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## ANNUAL SPFF PICNIC AT RINCON BEACH CANCELED

After considering our options, the SPFF Board of Directors has decided that our annual August picnic be canceled due to the risks to our members posed by SARS-CoV-2.

We hope to have another of our traditional picnic meetings next summer.

Stay safe!



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Ress

Once more, with feeling. Plus ça change, plus c'est le meme chose. Same time, same station. Whatever cliché you want to use, this mostly lost year of fishing and camaraderie is starting its eighth month with no end in sight for the pandemic and its consequences. We continue to adjust, to socially distance (how I hate that phrase) and to wear masks while watching the clueless refuse to do so. Some of us have managed to get up to the Sierra waters



and have found, at least initially, few fishermen and women and fantastic fishing. More recently, I hear that the numbers of people on the streams is steadily rising and with it the increasing risk of doing so. I haven't gone yet, but the itch is growing.

Meanwhile, I tie flies I don't know when I'll use, clean my fly lines and put them back in storage and wait for a signal from who knows where that it's safe to resume our lives. Please share your experiences with the rest of us if you're lucky enough to safely fish so we can at least enjoy the experience vicariously.

Some things continue: thanks to Michael Peratis, our weekly fly tying is better each week with fewer technical challenges, and soon with additional tying instructors. Semimonthly fly casting practice has resumed on a limited basis, though the latest session was small due to a conflict with the SWC quarterly meeting. Our monthly meetings continue virtually, though the attendance has been somewhat disappointing. All of the clubs are dealing with the situation in similar ways, so we're hardly alone and must remember that first responders and other

essential people are dealing with much more difficult things.

The Pasadena club had its online auction, and it appeared to go well. I'm not sure how they made out financially, but expect that they will share their experience with us so we can benefit when we decide to start our own auction(s). We're not sure whether we will do this in stages. You will hear about this when it's decided.

I just read this month's Trout magazine from Trout Unlimited, with back to back articles from John Gierach and Marshall Bissett. I thought I was having difficulty coming up with activities to write about; who would have expected that learning to play guitar would fill the bill? I may have to dust off my clarinet and start playing again.

## DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President.....	Richard Ress
Vice President.....	Bernie Ecker
Secretary.....	Jody Martin
Treasurer.....	Mike Hembree
Calendar Maintenance .....	Tom Wright
Communications .....	Bill Luddy
Conservation.....	Open
Education .....	Steve Ebersold
Education Co-Chair.....	Michael Peratis
Head Fly Casting Instructor .....	Marshall Bissett
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Social Media .....	Catrina White
Special Projects.....	Glenn Short
SWCFFI Representative .....	Tom Wright
Technical Advisor .....	Aran Dokovna
Web Master .....	Ren Colantoni
Women's Programs .....	Catrina White

# A METICULOUS MAN REMEMBERED: JORDAN LAGMAN

by Catrina White, Social Media and Women's Programs Chair

Jordan Lagman, Founding Member, former President, Instructor of fly tying and fly casting, illustrator and contributor to the Flypaper for Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers, passed away at his home in North Hollywood on April 13, 2020. Jordan was preceded in death by his parents and one grandchild. He is survived by his wife, Shirline; two older sisters, Elaine (100) and Diana (96); 2 children, daughter Allison Bradshaw and son Brad Lagman; and one grandchild.

Jordan, or Jordy as his friends knew him, was known for being meticulous, with a strong work ethic, a sense of humor and was a great conversationalist, according to his long time friend, Bennet Mintz.

He was born in Omaha, Nebraska. His career of teaching and photographing for several publications brought him much success and satisfaction, according to his wife, Shirline Lagman. Jordan and Shirline were married on June 22, 1952, after a long distance courtship. On New Year's Day, 1952, Jordan proposed to Shirline. She describes her marriage to Jordan as a love story, complete with an ending of "living happily ever after."

Steve Ellis, owner of A Fisherman's Spot and long time friend, said this of Jordan: "He was a tremendous fly tier and an expert caster, and in our first couple of years in business Jordan was the main fly-casting and fly tying instructor." Ellis also went on to say that "A Fisherman's Spot is currently celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> year in business, and without Jordan's assistance and guidance in 1970, it would have been a lot harder to become the success we experience today."

Besides helping his local fly shop, Jordan focused on the youth of fly fishing. His former student, well-known fly tying expert Steven Fernandez, had this to say: "Jordan's enthusiasm and support were instrumental in opening doors for me in those formative early days. I got to meet some pretty cool people because of him." The two met when Steven was 14, and worked for A Fishermen's Spot tying flies. He invited Steven to join Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers, and the two enjoyed a friendship of fly fishing, fly tying, and being Porsche enthusiasts, despite their age difference.

An interesting fact about Jordan is that he created a line of fly fishing items known as Laggie's Products, which were well known in southern California and beyond. He created a fly floatant, but it was his Laggie's Stacker that made a real mark in the fly tying world. His was the first commercially available closed-end stacker, and several noted fly tiers use it and variations of it to this day.

Jordan was the first President of Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers, founded in 1972, along with Brothers and co-owners of a Fisherman's Spot, Steve and Jeff Ellis, and included others on the board consisting of John Crisp, Ty Estridge, Mike Silverman, Fred Lawson, and Bennett Mintz. He also served as one of the clubs' first fly casting instructors, and established Wednesday night fly tying sessions, which ended with pie a la mode at a nearby Norm's restaurant.

As SPFF's first president, his legacy to Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers stems from his guidance in the early days of the club, and his influence will last for a long time.

I know that many will echo Steven Fernandez's words, that "I'll miss his quirky smile and his sense of humor, and I'm grateful that I knew him."



# REPORT ON FIRST WOMEN'S PROGRAM

by Catrina White

Social Media and Women's Programs Chair

Our Women's Program just celebrated our inaugural event with An Evening With the Marvelous Mavens of Fly Fishing. The event was co-produced with Fly Fishers International Women Connect!

We had our own Leigh Ann Swanson, Molly Semenik and Mary Ann Dozer presenting on Women in Fly Fishing. We were also joined by our own SPFF President, Richard Ress.

Our Next Program will be August 28, 2020 from 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm. Fabia Fuenzalida, co-owner of the Fly Rod Company will be speaking about Bamboo Rods, and Fly Fishing her native country of Chile. You will not want to miss this event!

I am also looking for both Women and Men to assist me with our first annual Fish Walk- a fashion and accessories show that we will have the beginning of November. If you would like to model, or share a favorite product, please contact me at: [Womensprograms@SPFF.ORG](mailto:Womensprograms@SPFF.ORG)

Thank you and tight lines,

Cat

*Cat taking a selfie of the computer screen with the attendees of our ZOOM event:*



## SPFF EVENT CALENDAR

### AUGUST

*(subject to status of COVID-19 Pandemic)*

Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	1
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	5
Board Meeting (Remote).....	6
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	12
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	15
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	19
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	26

### SEPTEMBER

*(subject to status of COVID-19 Pandemic)*

Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	2
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	3
Board Meeting .....	3
California Free Fishing Day .....	5
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	5
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	9
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	16
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	17
<b>Annual Anglers' Auction Fundraiser</b>	
<b>and Dinner Meeting (Rescheduled) .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	19
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	23
Virtual Fly Tying Session on ZOOM .....	30

### OCTOBER

*(subject to status of COVID-19 Pandemic)*

Project Healing Waters Vets .....	1
Board Meeting (Remote) .....	1
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	3
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	15
General Meeting.....	15
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	17
SWC FFI Fall Quarterly Meeting .....	17
<b>Nymphing Clinic .....</b>	<b>23-25</b>

## 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](https://spff.org/Project-Healing-Waters) for more information.

## CASTING

by Richard Ress

Michael Peratis has agreed to begin our twice monthly casting practice at Balboa Lake, on our usual schedule of the first and third Saturday mornings at 9:00. If it is too crowded on Saturdays we may try a weekday. We will observe the following precautions:

1. Bring your own gear. We will not be using the Club rods.
2. Wear a mask. Gloves and/or hand sanitizer are advisable as well for any contact.
3. Maintain social distancing of 6 feet (1.8288 meters for the digitally inclined).

## 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](https://spff.org/New-Member-Signup).

## SPFF LIBRARY

by Tom Wright

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

## MEET CATRINA WHITE

Hi!

My name is Catrina White and I wear two hats with SPFF. I am not only the Social Media Chair, I am also chair of the Women's Programs.

I would like to invite you to post your videos, stories, photos and anything else fly fishing related to our social media pages.



Please like us on Facebook at Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers Club and Foundation. We have several groups besides the main page: Women of Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers, Trading Post for services, gear and anything else Fly Fishing related for sale, Fly Tying, Casting Practice, and last but not least, Project Healing Waters for our Vets.

We have a brand new Instagram page, which is found at [SPFFclubandfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/SPFFclubandfoundation).

We look forward to seeing your posts!

## ANSWERS TO JULY QUIZ

by Jody Martin

1T 2F 3T 4F 5T 6a 7d 8d

## FUN QUIZ TIME

by Jody Martin

This month's quiz is Roll Casts, Part 2. The answers will appear in the September newsletter. Have fun!

**1. Drag can be defined as:**

- a. hand translation during the pause in the direction of the next cast
- b. hand rotation during a roll cast
- c. rod rotation during the back cast of a roll cast
- d. any movement of the caster's arm outside of the vertical casting plane
- e. none of the above

**2. A cast that uses primarily the top 20% to 30% of the rod length and is accompanied by a narrow casting arc and a short casting stroke is called a:**

- a. single haul cast
- b. tuck cast
- c. tip cast
- d. false cast
- e. roll cast
- f. roll cast pick-up

**3. Which of the following are true for executing a good roll cast?**

- a. the rod should be raised slowly to form a "D loop"
- b. the "D loop" should be slightly behind the caster
- c. the tip of the rod should be slightly out to the side rather than straight up and down
- d. the reel should be at approximately face level
- e. all of the above
- f. all of the above except b

**4. What type of cast works best when fishing a pair of nymphs, with weight on the leader and a strike indicator?**

- a. a double haul with a tight loop
- b. a reach cast to the right while slipping line to the left
- c. a tight loop using a short power stroke to keep the wind from tangling your flies
- d. a roll cast with a wide loop
- e. a controlled wiggle mend

**5. When performing a roll cast, what is the anchor point?**

- a. the spot where you are standing
- b. the point in front of you where the fly line leaves the water
- c. the position of your wrist at the start of the cast
- d. the area where you intend to land your fly

- e. the spot directly beneath the butt of the rod when it is in the D loop formation

**6. After the fly line forms a D-loop on the side of your rod and comes to a complete stop, what is the best way to accomplish the roll cast?**

- a. raise your arm and make the rod tip describe an arc, like you were painting the ceiling of an igloo
- b. snap the tip of the rod down quickly onto the surface of the water
- c. use the exact same motion you would on an overhead cast, accelerating to an abrupt stop
- d. roll the tip of the rod in a circle
- e. start a rapid "haul" by grabbing the line with your line hand

**7. Task #7 of the CI Exam asks the candidate to perform a slack line cast and a slack line mend. Which of the following is a slack line cast?**

- a. an offshoulder roll cast
- b. a double haul
- c. a pile cast
- d. a wiggle mend
- e. none of the above is a slack line cast

**8. When executing a roll cast, the "180° rule" means that**

- a. the caster's feet should always be in a straight line directed toward the target
- b. the rod should remain straight and not bend
- c. the wrist of the casting hand should be parallel to the surface of the water
- d. the anchor point of the line should be in line with the D loop and the target
- e. none of the above

**9. The "roll cast pick-up" can be used to**

- a. remove slack from the line
- b. pick up a heavy fly
- c. aerialize a sink-tip or sinking line
- d. prepare for the double haul cast
- e. all of the above except d
- f. none of the above

**10. "Fly rod motion sufficient to cause loop formation" is one acceptable definition in the current CI Study Guide of a**

- a. double haul
- b. aerial mend
- c. casting stroke
- d. roll cast
- e. reach cast



# FISHING REPORT: HOT CREEK RANCH

by Leigh Ann Craven-Swanson

Hot Creek Ranch is a special place. With the majestic Easter Sierras as a backdrop, the ranch is home to some of the best spring creek fly fishing in the world. This year didn't disappoint. The trout were healthy, hungry and feisty, averaging 14-20 inches in size. On more than one occasion, I stopped to admire their beauty and girth.

The creek meanders through meadows teeming with life and its not uncommon to be visited by deer, bald eagles or even osprey. This summer, we were



serenaded at dusk by a herd of cattle as they moved from one grazing area above the ranch to another.



One early morning we had a very unexpected visitor. We were rudely awakened by the sound of the now-liberated herd of cows

proclaiming

their success along the riverbanks while feasting on the lush meadow grass. And who can blame them; in this case, the grass was greener than the sagebrush hills of their field. Luckily, their excursion was short-lived thanks to a nearby rancher who quickly nudged the cows back to their side of the fence. The fishing thankfully turned out to be unaffected by their frolicking.



One of the things I love about HCR is that you

never know what will happen or what you will see. Every trip is different. Where else can you enjoy fishing in the day, a nap in the afternoon and a glass of wine while watching the colors of the evening sky fade away against the magnificent Sierra mountains. Hot Creek Ranch truly is a special place.



# ART AND FLY FISHING

by Ed Swanson

Many of us enjoy fly fishing in the Bishop/Mammoth area. Did you know that during your breaks from fishing you can enjoy art just a short distance away? Not modern art, but very, VERY “classic” art – rock art (petroglyphs, or art chipped into stone, primarily) that is hundreds to thousands of years old.

This area does not feature the alien-inspiring humanoids of some locations, or the many animal figures of others. Most of the art between Bishop and Mammoth – primarily in the Volcanic Tableland to the east of the 395 – is geometric. Nevertheless, it can be quite breathtaking, as hopefully some of the photos accompanying this piece attest.

Where are the locations? Unfortunately, the constant threat of vandalism has caused the Bishop BLM and most

reputable writers to avoid providing precise



directions to most of the sites. This is a 180 degree change from a century ago, when Bishop promoted tourism to view several of the petroglyph sites along the “Fish Slough Loop.” Three of these sites, Fish Slough, Chidago and Red Canyon, can be found along Fish Slough Road and are intended for public viewing.

If you do some exploring the next time you are in that area, you may just come across some petroglyphs. A few years ago, while waiting for Charles Jardine to lead a fishing class at one of the turnouts along Chalk Bluff Road, I noticed a small path on the other side of the road. I followed it a short distance toward the bluff only to find several petroglyphs. Perhaps you will find some as well! Just remember: don’t touch the art!





## 5 TIPS TO OUT FISH YOUR BUDDIES

by Dave Jolie (*reprinted with permission from <https://riverbum.com>*)

Wanna know how to out fish your fishing buddy? Check out these 5 tips.

### ***Break Old Habits***

We all have the “go to” fly and that “go to” fishing hole. We’ve had success with it before, so we should again, or so the conventional wisdom goes. This thought process discounts two very important facts. Every time you step into the river, it’s not the same river. Just the same, every time you step into the water, you’re not the same fisherman.

Rivers change season to season, year to year. As do we with our knowledge and skill within the sport. Which, brings to the forefront our first two tips.

### ***Try New Water***

Fish adapt to their ever-changing environment. What might be fantastic water one year, may not be so good the next. Get off those well-worn paths to the same old holes. The more water you cover, the better chance you’ll find willing fish.

### ***Pay Attention to the Local Hatches***

Hatches are predominantly controlled by water temperature and days at certain temperatures. Unusually warm winters are going to generate early hatches. Conversely, cold winters will push them out. You should know generally what the water system you’re going to fish has seen throughout the year. USGS is a fantastic source. Plug in your favor river and you can get a wealth of important information. [Brodhead River Flows](#)

### ***Don’t Fish***

That’s right, don’t fish right away. Observe. Trout fishing success is highly improved by knowing your bugs. Pay attention to what is coming off. See what’s crawling around on the rocks and in the riverbed. Aquatic insects are seasonal, you need to match what you’re rigging up with what is going on in the water that day.

### ***On Today’s Menu***

Even though there might be several species hatching, trout will key in on one. You need to figure this one out. If you know the hatches, and you see fish rising, you should be able to dial in the fly. Observation helps here.

### ***Don’t over commit***

Don’t spend all day on a honey hole, it’s just not worth it. There’s miles upon miles of river to explore as a rule of thumb. Not all fish are going to be in feeding mode at the point and time you are there. If you’ve spent 20-30 minutes on the water, changed up your flies, gotten some good drifts, and presented into feeding lanes....with nothing.....time to move along. I hate just as much as the next guy leaving a super fishy spot, but sometimes you just gotta roll on out of there.

That’s it for now my fishy friends. Please remember, pack it in, pack it out.

Tight Lines and Screaming Drags



## 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

**Gangadin Restaurant**

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

**Orvis**

345 S. Lake Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
626.356.8000

**Pat Jaeger**

Eastern Sierra Guide Service  
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Bishop, CA 93514  
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Ventura, CA 93001  
805.643.6074



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



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