

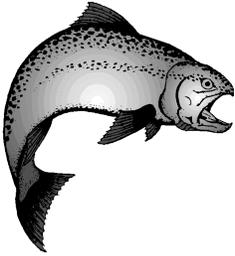
Downey Fly Fishers

"The Fishingest Club Around"

January 2009

Monthly Newsletter

Upcoming Events



January 13th
General Meeting
Chilean Fly Fishing for Trout

January 15th
Board Meeting
Brian Matthews' House

February 10th
General Meeting

February 21st & 22nd
The Fly Fishing Show
Pasadena

At This Month's Meeting

We have Ken Lindsay, of the Fishermen's Spot, who will give a program on fly fishing for trout in Chile. Ken and the Spot have an interesting history and here is a brief synopsis of how they came to be. The Fishermen's Spot was established in 1970 by Lee Ellis and his two sons, Steve and Jeff. At that time, it was a general tackle shop until Steve got the bright idea to add some fly fishing gear to the mix. Not long afterward, Steve was instrumental (at the urging of the late Stan Lloyd) in forming the Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers and their first meeting was held in the shop. The fly fishing side of the shop grew in popularity over the years and in 2001, the store became exclusively fly fishing. Ken Lindsay first walked into the shop in 1970 and in 2005, bought Jeff's share of the business.

Ken was born in Dunmurry, N. Ireland about 100 yards from the Glen River, a delightful little trout stream to this day, and he learned much about how trout feed from observing them in this stream as a small child. At 18, he immigrated to California seeking fame and fortune. He first walked into Fishermen's Spot in the fall of 1970 and met Steve Ellis; they have been friends ever since. In the mid-70's, Ken went to work for Dave Inks and Andre Puyans at Creative Sports in Pacheco, California. Under the tutelage of these fine gentlemen, he gained a vast amount of knowledge about fly tying materials, fly-casting, knots/rigging, fly tying, and entomology. He became a manufacturer's representative in 1979 and continued in this field for the next 15 years representing several fine manufacturers including Cortland, Mustad, Simms, Lamson, Fisher, Thomas & Thomas, Umpqua, Pflueger and J W Outfitters. This gave him the opportunity to travel and fish all over the West.

Deadline for the Feb newsletter is Jan 26th

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

When Steve offered him the chance to own a piece of "The Spot", despite all the things he had learned about the retail fly fishing business, Ken bought in anyway.

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CLUB OUTINGS

Submitted by Carl Laski

I'm considering a trip to the Lower Owens/Pleasant Valley Reservoir in January or February 2009 to start off the New Year.

If you are interested in organizing and/or leading an outing, please contact me at (714) 995-4219.

At this month's meeting cont. from page 1

The flight into Balmaceda airport in Patagonia gives you an aerial preview of the kind of terrain that you will be fishing. Snow capped peaks with glaciers tucked into the folds of the mountains have created river valleys with the promise of big trout that lurk within these pristine waters. The rivers and lakes of Patagonia teem with rainbows, browns and brookies which were transplanted here and have thrived in a perfect trout environment. Imagine casting dry flies to 30" fish in a small meadow stream about the size of Hot Creek or drifting down a turquoise glacial river with big browns and rainbows under every deadfall. Picture streams that rarely see an angler or a fly in a country so beautiful that it draws you back time and time again. Patagonia is much more than just great fishing; it is a land of great wines, gourmet food, world class scenery, and warm wonderful people. Ken will try to give you an overall flavor of the fishing and the country. Please join Ken for a fly tying demo starting at six.

**Fishermen's Spot
14411 Burbank Blvd,
Van Nuys, CA 91401
www.fishermensspot.com**

Club Officers

President.....Carl Laski
V.President.....Position open
Secretary.....Brian Matthews
Treasurer.....Bob Stuart
Past President.....Liz Rasmussen

Chairpersons

Trout in The Classroom.....Randy Teeple
Conservation & FFF Rep.....Carl Laski
Education.....John Barnett & Bob Stuart
Pot Lucks.....Brian Matthews
Membership.....Brian Matthews
Outings.....Position open
Programs..... Zino Nakasuji & Ray Sugiyama
Refreshments....Carl Laski
Video Library.....Fred Roberts
NewsletterLiz Rasmussen & Brian Matthews
Raffles.....Brad Blancett
WebsiteCarl Laski & Jerry Phan
Publicity.....Brian Matthews & John Barnett
Fly bank.....Ron Sakoda

Board of Directors

Eric Rasmussen	Frank Russick
Bill Shelly	John Barnett
Mike Jedlick	Jim Buchanan
Terry Matsuura	"Doc" Phil Soloman

Help Wanted!

Submitted by Carl Laski

We are looking for volunteers for the following positions:

- Newsletter Editor
- Refreshment Chairperson
- Raffle Chairperson
- Outing Chairperson

If you are interested, please call or speak with any officer or board member.

Wanted Rotary Vice

Tom Lance is looking for a rotary vice. If you have one for sale give him a call.

President's Message

I would like to wish everyone Happy New Year and remind you to purchase your 2009 California fishing license which is \$41.20. For myself, I also need to buy the Ocean Enhancement (\$4.75) stamp for a grand total of \$45.95. Wait a minute, Marissa had her 16th birthday in December. Make that \$91.90!

While we are waiting for waters in the Eastern Sierras to open up, it is a good opportunity to clean out your vest, dress fly lines, service reels and organize fly boxes.

After writing the President's Message in the last newsletter, I spoke to Jim Buchanan who was feeling better but still recuperating in Idaho. He hoped to be able to make the trip home in a week or two after our conversation.

We are still trying to convert our video library from VHS to DVD. In order to speed up the process, we are requesting members to donate a DVD to the club. The DVD can be new or used and should certainly be one that you're interesting in viewing. There are many deals to be found on Ebay, Amazon.com and other online retailers.

Carl

The Fly Fishing Show - Pasadena

Submitted by Carl Laski

The Fly Fishing Show will be at the Pasadena Center, Saturday & Sunday, February 21st & 22nd, 2009. There will be over 30 programs per day on how-to-fish and where-to-go, continuous instructional fly tying and featured tyer presentations, casting demonstrations and 100-plus exhibitor booths.

LOCATION:

Pasadena Center
300 East Green St
Pasadena, CA 91101

DATE:

February 21 & 22nd, 2009
Saturday 9:00am - 5:30pm
Sunday 9:00am - 4:30pm

ADMISSION PRICE:

Adults: \$15.00 one day; \$25 two days
Children (under 5): Free
Children (under 12): \$2.00
Scouts in uniform (under 16): Free
Uniformed Military: \$10
Family Day Sunday (2 adults & one or more kids): \$25

DIRECTIONS:

Website: www.flyfishingshow.com

Fly Tying Nights

We are going to start Fly Tying Nights at Brian's home again. It will be held INDOORS on Tuesday Jan 27th at 4729 Coldbrook Ave in Lakewood from 6PM to 9 PM. This is for those members or friends that want to get together to fly tie, learn about news patterns, get tips on techniques or just visit and BS. Contact info is (562) 425-7936 or e-mail at bnmamdthegirls@earthlink.net. Hope to see you all there!

Thanks, Brian

Fish Tales

Santa Cruz Island
Submitted by Carl Laski

In October 2008, I had the opportunity to fish Santa Cruz Island aboard the Sea Jay out of Port Hueneme. This charter was organized by Dean Andress at the Fisherman's Spot in Van Nuys who is scheduled as our guest speaker in March.

We were able to board the boat after 10pm and meet the other passengers which was limited to six. At 4am sharp, the skipper started the boat and headed for Santa Cruz Island.

After we arrived at the island, the skipper metered a few spots and then instructed the deckhand to chum some sardines. Each flyfisherman would take turns casting off the stern in the port (left) corner of the boat. It was important to move to the left as you stripped line into your stripping basket. The next flyfisherman would take his turn to cast. When you pulled your line out of the water, you would stand in line behind the bait tank and do it all over again. The brief wait allowed time to change flies and rest your casting arm.

It did not take long before several of us on the boat had hooked a bonito. These fish are so much fun on a fly rod! I was using a 9 weight rod with a 300 grain head with a sardine or clouser pattern. The leader was 5-6 feet of straight 15 lbs fluorocarbon. Several fisherman were using 7 and 8 weight rods. In the afternoon, the skipper moved to a different spot where we caught some calico bass.



Helping Through 'Healing Waters'

Frank Kuhn is doing some shadow boxes for an organization called "Healing Waters". Healing Waters helps soldiers that are returning from Iraq. Most of the young men have are in real bad shape and Healing Waters tries to work with the soldiers by getting them to tie flies and then take them fishing.

There are several clubs nation wide that are involved in the program. Instead of having our regular raffle Frank will be bringing some rods, reels and other items to the January Club meeting to sell and the profit would go to Healing Waters in the clubs name.

We all hope that everyone can help Frank and the wonderful cause!
See you there,
Brian Matthews - Secretary, DFF



There's More to Fishing Than Just Catching

Submitted by Zino Nakasuji

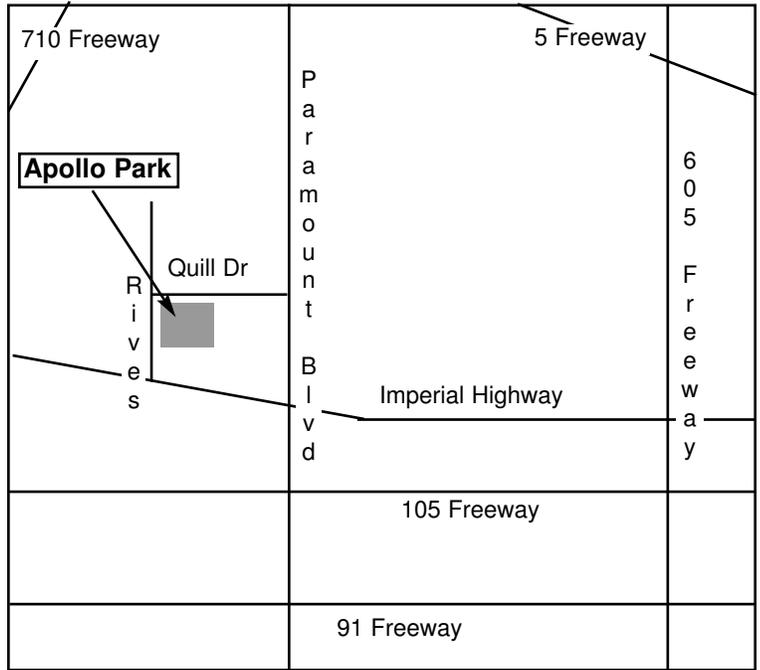
Steelhead and Atlantic salmon have been referred to as a fish of a thousand casts. Well, anglers that have received an invitation to join AARP might be wondering if their body parts will hold up to such a daunting number of repetitive casts to seek such a coveted sport fish.

The answer is spey casting and letting the rod do what it was made to do. On my last steelhead trip to the Boundary Lodge in British Columbia, I was very fortunate to land six steelhead in four and half days of fishing. Two on Monday, one on Tuesday, two on Wednesday, one on Thursday and zero on Friday. You'd have to figure that there was a heck of a lot of casts in between those six fish! Sure there is the excitement and the adrenaline pump of hooking a steelhead, but what of all the time spent casting and concentrating on getting a good swing? Spey casting allows you to lay out 10 to 60 feet of fly line with just a pickup and cast with no false casting. Casting longer distances will require you to strip in enough line so that the running line is just off the tip of the rod, but no false casting is required. Most steelhead are hooked 20 to 60 feet away, but casting further allows the angler to increase their odds by tapping prospective lays that are further out in the river. With proper form, you can make the rod perform what it was made to do and not wear out your body. My biggest problem is over powering and rushing the casting stroke. You have to learn to slow down and allow the rod to do its thing. When you've got your cast together, it becomes part of the whole experience and any fish is icing on the cake!

I was struggling with my cast the first day, but I still landed two steelhead. With casting tips from John and Wally, I finally got into the zone and my casting got back on track. I've spent many hours practicing my casting before the trip, but moving water is a different experience that can get your timing off. You can catch steelhead with poor technique, but your body pays for it later. Practice before you go on your trip and let the rod do the work and you'll be in the zone even if the fish don't cooperate.



DFE Supports;



www.downeyflyfishers.org

This Month's Meeting
January 13th
Apollo Park Senior Center
12458 Rives Ave, Downey



PO Box 516
 Downey Ca 90241