

December-2023

Volume 17, Issue 6



SANTA CLARITA
CASTING CLUB
FLY FISHING



Casting Times

K keep your eyes open for email announcements! Also, visit the club website for activities that are scheduled.

<https://www.scflyfishing.org/>





SCCC President Jamie Barber

Membership Matters by Bill Creitz

.01



Holiday Party!

Connie Bullock
With Photos
by Bill Creitz

.02



Club News
by Connie Bullock

.03

SWCFFI News
by Connie Bullock

.04



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Southwest Council



Membership Matters

by Bill Creitz

By the time you read this column, Hanukkah and Christmas will have come and gone, and we will be looking forward to the New Year's Day celebrations and 2024. As such, I can't help but think about the many traditions that we associate with those three special days and celebrations. That, in turn, reminds me of the numerous benefits derived from traditions.

In my family, we observe many traditions associated with Christmas: we invite friends to dinner (and sometimes strangers) who have no family to celebrate with; my wife serves roast duck on Christmas Eve; we eat English plum pudding and Swedish Lingonberry sauce and fruit suppa (a delicious Scandinavian fruit soup), and we drink eggnog; we pick names for the "Secret Santa" gift exchanges; we pop Christmas Crackers around the dinner table and wear the enclosed crazy hats throughout the evening; we watch multiple versions of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" and laugh our way through the "Christmas Vacation" and "Christmas Story" movies; we exchange ornaments for the tree; and we reminisce about past Christmases and some of the quirky guests we have entertained. We have an equal number and variety of Thanksgiving traditions.

A more recent activity that has become a tradition for me, personally, is my annual trip to southern Oregon's Rogue River to fish for fall steelhead. This past November was no exception. This was probably the eighth or ninth consecutive year that my friend from Santa Clarita, along with his two brothers from Oregon, met to spend a day floating the Rogue for the most feisty, colorful, and acrobatic steelhead you can imagine.

This trip was one of our best in that (1) we all caught and landed several native fish, (2) a number of fish were in the six-to nine-pound range, (3) I caught my personal best—two nine-pounders (the guide said, "nine to ten pounds was more accurate"), and (4) we caught and released so many "half-pounders" (steelhead in the eight- to twelve-inch range) that we literally lost count.

As is always the case, we joked throughout the entire float trip, ribbing each other about sloppy hook sets, missed hook sets, short attention



spans that resulted in missed opportunities, and the possible imposition of extra guide fees for both untangling crossed lines and the added wear-and-tear on the guides' nets for the numerous big fish we caught. You get the picture: we have as much fun joking around as we do

hooking and fighting those sleek sea-run missiles known as "steelhead."

The above is simply to say that traditions matter. In a turbulent and changing world, it is nice to have, and hold to, some traditions—especially when they involve friends and family. Being able to predict and anticipate some things—good things—in life is comforting and helps bring to or maintain a sense of stability in our lives. The Santa



Clarita Casting Club is one of those islands of stability that we all appreciate.

You may not think of it this way, but our club has many traditions of its own: the annual holiday party and gift exchange, the monthly fly tying classes, the bi-weekly casting clinics, the newsletter that helps to keep us all on the same page (no pun intended), the bi-weekly Zoom book club, the Owens River trips, the monthly in-person meetings, the surf



fishing outings, and the rod building classes. These, and more, reflect an overall tradition of friendship and fellowship fostered by a shared passion for fly fishing and conservation and a commitment to stewardship of our unique California angling resources. I am sure you agree

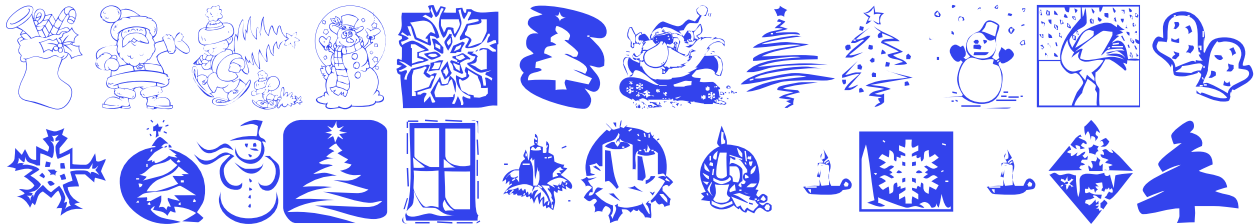
that those are pretty good—and beneficial—traditions to embrace and pass on to those who follow in our footsteps.

So, here's to all the great traditions that you and your family have, as well as those of your Casting Club family. I am thankful to have been part of our club's family for the past 18 years. And I am thankful for you.

Have a safe and fun New Year's celebration! I look forward to getting back to "family business" and our shared traditions with you in 2024.

Holiday Party!

by Connie Bullock



The club holiday party took place on Saturday, 12/9, and proved to be a great success. The event took place at The Provence Clubhouse and was well decorated and a beautiful venue. With everyone chipping in, we had a lot of wonderful food and drinks. Thank you all ... you made it a great success.

Jamie was greatly missed but had a conflict and couldn't attend, much to his disappointment. A big thank you goes out to Jonathan Summer and John Parmenter for filling in with the activities. Lots of laughs with the Silly Gift Exchange and bigger laughs with the Trivia Q&A called out by Jonathan. He outdid himself trying to stump us with the questions. For someone who knows nothing about fly fishing, Terri Dokovna took most of the scratchers with correct answers. It was a hoot.

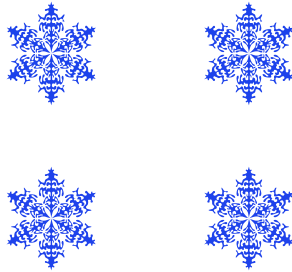
John Parmenter did a great job of presenting the fly-tying award to Jonathan Summer. Unfortunately, the award didn't arrive until the next day. However, not all was lost as the award was presented to Jonathan a few days later.

We ended the evening with two auction items:

Fishpond multi-rod purchased by Kate Froemming:



Sage one wt., 4 pcs rod was purchased by Betsey Skidmore.



A big THANK YOU to these deserving ladies. Happy holidays to one and all!



Congratulations Jonathan, and thank you for coordinating our fly tying group!









Connie Bullock

Membership Chair
SWC Club Representative

Although I'm no longer on the SWC Board, on 12/2, I was invited to the holiday Board of Directors luncheon in Pasadena. As a complete surprise, Earl Arnold, SWC President, presented a gift of thanks to me of an engraved wooden fly box (see below). It's a gift that will always be treasured. It's nice to be appreciated for sure!



SWC Upcoming Events:

The Southwest Council has a jam-packed event schedule in 2024 and club participation is a must at any of these to help them be successful.

Bart Hall Show, Long Beach, January 25-28 - Leigh-Ann already sent out a call for volunteers. If there is any club booth interest, please contact Michael Schweit at 818-601-9702. A booth at the show is \$600.00.



Trout Rodeo, Bishop, February

10 - This event will be "Live" for registration November 01. The SWC would LOVE to see clubs participate as individuals or as a team. One thing we hear is that it will be crowded but as we are still in the early stages of growth, there will be less people there that weekend than when 2-3 clubs are visiting as they often do in the winter and spring.

FlyBuy, Long Beach Casting Club, April 06

- This will be the SWCs 13th year! And as a reminder, any items your club has in the storage room that is fly fishing related and you want to donate, SWC WILL TAKE THEM! In fact, feel free to bring it to the January Quarterly Meeting as we will be BACK IN PERSON at Long Beach Casting Club.



Riptide Rendezvous, May 11 (orientation meeting), May 25-June 21 (event), June 22 (awards) - This will be the SWCs second year with the month-long format. It was well received this year and with John Loo being the lead, the repeat will be even better. They are even adding a team category and will have more details on that and everything in the beginning as the new year. **This is a surf fishing tournament** open from Santa Barbara County to the Mexican border and you can fish one day or as many as you like as your scores are based on best fish of each species and best day total. **Club members, let's think about putting together a team!**



Save the date for our SCCC Rincon Beach Surf Fishing/Gathering!

This is our tentative schedule...more to follow!

Santa Clarita Casting Club Surf Fishing Outing At Rincon Beach!

Date: Saturday, January 27, 2024

Location: Rincon Beach Park,
Carpinteria

Highway 101 & Bates Road

Welcome! All members, spouses and friends! ****New to fly fishing the surf? No problem! There will be members there to assist!**



Event Schedule:

8:30— Welcome with coffee and donuts

9am-Noon: Surf Fishing

Noon: Social time and Lunch. Bring your own lunch; water and paper goods will be provided. Electricity and a barbecue are unavailable at this time. Alcohol is permitted for those over 21, but smoking is prohibited.

3:00pm: Clean-up. Everyone lend a hand, please!

Worth Noting: Rincon is a dog friendly beach, but dogs must be on a leash.

Bathrooms are available as well as an outdoor shower for your gear.



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.