

January- 2023

Volume 17, Issue 1



SANTA CLARITA
CASTING CLUB
FLY FISHING



Casting Times

Calendar of Events

Watch for email announcements, and also visit the club website for activities that are scheduled.



SIERRA PACIFIC FLYFISHERS 2022 BEGINNING FLY TYING CLASS
JAMIE BARBER JONATHAN SUMNER CINDY WILSON LUKE DORSEY RICH FRICKE



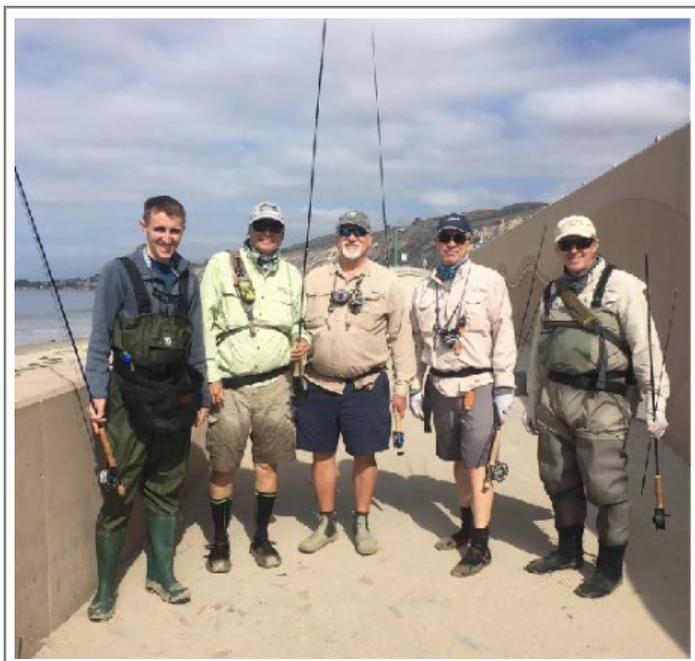
JAMIE BARBER JONATHAN SUMNER CINDY WILSON LUKE DORSEY RICH FRICKE
SIERRA PACIFIC FLYFISHERS 2022 BEGINNING FLY TYING CLASS



President Jamie Barber

Membership Matters by Bill Creitz

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Gone Fishin'

No reports yet
this season!

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Club News
by Connie Bullock

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SWCFFI News
by Connie Bullock

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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Southwest Council



SCCC Members with others at the LBCC 2023 Spey Tournament.

Cub Members in the Spotlight...

Kudos go out to two of our Club members for advancing their fly tying skills. Recently Prez Jamie Barber and member Jonathan Summer completed a beginning fly tying course hosted by the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers. Well done, guys! What could be more rewarding than catching trout with flies you've tied yourself!

From the Head Fly Tying Instructor, Michael Peratis:

Congratulations to the graduating students of our 2022 Beginning Fly Tying Class! It is a momentous occasion and a testament to your dedication and hard work. Over seven weeks you have learned about the materials and tools used in fly tying and you've acquired the basic skills and knowledge necessary to create beautiful and functional flies that will catch fish. As you move on from this class and embark on your fly tying journey, remember to always strive for improvement and continue to learn from others in the fly tying community. Your passion and commitment to this craft will serve you well as you create flies for years to come. On behalf of myself and the fly tying instructors and assistants, we offer our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for your future endeavors. Keep tying and we hope to see you on the water soon!



For a closer look at the Long Beach Casting Club pond and for a glimpse our own spey rodding, Ray Bianco, click the link below!

https://youtu.be/9_rQ5WQUPdM

LBCC photos provided by Cece Rubin.

Two other members to be congratulated are Cece Rubin and Tony Ogden for their recent awards for spey casting at the LBCC Spey Tournament. Tony came in second place in the Novice category and Cece came in 3rd place in the Women's group. It looks like a great time was had by all.

Membership Matters

by Bill Creitz

“You are who you associate with,” is one of my favorite quotes, which is saying something since I have collected over 450 motivational quotes as of the writing of this column. I especially like this quote because it speaks to the importance of the decisions we make and the relationships we cultivate.

Did you know that, according to various studies, you become the average of the five people you spend the most time with? Author Barbara Danza says that, “It’s true that the people around us will influence our notions and thoughts.” If the people whose friendships you foster are optimistic, self-motivated, encouraging, enthusiastic, teachable, selfless, friendly, and generous, you are bound to be both positively influenced and positively influential.

Do you know of any place where those types of people can be found in significant numbers? If you answered “The Santa Clarita Casting Club,” you are correct. While our club is ostensibly about fly fishing, it’s not all we’re about. We are also committed to developing friendships and camaraderie around a common interest. And what better way to promote friendships than by spending time with like-minded, enthusiastic people who are willing to give of themselves, their time, and their expertise to help others, which, in turn, perpetuates itself in the overall membership.

“Surround yourself with people who make you a better person,” is another of my favorite quotes. As one of the founding members of the Santa Clarita Casting Club, I have met over the past 18 years a whole host of people who have made me a better person. I have fished with, practiced casting with, shared fishing stories with, and learned from countless club members that have had a measurable impact on my life—and made me not only a better fisherman but a better person in the process. No doubt you have had the same experience.

Last month, I wrote about my annual fall trip to Oregon to fish for steelhead on the Rogue River. I go with three brothers, and we have a terrific time; sometimes there

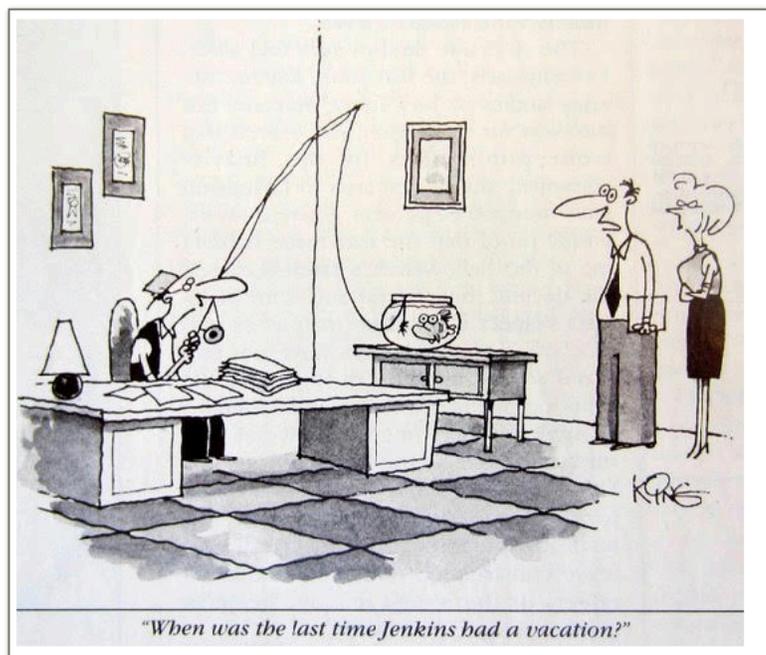
is more joking and pranking than fishing. But it's always a memorable trip. The same thing happens with our club members. Several of the Lower Owens trips and surf fishing outings are legendary in the lore of the Santa Clarita Casting Club. And with the upcoming trips to the Owens River, Bridgeport area, western Sierras, and Hot Creek, there are sure to be additions to the legends that characterize our club.

Besides the outings, we have other ways to meet and socialize with members such as: fly tying classes, rod building classes, casting clinics and competitions, monthly meetings, the Zoom book club, women's events, informal trips to hang out at The Fisherman's Spot and the Orvis store, the February 4 Trout Rodeo in Bishop, the annual holiday party, and more. In fact, our January club meeting was held on January 11 in our new meeting facility with one member actually attending on-line from St. George, Utah using Zoom. As such, I guess you could consider us a multi-state club.

I have periodically polled club members about what they like best about the Santa Clarita Casting Club. Inevitably, the answer I get most often is "the people." Pretty simple, really. We are about great members fostering great friendships around a great sport. And, with the new year, it looks like we will have plenty of opportunities to extend and deepen those friendships—and maybe catch a few fish in the process.

I began this column with one of my favorite quotes, so let me conclude it with another quote: "If you want to be joyful, be grateful" – Chris Widener. I am truly grateful for this club, its members, the positive impact you all have had on me, and the opportunities the club affords me to learn more about fly fishing, inspiring fishing locales, and interesting people. In this new year, please be sure to take advantage of all that our club has to offer—not the least of which are the amazing people.

Happy New Year. I'll see you at the next meeting.



ED. Note: Former Prez Dick Harris asked me to post this in the newsletter during a little back and forth email with him. I'm still waiting for a bass fishing report from him for the newsletter!

Cane Rod Making in a Nutshell - Part 2

Lyle Dickerson—Model 8013

John Parmenter

In the last newsletter I reported that I was well down the road to the completion of an 8' 5wt. cane rod following a Lyle Dickerson 8013 taper. I had completed the blank and I had applied 10 coats of Tru-Oil, a gunstock oil that many bamboo rod makers favor. So the next step was to glue up the cork grip, the reel seat and its hardware.



A finished grip on the wood lathe.

For this rod I chose a cork grip from some of my stock that I had glued and turned beforehand. Typically, a cork grip measures about 6" to 7" for a standard fly rod. For those who make their own grips, most cork rings are bought in rounds measuring 1/2" thick and 1 1/4" in diameter with a center bore hole of 1/4". With this in mind it takes 12 - 14 rings to make a standard cork grip for a rod. It's worth noting that top-grade quality cork, or Flor (Flower) grade is pricey. If it's a top drawer grip you want, you can expect to pay anywhere from about \$3 — \$6 for one

ring, or \$36 — \$72 just for the cork for your grip! Of course there are less expensive ways to go about it by using a lesser grade cork, but when I'm making a bamboo rod that I hope will be a showpiece, I don't want to cut too many corners. At any rate, luckily I have a nice supply of Flor grade cork that I bought a number of years ago from another rod maker.

For the reel seat I decided to fall in line with the style Dickerson had originally chosen for this rod, a down-locking seat. I ordered



just the hardware for the seat and decided to turn the wooden insert on my wood lathe from a nice piece of cocobolo that I had in my supplies. Cocobolo is a dark, tropical hardwood that is often used in a number of ways from the making of musical instruments to gun stocks. We can add fly rod reel seats to the list.

With the cork grip and reel seat ready to go, it was a matter of gluing up these pieces to the butt section of the rod blank, and then gluing the nickel silver ferrules and tip tops that I had fitted for the blank. This was followed by wrapping the guides. Each step follows in its turn in rod making.



Agate stripping guides are one of the finer cosmetic touches that have become a standard for fine bamboo rods. For this particular rod I chose a 10 mm lemon-colored agate guide that I bought from an online supplier. As for the wrappings I went with a gold, ULI silk. This particular color is one I often use for wrapping. I really like the way it blends with the cane after varnish is applied.

With the rod wrapped and the varnish given ample time to dry, it was finally time to give it a test. I took it out to my front lawn (not having a casting pond or trout stream close to the house), and put it through its paces.

Whenever I cast a new rod, I begin with short casts, trying to determine how well it handles at a range of up to about 20 feet. Judging by most of the smaller streams I fish here in California, I believe most of my casts will be within that distance. If I can pick up and lay down a line for a new rod comfortably, delicately, and with little effort—then I’m a happy guy. This rod passed the first test nicely. I moved on to longer casts...in this case onto my next-door neighbor’s lawn as well. I found I was laying out about 40 feet of line—again with a smooth, balanced rhythm, and with accuracy. It was at this point my smile got broader as I wound the line back on the reel, hoping to get this rod a real test on a stream real soon.



Connie Bullock

Membership Chair
SWC Club Representative

Casting Clinics have resumed since the weather died down.

It's still pretty cold, so dress accordingly. Clothing can always be removed, but when you need it and don't have it, yikes.

Last week the Women's Program team had their first meeting laying out plans for when, where, and what. A planning draft is due out in the next week or so along with a flyer and park reservations to be solidified, so we will keep you updated on the event. In the meantime, if you know any women who might be interested, please tell them and you can always lead them my way. Thanks.

Trout Rodeo 2/4/23

This will be the second year for the SWC Trout Rodeo and if the weather Gods are with us, it will be gorgeous ... time will tell. Please check out the link below that will give you all the information needed to join up. It really is a fun and different event, so check it out. Hope to see you there as I will be there as well.

<https://ianglertournament.com/2023-bishop-trout-rodeo>

Bart Hall Fishing Show 3/31 – 4/2

There's a very good possibility the SWC will be at the upcoming Bart Hall Fishing Show (previously the Fred Hall Fishing Show) at the Long Beach Convention Center from March 31 – April 2 for the flyfishing portion. We are working on vendors, sponsors and booth purchases and will keep you up-to-date on the progress. This is an event like most haven't seen for years. Years ago, this event was like a Fishing and Faire Show rolled into one. Back in 2018 and 2019 the fly fishing portion kept getting reduced so the SWC lost interest as there wasn't enough fly fishing turn out and it was a lot of work for little return. Since Bart Hall took over it's looking like we will have several booths, fly tying areas and casting areas with lessons, so stay tuned.

<https://hallshows.com/>

Officers

President: Jamie Barber

1st Vice President: John Malerba

Treasurer: Jill Field-Duerr

Correspondence: Bill Creitz

Membership: Connie Bullock

Senior Director: Jon Simle

Financial: Aran Dokovna

Senior Consultant: Ray Bianco

Club Committees

Casting Clinic: Paul Riegert & Ray Bianco

Communications: Cece Rubin

Conservation: Open

Social Media: Cece Rubin

Fly Tying: Rotating Members

Fund Raising: Open

Rod Building: Open

Newsletter Editor: John Parmenter

Raffles/Merchandise: Open

Trip Organizer: Open

Club Roster: Connie Bullock

SWCFFF Rep: Connie Bullock

Website Admin.: Cece Rubin

Our Value Promise

To bring together people of all ages who share a passion to develop their knowledge and skills in the wonderful sport of fly fishing, through education, conservation, and fishing events, while serving as a proud steward of our community, our local waters and wildlife areas.