



## ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER AND AWARDS: THURSDAY, DEC. 19

### RAFFLE

#### 1st Prize

Echo Base 6wt 9ft rod

#### 2nd Prize

Echo Ion 6/7 reel

#### 3rd Prize: Your choice (1):

Chestpack or Net

#### 4th Prize

Choice of one book

#### Big Barrel

Fly box load with flies

Terri mug

Rio Leader Wallet

Sun Sleeve

Hat

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## HOLIDAY MEETING: FULL OF SURPRISES!

by Marshall Bissett

Our Holiday meeting on December 19th is a chance to celebrate 2019 and look forward to another great angling year. After the customary swearing in of your new Board for 2020, there will be Board member reports, fishing stories and special raffle prizes. We will also

present our major annual awards for excellence to distinguished members of the fly fishing community inside and outside the Club and show our appreciation to the hard-working staff of the Monterey Glen. Perhaps most important at this time of giving we will again be supporting the very worthy SPARK OF LIFE toy drive. We ask all members to bring an unwrapped toy that we later take to the local Fire Station to be distributed to needy children in the San Fernando Valley.

This year we are honoring Candace Meneghin with the Order of the Jassid award for Conservation. Candace joined Cal Trout in 2012 as chair and coordinator of the Santa Clara River Steelhead Coalition. As Cal Trout's Southern California Conservation Program Manager she oversaw Cal Trout's litigation on the Santa

*Program continued on next page*

## HOLIDAY DINNER (CONTINUED)

*(Program continued from page 1)*

Ynez watershed in Santa Barbara, secured planning funds for an array of Southern California restoration projects and advocated for the interests of fly fishers throughout our community. A native of South Africa, Candace was a Club member and graduated from our ITFF program. Since January of 2018 she has served on the board of the Friends of the Santa Clara River. She has worked on many local projects with Rosi Dagit, last year's Jassid honoree. Our own Conservation Chair Debbie Sharpton says, "Candace is very deserving – she has done some excellent work and is a big asset to our local conservation work."



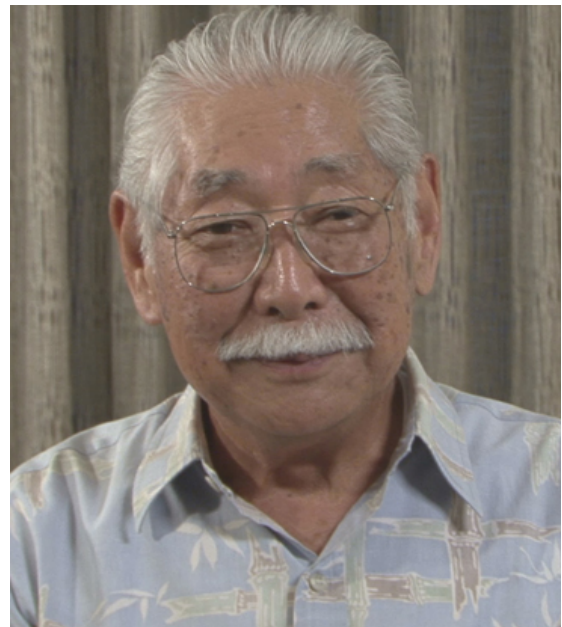
The Board unanimously agreed that a "Kazi" (Robert T Kazahaya) Service award be given to Mas Okui. Mas Okui was an educator and is a father. Along his life's journey he acquired two other lifelong passions. His pursuit of these other passions resulted in his attainment of becoming an accomplished fly fisherman and the establishment of the Manzanar National Historical Site.

Over the years Mas's fly fishing skills have become well known by other luminary fly

fishermen such as Ross Merigold and Ralph Cutter. In addition, he has been the subject of numerous fishing articles. One rod company even named a fly rod after him. But to us we only know him as an exceptional fly fisherman whose experience and knowledge he has generously shared.

Mas's fly fishing journey began before Manzanar. A gentleman whom Mas performed part-time work, took him to the Sierras when he was a young boy. It was on this trip Mas experienced fly fishing for the first time. When Mas was stationed in Europe in the early fifties, he was afforded the opportunity to fly fish the English Calk Streams. In addition, he took advantage of being deployed in Europe and fished other rivers in Europe.

Upon his return to the states, Mas encountered Ernie Hille and Cliff Wyatt who were instrumental in mentoring Mas. It was through their generosity Mas was able to leverage his knowledge and experience into his unique fishing skills.





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Ress

As is often the case, this holiday season is a mixture of joy and sadness. Getting together with family and friends, our December dinner meeting and awards and remembering our good times and fellowship over the past year make this a special time of year. Our happiness this year is muted by the recent passing of Gary Pintar. Gary was a member since 2002 and has



been a special friend to many of us. Those who knew him longer than I will be remembering him and sharing recollections of times spent with him over the coming months. I know that he was always a joy to be with, a person who didn't know how to say no to a request for

help. He and Dassi were the kind of club members that we cherish.

This raises the sad truth that we, like many other clubs and organizations, have an aging membership. The institutional memory that will be lost in the coming years can't be replaced. Two thoughts follow: that we need to memorialize what we know and remember in writings, recordings and pictures so they won't be lost; and that we must press on with efforts to attract a younger and more diverse membership if we are to survive. Our efforts to spread the word on social media are ongoing, but we suffer from a lack of expertise in this area and continue to search for someone to be our Social Media Chair, replacing Rich Plunkett who continues to help us from afar in the Pacific Northwest. We are grateful to him but need someone here to promote us to people for whom traditional media are no longer relevant.

We also need to expand our efforts to attract more women to our club. Every study done by the fly fishing industry concludes that they are the future of the sport. Toward this end we are instituting a Board position to promote women's activities. Any woman

who has the energy and interest to take on this challenge should call me. I was going to add "and the time" for this, but I know that it's the already busy people who seem to be able to carve out the time, delegate as needed and get a job done. I will be reaching out to the women in the club to see whom we might entice to help us.

Another area for outreach is minorities who have not traditionally been a big part of the fly fishing world. Our club is overwhelmingly white, with some key Asian and a few other members. As various ethnic groups flex their muscles, economic as well as political, we need to bring them in to reflect the diversity of our region.

I encourage you to enjoy the holidays, get together with friends and family and make plans to join us in 2020 as we fish, teach, learn, and enjoy the beautiful places and people we love.

### DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President.....	Richard Ress
Vice President.....	Bernie Ecker
Secretary.....	Jody Martin
Treasurer.....	Mike Hembree
Communications .....	Bill Luddy
Conservation.....	Open
Education .....	Steve Ebersold
Education Co-Chair.....	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
Fundraising .....	Rich Hoffman
Web Master.....	Ren Colantoni
Technical Advisor .....	Aran Dokovna
SWCFFI Representative.....	Tom Wright
Member at Large.....	Don Lee



## OUTINGS

By Jim Fleisher

As the year 2019 concludes, we are now planning for 2020.

The first scheduled event is the Super Bowl/ITFF Graduation Outing. This year we have combined the popular Super Bowl Outing with the Introduction to Fly Fishing (ITFF) Graduation Outing. Since we have had issues with high flows the last several years, it was decided to eliminate the March outing in favor of combining it with the Super Bowl Outing. The event takes place the weekend of January 31-February 2, 2020 in Bishop, CA. Members can come and just fish, or better yet, spend Friday or Saturday (or both) mornings as an instructor to our new ITFF students. Teaching always improves our own skills! The highlight of the weekend is the graduation ceremony and dinner on Saturday night. This year it will be at Astorga's Mexican Restaurant in Bishop.

Please check out this event in the Events Calendar on the SPFF website for all the details and registration information. Payment for the dinner is required at the time of registration.

Additional events planned for 2020:

Hot Creek Ranch the weekend of June 5-8, 2020. We have all the cabins reserved for SPFF members, so start making plans for that event. Note that if the flows are high, nymph fishing (usually prohibited) will be allowed.

The next major event for 2020 is the Getting Started Outing (GSO) occurring in Mammoth Lakes the weekend of July 17-19.

Details for all these Outings are or will be in the events calendar on the SPFF website.

Happy Holidays to all,

Jim Fleisher, Outings Chairman

## SPFF EVENT CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

Project Healing Waters Vets .....	5
Board Meeting .....	5
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	7
Castaway 2019 @PCC pool .....	8
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	19
Dinner Meeting (Annual Awards Presentation) .....	19
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	21

### JANUARY

Project Healing Waters Vets .....	2
Board Meeting .....	2
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	4
Intermediate Casting Clinic at PCC (Session 1 of 2) .....	11
Introduction to Fly Fishing Classes .....	11
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	16
Dinner Meeting .....	16
Introduction to Fly Fishing Classes .....	18
SWC FFI Management Day & Quarterly Meeting @ Deep Creek Flyfishers .....	18
Intermediate Casting Clinic at PCC (Session 2 of 2) .....	25
Introduction to Fly Fishing Classes .....	25
Superbowl Weekend Outing and ITFF Graduation Outing .....	Jan 31-Feb 2

### FEBRUARY

Superbowl Weekend Outing and ITFF Graduation Outing (cont.) .....	Feb 1-2
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	1
SWC Fly Buy 2020 @ Long Beach .....	1
Beginning Fly Tying Class .....	5
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	6
Board Meeting .....	6
Beginning Fly Tying Class .....	12
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	15
Beginning Fly Tying Class .....	19
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	20
Dinner Meeting .....	20
Beginning Fly Tying Class .....	26

## EDUCATION

### REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR OUR 2020 BEGINNING FLY TYING CLASS

by Michael Peratis

It's time for you to sign up for SPFF's Beginning Fly Tying Class. The 2020 class is starting in February, a month later than in past years. Although that's two months away don't wait. Sign up now for this terrific club education program. Just click on the link on our web site home page.

#### **A FEW FLY TYING FACTS**

**(AND PERHAPS SOME REASONS TO REGISTER)**

- The class is open to the general public as well as to club members. Tell everyone you know!
- One student has registered for the class as of November 26. 🧑
- There's space available for nine additional students. 🧑 🧑 🧑 🧑 🧑 🧑 🧑 🧑 🧑
- Many of the fish caught by club members are taken on flies that they learned to tie at our classes or at our Wednesday sessions.
- After graduation, you'll be welcomed to join the club's weekly fly tying sessions. That will quite possibly be the best thing you'll ever find to do on a Wednesday night... and, with the very best people.

#### **BONUS FACT**

**(AND ANOTHER REASON TO REGISTER)**

As a graduate of the class you'll be among those privileged to attend to the absolutely fabulous and unbelievably spectacular....

#### **Fly Tier's Annual Christmas Party**



**and Silly Gift Exchange**  
*(just ask anyone who's been there!)*

### 2020 INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING

by Steve Ebersold

Introduction to Fly Fishing classes for 2020 will be starting earlier this year than normal. Don't forget to share this with all of your friends and family. Mark it on your calendars and come and join us for this great informative class.

The 1st class will start on January 11, 2020, and it has been moved from the One Generation Center to the Recreation Room at Reseda Park. Registration is now available on our club website, [spff.org](http://spff.org), to get all the details and register.

Also, another change will be in the Graduation Outing, which will take place during the same weekend of our Superbowl Outing, Jan. 31-Feb 2, 2020.

If you have any questions, feel free to email Steve Ebersold at [yukai340@gmail.com](mailto:yukai340@gmail.com), or Michael Peratis at [mperatis@aol.com](mailto:mperatis@aol.com).

## 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](http://spff.org/New_Member_Signup).

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

**ROBERT DAVIDSON**  
**ED DORROH**

## LIBRARY

by Tom Wright

Learn more about fly fishing. Please visit our vast Fly Fishing Library online at [spff.org/Library Catalog](http://spff.org/LibraryCatalog)

## BIGHORN FISHING TRIP

By George Brodt

Paul Guttenberg is once again taking the lead to work with the Bighorn Angler in Fort Smith Montana to provide our members and members of the Pasadena Casting Club an opportunity to fish the Bighorn river's tailwater below Yellowtail Dam. Because we have had as many as 30 anglers sign up in the past, Paul has made arrangements with the Bighorn Angler for five days of fishing and six nights of lodging and meals during two (2) consecutive weeks in May. Breaking the group up into two groups gives us a better chance of fishing with the best guides that are available in Fort Smith.

The first week will be Sunday, May 10 thru Saturday, May 15, 2020 and the second week will be Sunday, May 18 thru Saturday, May 23, 2020. The first meal will be the Sunday night dinner and the last meal will be the Saturday morning breakfast.

The total cost for five (5) days of fishing with a guide from a drift boat and six (6) nights of lodging, including seventeen meals, is \$ 1695. George Brodt ([gbrodt@earthlink.net](mailto:gbrodt@earthlink.net)) (661) 904-7083) will be the point man for the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers and Harold Shively will be the point man for the Pasadena Casting Club.

If you are interested in going, please email Paul Guttenberg at [paulg406@gmail.com](mailto:paulg406@gmail.com) and let him know if you want to go on the first week or the second week. The first week and the second week will both accommodate sixteen (16) anglers, so if you have a requirement to go one week or the other, please send your reservation request to Paul ASAP.

Please send a check for your deposit of \$ 850 to The Bighorn Angler P. O. Box 7578 Fort Smith, MT after January 1, 2020, and tell them that you are with the Paul Guttenberg Group and specify the week that you told Paul that you wanted to go. The balance due of \$ 845 will be paid while you are at the lodge in Fort Smith in May.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

by Jay Bushore

The 2020 membership renewal has started. We hope to see everyone back next year. The easiest was to renew is to go on the [spff.org](http://spff.org) website. You can renew and pay by credit card and your membership is updated instantly. The other way is to mail a check made out to SPFF. Mail it to:

SPFF  
PO Box 8403  
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Thanks for renewing. See you next year.

### 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

[montereyatencino@gmail.com](mailto:montereyatencino@gmail.com)

### **HOLIDAY DINNER MENU:**

Baby Green Salad

Choice:

Seafood Brochette with Mashed Potatoes and  
Steamed Vegetables

OR

Turkey with Stuffing, Yams and Mashed Potatoes

Dessert

Pumpkin Cheesecake



# PROJECT HEALING WATERS APPEAL

*Dear Friends and Family.*

*2020 marks my 11th year hosting Disabled Veterans on "All Expenses Paid" fly fishing outings. These Veterans are part of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

*Project Healing Waters assists disabled veterans, and disabled active duty military personnel, in their physical and emotional rehabilitation, through fly fishing related activities.*

[Click here to Donate](#)

*I have been involved with Project Healing Waters for the past ten years at the Mission Hills / Sepulveda Vet Center, holding classes on fly rod casting, fly pattern tying, fly rod building, and showing fly fishing videos.*

*I am writing to ask for your help in covering the costs of these outings by contributing to Project Healing Waters. 100% of the Veterans' expenses, from air fare to lodging, fishing guides and meals, will be covered by your generosity. For many of the Veterans, these fly fishing outings will be their first ever fly fishing trip.*

*I hope you will support our Disabled Veterans on these richly rewarding fly fishing outings.*

***Thank you to those of you that have also served!***



**David Hoffberg**

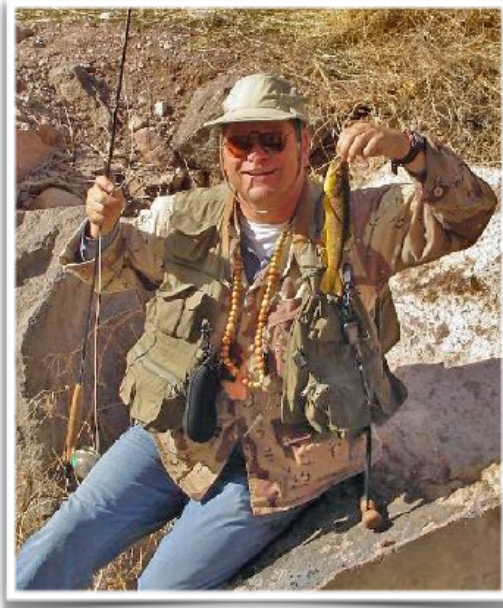


# IN MEMORIAM: GARY PINTAR

## REMEMBERING GARY

Gary Pintar

May 9, 1948 - November 14, 2019



Dassi, Laura & Jennifer Pintar hosted a Celebration of Gary's Life at their home in Saugus on Friday, November 22. The house was filled to overflowing with fishing friends, fly tying friends, other friends, neighbors, and relatives. It truly was a celebration.

A wealth of memories were shared and we got to watch a wonderful slide show collection of photos highlighting moments in Gary's life from early childhood through the recent past as they played on a large screen TV.

Gary served on the SPFF Board of Directors and received the Robert T. Kazahaya Service Award in 2012.

For Gary, his family always came first. After family, his passions were fishing (see example above) and conservation work. He helped out with the Piru Creek bullfrog removal project going out at night with Ben Medley.

In 2006 Gary began volunteer work with the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps – FRVC, organizing patrols & projects on Piru Creek. He was recognized as the Outstanding Volunteer by the FRVC Board of Directors.

Gary made a difference and he will be missed.



# IN MEMORIAM: HUGH CARR

## REMEMBERING HUGH

Hubert "Hugh" Carr

April 11, 1937 – February 21, 2019



Hugh was a club member during the 80's & 90's, and fished occasionally with Mas Okui at Arcularius Ranch. Mas recalls that Hugh was an instructor at the Fly Fishing School and was also an assistant fly tying instructor back when Jordan Lagman was leading the class.

He was always willing to share his knowledge of fly fishing with anyone who would ask. His strength was his patience with students. He would often regale us with tales of students efficiencies & deficiencies, but never with meanness, always with humor.

Woodworking was Hugh's other passion, and Mas recalls the carvings of trout which he'd proudly display. Mas still has the fly tying tool holder that Hugh made for him. He also made the rod rack which we use at our casting clinics.

Then, for some reason, Hugh dropped out of sight in the late 90's or soon thereafter, but rejoined the club in 2011.

He promptly joined the fly tying group as a weekly participant and as an instructor for the beginning fly tying classes until late in 2018 when his health began to decline.

Here's a good story: Hugh was responsible for getting his doctor, Rick Russo into our fly tying group. As a patient, whenever he had an appointment Hugh would take Rick 5 or 6 new flies he had tied. Then they would spend about 10 more minutes talking fly fishing, which of course caused Rick to be even more behind schedule than usual.

When Dr. Russo left his practice Hugh made sure to give him his card so he would contact him when he was ready to start tying flies. It was a year or 2 before they got together again. Rick finally called and Hugh invited him to a Wednesday Fly Tying session. He took him under his wing and very soon Rick was hooked. He joined the club, comes to fly tying and teaches us a fly on occasion...all thanks to Hugh Carr. He is missed.

# 2019 NYMPHING CLINIC RECAP

By Marshall Bissett

This year's nymphing clinic took on a distinctly Euro flavor as around 20 students abandoned their floating indicators and split shot to learn a new technique derived from the European competition circuit. The well attended outing kicked off the week before when I and fellow instructor Rick Russo briefed the group on general principles, leader construction and fly selection. A new vocabulary was soon picked up; indicators now became sighters, fly line was replaced with 20 pound mono and flies that made no attempt to match the hatch were tied to points and droppers. Flies built around tungsten beads resembled little in nature. The Euro method favors 10 to 11 foot tip action rods in the 2-4 weight range but most students did just fine with their normal nymphing outfit. With the Lower Owens resembling the Amazon running at 700 cfs, we met at the green church at Benton Crossing on a crisp but windless Friday morning. With scant attempt to car pool, our convoy of 12 vehicles literally invaded the Upper Owens at the confluence of Hot Creek in clouds of dust. We looked like the DEA busting a cartel in the desert, deterring all but one brave soul who parked nearby. The river sparkled in the morning sun and its shallow riffles dropping into deep pools, lent itself well to the new technique. I encouraged everyone to use 6X tippet for maximum sensitivity and the lightest possible flies that would produce a smooth drift. The group spread out upstream as far as Long Ears. A few minutes later, amidst calls for help, a camera and a bigger net, Pat Case struck gold with a 22" rainbow, caught on a Frenchie pattern. Roger Backlar was encouraged. "I never catch fish in the Upper and I've had two already," he said. The catch rate on larger fish found in the deeper pools was impressive. The day before the group arrived, I landed a personal best brown trout around 24" and a similar rainbow the next day. The Euro method uses no floating indicators or split shot resulting in many less tangles to the great relief of the instructors. A heavy lower or "point" fly is tied 2 feet below a traditional size 16 or 18 "dropper" fly, cast upstream and guided downstream at the speed of the current. The takes can be subtle – a slight twitch of the colored "sighter" indicator - or downright explosive. On day two Kevin Radanovich took a break from instructing to land two 20" plus rainbows in the first half hour. He was heard to shout, "I need a net – a big one."

Over Saturday night dinner at Astorgas in Bishop, the vibe was upbeat and encouraging. It's hard to top an outing where you learn a new technique and catch fish in a notoriously fickle river. I would like to thank fellow instructors Rick Russo, Kevin Rainbolt, John Roberts and Kevin Radanovich for their skill and patience. Behind the scenes a big thanks is due to outing Chair Jim Fleisher and co-Education Chairs Michael Peratis and Steve Ebersold.

If the story has a moral it is. "Big fish eat small flies and require a bigger net."





# CASTAWAY 2019 FLY ROD DEMO DAY



December 8 / 9am - 2pm / PCC Casting Pond

**fishermen's spot**  
Win a Fishermen's Spot  
Gift Certificate!



## Cast the Latest and Greatest from the following Manufacturers!



For Directions to the Casting Pond visit [pasadenacastingclub.org](http://pasadenacastingclub.org)

## 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.  
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 supports the conservation efforts of:



[dfg.ca.gov/fishing](http://dfg.ca.gov/fishing)



**FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL**

[flyfishersinternational.org](http://flyfishersinternational.org)



[tu.org](http://tu.org)

