

# February 2024

Volume 18, Issue 1



SANTA CLARITA  
CASTING CLUB  
FLYFISHING



## Casting Times

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

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





# SCCC President Jamie Barber

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Congratulations,  
Connie, for  
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beginning fly tying  
class!  
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# Membership Matters

by Bill Creitz

“As we look back on the most recent fiscal year, we have a lot to be grateful for...”

Perhaps not as fun—or as highly anticipated—as the opening of trout season in the Sierras, primary election day is just around the corner for our state. It is often said that, besides casting ballots, people vote with their feet and with their wallets. That, then, brings me to the subject of the Santa Clarita Casting Club.

We will soon embark on our annual membership renewal process (our club’s fiscal year is April 1 to March 30) which will require each of us—and hopefully, many new members—to “vote” for our club’s continued existence and, in fact, expansion with their feet (as in attendance at club-sponsored events) and their wallets (as in sending in our annual membership dues by the March 15 due date).

As we look back on the most recent fiscal year, we have a lot to be grateful for: (1) we have nearly 60 members; (2) we are “in the black” financially; (3) we continue to attract new members; (4) we just completed our first club auction in several years (which was very successful); (5) we developed and sponsored a very well attended “Women’s Intro. to Fly Fishing” class and graduation trip; (6) we recently held our eighteenth annual holiday party, complete with raffles, prizes, gift exchanges, and awards; (7) we re-designed our web site to the degree that it receives significant interest—from both inside and outside the membership—and accolades from visitors to the site; (8) we re-designed our club’s publicity brochure to make it more engaging and descriptive; (9) we continue our

bi-weekly casting clinics, fly tying classes, and Zoom book reading club discussions, as well as our monthly club meetings and surf fishing outings; (10) we continue to partner with the Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International and other local fishing clubs to host and participate in fishing and conservation events; (11) we have expanded our offerings from the book lending library; and (12) we continue to be what members often describe as a “friendly, inclusive, and welcoming” club. It doesn’t get much better than that.

Can I see a show of hands (figuratively speaking) from those of you who believe our club is on the right track going into the 2024 fiscal year? My guess is that we have a unanimous vote of confidence in the direction that our club is headed. As such, your Board of Directors meets often and works hard to not only maintain the club and its activities but to look for ways to improve what we offer and what you want to see. And please forgive my shameless plug for increased involvement by the membership, but we encourage any member who would like to be part of the Board to contact Jamie Barber or Connie Bullock about your interest. We truly want to foster new ideas, new perspectives, and new approaches. You know what they say, “When all think alike, then no one is thinking.”  
Walter Lippman

So, while you’re gearing up for the next election, please cast a “Yes” vote for the Santa Clarita Casting Club by renewing your membership, attending one or more of the many available activities, and telling your fishing buddies about this great group of fly fishing enthusiasts in Santa Clarita.



# Stuart Hellmintoller's Surf Burger

John Parmenter

While browsing on Facebook, I came across a fly I felt was worth keeping in a pocket when I head out to fish the surf. The fly's designed by Stuart Hellmintoller and it's called the Surf Burger. It has the makings of everything I like in a surf fly; the orange/red colors, the marabou tail with a bit of sparkle in it, a weighted head, and a chenille body. In addition, the weighted "cones" behind the eye give it the heft needed to get it down through the water column quickly. As a tier, I like the choice of cones over barbell eyes for a few reasons. They are easy to slip over the hook, they won't rotate in the surf as barbell eyes tend to do, and they keep the eye of the hook clean from material, thread, and head cement.



This fly is very similar to Lee Baermann's Checkerboard pattern, a popular surf fly along the coast. But I believe Lee uses barbell eyes in his pattern, and the bodies on his flies are often tied in a red and black or a two-toned orange chenille to form a checkerboard design.

After a little back-and-forth of emailing Johnathan, I suggested the Surf Burger as a pattern worth sharing with the Club tying group. He asked if I had field-tested it—and I had. Although I haven't caught many perch on it yet, I attribute that to the water conditions, the scarcity of perch where I was fishing—and to the fact that it just might be the guy fishing it. The bottom line is—the problem's not with the fly.



LEE BAERMANN'S CHECKERBOARD FLIES

As the water warms following the recent rains and the perch and corbina return in numbers to the surf zone, it strikes me as a good time to replenish our fly boxes and add a new pattern as well.

Here's the pattern, with my spin on it, that I sent in an email to Jonathan:

The materials I use: Size 6 saltwater hook (I like Gamakatsu hooks), Spirit River Hot Cones 3/16, Uni BigFly orange



thread (**I'm a big fan of this thread for tying surf flies**), orange or red Marabou with about ten strands of Flashabou or Crystal Flash mixed with it, and a body of variegated chenille. I'm experimenting with the chenille colors. The one I saw on Facebook had a dark variegated body, but again, I lean towards the reds and oranges. Play around with body colors here.

I hope to see you in the surf!

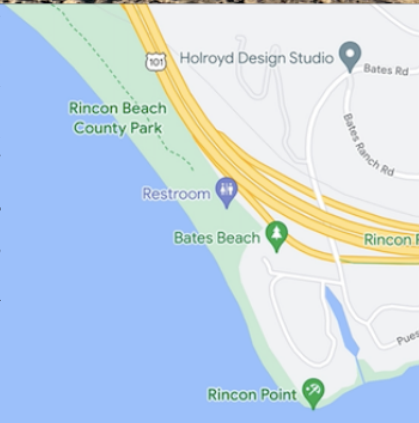


**Calling all members, family, and friends!**



**Whether you're new to surf fishing or an old salt, get your feet wet and join us for the Club's Beach Picnic and surf outing! Look for more information to follow in the coming days!**

**SANTA CLARITA  
CASTING CLUB'S  
RINCON BEACH PICNIC  
SAT APR 27, 2024  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**





# Coming Event From Our Friends at Santa Barbara Fly Fishers!

**O**n Tuesday, March 19, 2024 ~ THE SANTA BARBARA FLYFISHERS are hosting the 18th annual FLY FISHING FILM TOUR (F3T) at the world-renowned Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara. Architectural Digest and Condé Nast Traveller spotlight the Lobero Theatre as one of “The 11 Most Beautiful Theaters in the World.”

The event comes to the historic Lobero Theater showing a series of short films featuring amazing fly-fishing experiences from around the globe. Attendees will experience wrestling peacock bass in the Amazon, conservation efforts in the Bahamas, a look at growing up with a fly rod in the Pacific Northwest and many more. It’s a movie night that promises to reel you in!

Beyond the films, the event is about community connection and conservation. Our Community partners: The Mayfly Project, Merito Foundation and Casting for Recovery will be present on the Lobero patio from 5:30 pm to raise awareness of the work they are doing to introduce foster children to fly fishing their local waters, teach conservation to students and teachers inside and outside of the classroom, and host fly fishing retreats for women with or recovering from cancer respectively.

## RAFFLE AND AMAZING PRIZES!!

THERE ARE FIVE (5) RAFFLE PACKAGES including the Grand Prize Package  
”3 Day 2 Night Mammoth Getaway with Guided Fly Trips”

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

RECEPTION: 5:30 pm / SCREENING: 7:00 pm

LOCATION: 33 E. Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

BOX OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday: 10 am – 5 pm | 805.963.0761

TICKETS: Admission \$22 & Student (15 & under) \$16.

Tickets can be purchased at: [www.lobero.org/events/fly-fishing-film-tour-2024](http://www.lobero.org/events/fly-fishing-film-tour-2024)

Food & drinks available for purchase.

This year there will be films that take you into the science of the Costa Marlin Project, to the depths of the jungle for the massive Peacock Bass, and will have a Steelhead story with characters as rare as the fish itself + many, many more.

*F3T is the original and largest fly-fishing film event of its kind and we are proud to bring it to the Santa Barbara community for the first time. Come for the action and stay for the raffle!*

**—-SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE! —-**



**Grand Prize Package – 3 Day 2 Night Mammoth Getaway with Guided Fly Trips**

- 3 Day/2 Night Mammoth Condo
- ½ Day guided trip Crowley Lake
- ½ Day guided trip Owens River
- Rio Technical Trout fly line DT4F
- Rio Gold fly line WF5F
- 2 Bottles of Local Artisan Wine
- Sierra flies and Fly Box
- Mountain Air Sports \$50 gift card
- Branded swag and flies
- Books

**Prize Package #2 – Exploring Lake Cachuma with Casey Cloud**

- ½ Day guided trip Cachuma Lake
- \$75 Hook'd gift card
- \$50 Hook, Line, & Sinker gift card
- SA Sonic Sonar WF6S fly line
- 2 Bottles of Local Artisan Wine
- \$25 Yakoda gift card
- Mountain Air Sports \$50 gift card
- Branded swag and lake flies

**Prize Package #3 - Chasing Corbina in the Surf with Casey Cloud**

- ½ Day Guided Surf Trip
- Padaro Grill Meal Vouchers
- \$50 Mountain Air Sports gift card
- \$50 Erik's Tackle gift card
- Sondergaard Stripping Basket
- Yeti 5-Gal Bucket
- Tippet Pack
- Branded swag and surf flies

**Prize Package #4 – Staycation in Santa Barbara on East Beach**

- 1 Night Stay SB Inn (Midweek)
- \$150 Ian's Tires gift card
- \$50 Mountain Air Sports gift card
- Perrier-Jouet Belle Epoque 2007 champagne
- \$25 Hook and Press gift card
- Branded swag
- 2 Bottles of Local Artisan Wine
- SB Maritime Museum 1 Year Membership

**Prize Package #5 – Staycation in Santa Barbara on Leadbetter Beach**

- 2-night stay at Sea Cliff Apts.
- \$50 Jeannine's Gift Card
- \$50 Mountain Air Sports gift card
- Bike rental Wheel Fun Rentals
- Branded Swag
- Costa Corbina Sunglasses
- Yeti Yonder Water Bottle
- 2 Bottles of Local Artisan Wine
- \$125 A&E Auto Gift Card



**Santa Barbara  
Flyfishers**

# Connie Bullock

Membership Chair  
SWC Club Representative

## Trout Rodeo – Bishop, CA Fairgrounds

**S**CCC participated in the Southwest Council FFI Trout Rodeo and what fun it was! We were a team of 4: Jon Simle, Jonathan Summer, Joaquin Malbera and myself.

The weather was cool, but the day of the Rodeo was beautiful and in the mid-40s. We were bundled up with waders, boots, jackets, and a desire to compete in the SWC Trout Rodeo. Unfortunately, we only caught 9 fish (8 thanks to Jonathan Summer and one by Joaquin Malerba).

You know they say memories are made of faux pas, well, we didn't disappoint and almost had a close one. Joaquin and I were fishing at the stream below the Bishop Airport when he caught this fish. He scurried over to this tree and tried to get a picture of this 7" fish. So, I told him I'd take the picture. As you can see in the picture below, he's standing on a very thin twig and there is a good-sized drop off. He started to slip, I grabbed his arm and we both almost went into the river. We laughed heartily once we were secure about the fish and sure we weren't going swimming!



The event had 48 attendees of which 11 were teams. The Team idea is great as we can share the amount of fish caught and enjoy one another's company. This is the third year for this event and is finally showing a small fundraising profit for SWC. My thanks to my team and Michael Schweit for pulling off another great event!

# Fly Tying At Its Best

Connie Bullock

For the last seven Wednesdays (Jan 3 through Feb 14) I had the pleasure of attending the Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers (SPFF) Beginning Fly Tying Class, conducted by Michael Peratis. Even though I trained many years ago, my confidence and knowledge had eluded me, so taking this class brought back the joy of tying your my flies and actually catching fish on that fly.

Going to the Trout Rodeo in February with our Team and using the flies I tied was a real thrill. I can't claim catching and bringing in a fish, but I had the thrill of two hookups, and that worked for me.

With all this said, I can't encourage the membership enough to get involved in the SCCC fly tying class hosted by Johnathan Summer. He took the SPFF class (along with Jamie Barber), and has been able to pass on the style and knowledge he learned at that class. Of course, if you want to take the annual SPFF class, that's encouraged as well. Here is a picture of the graduating class. Enjoy tying and tight lines.





**April 6, 2024**

**Long Beach Casting Club  
Recreation Park, Long Beach**

**Admission - \$25.00 and includes lunch  
and soft drinks**

**Kids under 16, Veterans and  
Casting For Recovery Participants  
get in free!**

**Raffles and silent auctions**

**Private casting lessons (\$1.00/minute  
with 20 minute minimum) with money  
back GUARANTEE. Learn something  
new or pay nothing!!**

**All net proceeds support SWC programs  
in Conservation, Youth,  
Women's Programs  
and much more!**

**Just talked to Chris Taylor and he's getting the Panguitch Lake trip together. The trip is scheduled for June 3 through June 10th and he recommends to make motel reservations as soon as possible. There are three of them to check out: Purple Sage, Lamp Lighter and Color Country. Currently the first two seem to be booked for this time frame, so check out Color Country ([colorcountrymotel.com](http://colorcountrymotel.com)) and get the needed dates scheduled.**

**For further information, please contact Chris directly at [taylorcaddis@yahoo.com](mailto:taylorcaddis@yahoo.com) or call 818-635-1643. Looks like a fun trip.**

Connie Bullock  
Santa Clarita Casting Club  
Membership Chair  
[membershipsccc@gmail.com](mailto:membershipsccc@gmail.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.