THMCI (Two-Handed Master Certified Instructor), and FFI Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award winner; more than that, he is a good soul. Over the years, he has always jumped in when we need a helping hand, teaching, demonstrating, writing articles, setting up, and cleaning up. You name it; he's done it.
- 
- **SUSI WRIGHT** - Susi has been our fearless secretary for many years, and we would be lost without her. She works tirelessly behind the scenes to keep everything running, handling everything from A to Z. She is a master at rounding up the troops, herding the cats, smithing words and keeping things moving along. She is the glue that holds us together.
- 
- **MARSHALL BISSETT** - Marshall has helped the Council out over the years in several ways. Every year he helps collect and load items from the SWC storage room (a task some might consider life-threatening) for the garage sale at the FlyBuy. Recently, he hosted Saltwater Saturdays, and although he protests every step of the way, he keeps coming back for more. He is always around when we need a helping hand, and we are thankful for it.





# Support the Protection of Southern California Steelhead

July 20, 2022



[CLICK TO SUBMIT COMMENT](#)

Southern California steelhead are important indicators of healthy watersheds and well-functioning river ecosystems. Steelhead runs that historically numbered in the tens of thousands in Southern California rivers are down to single digits today. Now is the time for the state of California to take meaningful action and fully protect this iconic important fish. **We need your help to make this happen and save the species.**

## CAL TROUT: SUPPORT PROTECTION OF SO. CAL. STEELHEAD (CONT.)

Since June of 2021, California Trout has led the effort to list Southern steelhead as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). As a part of this process, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is currently conducting a full status review of the species to inform the California Fish and Game Commission's (FGC) final decision on the listing.

CDFW has invited the public to submit comments and/or data on the petitioned listing action for Southern California steelhead. The request is for comments and/or data that cover steelhead ecology, genetics, life history, distribution, abundance, habitat, the degree and immediacy of threats to its reproduction and/or survival, the adequacy of existing management, or recommendations for management of the species.

**The deadline to submit your public comment is September 30, 2022.** Please do not delay. It is vitally important that CDFW recognizes the pressing need of maintaining this species. The support from individual citizens concerned about the pending extinction of Southern California steelhead is a critical component of garnering support for the CESA listing. We have come so far, but aren't done yet, so we ask for your involvement today.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENT**

Click the button below for a ready-to-send email:

**[CLICK TO SEND COMMENT TO CDFW](#)**



## SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The Board of Directors and membership of the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers wish to express their appreciation to the retailers below. Their promotion of our club and its activities thorough the year, and their contributions of products and services help us to continue the various public services that we offer.

### **Fishermen's Spot**

14411 Burbank Blvd.  
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818.785.7306

### **Orvis**

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Pasadena, CA 91101  
626.356.8000

### **Pat Jaeger**

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Bishop, CA 93514  
760.872.7770

### **Patagonia-Ventura**

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