

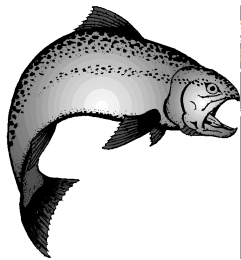
Downey Fly Fishers

"The Fishingest Club Around"

February 2008

Monthly Newsletter

Upcoming Events



February 12th
General Meeting 7pm
Eric Rangel

February 19th
Board Meeting 7pm
Note this is a Tuesday!

At This Month's Meeting

We will get the low down on surf fishing in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties from Eric Rangel, owner of The Artful Angler in Carpinteria. Eric will go over equipment, flies, reading water, and describe some local hot spots.

This program will tune us up on our scheduled April Carpinteria surf outing. We hope to see good old Don Wakefield again at this meeting. Don arranged quite a few memorable trips up to Carpinteria in the past. Eric started fishing at a young age, thanks to his father. They fished the Eastern Sierras and local backcountry.

His father worked for the U.S. Forest Service out of the Ojai Ranger District and patrolled around the Fillmore/Piru area. Eric attended Humboldt State University and went into fisheries studies. While attending Humboldt, he worked for Mike at the Eureka Fly Shop and started to guide the shop's steelhead trips. After four years in Northern California, he came back to Santa Barbara and helped open Mac Duff's on State Street. After Mac Duff's closed, he continued to guide and later moved to Colorado where he met his wife Lisa. He continued to further his fly fishing with the Orvis School in Mammoth. Eric and Lisa have two sons, Luke who is four and five month old Joshua. They decided to open The Artful Angler in the summer of 2006.

The shop will celebrate its second year of business on June 15, 2008. We certainly hope all of our members will visit the Artful Angler when they are up in Carpinteria.

Artful Angler

3817 Santa Claus Ln.
Carpinteria, CA 93013
(805) 566-5900

<http://www.artfulangler.com>

10:00 A.M. to 5:00P.M. Mon. - Sun.

Eric will give a fly tying demonstration at six.

**Deadline for the March
newsletter is Feb. 26th**

Members who have access to
E-mail can send stories,
announcements or classified
ads to: Liz Rasmussen or
Brain Matthews

CLUB OUTINGS

Submitted by Carl Laski

Lower Owens	March 2008
Carpinteria Surf Fishing	April 2008
Mammoth	May 2008

If you are interested in attending any of these outings, please contact me at (714) 995-4219 as soon as possible.

Bob Stuart's newest version of his Handmade Release Tool

RELEASE TOOL

Material : A 5 inch length of 3/8 dowell and a small cup hook. I found a selection of these at a 99cents store.

Drill a pilot hole in the end of the dowell and screw the cup hook into the hole,

THATS ALL THERE IS TO IT !!



Use the tool by catching the leader inside the cup hook, sliding the tool down to the fly and lifting the fly out of the fishes mouth.

2008 FFF Conclave

2008 Conclave planning has begun. It will be the 43rd Annual FFF International Fly Fishing Show (Conclave) and the dates are set for July 22 – 26, 2008. The location for this Conclave will be Whitefish, Montana. Whitefish is a small town located on the shore of Whitefish Lake. Just a few miles from Glacier National Park and International airport. Mark your calendar !!!!

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4451>

Club Officers

President.....	Liz Rasmussen (562) 429-4138
Past President.....	Ron Sakoda (626)330-6530
V.President.....	Brad Blancett (562)928-9408
Secretary.....	Brian Matthews (562) 425-7936
Treasurer.....	Bob Stuart (562) 691-7878

Chairpersons

Trout in The Classroom	Randy Teeple (949) 673-4872
Conservation & FFF Rep	Carl Laski (714) 995-4219
Education.....	John Barnett (562) 924-9697
	Bob Stuart (562) 691-7878
Pot Lucks.....	Brian Matthews (562) 425-7936
Membership.....	Brian Matthews (562) 425-7936
Outings.....	Carl Laski (714) 995-4219
Programs.....	Ray Sugiyama (562) 427-3781
	Zino Nakasuji (562) 598-6878
Refreshments....	Perry Crobie (714) 827-5251
Video Library....	Fred Roberts (562) 927-0881
Newsletter	Liz Rasmussen (562) 429-4138
	Brian Matthews (562) 425-7936
Raffles.....	Brad Blancett (562) 928-9408
Website	Carl Laski (714) 995-4219
Publicity.....	Brian Matthews (562) 425-7936
	John Barnett (562) 924-9697
Fly bank.....	Ron Sakoda (626) 330-6530

Board of Directors

Eric Rasmussen.....	(562) 429-4138
Bill Shelly.....	(714) 484-7650
Jim Buchanan.....	(562) 927-9790
Mike Jedlick.....	(562) 865-2550
Carl Laski.....	(714) 995-4219
Frank Russick.....	(562) 865-6021
Terry Matsuura.....	(310) 324-2436

I am looking for someone to take over the duties of doing the newsletter. After doing it for 9 years I would like to turn it over to a fresh person! If you are interested I would be glad to help you get started and give you back up if needed.

Talk to me if you are interested,
Liz

Presidents Message

Due to the recent storms California's snowpack is looking good. Hopefully the spring run-off will help refill lakes after several years of drought. Here is an interesting ca.gov website that has lots of information on snowpack, precipitation, river / tide forecasts, river stage and flow information, and general weather. <http://cdec.water.ca.gov>

I'm looking forward to this month's speaker's presentation. I have never surf fished, hopefully I can make the April surf fishing outing in Carpinteria. Hopefully you all can come along for a good laugh at my expense!

DFF is still looking for someone to take over doing the refreshments for the meetings. This is an excellent job that the members really appreciate! I am looking for someone to take over the duty of doing the newsletter each month

See you at the meeting!

Liz


My Dog Took Me Fishing Submitted By John Berry - FFF Life Member From the FFF Clubwire

Yesterday, I noted that there was no generation on the White River. They had been running water for some time. I had been fishing regularly from my boat and catching plenty of trout but I had missed wading. As luck would have it, my wife, Lori, had to attend a meeting and could not accompany me. I thought about going alone but really wanted a bit of company. As I loaded my gear in the Volvo, I noted my dog, Ellie, pressing her nose against the dog run gate and whining. I got the message. I open the gate and she eagerly jumped in the car.

Ellie is a yellow; British Lab. Lori had originally acquired her to be a show dog. As a result, she looks exactly as you would expect her to. She is stout, golden blond, has a regal bearing and a lot of enthusiasm.

We drove over to Rim Shoals and waded over to the island. There was no one there but us. We waded down stream fishing every likely spot as we came to it. I hooked a fish on the first cast. Ellie dove into the water and tried to retrieve the fish for me. Between the fast current and the erratic movements of the trout, Ellie never actually caught one but tried every time I hooked a trout. That fish set the tone for the day.

As I was landing the fish, I took a really good look at her. She appeared to be a big blonde beaver. I have never seen an animal that was that comfortable in the water. She used her thick tail as a rudder to help her steer. Her feet are webbed like a duck and she would swim tirelessly in the current. She is very buoyant. Her back and head were sticking out of the water as she chased the trout. When I landed the fish, I held it out for her to see. She looked at it intently as if she were studying it. When I released it, she followed it with her eyes.



We fished for several hours and did very well. I don't know how many fish Ellie and I landed but it was a lot. I decided to take a break. I sat on a section of grassy bank I call the Angler's Lounge. I drank in the scenery. It was a gorgeous day sunny, warm and there was a bald eagle circling overhead. Ellie sat at my feet. I dug a baggie from my vest and took out a dog biscuit. Ellie eagerly consumed it and was ready for more.

As I was giving her another treat, I saw a huge flash in the deepest part of the run in front of me. It was a big trout feeding. I quickly checked the rigging on my rod. The tippet looked a bit worn so I replaced it. I waded out near where I saw the big flash. I cast my nymph well above it and let it drift through the spot. On the fourth drift, the indicator took a quick trip up stream. I set the hook driving it deep into the trout's upper lip. I heard the reel screaming and looked down to observe my backing appear.

I knew that I had to follow the fish so I waded to the shore as fast as I could all the while maintaining constant pressure on the trout. I followed it downstream with Ellie on my heels. She couldn't see the fish but knew that the battle was on. I continued down stream and was able to retrieve my line as I went. I ended up in quiet water with a gently sloping gravel bottom, the perfect place to land the big fish.

When it was almost in it took a huge tail walking leap. I gasped as I realized just how big it was. It was well over twenty seven inches long and must have weighed at least ten pounds. It was a gorgeous vividly colored male brown and it was not happy. This was more than Ellie could handle and she launched into the river like a torpedo. She chased it relentlessly with me yelling "no Ellie" the whole time.

The big trout finally came in to within a couple of feet from the bank and Ellie stood over the fish. I tried to move her so that I could net the fish but the tippet got tangled around her right rear leg. The brown took one last desperate run and broke free. It was over as quickly as it started. I should have been angry but somehow I wasn't. She was only trying to help and she is my only witness to a heroic struggle. Besides, I was going to set that trout free anyway. We finished the day and walked out as the sun was setting. It had been a great day and Ellie had been a great companion.

Help Wanted!

Submitted by Carl Laski

First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike Jedlick who served as the Refreshment Chairperson over the past several years. He did a great job and has the refreshment equipment and supplies well-organized.

The club needs a new volunteer for the Refreshment Chairperson who is responsible for bringing coffee, sodas and snacks to the general meetings and potlucks. Our ice chest has wheels and a long handle that makes transportation easier. In addition, there are (2) plastic storage containers for the coffee makers and supplies. The regular and decaf coffee can be made at home just prior to the meeting and brought to the meeting in the pump carafes which is much simpler. Since it is sometimes difficult to make it to every meeting and potluck, you can make a few phone calls to find a substitute.

If you are interested, please call or see me at the next general meeting.

Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers News

The Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) has extended their membership drive for this month and up until April 15th. The cost is fifteen dollars for the first year and the incentive for 12 new members is a Temple Fork Outfitters rod for the club. The club's choice is either a Lefty Kreh Professional Series, TFO 5864P (8'6"- 4 pc. - 5wt.) or a TFO 0894P (9'- 4 pc. - 8wt.) or for eighteen new members it is a Temple Fork Outfitters Lefty Kreh TiCRX series rod, either a TFO 5904TX (9'- 4 pc. -5wt.) or a TFO 0804TX (9'- 4 pc. -8wt.). The club's president chooses which rod. This is for new member sign ups. If a person has let their membership lapsed for three or more years they can count as a new member. You can go to the Federation of Fly Fishers web site at www.fedflyfishers.org to find out more about this membership drive.

Most people ask, "Why should I join the FFF?" The FFF is the only organization that looks out for the fly fishers interest. The FFF motto is conservation and education. The FFF does this in several ways. Last month I told you about the Big Meadows Restoration Project that both the Southwest Council and the Northern California Council contributed money and volunteer hours. Our memberships help pay for grants to fund these projects and other projects. The SWCFFF is looking at applying for a grant for more funds for the Big Meadows Restoration Project as well as to help the Kern River Fly Fishers set up a hatchery for the Kern River Rainbow. This money comes from membership dues. The FFF is also involved in the Invasive Species fight with a program called the "Clean Angling Pledge." The FFF worked with the EPA to sponsor a worldwide scientific conference on invasive species. If you go to their website you can view all the diverse projects that the FFF is involved in. The FRVC is also a part of the FFF.

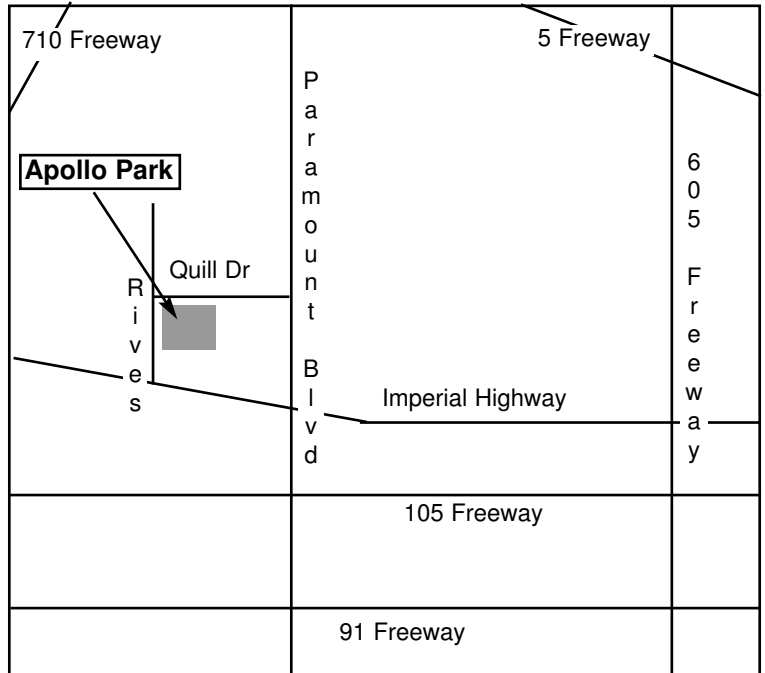
Education is something else that the FFF is very involved in. The Certified Casting Program is recognized across the nation as a standard. We have education programs from TIC, fly tying, and beginning fly-fishing geared to the scouts and even retirees. We helped create and run Project Healing Waters, a program that works with wounded veterans. We are piloting a program called "Family Tyes" that is for middle school and high school students and their families.

The FFF is working with corporate sponsors to help educate people about fly-fishing such as Bass Pro, Cabelas, and the AEG Media film tour. The AEG Media film tour started out on January 30th in Ventura and will be at the La Paloma Theater in Encinitas on April 4th. The film tour will be in Rancho Cucamonga on April 3rd at 7777 Victoria Gardens Lane. If you miss these three locations there is always Las Vegas at 8200 Dean Martin Drive on April 17th. The tickets are fifteen dollars and you can get them in advance on their website, www.flyfishingfilmtour.com. The film tour will be talking about the Pebble Bay mine and it's affect on the surrounding areas. Yes, AEG Media will also show films on fly-fishing around the world by new and up coming filmmakers.

I hope you'll join the FFF this year and help us spread the word about fly-fishing.

Gary Applebee, VP SWCFFF

DFF Supports;



www.downeyflyfishers.org

This Month's Meeting;
February 12th
Apollo Park Senior Center
12458 Rives Ave, Downey



PO Box 516
 Downey Ca 90241