



# Reading The Water

## Inside this issue:

Members Present	1
President's Message	2
Alaska! By Larry Gach	4
Adams Fly History	7
Intro to Fly Tying	10
2014 Summer Adventures	11
Kern River Trip	12
Conservation	13
Golden Trout	14
Upcoming Events	15

## NEXT MEETING

**Monday**

**Sept 29, 2014**

**Wetflies 6:00 PM**

**Dinner 6:45 PM**

**Program 7:00 PM**

**Tio Leo's**

3510 Valley Center Dr

San Diego, CA 92130

(Map—back page)

**Next water quality monitoring will be Saturday, October 18. Please speak to Jack Marshall for details and to volunteer:**

[marshall@econ.ucsb.edu](mailto:marshall@econ.ucsb.edu)

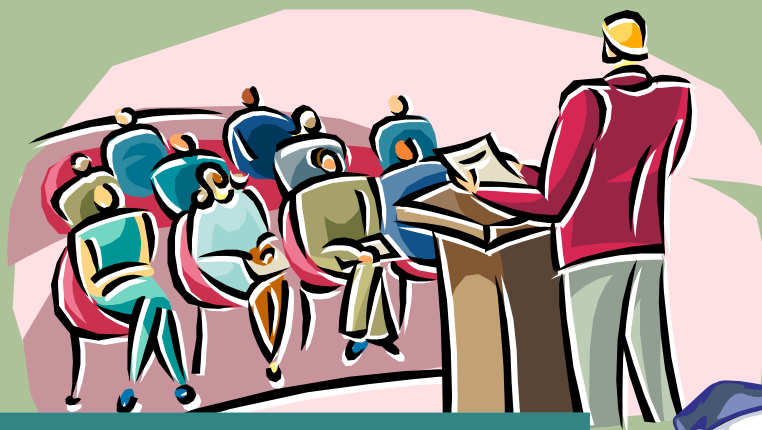


Newsletter of Golden State Flycasters Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Newsletter Date: September 2014

## GSF Members Present Night

As you know, September is our month for Members Present at the monthly meeting. This is not easy for someone to speak in front of their peers, so please turn out and show a strong support for your fellow members. We have selected three speakers for your enjoyment this year. Frank Grant will present his recent trip which will about Fly Fishing Brazos Box in New Mexico, Jack Marshall & Dale Dalrymple will provide an update on GSF/ Trout Unlimited Silver Creek Embrace A Stream Project, and Linda Miller, Norb Spitzer, & Wayne Johnson will share their Alaska fly fishing experience on the Copper River and Lake Clark a tributary that flows into Lake Iliamna.



# President's Message

By Wayne Johnson



Hopefully this edition *Reading The Water* finds all of you having just enjoyed a wonderful summer season spending time with family members and friends, a memorable fishing trip or just relaxing. My summer was less fun, but thankful for a successful full hip joint replacement procedure and post-op recovery period. Along with everyone else, we are looking forward to the many upcoming and varied GSF activities scheduled for the next 3 months.

Over the summer the GSF Board Of Directors (BOD) has been working on club activity plans for the coming year. In the remaining 2014 months, we are required to select a venue and menu for the Annual Fund Raiser and Raffle (March 21, 2015 tentative date), our Holiday Party/Awards Banquet (December 7, 2014 tentative date), and nominations of the 2014-2015 BOD's as well as our Committee Chairpersons and Committee members. Some of these events are listed in this issue of Reading The Water. If you have any ideas or want a previous activity repeated, please forward your suggestions to me (Wayne Johnson) using CONTACTS link on our club home page: [www.goldenstateflycasters.org](http://www.goldenstateflycasters.org); we welcome your in-put.

We are actively looking for volunteers to join our 2014-2015 Board and Committee positions. Our philosophy when committing to these positions is to have fun and do not take ourselves too seriously. This is a great way to view and participate in the internal working of your club. If your time commitment is limited, I suggest you sign up as a committee member. It's a great way to give back to club and achieve some personal rewards. Depending on your interests we

can use your volunteer services in a host of areas, be it working in the field on a GSF or Trout Unlimited Conservation Project, helping out with our Education Seminars, or an Event Activity. You can view the list of 2013-2014 Board and Chair positions on our club home page: [www.goldenstateflycasters.org](http://www.goldenstateflycasters.org) ; under "About the Club". We want to hear from you, so please approach me or any of our BOD's.

As a reminder September 29<sup>th</sup> is our Members Monthly Meeting, this will be are only meeting in September- Do not show up on the Monday before 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. September is our month for Members Present. This is not easy for someone to speak in front of their peers, so please turn out and show a strong support for your fellow members. We have selected three topics for your enjoyment this year; **Frank Grant** presenting "Fly Fishing Brazos Box in New Mexico", **Jack Marshall and Dale Dalrymple** presenting "GSF/Trout Unlimited Silver Creek Embrace A Stream Project", and **Linda Miller, Norb Spitzer, and Wayne Johnson** presenting Alaska fly fishing on the Copper River and Clark Lake tributary that flows into Lake Iliamna.

As we complete 2014 many of you will be joining fellow members in Missoula, MT. (Sept 13-20) which has become an annual event due to the efforts of our Trips Chairperson, **Rod Hendrickson**.

If you are looking for an event that's relatively close by, consider the only on On-The-Water Fly Fishing Faire in the Western States. It's being held September 19-21 at Mammoth Lakes, CA. They will have classes of interest and educate anyone from introductory to advance. You can learn about fly tying, casting and specific on-stream techniques. The event is brought to you by the Southwest Council International Federation of Fly Fishers (SWCIIFFF). Reservations may be made by phone at [\(818\) 200 1499](tel:8182001499) or on-line at [southwestcouncilfff.org/faire](http://southwestcouncilfff.org/faire)

To provide an opportunity to those who want develop a new skill or consider yourself a beginner, our Flying Tying Committee Chairperson, **Chuck Waterman**, will conduct an Introductory Fly Tying course throughout the month of October. As a note, Chuck will also be conducting a scheduled intermediate fly tying class in January-February, 2015.

## President's Message—Cont'd

Prior to the Kern River Tourney our Secretary and Education Chairman, **Steve Piper**, has proposed a Czech Nymphing Class. This event is leading up to November 8<sup>th</sup> for the 6th Annual Kern River Tourney being sponsored by SWCIFF. Our Trips Chairperson, **Rod Hendrickson and Steve Piper, Team Captain** will be coordinating this activity. The club is looking into the possibility of fielding two teams this year, men's and women's team. If you are interested in participating or just joining fellow club members for a weekend of fun in Kernville, speak with **Rod or Steve**.

This summer, **Jack Marshall**, Conservation Chairman, and assisted by Conservation Committee Member, **Dale Dalrymple**, coordinated the first GSF activity with the Trout Unlimited (TU) Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) Grant Program for support of local stream/fishery conservation projects, at Silver Creek. If you missed the opportunity to volunteer for this past project over the summer, you have an opportunity to help out next summer. Also consider a local conservation activity, the San Luis Rey River Water Monitoring. If interested in participating speak with **Jack**.

As we wrap up the year, we will have our hugely-popular GSF Holiday Party and Awards Banquet. It's not too early to place December 7 at 5PM on your calendar.

These are just a few of the GSF activities and events; don't forget to get involved and volunteer. See you at some of the Fall activities and events.

*Wayne Johnson, President GSF/TU Chap 920*

### **2014 FAIRE CLUB MEMBERS GET LAST CHANCE FOR SEPT. 19-21 EVENT IN MAMMOTH**



MAMMOTH LAKES, Calif. – Golden State Flycasters members who have not yet registered for the Fly Fishing Faire are getting one last chance.

“We are running Faire advertising in a number of newspapers, blogs and websites, but we want to give our club ‘family’ members a final opportunity to register before the general public,” said Connie Bullock, director.

As anticipated, there was a giant registration rush from throughout the state when the phone lines first opened, so classes were added. “Many sold out or are close to sell-out ... so this is kind of a last chance to get in before ads appear in the Sacramento Bee, San Francisco Chronicle and Western Outdoors plus others,” said Bullock.

The Faire is sponsored as a community service by the Southwest Council International Federation of Fly Fishers, with headquarters in Mammoth at Cerro Coso Community College. Faire hours are Fri., 9-5; Sat., 9-5; and Sun., 9-3.

All films will be screened at the Minaret Theater in Mammoth.

Registration is \$15 adult; ages 16-years and younger free; \$20 per family. Eastern Sierra resident admission (with ID) is \$10. A single admission is good for all Faire days. Some workshops and seminars are included in the admission; other classes will have separate registration, materials or participation fees.

This is the perfect opportunity to get a youngster, spouse or co-worker into fly-fishing painlessly ... just register them for a Beginner Class, Bullock advised.

For a full list of activities, films, classes and seminars that remain open, visit the SWC FFF website: [www.swc-fff.org/faire](http://www.swc-fff.org/faire) or phone (818) 200 1499.

# Alaska!

By Larry Gach



OK, so I didn't catch bonefish on Andros Island in the Bahamas this past April. There was no way I was going to get shut out fishing for rainbows in Alaska. I'm not the San Diego Padres of fly fishing you know.

My wife talked me into an Alaskan cruise. I agreed on the condition that one of my land excursions be fly fishing. And, as luck would have it, I ran into Duane Lambeth, the owner of Dove Island Lodge in Sitka, at the Fred Hall fishing show this year. The ship docks in Sitka at 7:00AM, and Duane offered to fly me out to a remote location for a day of fly fishing and get me back to the ship in time for a 4:00PM departure. I went for it. So June 11 found me decked out in Simms waders and equipped with a Sage rod and reel in the co-pilot seat of a DeHavilland Beaver.



The spot that Duane flew me to on the back side of Baranof Island is called Salmon Creek. There's probably only a thousand or so creeks by that name in Alaska. Anyway, the flight was magnificent. The weather was 65 degrees and sunny. No wind to speak of. Perfect. Duane dropped off my guide, Patrick, and me and took off. Salmon Creek is a small stream, which is exactly what I asked for. To get to the good fishing, though, we had to hike about a mile from the estuary where we landed. We didn't see any brown bears (Alaskans don't like to call them Grizzlies. It's bad for tourism.), but we did see bear scat, so we knew that they were close. Patrick was equipped a .50 caliber Smith & Wesson, just case one attacked us.



## Alaska—Cont'd



This is me at the estuary.

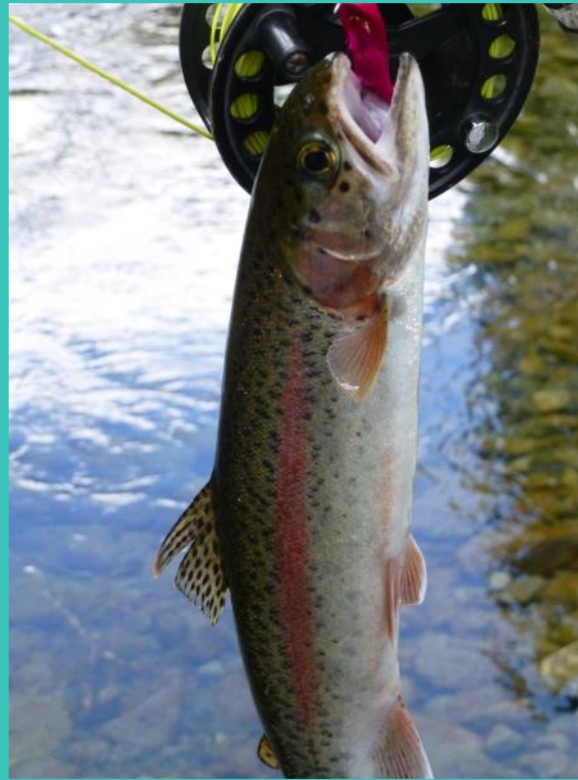
The trail was semi-improved by the Alaska Fish and Wildlife service, and I only fell a couple of times. We got to where Patrick wanted us to fish by about 10:00AM. The water was knee high and as clear as, well, a trout stream. The fishing was very visual. We casted to fish that weren't rising, but were showing themselves. There was no fly hatch per se, but I could see an occasional small tan caddis and a size 14 tan mayfly. I was pretty sure that they were nymphing pre-hatch. Patrick put on a size 10 weighted wooly bugger, and we picked up a few small ones in the first hour. I was beginning to think that the actual fishing part of my day was going to be unremarkable, when I noticed that we were now seeing some tail rises. They were now taking emergers. I think the general rule in Alaska is, when a wooly bugger isn't working well, use a bigger wooly bugger. Kind of the bigger hammer approach. I like to fish dry flies. I know that dries comprise only a small part of a trout's diet, but on freestone streams a well presented dry fly will catch them anyway.

I asked Patrick if he had any stimulators in his box. He had, and I put one on. In my last hour on the stream I caught about a dozen rainbows up to about 16 inches, and had constant strikes. I broke one off that I think was a steelhead. I think Patrick was impressed.



I still have a scab on my thumb from his sharp little teeth.

## Alaska—Cont'd



Just when the fishing was getting really good, we had to hike out/ fly out. A day well spent.



I highly recommend Duane's operation. Check out [www.doveislandlodge.com](http://www.doveislandlodge.com).

## Steve Piper's Adams Fly History

Fascinating Resources on the History of the Adams Dry Fly and Tyer Len Halladay by Steve Piper

The Adams is probably the most popular dry fly in the U.S., maybe in the entire world. It was created in the summer of 1922 in northwest Michigan and first tied by Leonard Halladay, a fly tyer, fishing guide, and hotel keeper. I just ran across some really interesting resources explaining the history of the Adams and Halladay. I will list those below but just to pique your interest enough to visit those resources I've presented some pictures showing the evolution of the Adams over time with some brief comments.

The original Adams was significantly different from the pattern used today. It had a tail of golden pheasant tippets and grizzly wings that were swept forward in a semi-spent posture (as shown here with the original recipe used by Halladay)



### Recipe

Hook:	Mustad Dry Fly Size:10-16
Thread:	Black, 6/0
Tail:	Golden Pheasant Tippet, two strands.
Wings:	Grizzly Hackle Tips, tied semi-spent, advanced forward.
Body:	Gray Wool Yarn
Hackle:	Grizzly & Brown, mixed.

Over time, in the hands of Catskill tyers, the wings were moved to the present upright posture:



## Steve Piper's Adams Fly History—Cont'd

and finally the golden pheasant tippet tail was replaced by hackle fibers to give its present form:



Just for completeness, below I show the parachute version of the Adams that is used perhaps more than the version above - the white post of calf tail or other material makes the fly more visible to the angler, and the hackle "parachute" in place of the vertical hackle fibers allows the fly to sit down on and in the water surface.



The Adams is not an exact imitation of any particular insect; in fact, it is impressionistic enough to work for many hatches. Like most other anglers, I most often fish it as a mayfly imitation - it works well for blue wing olive hatches on the Owens for example, - but it is interesting to note that originally it was fished primarily as a caddis imitation.



## Steve Piper's Adams Fly History—Cont'd

Unfortunately, the history of the Adams is muddled - there is some controversy among historians about whether it was Halladay or his client Charles Adams, or even Adams's son, who actually designed the fly. However, it is clearly acknowledged that Halladay tied the first fly.

I encourage you to check out the various historical accounts on the Adams listed below.

All photos were copied from the resources below. My thanks to John Falk and Tom Deschaines for preserving this important part of fly fishing history.

### Resources

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNlinE5J9QY>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zK3Exd6qqc0&feature=player\\_embedded](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zK3Exd6qqc0&feature=player_embedded)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9Okh-dxzbY>

Len Halladay's grandson John Falk produced a 3-part youtube video titled "Grandpa's Story". In parts 2 and 3, John shows Halladay's tying desk and ties the Adams the way his grandfather showed him.

<http://flyanglersonline.com/articles/oldflies/2014/oldflies20140127.php>

From the vise of the Mayfield Tyer by Tom Deschaines, January, 2014, update on the history of the Adams

<http://www.flyanglersonline.com/articles/oldflies/2012/oldflies20121119.php>

The Adams: Final Chapter by Tom Deschaines, 2011

<http://www.michigandryflies.net>

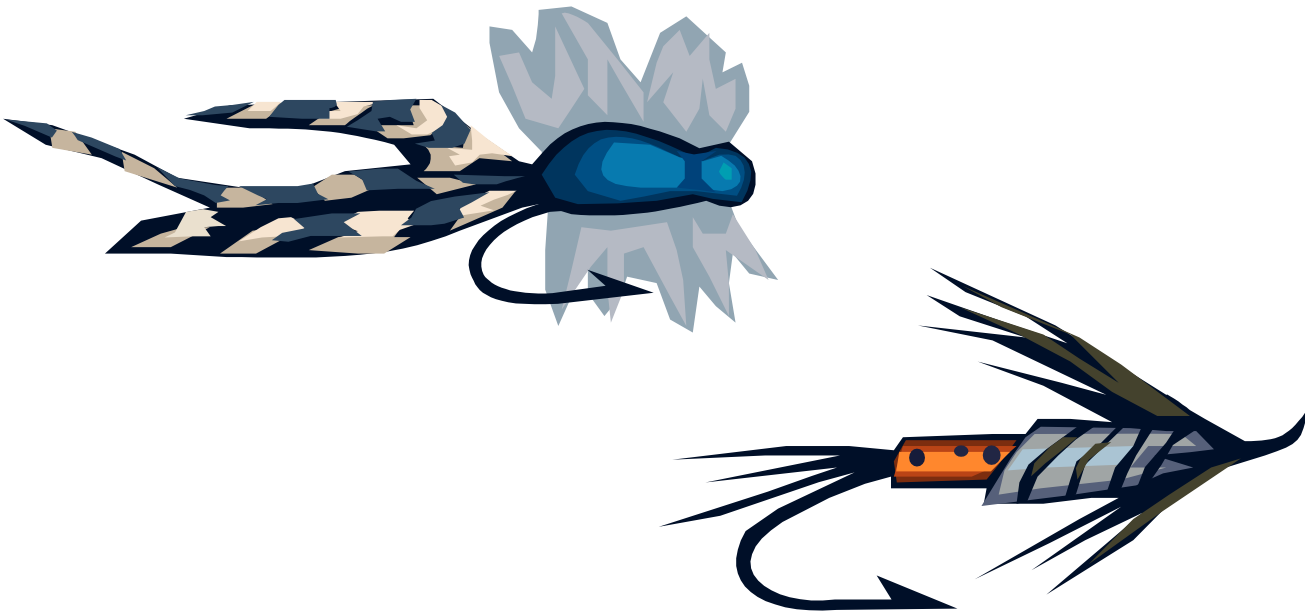
Website created by Tom Deschaines to explore the history of Michigan dry flies including the Adams.

**INTRO TO FLY TYING CLASS - OCTOBER 8, 15, 22, & 29 (WEDNESDAYS)**

This special introductory class is designed specifically for new/newer fly tiers by Chuck Waterman. It will be a very small class, with only 4 students – to ensure everyone gets personal attention. Classes will be held OCTOBER 8, 15, 22, & 29 (WEDNESDAYS) from 6-8pm, at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club. Cost for the class will be \$30 for the 4 weeks, and will include instruction, class materials, and take-home practice materials. This class will move at a slower pace than past classes so that proper fundamentals can be taught and reinforced, and more basic information about materials and techniques can be covered.

If you're interested in learning to tie flies, or are self-taught but feel some formal instruction would help you improve, please email Chuck ASAP at [cwaterm1@san.rr.com](mailto:cwaterm1@san.rr.com). Please include a brief description of your tying experience, what you hope to learn from the class (so those issues can be incorporated into the lessons), and any questions you have. If more than 4 people sign up, Chuck will determine who the 4 students will be, with priority being given to new tyers, then to tiers who can most benefit from a class of this nature.

For those tyers who are more advanced, fear not – we will be holding Intermediate/Advanced classes beginning in 2015. Those classes will move at a faster pace, and cover more advanced techniques.



## 2014 LUCKY's & BOB's SUMMMER ADVENTURE

We will be posting Lucky's chronicles as he, Bob, and Sam celebrate another year of fishing together in Utah, WY and Montana. The Dutch John, UT. and the Green River initial destination part of the fishing trip has become a tradition for Lucky, Bob and Sam. Lucky has expressed with hope his stories will give you an idea of why he seeks this adventure and life style. To quote Lucky, "A Trout Bum is not a bad profession or pass time. Wish I could let you see this area through my eyes". Please follow Lucky, Bob, and Sam during their 2014 Summer Adventure through the posting of Lucky's chronicles at our GSF website.



## Kern River Trip Announcement

Come join the Golden State Fly Casters For the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual SWCFFF Kern River Fishing Tournament Nov. 8th



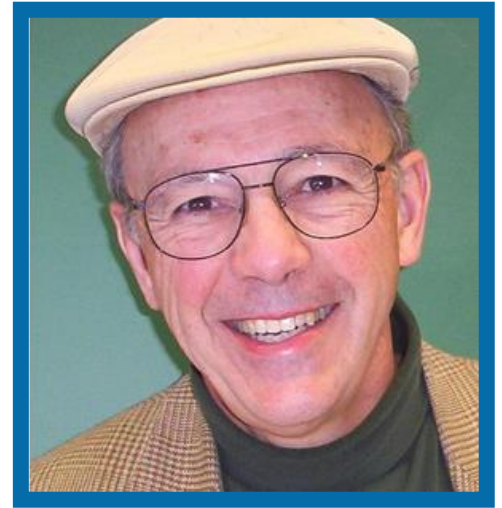
- We will be heading up to the Kern River Nov. 6th and 7th to participate in the tournament, get some fishing in, and camp out under the stars
- We will field two teams this year - men's and women's - each angler random beats for AM and PM sessions
- Entry fee is \$25 a person (\$35 for non-FFF members) and competitors from previous years have priority, although if the response is huge we could field another team. Don't want to compete? Come join and support us!
- Last year Guy Jeans held a Czech nymphing clinic on the water Friday AM
- Evening activities include awards banquet, live music Kernville Saloon, local brews at the Kern Brewery, fish stories around the campfire

Trust me this trip is a blast!. For more information contact Rod Hendrickson [sagerod2wt@gmail.com](mailto:sagerod2wt@gmail.com)



## CONSERVATION REPORT - by Jack Marshall

September 9, 2014



### **Water Quality Monitoring on the San Luis Rey River:**

The team was **Frank Grant, Jim McCarthy, Mike Ferguson, and Wayne Johnson**. Water remains scarce. The river bed is dry at Old 395 Bridge, Old River Road, and Douglas Bridge. At the estuary we looked hard for fish and saw none. I hope in October to send a team to Pauma Creek, giving ourselves a treat, while a smaller team hurries through the other sites. For sites with no water, the report-writing is minimal. I'd like for us to understand better what's happening at Pauma.

### **Genetic Study of Southern California rainbow trout:**

The final report for the genetic study was completed in March. The full detail is massive. We gave a summary at the recent meeting of the Southern California Steelhead Coalition. GSF's board of directors heard a similar version. The report was well-received in both instances, and we intend to present it on future occasions. It is an incredible collection of information. I hope everyone will have a chance to understand it.

Sandi Jacobson, a GSF past president, led the grant writing for the genetic study four years ago and led the final report writing last winter. She is the essential energy and brains behind the research projects that we have done or might do in the future. It is our good luck that, this summer, she has been hired by Cal Trout as a regional coordinator. We expect strong and mutually advantageous ties with Cal Trout under her leadership. Thank you, Sandi, for all you have done, and congratulations on your new position.

## *In Search of Golden Trout—by Tiffany Smith*

Confession time. Recently, I returned from a 6-day backpack in the Sierras with the Venture Crew that I serve as an Advisor (Boy Scouts ages 14-22, co-ed!). Young Johnny (age 14) wanted to fish the hallowed Golden Trout Wilderness; his desire was all the inspiration needed. So what's my confession? Well, a bit nervous about the weight of my backpack (50 lb?), I strapped on a \$15.00 spinning rod, just like Johnny. Not even a sleeve over it. This kid is amazing – he sets his goals – and forges away to make them happen. Leading up to the day of departure, I received many calls and texts from him, asking what I was bringing to catch these beauties. I had negative time to plan, so ended up relying on GSF member John Stojic to leave a small box of goodies on his patio for a 5AM pickup on our way out of town. Within the box were a couple of larger spinners (huh?), and "tsitsy" (his Serbian word for "small") hooks and power bait (again, huh?).

Once we got up to Lake 4 in Cottonwood Lakes (10,000+ feet) above Lone Pine, Johnny had his rod out and line in the water with a large spinner. In discussion, he shared that his older brother told him these wild Golden Trout wouldn't hit on power bait. OK, I put on my spinner too. An hour went by, no bites, but lots of fish sipping at the surface, so it was an issue of what we were presenting. I walked around the lake for a change of venue and removed the spinner and tried the "tsitsy" hook with power bait. Voila!! Fish on immediately. Johnny couldn't believe it, but he changed over to the same thing.

The rest of that afternoon and following days we caught many Golden Trout. Johnny with his laser focus on making things happen, had packed in a frying pan, lemon and olive oil. Guess who ate trout for dinner? Yep, Johnny and me. A moment in time I'll never forget. Priceless. Thank you, Johnny.

For those of you who knew Skip Price, I know he was looking down with pride and joy. He'd fished the very same spots with our Boy Scout troop just a few years ago. My husband even scattered some of his ashes in these spots. Tight lines, Skip – this is just one of your legacies.



## Upcoming Events & Monthly Speakers

September 13-20: Missoula MT trip

September 19-21: Mammoth Mountain Fly Fishing Faire- SWCIFF

October 8, 15, 22 and 29: Intro to Fly Tying Class

October 18: Conservation Water Quality Monitoring– 8:30-1:00

November 8: Kern River Tourney

December: Holiday Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet

December 13: Conservation Water Quality Monitoring– 8:30-1:00

*2014 Fly Tying Classes – Dates Announced!*

This special introductory class is designed specifically for new/newer fly tiers by Chuck Waterman. It will be a very small class, with only 4 students – to ensure everyone gets personal attention. Classes will be held OCTOBER 8, 15, 22, & 29 (WEDNESDAYS) from 6-8pm, at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club. Cost for the class will be \$30 for the 4 weeks, and will include instruction, class materials, and take-home practice materials. This class will move at a slower pace than past classes so that proper fundamentals can be taught and reinforced, and more basic information about materials and techniques can be covered.

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## GSF Board Member contact info

Wayne Johnson - President - [wayne.johnson@philips.com](mailto:wayne.johnson@philips.com)

Mark Turner—Vice Prez—[mturner2@gnf.org](mailto:mturner2@gnf.org)

Tim Hunt—Communications Chair/Director—[sea2peak@gmail.com](mailto:sea2peak@gmail.com)

John Wohfiel - Treasurer - [wohlfiel@cox.net](mailto:wohlfiel@cox.net)

Steve Piper – Secretary and Liaison SWCIFFF - [scpiper@ucsd.edu](mailto:scpiper@ucsd.edu)

Mike McClain – Director - [mikegmclain@gmail.com](mailto:mikegmclain@gmail.com)

Kevin McClain – Director - [mcclain.kevin@gmail.com](mailto:mcclain.kevin@gmail.com)

Trips Chair—Rod Hendrickson - [sagerod@cox.net](mailto:sagerod@cox.net)

Newsletter – Tiffany Chatham Smith - [tiffany@regentpublishingservices.com](mailto:tiffany@regentpublishingservices.com)

Conservation Chair - Jack Marshall - [marshall@econ.ucsb.edu](mailto:marshall@econ.ucsb.edu)

Fly Tying - Chuck Waterman - [cwaterm1@san.rr.com](mailto:cwaterm1@san.rr.com)

Membership Chair - Ken Notter - [klnotter@gmail.com](mailto:klnotter@gmail.com)

Local Outings - Ken Kaufmann - [kkaufmann30@gmail.com](mailto:kkaufmann30@gmail.com)

GSF Librarian - Peter Syka - [p\\_syka@yahoo.com](mailto:p_syka@yahoo.com)

Trout Unlimited Liaison - Frank Grant - [outbackbum@gmail.com](mailto:outbackbum@gmail.com)

# Reading The Water

## Golden State Flycasters

GSF, A 501 (C)3 NON-PROFIT, WAS FORMED IN 2002 TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF FLY FISHERS IN NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY, SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY, AND CAMP PENDLETON.

### **Mission Statement**

***Golden State Flycasters supports the conservation and restoration of fisheries, and education in the sport and art of fly fishing.***

3830 Valley Center Dr., Suite 705, Box 721, San Diego, CA 92130

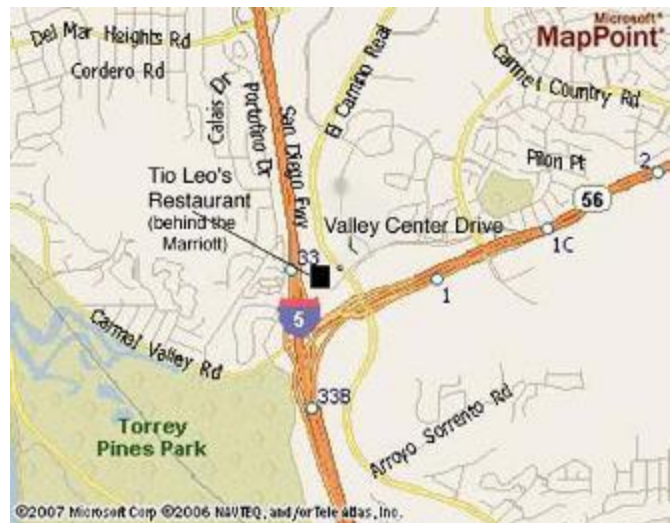
## Meeting Location and Map

### **Tio Leo's Mexican Restaurant**

3510 Valley Centre Drive  
Del Mar, CA 92130  
(858) 350-1468

Don't use MapQuest directions, they are incorrect

From I-5, exit Carmel Valley Road, go east 0.2 miles then left onto El Camino Real. At second stoplight, take left onto Valley Centre Drive. Marriott Hotel is on corner, go past hotel entrance to cul-de-sac and take right into Tio Leo's parking lot.



## Newsletter Submissions

**S**ubmit & share personal, entertaining or informative articles.

Have you fished an out-of-the-way place recently? Taken a trip won at the Annual Raffle? Come across a killer fly for a favorite river? Have a newflash about a fishery or event? Please share it with the rest of our members.

Please limit your Word article to 1,000 words or less, and

include photos. Use straight typing, no indentions, nothing tricky. Submit photos as attachments, not embedded in the article. Editors may edit your submission for grammar or to adjust article length for space available. **Submission deadline is the 25th of each month.**

E-mail submissions to Tiffany Smith at:

[tiffany@regentpublishingservices.com](mailto:tiffany@regentpublishingservices.com)