

# Downey Fly Fishers



## DOWNEY FLY FISHERS PROGRAM



### Upcoming events

#### October 11

**General meeting at Apollo Park at 7pm. Please join us for a fly tying demonstration at 6pm.**

#### October 18

**Board Meeting at 7pm at Brian Matthews's house**

We have a special program this month that centers around our local wild trout fishery, The West Fork of the San Gabriel River. Cris Miller is the President of the West Fork Conservancy. They are a 501©3 non-profit group of avid fly fishers who are also Forest Service trained volunteers.

They have completed the Forest Service volunteer training program and have earned uniforms and call signs. They are interested in protecting the fishery and the minimization of trash and graffiti. They regularly patrol the river in Forest Service uniform. They inform the public about the rules and regulations that affect the area and inform the public about graffiti removal, and hand out trash bags for trash removal.

The Conservancy also has a Kids Academy program where they take up to 10 kids per year and give them an introduction to fly tying, knot tying, beginning fly casting, and entomology. The Kids Academy takes place at Glenn Camp on the West Fork San Gabriel River on a Saturday and they camp out until Sunday. That is tier 1 of their Kids Academy. Tier 2 is Entomology Academy where kids build on the general fly tying, and entomology learned



in Kids Academy. During Entomology Academy, the kids gather bugs from the river and are taught the specific cycles of each species in order to be able to determine when they hatch and what makes that occur. They will then tie flies based on the key insects they have gathered from the river. Another camp out weekend allows them to actually fish the flies that they have tied. Competition Academy, the final tier is where the kids compete under international competition rules. During the Academy process, the kids receive (ready for this?) a free rod and reel, fly box, fishing vest, flies, vice, tying tools, hooks and tying materials. The conservancy gives the kids an on the water experience that is both fun and is a great foundation for learning and development that will last a lifetime.

In addition to showcasing the efforts of the Conservancy, Chris will also present, "The San Gabriel Seven Fishing Techniques". Be prepared to use your thinking caps to take in these effective fly fishing techniques.

The West Fork Conservancy needs our support in order to continue with all of the services it provides. Cris will make an appeal for a donation at the end of the program.  
<http://westforksgrc.org/>

*Please join Cris for a fly tying demo starting at six.*



2nd Annual SWCFFF Interclub Tournament  
(Bring Your Best 5)  
Sponsored by Southern Sierra Fly Fishers

Date: Saturday November 5, 2011

Place: Kern River

Purpose: Fund raiser for SWCFFF

Participants: 5 members per club

5 controllers (monitors) per Club

Entry Fee: \$125 per club, \$25 per member for a total of \$250 to field a full team of 5.

Time to:

- Test your skills against the other SWCFFF clubs
- Meet members belonging to other clubs.
- Help raise funds for the SWCFFF.
- Have fun!

Each club selects their best 5 fly fishers to this event, based upon their own criteria. The tournament format is fashioned after the U.S. fly fishing trials: there will be defined beats, controllers, points and an awards banquet.

Two (morning & afternoon) 2 hour sessions.

Separate beats in the 20 mile section on the upper Kern.

Rules:

1. Barbless flies
2. No split shot (or sinkers)
3. No indicator
4. 18" between flies
5. No tying off the bend of the hook.
6. No beadhead larger than 1/8 oz
7. Flies must be fully dressed

We are requesting each participating Club to bring 5 other members to assist in the Tournament as controllers. Their job will be to verify and record each fish and monitor rules compliance. However, unlike last year, controllers and anglers can switch the morning and afternoons beats so everyone can fish if they choose. Clubs may field more than one team. In fact, we know of one that is sending a women's team so watch out!

For those of you that want to brush up on your techniques on the Kern, Guy Jeans will be conducting a workshop the morning of November 4<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8 a.m. There is no cost for this clinic but it is only offered to participants in the tournament.

The Southwest Council has reserved The Kern Lodge and secured good rates for all of the rooms/cabins. They can accommodate anything from a single to 6 people in style. Contact Michael Schweit (818.7573474), [msangler@earthlink.net](mailto:msangler@earthlink.net) for room availability.

We will be having the awards presentation/dinner at Ewing's Restaurant on Saturday evening, starting at 6 pm. You can also participate in the Southern Sierra Youth Fundraiser Poker Night on Friday evening. Buy-in is 25.00.

*Please contact Carl if you are interested !!!*  
*List of flies, categories to remember ever growing*  
*By Greg Tollefson*

My friend Homer is off in Alaska this week chasing salmon and dodging bears on one of the wonderful rivers up that way. Since he isn't around to complain about me stretching the truth, I thought I would take the opportunity to do just that.

When Homer is not filled with righteous indignation about the demise of the English language, he must stare at the ceiling far into the night thinking of ways to muddle up the language himself. I was reminded of this recently when I was trying to explain the myriad trout fly choices available to fly casters these days.

In the distant past, when I was getting my start in fly fishing, I knew of only two or three fly patterns that seemed to work. That has all changed now. There are hundreds of different flies to choose from at any fly shop. With each new fly comes a new name, and Homer often muses aloud about some of the new fly appellations (or "Appalachians" as he calls them) that he thinks would be suitable. Homer uses "Appalachians" knowing he can make me laugh, and if we are in the company of others, he wonders aloud why the "dullards" with us don't seem to appreciate his cleverness. I am his best and sometimes his only appreciative audience.

In the fishing fly arena, there is an ever-growing list of names and categories to remember. First, there are dry flies and wet flies. For the uninitiated, dry flies float on the surface, and wet ones don't. These categories are then divided and subdivided into groups representing the various stages on life's road for the bugs that fish eat. Many of the names are roughly equivalent to common insect names. Some even use the scientific names. The flies you will find in an average fly box today are a far cry from the "sandy mites," "lady mites" and "wooly worms" that we were brought up with.

There are a couple of loopholes in the whole deal, thought, and Homer has decided that we should exploit them.

First, there is a much-maligned category of flies called "attractors," which means, I guess, that they do not particularly represent anything occurring in nature. These are the flies that most folks who were brought up fly fishing around these parts still use most of the time. They have names like "royal Wulff," yellow humpy," "irresistible" and "rat-faced McDougal."

These days, when another angler asks you what you happen to be using, it is common to avert your gaze, shuffle your feet a little, and then admit, "Aw, just some attractor."

Then there is a somewhat newer innovation intended to represent a whole host of stone flies but carelessly named, as a class, "stimulators."

Well, it occurred to Homer that all flies could be easily categorized in a similar manner, that is, by applying the gamut of words ending in "or" and "er" to any and all flies. He began to insist that we try new names for each new fly used. Some of the names fit well. Others we had to discard after testing the way they sounded and concluding that the name did not convey the real sense of what the fly was intended to be or do.

The big, bushy, fast-sinking “wooly buggers” started out as “perpetrators,” were changed to “excavators,” and eventually became “penetrators.” I suppose they could also be called “debilitators,” “insinuator,” or anything else that comes to mind.

Grasshopper imitations, which tend to twist your tippet into a knotty mess, became “rotators.”

Any fly that attracted enough attention for a fish to take a tentative swipe at it – just enough to get the angler excited – but did not result in a real take became an “emasculator.”

If the fly drew a strike, but the fish got away before it could be properly subdued, the fly became a “regurgitator.”

A fly that happened to snag a fish in some other location than the mough, say square in the belly, or somewhere near the tail, had to be an “eviscerator.”

The flies that fooled those little fish still learning the ropes were dubbed “matriculators.”

Now, there are lots of euphemistic terms for things that go on in the fly fishing world. If a fish sidles up, looks at the fly, then swims off, it is called a “refulsa.” If no fish looks at the fly for a long time, or if it floats right over a fish that you have seen feed without garnering any interest, it is, in Homer’s lexicon, and “ignoral.” Flies that consistently earn “ignorals” are obviously “ostracizers.” Then again, I suppose they could be “detractors.”

Flies that snap off and disappear on the back cast or get snagged in streamside brush or on submerged logs and rocks must be “penalizers.” And the ones you happen to bury in your own earlobe or in your partner’s cheek are “humiliators.”

What all this means is that those of us who dabble in fly fishing can find a new freedom from the trend toward over-complication and pseudo-scientification of fly selection. There is no point in poring over the books, magazines and fly trays at local shops just to learn the names of the flies when you can make up names on the spot.

Now, when your friends are strutting and preening and mixing a little binomial nomenclature in with talk of “pmds,” “spent-wing olives,” “emergers” and so forth, you can join right in and dazzle them with talk of “disbributors,” “emancipators,” and perhaps even “hyperventilators.”

I’ll bet Homer is coming up with some new ones at this very moment.

*Greg Tollefson is a freelance Missoula writer whose column appears each week in Outdoors. He can be reached at [gtollefson@bresnan.net](mailto:gtollefson@bresnan.net)*

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### **Board Meeting**

There is a board meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup> at Brian Matthews's house. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm and all club members are welcome. Please come and share your ideas about the club policies and practices. We are always looking for new ideas and helpful volunteers to keep the club going strong.

For information about DFF Treasury Accounting please contact our Treasurer Mike Jedlick for figures and standing of Club.

### **Newsletter**

Please consider submitting something that interests you. The more people that contribute articles, the better this newsletter will represent the Downey Fly Fishers. Please reference the October 2010 archive newsletter for some ideas.

### **News and Noteworthy**

- Please remember to pay you membership dues for 2011. The dues were in June, so if you have not submitted yours yet, please do so.
- Remember to check out the DFF website for upcoming events and important information regarding the club and our members.

<http://www.downeyflyfishers.org/>

### **Club Officers**

**President:** Brian Matthews  
**V. President:** Alan Grosdidier  
**Secretary:** Brian Matthews  
**Treasurer:** Mike Jedlick  
**Past President:** Phil "Doc" Solomon

### **Board of Directors**

Jerry Ferin	Marissa Laski
Don Mulder	Jerry Phan
Zino Nakasuji	Eric Rasmussen
Bill Steward	Alan Reising

### **Chairpersons**

<b>Conservation &amp; FFF representative</b>	Carl Laski
<b>Education</b>	John Barnett Bob Stuart
<b>Fly bank</b>	Don Mulder Jerry Ferrin
<b>Membership</b>	Brian Matthews
<b>Newsletter</b>	Tod Suttle
<b>Outings</b>	Carl Laski
<b>Potlucks</b>	Brian Matthews
<b>Programs</b>	Zino Nakasuji Ray Sugiyama
<b>Publicity</b>	Brian Matthews John Barnett
<b>Raffles</b>	Carl Laski
<b>Refreshments</b>	Mike Jedlick
<b>Trout in the Classroom</b>	Randy Teeple Richard Dekker
<b>Video Library</b>	Fred Roberts
<b>Website</b>	Jerry Phan

DFF Supports:



Cal Trout



-The Barbara J. Riley Community Senior Center is located on the corner of Rives Avenue and Quill Drive just west of Paramount Boulevard and just north of Imperial Highway.

This month's meeting: October 11, 2011  
Barbara J. Riley Community Senior Center  
7810 Quill Drive  
Downey, CA 90242



PO Box 516  
Downey, CA 90241

