



RAFFLE ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER DINNER MEETING

1st Prize

Your choice of one reel;
TFS C3LA 9/10 w/ 2 extra spools
or Sousayilane 4/5 reel

2nd Prize

choice of one of nets below:
Large for bass etc or med for trout

Big Barrel

Cal Trout T-shirt, Simms hat,
Fly box, WF6F fly line

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DINNER PROGRAM / EVENT



SEPTEMBER MEDIA SPECTACULAR

**"Spectacular, Spectacular
No words in the vernacular
Can describe this great event
You'll be dumb with
wonderment"**

The above lines from the movie
"Moulin Rouge" seem equally fitting
for our September Dinner Meeting
on September 20.

However, our Media Spectacular,
in order to be truly spectacular,
needs YOUR help, specifically your
digital slide shows or short videos
of club members' fishing
adventures. Presentations can be

created using a presentation
program on your computer, with
or without sound. You can bring
your computer, a flash drive,
DVD or CD with your program to
the meeting or you can email it
to Glenn Short if you can't
attend. Presentations should
each be approximately five
minutes in length.

If you can contribute a slide
show, a short video, or have
questions, please email Glenn
Short (glenn.short@gmail.com).
Perhaps there is a Ken Burns or
Michael Moore hidden in our
midst - or even an Allen Funt!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by Marshall Bissett

Don't adjust your screens – the revised, revamped and re-imagined newsletter is here. Thanks to designer Ellie Brittain and new editor Ed Swanson we have an updated design, a clearer layout, scintillating content and a reason to look forward

to the first of every month. However, it only works with input from you our roving reporters. After each trip send in those iPhotos (with captions, please) and a few sentences about the big ones caught or nearly caught. Send to news@spff.org. While you're at it, why not add a few more images and tell your story at the next dinner meeting – our famous show and tell media event. Let Glenn Short know to expect your show.

As a cat person I am not keen on the phrase “dog days of summer” but I think we can all agree that this year has been too darn hot. The GSO outing showed that our members can be resourceful finding fish regardless of soaring water and air temperatures. A big thanks is due to all the group leaders who contributed so much to another excellent GSO, teaching us once again that the road less travelled (or the river less fished) can be the most productive. Many of us rediscovered the joys of float tubing – Crowley and Upper Twin Lakes provided great sport.

Thanks to the members who gave me suggestions for speakers for next year. We are close to finalizing an outstanding slate of presenters including several new faces and topics. I am delighted to announce that Jody Martin has stepped up as our new Secretary. Many thanks to John Roberts who served in that position and has also helped out with our printing needs. We also need to man our own SPFF booth at Southwest Council Faire at Glendale Civic on October 20th and 21st. This is a real opportunity to talk up the Club and sign up new members. Contact Ellie Brittain if you are able to help with booth set-up or show duties.

See you by the water.

Thank you for submitting your Newsletter Items to

news@spff.org by the 3rd Thursday, each month.

Look for the Newsletter on spff.org on the 1st of each month.



SIERRA PACIFIC FLY FISHERS

SPFF EVENT CALENDER

SEPTEMBER

Casting Clinic at Lake Balboa.....	1
Labor Day	3
PHW Vets	6
Board Meeting	6
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	15
PHW Vets	17
Dinner Meeting (September Media Spectacular, aka “Show and Tell Night” - no speaker)	20

OCTOBER

PHW Vets	4
Board Meeting	4
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	6
PHW Vets	18
Dinner Meeting (Brian O'Keefe, “Fly Fishing Photograph”)	17
SWC Fly Fishing Fair.....	20-21

NOVEMBER

PHW Vets	1
Board Meeting	1
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	3
PHW Vets	15
Dinner Meeting (Rick Hafele, “Understanding Emergers”).....	15
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	17
Thanksgiving	22

DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President.....	Marshall Bissett
Vice President.....	Bernie Ecker
Secretary	Jody Martin
Treasurer	Mike Hembree
Conservation	Debbie Sharpton
Education	Steve Ebersold
Education	Michael Peratis
Librarian	Tom Wright
Membership.....	Jay Bushore
Newsletter Editor.....	Ed Swanson
Newsletter Circulation	Richard Ress
Outings.....	Jim Fleisher
Programs	Marshall Bissett
Raffles	Steve Esgate
Special Projects	Glenn Short
Fundraising.....	Kevin Radanovich
Web Master	Ren Colantoni
Technical Assistant	Aran Dokovna
SWCFFI Representative	Tom Wright

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery Project Update

by Debbie Sharpton

Greetings everyone. Here's an update on this native trout recovery project. SPFF has played an instrumental role in a cooperative effort to help a population of Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT) critical to the survival of this threatened species. Our native trout species are under siege by several



major stressors on their survival. Loss of habitat due to our needs and desires for water and space is the number one reason for decline of all species. Weather changes, such as drought, reduces

trout livable habitat. Excessive temperatures in the climate change period we currently endure exacerbates problems by raising water temperatures of what's left. Trout can't tolerate water temperatures much above 70 degrees Fahrenheit for very long. Dealing with habitat recovery and climate change are issues being addressed by groups equipped to handle this type of work. SPFF contributes to these groups, and supplies volunteers when needed.

The second largest contributor to native trout loss is invasive predators. Brook trout are native to the eastern United States, and have developed characteristics that allow it to thrive in situations that can be stressful to our native populations. Many of our native fish developed over thousands of years with other species and they had a balance between them. We added in this foreign species and it has thrown the balance out of whack. Removing the brook trout from Silver Creek, home to the LCT struggling to survive, is where SPFF comes in.

In conjunction with the Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International (SWC FFI), SPFF has been involved in the project since 2010 when volunteers assisted in a one-day event to remove brook trout from the LCT refuge water of Silver Creek. Silver Creek is a tributary of the West Walker River. CA

Dept of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) spent many years preparing the refuge water for transplanted, genetically pure LCT into it. Silver Creek is closed to fishing because someone illegally dumped brook trout into it just before it was to open for LCT fishing. The birth of the stressor, the predator brook trout,

started and went unchecked for several years. It got to the point of almost entirely wiping out the LCT.

In steps Dawne Emery, a devoted CDFW fisheries ecologist. Without her personal dedication the LCT in Silver Creek would probably be gone by now. From 2010 to 2016 SPFF donated funds to the project to pay the wages of fishery ecologist interns working alongside CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Trout Unlimited and California Trout staff and volunteers during the summer. This is an excellent way to get our younger generation involved and provided valuable field experience they can use for future work. SPFF and other clubs and individuals in the Southwest Council, have worked every summer to make sure progress is made. The project has made improvements for the LCT, but we can't stop until its completed.

Funds were secured via some small grants and donations to design and construct an interpretive



panel to document the blight of native fish and this great collaborative recovery effort. The design is in progress and I'm happy to say it looks like we will have it installed before winter. So stay tuned and I hope you will visit the beautiful Lahontan cutthroat trout alive and well in its native waters.

ACTIVITIES, GEAR AND MORE

CONSERVATION

by Debbie Sharpton

Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers has continually been involved in conservation efforts since the club's inception. We support a wide variety of activities that generate funds to support conservation-related agencies, grant funds from the SPFF Foundation to worthy causes, and provide on-site member support in field-related efforts to protect the wonderful natural resources that we enjoy. Please visit spff.org/Conservation for more information.

EDUCATION

by Steve Ebersold

We offer *Casting Clinics* at Balboa Lake/Beilenson Park in Encino, the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, from 9-11 AM; *Fly Tying Class* in January; "ITFF" *Introduction to Fly Casting* in March; *Continue Fly Tying* on Wednesday evenings for fun; *Fly Rod Building* in May and the *Nymphing Clinic* in October. Please visit spff.org/Education for more information.

LIBRARY

by Tom Wright

Learn more about fly fishing. Please visit our vast Fly Fishing Library online at spff.org/Library Catalog

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. SPFF always welcomes new members. New membership signup is at spff.org/New Member Signup.

OUTINGS

by Jim Fleisher

We mainly fly fish the Eastern Sierras and the Pacific coast. The *Surf Clinic & Outing* is in January; the *Super Bowl Outing* in Bishop; our *Graduation Outing* is in April, in Bishop; *Hot Creek Ranch* weekend in June and we especially look forward to the *Getting Started Outing* in the Mammoth Lakes area in July and the *Nymphing Clinic* in October. We also fish our local

streams during the "Thursday Thrillers." Visit spff.org/Outings for more details.

PROJECT HEALING WATERS

by David Hoffberg

Volunteers meet at Sepulveda Vet Center twice a month to teach Veterans fly tying and fly casting. Visit spff.org/Project Healing Waters for more information.

SOUTHWEST COUNCIL FFI

by Tom Wright

The Southwest Council of The Fly Fishers International Promotes Fly Fishing in Southern California and Southern Nevada through Education, Conservation and Fellowship. Please visit our website at southwestcounciliff.org

Join us at the Fly Fishing Faire at the Glendale Civic Auditorium in Glendale, October 20-21, 2018!

SPFF LOGO GEAR

by Richard Ress

At long last, we have succeeded in arranging with Cabela's for us to order any item from their catalog embroidered with our SPFF logo, for the princely sum of \$5. You must order an item from Cabela's to do this; sale items are OK but you must order from the corporate office, rather than online.

The procedure is as follows: Choose any item (shirt, jacket, hat, etc.) and note the item number. Call 1-800-243-6636, give them the SPFF customer number (#20705696), your size, color and where you want to place the embroidery: shoulder, front, back, sleeve, or wherever.

Charge to a credit card, give them your shipping information, and voila! In a couple of weeks your embroidered item will arrive. Let's show our colors to the world!

WEB MASTER

by Ren Colantoni

Please visit our website at spff.org and see what's new and exciting!



CASTING

SATURDAY CASTING CLINICS – WHY BOTHER?

by Michael Peratis

A few days before the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month you're sent an email announcing an upcoming casting clinic at Lake Balboa. Have you ever come out to take advantage of this free club activity? If not, why not? Maybe you're one of the fortunate club members whose casting stroke is the picture of perfection and you have the ability to place your fly right on target with every cast – no matter what the conditions. If that's you, there's no reason to read any further.

However, if you'd like to improve your casting skills I encourage you to come out for a bit of help with.....

- “Cleaning up” your casting stroke
- Eliminating tailing loops
- Learning how to shoot line
- Learning Slack Line Casts
- Learning how to or perfecting your Double Haul
- Learning a Belgian Cast (very useful when nymphing or casting a heavy streamer)
- Learning a Bow & Arrow Cast
- Learning a Curve Cast
- Learning how to deal with wind coming from your right, left, front or back
- Anything else you want help with

We recently acquired and have been using an iPad at the clinics. This gives us the ability to record you while casting then play back in slow motion and stop motion to help you see and eliminate casting errors. It's an amazing terrific new tool!



GSO REPORT

by Jim Fleisher (photos by Ellie Brittain)

Well, we managed to survive the GSO. Neither rain, lightning, hail or burning forests will deter the determined members of Sierra Pacific in their pursuit of fish! About 45 members and guests were present for a great weekend in Mammoth Lakes. Many fish were caught and many stories were told.

I wish to again thank our marvelous trip leaders for devoting their time and energy to helping others find new and exciting places to fish. **Irwin Goldblum** and **Kevin Radanovich** led float tube outings. Big Springs had **Steve Ebersold** leading outings on Friday and Saturday. **Bill Woods** wandered to various places finding fish and **Roger Backlar** led a group down to the San Joaquin River. **Mike Hembree** was at Longyears section of the upper Owens River and **Gene Mahn** ventured to smoky Tuolumne Meadows.

A small group of us (limited by permits) were able to go backpacking along Lyell Creek in Yosemite Park. That was an adventure in itself, the tale of which appears on the next page.



Our two professionally guided trips were a great success. Pat Jaeger led a group of Tenkara junkies to the San Joaquin and Joe Contaldi took a group to the Upper Owens River to work on hopper fishing.

The event culminated at the wonderful Barbecue Dinner held at the Breakfast Club thanks to Steve Ebersold and his sister, Sue. Forget the ribs, just come for the cheesecake!

Our illustrious president, Marshall, again played his “tushi, head” game to give away prizes.

Looking forward to another successful GSO next year.

BACKPACKING ADVENTURE


by Jim Fleisher (photos by Ellie Britain)

One of the activities of the GSO was the almost annual backpacking trip. Last year, due to high snow levels it was not possible. However, this year we again managed to get a permit for Lyell Creek along the John Muir Trail. We were limited to six participants. They included Charles and Ellie Brittain, Richard and Laurie Plunkett, David Hoffberg and myself.



After a 6-7 mile hike in on a fairly level trail, Charles found us a great campsite on the other side of Lyell Creek. The crossing was easy in 12-14 inches of water (save that thought for later in the story). After a late afternoon thunderstorm, we were able to get in some fishing time before dinner.

The next day was beautiful and everyone ventured out for 50 to 75 fish day along Lyell Creek. A brief mid-day thunderstorm had everyone move toward camp, but it soon cleared and the rest of the day was perfect. David and I found a “trout nursery” where between the two of us we must have caught 15-20 fish from that one hole-all little guys. That was after I got David started on Tenkara fishing and it did not disappoint! Neither did his “AK-47” fly, which he taught at fly tying. Richard and Laurie did some more technical fishing closer to camp and caught some fair-sized fish. Charles and Ellie only brought their Tenkara rods and had a very successful afternoon.



The clouds again rolled in and just as we finished boiling water for our gourmet freeze-dried dinners, the skies opened up and we all scrambled to our tents to eat. For the next 3 hours the heavens put on a light show all around us and turned on fire hoses. It was pretty intense. After the storm, we crawled out of our tents and it sounded like the creek was a bit louder than earlier. We went to look, and that quiet meandering Lyell Creek was now a 4-foot deep class 4 rapids!! Our prior crossing of the river was now totally impassable. “We need to get across

this in the morning to get home” we all said out loud and to ourselves.

The next morning, despite our prayers, the river had not really subsided and continued to be a formidable runoff. After drying off our gear and packing, we bushwhacked down along our side of the stream until we found a place to safely cross.

Needless to say, we did make it back for the great Saturday night barbecue. A few blisters and some sore muscles and the memories of an exciting adventure.



MONTHLY DINNER
PROGRAM MEETINGS

THIRD THURSDAY

Monterey At Encino
16821 Burbank Blvd., Encino, CA 91436

6:00 Cocktails / 7:00 Dinner / Program follows

\$32.00 Cash or Check, No Cards
Non-dining guests are FREE!

Reserve Dinner by Monday prior
818.789.1919 Ext 10 (Michelle)
montereyatencino@gmail.com

DINNER MENU

Entree

Spinach Ravioli with Marinara Sauce or
Roast Beef with Mashed Potatoes & Vegetables

Dessert
Assorted Pastries

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Dessert

Assorted Pastries

BACK TO THE SALT

by Bennett J. Mintz

The Salt beckoned.

The Salt River, about 50 miles south of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, is like a magnate. It pulls you back. Clamp down your heels, say “never again” and it still pulls you back. In February, I began making plans to visit my friend, outdoor columnist and retired fishing guide Paul Bruun, in Jackson Hole. I talked it up and soon there were four of us.

Despite my hips and back deteriorating by the hour from arthritis, it was a trip I could take: no wading, no rock-hopping, big, easy-to-see flies and plenty of cutthroat trout.

The Salt is a tributary of the Snake. It runs about 80 miles in length from some salt ponds near its headwaters (hence the name) to its confluence with the Snake. It winds through lush farms and golden grains.

The idea is to cast a fly under bushes and willow trees, as close to the bank as you dare, twitch it a bit to look like a frantic bug, mend it well and hang on tight. Native fine spotted cutthroat trout come quickly ... no loose, unmended lines for these critters. Everything needs to be just so.

Departing Jackson about 8 puts you on the water at 10, just as the sun warms the shallow little side channels and starts bugs crawling. A skilled guide/boatman will put the skiff 20- or 25-feet off the bank. The key, of course, is accuracy. The cast must elude the fly-killing grasp of trees, snags and assorted pitfalls. If the cast is true, the float is drag-free, and everything comes together perfectly, then a mini spotted pocket rocket will come from beneath the water's surface and grab your bug.

Salt River cutts range from about 8 to 18 inches with fish in the 11 to 14 inch range the most prevalent. Most of the flies used are adaptations of the Chernobyl ant with lots of rubber legs. Later in the day, caddis imitations like the good, old fashioned Royal Trude or Yellow Belly Humpy fill the bill.

It's non-stop. Cast left, cast right, cast straight down a chute, cast left, cast right, snag a tree limb and re-tie the fly. Making a cast every 5 or 10 seconds means about 8 a minute or more than 400 each hour. Even with a 40 minute lunch break and times re-tying flies or paddling through non-productive waters, it still makes for a couple thousand casts day. It adds up. Shoulders ache, wrists ache, and backs ache. A Teton Amber IPA is most welcome.

Ah, but the tug is the drug. A 12-incher pulls like a little demon and puts a deep bend in a 5-weight rod unlike most other foot-long fish. Fine spotted cutthroats are exceptionally strong and resist the net. They don't belly-up, that's for sure.

Scorecard: I landed about 100 fish in four days. Not bad for an ancient mariner.

OCTOBER NYMPHING CLINIC

by Steve Ebersold

We will be based in the town of Bishop for the October 2018 nymphing clinic. It will consist of two mornings of instruction, on Friday and Saturday, October 26 and 27. The clinic will be geared to teaching you how to fish with nymphs. We plan on instruction taking place on the Lower Owens River but this may change to alternate locations if the flows are too high nearing the end of October. Your expenses will be only the cost of your food and lodging...there is no charge for the clinic. Saturday evening we will enjoy a no-host group dinner at Astorgas's Mexican Restaurant at 2206 N. Sierra Hwy in Bishop at 6pm.



This will be a fun event that you can sign up for beginning September 3, 2018.

We will meet in our traditional spot, the public parking lot behind BBQ Bill's at 8:30 AM Friday and Saturday to assign you to your instructors. At that time we can also discuss dinner plans.

On Saturday October 13 from 9 AM until noon we have scheduled a pre-clinic meeting to discuss the outing and provide you with information about fly selections, leader setups, gear recommendations, and tactics. The meeting will



KERN RIVER TOURNAMENT

Southern Sierra Fly Fishers will be holding the 2nd California Fly Fishing Open on Sept. 22nd in Kernville, CA. Last year we had 12 teams competing, 15 vendors (including Sage and Simms) and 140 people for our BBQ dinner. We hope to exceed those numbers this year. I hope you can field a 5 person team to represent your Club/Organization. All the details are here: <https://ssffclub.org/californiaopen>

We will have a morning tournament, Team Parade (think Olympics opening ceremony, so Club shirts & banner would be extremely appropriate), Freddie's Famous BBQ dinner, 2 bands for your entertainment (Guy Jean's band - The Stoneflys and Bernard Yin's surf band Par Avion), beverages, raffles galore, tons of vendors and we will be playing our "Heads or Tails" for a new custom built Winston rod. Everyone in attendance will be playing for the Winston.

This year's entry proceeds will benefit Casting For Recovery and Kern Valley Search and Rescue.

If you are interested in being part of SPFF's 5 man/woman team, please contact: smoother@delicate.com



COMING SOON: SWC FLY FISHING FAIRE

The only Fly Fishing Faire in Southern California is less than 2 months away! With almost 40 vendors, 20 FREE presentations on travels and fly fishing techniques and classes in casting and tying, our Faire has everything you need!

Go to <http://www.swcffi.org/faire> to purchase admission tickets ahead of time and to grab a spot in a class. Plus pre-Faire merchandise at discount! Members of SPFF can obtain discounted tickets. Being a club member has its privileges!



Join Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing in celebrating the volunteers, supporters and communities that help make a difference in the lives of our nation's disabled veterans.

9am - 5pm
Fishermen's Spot
14411 Burbank Blvd.
Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 785-7306

HEALING WATERS FLYFISHING

September 29, 2018

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The Board of Directors and membership of the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers wish to express their appreciation to the retailers. 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.
Van Nuys, CA 91401
818.785.7306

Gangadin Restaurant

12067 Ventura Place
Studio City, Ca 91604
(818) 509-0722

Kern River Fly Shop

11301 Kernville, Rd.
Kernville, CA 93238
760.376.2040

Orvis

345 S. Lake Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101
626.356.8000

Pat Jaeger

Eastern Sierra Guide Service
2327 Stone Circle
Bishop, CA 93514
760.872.7770

Patagonia-Ventura

Great Pacific Iron Works
235 W. Santa Clara St.
Ventura, CA 93001
805.643.6074

Patagonia-Pasadena

47 N. Fair Oaks Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91103
626.795.0319

Real Cheap Sports

235 W. Santa Clara St.
Ventura, CA 93001
805.643.6074



Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers proudly



dfg.ca.gov/fishing



caltrout.org



flyfishersinternational.org

FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

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