



ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER AND AWARDS: THURSDAY, DEC. 20

RAFFLE

1st Prize
Cabelas Three Forks 9ft
5wt 4pc fly rod

2nd Prize
Aikelen 4-6 Reel

3rd Prize
Set of 4 Cal Trout glasses

Big Barrel
Cabelas wf-8-f line
Hat
Rio Leader Wallet
Sun Sleeve
Reel Protector

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HOLIDAY MEETING: FULL OF SURPRISES!

Our Holiday meeting on December 20th is a chance to celebrate 2018 and look forward to another great angling year. After the customary swearing in of your new Board for 2019, there will be movies, fishing stories and a very special stand-up comedy routine by a Club member. 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. This year we will be presenting the **J Stanley Lloyd Order of the Mayfly** to Eastern Sierra guide **Pat Jaeger**. Pat was the unanimous choice of the Board and joins the esteemed fellowship of previous recipients whose names can be found in your roster. With typical modesty Pat was overwhelmed when he got the news, saying "if you change your mind, I'm happy with the caddis or muddler minnow award – I am in very impressive company." The

award recognizes Pat's unstinting work in his community where he regularly volunteers to help kids and other groups get into the sport. For the past 20 years he has offered special trips to the Clubs in Southern California. Deep knowledge and a rich sense of humor are the hallmarks of his many seminars and on water classes. Pat is an IFF Certified instructor, Simms Ambassador and test pilot for Sage rods. His volunteer work includes Head Guide for Project Healing Waters (Eastern Sierra) and Head Guide for the Silver Lake Fishing Academy. He defines the soul of the award as someone who "contributes to the art of fly fishing."



The **Order of the Jassid** is presented for outstanding conservation efforts and this year goes to

Rosi Dagit. She joins a distinguished group that includes Yvon Chouinard, Jimmy Carter and our very own Debbie Sharpton. Rosi is a tireless



advocate to restore our local steelhead fisheries and has worked on extensive

(Program continued on next page)

HOLIDAY DINNER CONT.

(Program continued from page 1)

LA River surveys. She is currently Senior Conservation Biologist for the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (RCDSMM.ORG), to whom we made a donation in 2017.

Rosi has been working at the RCDSMM since she moved to Los Angeles in 1987. She has initiated and coordinated numerous research, restoration and monitoring projects throughout the Santa Monica Mountains, starting with studies of Malibu Lagoon, Leo Carrillo State Beach and moving inland to watershed level analysis and sensitive species monitoring. She has published numerous technical papers, as well as a children's book, Grandmother Oak. Currently Rosi serves as a member of the Los Angeles County Environmental Review Board and leader of the Topanga Creek Stream Team and is a certified Arborist. Rosi is also a member of the Los Angeles County Beach Commission, technical advisor for the CA Oak Foundation and former member of the City of Malibu Environmental Review Board. Her infectious enthusiasm and boundless energy to make our waterways a better place make her a worthy recipient.

This year we are awarding two **Robert T Kazahaya** Service Awards to Club members who have shown excellence and dedication to helping Sierra Pacific be the best Club in the Southland. Their names are withheld because this is one of the **SURPRISES!**

The evening will also include a special pre-dinner table top demonstration of fly line technology by Dave Shaffer of FISHERMEN'S SPOT and of course all the excellent raffle items, great food and, above all, great company. Don't miss it.

PROPOSED SLATE OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President.....	Richard Ress
Vice President.....	Bernie Ecker
Secretary	Jody Martin
Treasurer	Mike Hembree
Communications.....	Bill Luddy
Conservation.....	Debbie Sharpton
Education.....	Steve Ebersold
Education Co-Chair	Michael Peratis
Membership.....	Jay Bushore
Newsletter Editor.....	Ed Swanson
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
Social Media	Richard Plunkett

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Marshall Bissett



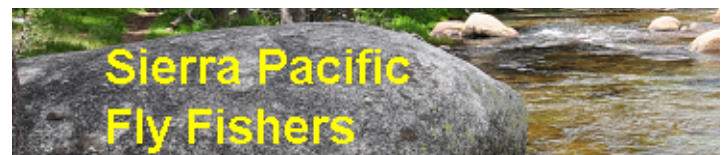
Looking back on my four years as President of SPPF, I am reminded of Winston Churchill's quote – "Democracy is the worst form of government, apart from all the others." When I took on the role of SPPF President I was nervous that my natural desire to get my own way in all things, no doubt born from a life spent in the very undemocratic entertainment

industry, would disqualify me as a team player. Instead I found myself leading a Board that was harmonious, positive and willing to get the job done. I will certainly miss all that and would no doubt revert to my selfish ways, were I not to remain on the Board as Programs Chair.

When I started four years ago, I set ambitious goals, some of which were met, leaving others as a work in progress for the next President. We did not build a Club House by a lake or flood the membership with a young, diverse new breed of fly fishers. While other Clubs were in decline, we maintained, or slightly increased membership, combined our financials to reflect our mission as a non-profit, increased our scholarship programs and established an excellent fully populated Board. We met our fundraising goals, instituted an annual letter of appeal, supported diverse conservation causes and maintained a solid bank balance.

In my dual role as President and Program Chair, I was constantly disappointed by our declining turnout at monthly dinner meetings. This was hurting the Club's cashflow until we re-negotiated our deal with Monterey to mitigate some of our losses. I quickly came to realize that the ratios of participation at SPPF fall in line with those of other volunteer groups. Of our roughly 235 members, about 50 show up for the meetings and about 15 of those take an active role on the Board. I no longer push that rock uphill and have accepted that people are free to join a fishing club just to go fishing. In these peculiar times, fishing clubs may wind up on the endangered species list with the fish we try to protect. Our children and grandchildren, faced with a barrage of competing activities, may declare us as irrelevant as the rotary phone, the VCR and the Yellow Pages. Until then, let's cast tight loops to willing fish.

This will be my final President's message, but you have not seen the last of me – I will be at dinner meetings, the ITFF and at Lake Balboa. As I hand the keys to my successor, I wish him all the very best – please give him all the support he deserves.



SPECIAL HOLIDAY DINNER PRESENTATION

HOW'S YOUR FLY LINE?

Dave Shaffer will be at our December dinner meeting to educate us about fly lines. He's going to tell us a little about how to care for them properly and a lot about the new fly lines available and their characteristics. The presentation will start at 6:30. Don't forget to bring your questions.



So, you're ready for a new fly line. With all the choices available these days, how are you going to decide which to buy? In the 80's & 90's it was an easy choice: WEIGHT FORWARD or DOUBLE TAPER, FLOATING or SINKING...Not any more.

Dave will discuss the features of some of the new specialty fly lines as well as the improved performance we can expect from good standard all-around lines. There have been major breakthroughs in fly line finishes as well as the fused lops that are now standard on most all fly lines. The line manufacturers have created products with specialty tapers and other unique characteristics to cover most any fishing condition imaginable and they're constantly improving and upgrading their products.

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.

CONSERVATION REPORT

by Debbie Sharpton

Conservation donations are being discussed at the December Board meeting. If you have a nonprofit organization that is helping protect, restore or preserve fisheries by either habitat restoration, advocacy or scientific monitoring or research, please reach out to me at conservation@spff.org.

Thank you!

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 members:

STEPHEN THEULE
DAN IRVIN
ROGER YOSHIOKA
FRANK LAROSA

EDUCATION

By Steve Ebersold & Michael Peratis

SPFF'S WORLD FAMOUS FLY TYING CLASS

Our 2019 Beginning Fly Tying Class starts on January 9th. Registration will be open only to club members until December 15th, after which non-members may register.



WOOLLY BUGGER ~ ONE OF THE FLIES YOU'LL LEARN TO TIE

Click the link on our home page or click on Education in the menu get all the details about the next class and to register.

LIBRARY

by Tom Wright

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

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

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

HOLIDAY DINNER MENU:

Baby Green Salad

Entree:

Prime Rib or Salmon
Mashed Potatoes and Green Beans

Dessert

Pumpkin Cheesecake

SPFF EVENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Casting Clinic at Lake Balboa.....	1
PHW Vets	6
Board Meeting	6
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	15
PHW Vets	20
Dinner Meeting (Holiday Party & Awards).....	20

JANUARY

PHW Vets	3
Board Meeting	3
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	5
Fly Tying Class #1	9
Intermediate Casting Clinic (PCC)	12
Fly Tying Class #2	16
PHW Vets	17
Dinner Meeting (Landon Mayer, "Fishing the Seasons in Colorado).....	17
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	19
Fly Tying Class #3	23
Intermediate Casting Clinic (PCC)	26
Fly Tying Class #4	30

FEBRUARY

Superbowl Weekend Outing	1-3
Casting Clinic at Lake Balboa.....	1
PHW Vets	7
Board Meeting	7
Owens River Annual Cleanup.....	9
Tenkara Clinic @ Lower Owens	16-17
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa	16
PHW Vets	21
Dinner Meeting (Holiday Party & Awards).....	21
Introduction to Fly Fishing - Class #1	23



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BOARD

From time to time, we have asked members of our Board of Directors to write a brief autobiography. The following is one of them.

Richard Ress

I've been a member of the Board for several years in the position of Circulation Chair, responsible for having the monthly newsletters and other mailings distributed to the club, as well as printing copies to be distributed to our sponsors, including fly shops and guides. Our monthly Board meetings are interesting, always entertaining and provide great insight into the history and workings of SPFF.

I came to LA from NY in 1969 to do my internship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, with my wife, Mira, and all our worldly possessions in my 1965 MGB. I still have both the wife and the MG. We intended to stay just a year to get away from the cold and snow, but the year never ended. I stayed on at Cedars and UCLA for residency and as Chief Resident in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Rheumatology, joined a practice in Beverly Hills and went to Cedars-Sinai Medical Group in 1995. In 2016 I retired from practice, though I continue in an administrative position at the Medical Center.

I have 2 brothers, my twin Ron who lives in Carlsbad and is a long distance member of SPFF, and Phil who lives in NJ and does salt water bottom fishing. We forgive him.

Mira and I were married during my senior year of Medical School and will celebrate our 50th anniversary this month. Our daughter Jennifer graduated from UC Berkeley and the Yale School of Management. She was a software Program Manager for Microsoft until her children were born, and lives in Los Altos with her husband, a software engineer and director of software programs, and their two children. They both now work for Google, taking over the world. Our wonderful son Bill, a brilliant young man and also a Berkeley graduate and my ski partner, passed away at 25 from brain cancer, leaving a great hole in our lives but the best memories possible.

At the beginning of my internship year I met Jim Fleisher, a fellow intern. We have been friends since, through joys and heartaches, and it was Jim who introduced me to SPFF by giving me an Albright 4 wt rod he had won at a monthly raffle. One thing led to another, I joined the club, attended ITFF and I'm still here. A few years ago I took the fly tying course and now spend every Wednesday evening with the fly tying group. Many of my best friends have come from the club and I consider it the best group I've ever joined.



2019 MEETING & SPEAKER SCHEDULE

The Southern California Speaker Circuit has become a phenomenon in the fly fishing world. In 2019 we continue the high standards with an excellent slate of presenters including familiar and new faces. The top names in the fly fishing world brave the freeways from Thousand Oaks to San Diego to bring us education and entertainment that cannot be replaced by YouTube. Here is the tentative schedule for 2019.

January 17: – Landon Mayer – Fishing the Seasons in Colorado

February 21: -Jim Cox - Buying Rivers to Save Them

March 21: – Auction and Fundraiser

April 18: – Kirk Johnson – Writing The Feather Thief

May 16: – Devin Olesen – Euro Nymphing to Catch More Trout

June 20: – Dave Hughes – The Magic of Wet Flies

July 18: – Kesley Gallagher – An Introduction to Flats Fishing (Meeting at SPFF)

August 15: – Picnic

September 19: – Media Night

October 17: – David Gregory – Fishing Yosemite

November 21: – John Baiocchi – Northern California Hot Spots

December 19: – Holiday Dinner

INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING

By Steve Ebersold

If you or someone you know has ever wanted to learn to fly fish, here is your chance - SPFF's classes will take you step by step from your first cast to landing a beautiful trout on the Owens River. The classroom sessions at the ONE GENERATION CENTER (18255 Victory Boulevard, Reseda, CA 91335) cover everything from knot tying to choosing the correct flies. At the nearby pond in Reseda Park you will learn the essential casts to prepare you to fish in rivers, lakes and streams.

SPFF supplies loaner rods and reels to get you started. The classes are run by certified instructors and experienced Club members. The first four Saturday morning classes are February 23 thru March 16 with a special graduation class in Bishop, CA March 29 & 30.

Classes 1, 2 & 3 start at 8.30 am and run until 12 noon.

February 23: – One Generation and Reseda Park Pond General introduction to fly fishing. Explanation of equipment, local fishing opportunities, and you will learn the Pick-Up and Lay-Down Cast.

March 2: - One Generation and Reseda Park Pond Dry fly fishing, knot tying, and you will learn the Roll Cast.

March 9: - One Generation and Reseda Park Pond Nymph fishing, more knots, and you will learn the FALSE CAST.

March 16: - LA River: start time to be announced. Take your new skills to the LA River – where we'll teach you some presentation casts and line control techniques to use on moving water.

March 29 & 30: Bishop, CA. Graduation weekend in Bishop CA on the Owens River. This is an optional event but we definitely recommend it.

The cost for all sessions including the Bishop graduation outing is \$40 for adults, free for those under 18, and includes all classroom materials and handbook. Travel, food and lodging in Bishop not included.

For more information, you can contact Steve Ebersold at education@spff.org or Michael Peratis at education2@spff.org.



ABC7 and Southern California Firefighters are celebrating their 26th Anniversary of the Spark of Love Toy Drive. Over the past twenty five years, the Spark of Love Toy Drive has successfully collected more than ten million toys.

The campaign collects new, unwrapped toys and sports equipment for underserved children and teens in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Ventura and Riverside counties. Toys collected in the respective counties are distributed locally.

This nationwide program is celebrating over 70 years of collecting and distributing toys. With firefighters and Marines standing side by side, we

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

HOUSING FOR SUPERBOWL OUTING

By Steve Ebersold

Super Bowl Weekend Outing has become one of the best loved outings of the year. It is a very free form outing. Just come up to Bishop and fish the Lower Owens River. This year it is February 1-3.

If you are looking for accommodations for that weekend, I have reserved the Bishop Village Motel for the club for that weekend. Other motels in town, including the El Rancho, will be using their establishments to accommodate the Mammoth Mountain employees for 3/4 months. So... if you were thinking of attending our fun Superbowl outing, the first weekend of February, and need a place to stay, give me a shout. The motel is only reserving the place for us until January 1, 2019, so please let me know sometime soon if you are interested.

NOTICE RE NON-CLUB TRIP

13th Annual May 2019 trip to the Bighorn River – Fort Smith, MT

For the past twelve years Paul Guttenberg and Jack Jonathan have organized a fly-fishing trip to the Bighorn River in Fort Smith, Montana for members of Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers (SPFF) and the Pasadena Casting Club (PCC). The format includes six nights of lodging and five days of fishing with a guide from a drift boat (two anglers per boat). Since Jack passed away last year, Paul, who now lives in Peyton, Colorado, has agreed to continue making the arrangements for the members of both clubs. George Brodt will be the coordinator for SPFF in 2019.

Paul has reserved the Lodge for May 12 - May 18 and May 19 – May 25. May 25th is the beginning of the Memorial Day Weekend, which is important to know if you would like to fish in Yellowstone National Park on your drive home (Memorial Day Weekend is the start of the fishing season in Yellowstone Park). If you plan on flying to Montana, the airport in Billings, MT is only 90 miles from the lodge in Fort Smith.

The cost for six nights of lodging and five days of fly fishing with a guide from a drift boat, which includes all meals, is \$ 1625. If you have any questions or would like more information you can call George Brodt at (661) 904-7083 or email your question to gbrodt@earthlink.net.

Note: This is not a SPFF-sponsored event, and the above notice is provided solely for informational purposes only.

SPIRITUALITY AND FLY FISHING

By Jody Martin

As all of us know, there is something serene, magical, healing, and even spiritual about fly fishing. Nearly everyone who has written about fly fishing – and there has been more written on fly fishing than for all other types of fishing combined – has alluded to the fact that there is something special here, something more than the fish, that keeps us coming back. In fact, in an upcoming article in *TROUT* magazine, more than 20 organizations in the U.S. are listed that use fly fishing as a form of mentoring or therapy or healing, for dealing with everything from



physical and emotional trauma to cancer, alcohol and drug addiction, and more. For whatever reason, fly fishing seems to help. It's this growing recognition of the undeniable and indescribable power of the sport that led to the publishing of the book *"The Spirituality of Fly Fishing: An Introduction"* in the summer of 2016.

This past September, the second "Spirituality of Fly Fishing" retreat was held on the storied waters of the Delaware River, which marks the border between Pennsylvania and New York. Hosted by the Delaware River Club and based on SPFF member Jody Martin's book of the same name, this year's retreat was attended by a dozen people from four states, most of them beginning fly fishers, and all of them intent on growing in their understanding of fly fishing and in exploring the connection between our natural world and our inner one.

This year we were joined by special guest Joey Puettman, the founder of Joey's Foundation, a Sheridan Wyoming-based organization that uses fly fishing to mentor to at-risk youth across Wyoming. Pastor Vito Baldini, the Mercy Ministry pastor of Liberti Church in Philadelphia and an avid fly fisherman, led the group in a brief ecumenical worship service on the final Sunday morning. The Delaware River Club once again rose to the occasion by providing great meals, lodging, and guide services for the weekend. Plenty of fly fishing instruction on the grounds of the DRC, great food, great fishing, and time for reflection made for a wonderful and restful weekend. And the beautiful Delaware River itself, one of the best brown trout rivers in the entire U.S., did not disappoint.

Plans are already underway to repeat the event at the Delaware River Club in September of 2019, and a similar retreat, also based on the book, is being scheduled for July of 2019 on the Cache Le Poudre River in Colorado, in collaboration with the Liarflies Fly Shop in Wellington, CO. If you or anyone you know feel that they could benefit from such a retreat, contact SPFF Secretary Jody Martin (at jmartin.nhm@gmail.com).



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

I'D RATHER BE
Fishing

Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers proudly supports the conservation efforts of:

