

# Sespe Fly Fishers



**President's Message**

**December 2011**

**MEETING**  
**Wednesday**  
**December 14, 2011**

**TIME: 7:00 p.m.**

**PLACE:**

Recreation Center,  
Oak and Santa  
Clara St. Ventura

**Program**  
**Annual Holiday**  
**Party**  
*"Potluck, Fish*  
*Tales and*  
*Photos"*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Kelly Galloup**  
*"Streamer Tactics*  
*for Trophy Trout"*

**Wednesday,**  
**January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**7:00 PM**

**BOARD MEETING**

**7:00 PM**

January 16<sup>th</sup>, at  
Carrow's Restaurant,  
Seaward and Harbor,  
Ventura

**Outings**

**Owens River**

*Happy*

*Holidays*

*See you at the Holiday Party on the 14<sup>th</sup> of*  
*December,*  
*Paul*

# *Sespe Fly Fishers*

## **ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

*Potluck, Fish Tales and Photos*

**Date**            **Wednesday, December 14, 2011**

**Place**           **Senior Recreation Center**

**Time**            **7:00 pm\***

**Who**             **All members and spouses/friends**

Wear your holiday smiles and let everyone listen to your latest fishing adventure(s).

Gary Bulla will make a photo presentation and tell us about his recent Baja guided fly fishing trips.

The Club will provide soft drinks, bottled water, tea, coffee and decaf.

What to Bring –

- Some canned and/or other non-perishable goods to be donated to Ventura County Food Share charity.
  
- If your last name begins with the letter  
A – D            bring dessert for 10 people  
E – Z            bring appetizer/finger food for 10 people

In order to avoid duplication of food dishes, please contact Chuck or Marcia Colwell and advise them of a description of dish that you will be bringing. Also, please feel free to contact Marcia if you need some ideas of what dish to bring.

Phone    805 987-5474

E-Mail    [crc4411@verizon.net](mailto:crc4411@verizon.net)

\*        Volunteers for Set Up should arrive by 6:15 pm

## SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

**Gary Bulla**

Google Baja Fly Fishing and guess who pops up? Our own Garry Bulla. Long time club member Gary Bulla is one of the most noteworthy surf fly fishers and salt water fly designers in the country, he also spends at least three months a year guiding and hosting trips in Baja. Not only does he get to fish almost every day, but he shoots lots of photos of the natural wonders of Baja. His photos have appeared in The Drake Magazine, Patagonia Catalogs, Flyfishing in Saltwater, Fly Rod and Reel and more. The variety of fish species, sea mammals, birds and incredible scenery will whisk you away to one of the very richest places to fish in the world. Don't miss his tour of this accessible exotic fishery at this month's meeting.



## PROJECT HEALING WATERS

(Getting wounded veterans involved in fly fishing)

In our club's November newsletter, I devoted the first part of the President's Message to the short presentation by Eivind Forseth at our October club meeting. Eivind is a former Army Captain wounded in Iraq. He became involved with Project Healing Waters early-on. The project is focused on involving wounded warriors in fly fishing. There was a significant interest expressed by several of our members in the project. Since that time, I have been in contact with Carol Katz, The Southwest Region Coordinator for the project. Carol provided a great deal of information about the program and your Board of Directors is reviewing the information looking toward possible Club involvement.

Like all new undertakings, there is a great deal to consider. One of the first things is gathering information from those already involved in the project. We have an opportunity to do that at a meeting in Riverside on January 21, 2012. The Deep Creek Fly Fishers are hosting a meeting at the Walton Clubhouse from 10 am to 2 pm. One of the agenda items discusses Project Healing Waters. Other items to be discussed are club newsletters, membership and other club related issues.

The Project is of a magnitude that requires a dedicated leader who can direct the program for our club. It would not be a one-person undertaking since a great deal of coordination is involved as well as members who can devote time to fly tying, casting and outings.

If any of you are interested in finding out more about the program and can spare a day to attend the January meeting, give me a call on 805.482.7443.

The website for the Project is [www.projecthealingwaters.org](http://www.projecthealingwaters.org) Thanks, Paul

# Sespe Flyfishers Board of Directors

## PRESIDENT

Paul Wilson 482-7443

## VICE PRESIDENT

Dennis Harper: 650-1708

## SECRETARY

Gary Bulla: 933-1367

## TREASURER

Carl Rhoads: 644-0940

## DIRECTORS

Frances Smith: 647-3522

John Dugan: 646-6898

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Conservation – Dennis Harper 650-1708

Membership - Chris & Frances May 984-1267

Newsletter –Earl Arnold: 701-1239

Programs - Gary Bulla: 933-1367

Raffles – James Forte: 689-0034

Refreshments - Jeff Herford: 658-0829

Outings - Jeff Hereford: 658-0829

Web Site –Steve Schalla: 642-5898

Auction - Frances Smith: 647-3522

Fly Tying -Bob Smith: 647-3522

Trout in the Classroom – Kent Houston 649-4716

## 2012 Speaker Schedule\*

January	<b>Kelly Galloup</b>	<i>“Streamer Tactics for Trophy Trout”</i>
February	<b>Brian Slusser</b>	<i>“Reno-Tahoe Fly Fishing”</i>
March	<b>Annual Auction</b>	<i>“Bring your Check Book and Credit Cards”</i>
April	<b>Ernie Gulley</b>	<i>“Lake Crowley”</i>
May	<b>Bill Downs</b>	
June	<b>Graham Owen</b>	<i>“New York Browns”</i>
July	<b>Brian O’Keefe &amp; Todd Moen</b>	<i>“Behind the Scenes at CATCH Magazine”</i>
October	<b>Rob Anderson</b>	<i>“Pyramid Lake”</i>
November	<b>Tony Reinhardt</b>	<i>“Fly Fishing Western Montana”</i>

\*Speakers and programs subject to change without notice. Check the news letter each month.

## Fly Tying

From Bob Smith

There will be no fly tying get-together in November and December due to the holidays. We will resume fly tying on January 26th.

The dates for 2012 Fly Tying are:

Jan. 26, Feb. 23, Mar. 22, Apr. 26, May 24

## OUTINGS

### OUTINGS FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

**Nov** - no outing planned at this time.

**Dec** - no outing planned at this time.

**Jan/Feb** - Annual outings to Bishop. Dates are Jan 13, Feb 24, pending weather and flows.

Contact Jeff for more information **JEFFREY HEREFORD** [jehmah@msn.com](mailto:jehmah@msn.com)

# Pinnacle Rods for Dry Fly Fishing

Part one



By Drew Madrigal

When it comes to flyfishing equipment, the most controversial topic is “best fly rod.” Some rods that you rave about leave some folks questioning your sanity. Are there any rods that are universally great? No, but when a large group of devotees talk up a rod, it must have characteristics which make it highly desirable, what I consider a pinnacle rod.

My search for a great rod arose from the desire to find a better rod. My 6 weight is first generation IM6 graphite. It was lighter than cane or fiberglass, cast accurately, landed lots of trout etc., but was merely a tool. It, much like a wrench, did the job. As I fished more rods I began developing a list of traits I wanted in one rod. I wanted the fishability of a great cane rod with the lighter weight, durability, and affordability of graphite. My pinnacle rod had to have smoothness, pinpoint accuracy, a delicate tip, the reserve power to steer a trout, and be just plain sweet.

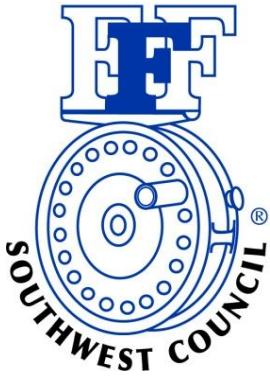
Ever notice how people shake a rod, cast it in a parking lot, and then decide whether or not to buy? These exercises are to check a rod for its feel when casting close and out to the horizon. The “feel” has to do with smoothness and flex of the rod through a range of casting distances. Next next they start checking for casting accuracy at various distances. Can you “put the fly on a quarter” with it?

The pinnacle fly rod for me is a Russ Peak Zenith in 4/5 weight. This rod can comfortably cast either of the two line weights near or far, deliver the fly with pinpoint accuracy, and authoritatively maneuver a trout in for release. This rod also has a wow factor, the ability to flick an entire fly line effortlessly, as if a spring is unloading. Perhaps this last feature is unnecessary but every once in awhile it is fun to cast a country mile just for the fun of it.

What are other pinnacle fly rods, minus launch assist, for dry fly fishing? In my experience they are the Scott G753, Powell IM6-345, Cairnton Chalkstream 3(4)5, Orvis Western Series 8’ 4 wt., and, in briefcase rods, the Hardy Smuggler and Cabela’s Stowaway 7 both in 5 weight (note the current Stowaway rods are not the same). I would describe the action of all these rods in the medium to medium-fast category. If your rod is not listed I can only say these are the rods I have used and know to be pinnacle examples of the rod maker’s craft.

Ernest Schwiebert who cast every kind of rod and was particularly partial to cane rods considered the Thomas and Thomas 4 wt. SDF-408 and 5 wt. SDF 538 superb rods. Gary LaFontaine favored the Sage Lightline (LL) 8’9 “ 3 wt. Craig Matthews of Montana favors a Winston 9’ 4 wt. but also recommends Sage LL, T&T Paradigms, and Orvis Western Spring Creek rods. Look for these in the used rod section of fly shops, and if you are lucky enough to find one, give it a try. I rarely see these rods for sale so I suspect it may be that their owners refuse to sell them, I know why, but you might get lucky.

(Part Two will be in the January 2012 issue)



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[Click here for the Fall 2011 newsletter.](#)

## [Second Annual Kern River Tournament](#)

Competition was keen as nine teams from the Southwest Council of the FFF battled for the winner's plaque in the second annual Kern River Fly Fishing Tournament. The welcome addition of two ladies' and one co-ed team brought a welcome touch of glamour and laid to rest concerns that competitive rivalries might dampen the fun of this event. All of the teams left town on Sunday with a firm resolve to mark their calendars for next year and set aside some weekends for practice..

[READ MORE](#)

## [Joan Wulff Fly Rod Winner](#)

The drawing was to have been held at the "Evening With Joan Wulff" dinner, however the event was cancelled due to an illness that didn't permit the casting icon to travel. The drawing was held at the Fishermen's Spot, Van Nuys..

[READ MORE](#)

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### Upcoming Events

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[Bass Pro Fishing](#)

[Pasadena Fly Fishing Show](#)

[Fred Hall-Long Beach](#)

[Fred Hall-San Diego](#)

## FlyBuy 2012

Great buys on new and used tackle benefit the Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers. To be held on Saturday January 28, 2012. Events include: Fly Tying demos from 9 -4, Hot Creek Leaders 10 - noon, Garage sale from 9-4, Casting lessons from 9-4, Silent Auction from 9-3 and finally a live auction immediately after lunch.

[READ MORE](#)

[Mammoth Fly Fishing Faire](#)

[Latest News](#)

[Conservation](#)

Southwest Council Federation of Fly  
Fishers

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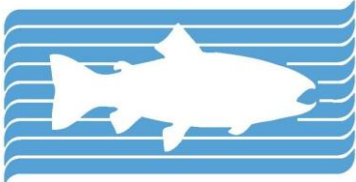


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<http://www.southwestcouncilfff.org>

## RETRACTION and APOLOGYS TO CALTROUT and DENNIS HARPER

### CALIFORNIA TROUT



In the most recent Sespe News letter I published and editorial in the conservation section of the news. I had just come back from a difficult and frustrating meeting with a conservation group who had requested emergency action by the California Fish and Game Commission to shut down fishing in the Sisquoc River, North fork

Matilija and Sespe Creek. CalTrout was present in the meeting via teleconference. I asked our conservation chairman Dennis Harper to write an article and I dictated what I thought was an accurate assessment the meeting and CalTrout's position. Dennis emailed me back an article and I edited it. Dennis's name is "boiler plate" on the page under the conservation heading. I should have removed it. After direct communication with CalTrout I realized that my ignorance of the process required by the Endangered Species Act and misunderstanding of what I heard over the telephone lead me to make statements in the article were inaccurate and inappropriate. I offer my most sincere apologies to CalTrout and Nica Knite. CalTrout has provided and will continue to provide an invaluable service to the fisheries and people of the state of California. It was CalTrout who filed the initial Endangered Species Act (ESA) Petition for the listing of Southern California steelhead, and CalTrout who worked for years in the courts to uphold the listing. Caltrout supports the DFG recommendation to conduct a detailed assessment of passage throughout Sespe to determine anadromous accessibility before any closure measures are even considered. It was CalTrout who sued United Water to force them to fix the Freeman Diversion fish passage. In that respect alone we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

Sincerely,  
Earl Arnold  
Sespe Flyfishers News Editor.

# Sespe Flyfishers Membership Renewal

Dear Flyfisher,

Welcome new members and renewing members alike! Your membership dues enable the Sespe Flyfishers to continue to provide quality programs, outings, seminars, and to participate in conservation efforts.

Please complete this application and return it along with your membership dues today to the following address:

**Sespe Flyfishers**  
**P.O. Box 5127**  
**Ventura, CA 93005**

Your support is appreciated.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include names of Family Members that may participate in club functions:

Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you are a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF)  Yes  No

Annual Family Membership Dues (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31)

Residence	Age	Membership	
Ventura & S.B. Counties	16 and over	\$40	\$ _____
Other Locations	16 and over	\$20	\$ _____
Any	Under 16	\$20	\$ _____

Voluntary contribution to the Sespe Flyfishers Conservation Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary contribution to "Trout in the Classroom" \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary contribution to Ty Stork Memorial Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please contact Chris or Fran May at 984-1267 or [chrismay5@msn.com](mailto:chrismay5@msn.com).



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**Sespe Flyfishers**  
**P.O. Box 5127**  
**Ventura, CA 93005**

