

May 2020

Santa Cruz
Fly Fishermen
Est. 1977



To promote,
educate, and
enjoy the sport
of fly fishing

Club Meeting

Date: May 6, 2020

Time: 7pm

Place: Online via Zoom



WESTERN RIVERS
CONSERVANCY

Our May 6 presentation will be from Jim Cox of Western Rivers Conservancy. Jim has more than 25 years experience working professionally in the nonprofit sector. Jim is a past steering committee co-chair of the Nonprofit Association of Oregon, and is an active member of the Northwest Planned Giving Roundtable. In his free time, you can find him fly fishing and hiking along the outstanding rivers of the West. Western River's commitment to protecting our great western streams is guided by a lifelong passion for rivers and the great outdoors. They have purchased and protected more than 100,000 acres along dozens of rivers throughout the West, including among others, the Klamath, John Day, Gunnison, Madison, Skagit and Salmon.

–Jim Black, Programs Director

Visit the SCFF website to watch a video about the Western Rivers Conservancy's work:

<https://santacruzflyfishing.org/online-newsletter>



Fly Tying Class Cancelled!

So sorry, covid 19 is causing us to cancel our monthly class again. It was to have been a Green Drake pattern. I have rescheduled it for next year. Don't hesitate to try tying the Fly Of The Month however. It's a Bead Chain Bugger, easy to tie and good for beginners. Be sure to attach the bead chain eyes well and apply glue to hold them in place and not spin. Check next month's newsletter for the status of the June class. Stay safe, 6ft. apart, and wear a mask.

Membership Notes

Membership is holding steady @ 150 members including 30 new members. Membership donations are in excess of \$1,500 for scholarships and conservation. For every \$35 membership, an additional \$11 is contributed in donations. Thank you

What's Inside

President's Line.....	2
Conservation Concerns.....	3
2020 Board.....	4
Fishout Schedule.....	4
Gearing Up (Bourdet Ranch).....	4
Gearing Up (RoosterComb.....	5
Gearing Up (Surf fishing at Rio Del Mar)...	5
Gearing Up (Quail Hollow).....	6
Gearing Up (Green River, Loreto).....	7
Monthly Raffle.....	8
Cartoon.....	8
Fly of the Month.....	9
Reel News.....	9
Bait for Thought.....	10

Zooming and Fly-Fishing into the 21st Century

by your President Tom Hogue



Shifting gears can be super difficult if your clutch is bad and your synchros aren't working properly, crunching through the gears, with a shift lever that won't move, a car that won't go and a clutch pedal that won't give up. Well, I'm happy to say that your Fly-Fishing synchro's – the group you might refer to as "The Board" – of SCFF are synced and seem to be expert at navigating gear changes quite good. After all, who else will drive 5 hours or fly twenty-four hours to a destination with a plan, only to find it changing in an instant. Weather, flies, water condition/volume, hole in yer waders, hook in the neck, broken rod, dropped your best fly box in the water... COVID-19 got nothing on this bunch of seasoned veterans – with all due respect.

Not to take lightly the situation at all, but your board came together battling things we often resist or just leave alone as we mature for the benefit of you. Yeah – you!

For the first time in the forty-three years the Santa Cruz Fly Fishermen has been in existence, we held our board meeting via "Zoom"- an internet based teleconferencing application that made it easy for anyone with a computer, tablet or smartphone to access. Even when some of us had never done such a thing, it was not only fun, but very productive. Elaine Cook, your Master Fly-Tying instructor, even launched her meeting from the passenger seat in Big Red, as she and John were obviously returning from a top secret, never to be disclosed, socially distant day of fly-fishing.

All of us wore our favorite fishing hats, donned a libation, sat in our favorite spots and launched further into the 21st Century than any of us would

have ventured, ever. I dare say that if I ever told the board, let's do something like this for "fun", it would have passed like the worst constipation you've ever had in your life – I know, bad picture. But look; we simply would not have done it. You throw a deadly virus at us and tell us we can't meet for the benefit of our membership, our mission, fly-fishing, scholarships, a beer together, and what we can do to help? Get out of the way.

As many of you know, if I miss a board meeting or a club meeting, it's because of work. Oh – and I'm still working – twice as hard to do half as much with thirty percent less. But I am grateful. Anyhow, I miss everyone when we can't get together. Having the board meeting via the internet came terrific and it was really good to see everyone, hear their voices, laugh together and do our job.

So, while we physically still can't "get together" for the May meeting – we're gonna get together. We are going to have our May Meeting on Zoom. You will all get an invite in your email – so make sure it's up to date. Wear your best fishing hat, and we'll get through the business portion quickly. AND – we're going to test out a raffle by having a super nice door prize for anyone attending. Jeff Goyert said his wife will do the draw – so we know it wasn't fixed!! Then we'll have a Zoom presentation with Western Rivers Conservancy. Yes – a presentation – on line, with questions afterward.

The new website is up -www.santacruzflyfishing.org, AND in less than a month, we had our first member who signed up on line. I can't wait till we have our first member join from a different country!! How cool is that! Over the next month or so, the website is going to get even better and there will be opportunities for lots of fun stuff.

Look, I know it's really a mess out there and I realize that without my phone and with out the internet, I likely wouldn't have the job I have, and the club wouldn't be doing much at all.

So while all the technology and traffic often gets on my nerves, I am so grateful for these opportunities to do so much good, in a time when we need to focus more on that. *continued...*

Stay tuned, I'm working on Mark to do some YouTube or Zoom casting instruction / Q&A, and I'm trying to convince Elaine how awesome it would be to do some Zoom based fly-tying. And Sam Bishop is organizing some Social Distance Surf Casting for Perch and Stripers. So watch the newsletter and schedule. The surf is open and this is an excellent time of year to get out on the surf.

Things will continue to change as we adjust to all of this conundrum we're in, so keep close to your newsletter and the website. Write, call, talk to each other, get out there and practice yer

casting. We will be back on the water. Think how terrific all of this is for the environment, for the fish, for those places you like to fish. Know they aren't getting hammered, but they are being left to recover.

Wouldn't it be a good idea if maybe every couple years, we just shut down everything to let the earth heal from all that we do to it?

I think so. Thank you all for our support, we are wishing you well and a safe return to a new normal.

Peace out. -Tom

Conservation Concerns

by Steve "Conservation Slim" Rudzinski

I am not getting any local reports during our 'mystery-demic #19'. I just drove/delivered a new Honda truck with AWD from Phoenix area back home and it was like the 60's as far as number of vehicles on the road. I-40 as far as I could see was only semi truck travelers. The very pleasant trip back was spoiled by my passing the foul and totally disgusting smell from the Harris Ranch feed lot alongside I-5 in Coalinga. The smell permeated this brand new vehicle and lingered for miles beyond, the acres of moving cattle and dairy cow heads as far as I could see and for maybe a mile along the highway.



I could not help but think of this lot as a holocaust for cows standing in the filth. This is not an ad to become a vegan, however, my re thinking of supporting Harris Ranch products is the only way to get their attention. I located the property: Harris Feeding Company 29475 Fresno Coalinga Rd. Coalinga CA 93210 or call 559-884-2435. An idea just occurred is to post a sign after you pass the compound with the phone # so drivers can bombard them with complaints. If a virus could attach to the smell, all the thousands of vehicles driving by are smelling the same stench and being infected. (just a notion as virus's do not move on their own). I bet drivers would pull out their phone and call the # immediately. The cows were standing in black goo. Time for us to rethink the hamburger and one fast food franchise already has.

The FDA office in Fresno 559-261-1082 I will find out what they say about the problem, the run off from this area when it rains has to flow downstream into a watershed

and well water.

Other issues of concern is the high levels of aluminum in the air soil and water, analysis from the jet aerosols you see turning the blue sky into a hazy white that grows throughout the day. Official NASA reports its for reflecting sun rays to avoid the planet from warming, Cloud seeding is another use, the military uses it for ionizing the atmosphere to aid 5G and weaponized lasers for defense, other studies show the alumina is inside all of us, the 1 or 2 micron sized particles. Barium and strontium also measured from soil samples. This haze is also suspected in the reduction of many insects and hence birds and other prey animals including fish. The Mt Shasta area and the Redding Board of Supervisor meeting of scientists and experts attesting to the problem up to 5% soil sample includes aluminum which does not occur naturally anywhere.

I'm curious as to who reads our newsletters so please say something pro or con as I would love to provide links to help support 'Conservation Slim's' position. Till we meet again.....CS.—'Conservation Slim'

2020 Board Members

President: Tom Hogue 214-7578
Vice President: Kevin Murdock 688-4518
Treasurer: Jim Tolonen 475-8859
Secretary: Angela Johnson (530) 320- 3352

Fly Tying Master: Elaine Cook 688-1561
 Fly Casting Master: Sam Bishop 476-6451
 Marketing/Publicity: Michael McGannon 688-3025
 Facilities Coordinator: Stephen Rawson 588-9370

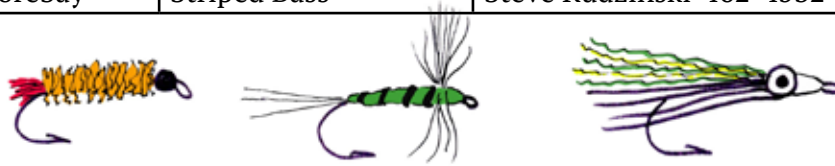
Raffle Coordinator: Jeff Goyert 462-3785
 Membership: Bob Peterson 251-8655
 Fishouts: John Cook 688-1561
 Programs: Jim Black 688-8174
 Conservation: Steve Rudzinski 462-4532
 Newsletter Editor: Position Vacant as of March 1st

Annual Fundraiser Coordinators:
 Dinner - David South 713-5866
 Raffle/Silent Auction: Kevin Murdock 688-4518

Members At Large:
 Kathy Powers, John Steele, Pat Steele

Fishout Schedule

Date	Location	Target Species	Fishmater	Sign Ups
Apr - May	Bourdet Ranch	Bass and Bluegill	Cecilia Stipes - 335-5727	call now to get on list for short notice
May 1-3	Roostercomb Ranch	Bass and Bluegill	Cecilia Stipes - 335-5727	
May 9 - 5:50am	Rio Del Mar Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Sam Bishop - 476-6451	
May 31	Quail Hollow	Public Outreach	Kevin Murdock-688-4518	
June 6 - 5:35am	Palm Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Sam Bishop - 476-6451	cell-274-4024
July 11-17	Green River, Utah		John Steele - 476-0648	
July 12-0545	Manresa Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Mark Traugott-338-6056	
July - 12-16	Loreto, Baja, Mexico		Rich Hughett - 757-5709	
Aug. 8 - 6:00am	Rio Del Mar Beach		Sam Bishop - 476-6451	cell-274-4024
Sep. 5- 6:30am	Manresa Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Sam Bishop - 476-6451	cell-274-4024
Sep. 19-26	Mammoth Lakes #1	Trout	John Cook - 688-1561	April 22
Sep. 26-Oct. 3	Mammoth Lakes #2	Trout	John Cook - 688-1561	April 22
Oct. 11-7:00am	Palm Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Mark Traugott-338-6056	
Oct. 15-18	O'Neill Forebay	Striped Bass	Steve Rudzinski-462-4532	Oct. 7 Club Meeting



Gearing Up

Bourdet Ranch

Cecilia Stipes 831-335-5727 flyfishgal3@aol.com

For anyone who would like to bass fish, I am offering day trips to the Bourdet Ranch in Hollister across from Casa de Fruta Restaurant on Hwy 152. Dates to be announced as we approach bass spawning season (April through May, sometimes into June).

This is a really good opportunity for new fly fishers to learn skills quickly on ponds where blue gill and bass are eager to take your flies. Each trip will be limited to six fishers, non-fishers are welcome. Cost \$75/per son. 4-WD vehicle is required, you will fish from float tubes and need fins. (I have extra tubes to lend).

I am creating a list with names from which to call once I pin down dates. If you are interested, please email or call me with your name and phone number.

Gearing Up

Roostercomb Ranch Fishouts - May 1-3, 2020

Fishmaster: Cecilia Stipes - (831) 335-5727 - fishgal3@aol.com

This is our club's 21th annual fishout to the Roostercomb Ranch, owned and operated by Scott Wilkinson. This private ranch is located adjacent to Henry Coe State Park, 22 miles off Hwy 152 from the entrance which is 5 miles from Casa de Fruta Restaurant in Hollister. It is a 3-day fun-filled weekend with fishing 9 bass ponds, hiking, birding and photography on nearly 6,000 acres. The ponds are primarily fished from float tubes or from the bank using woolly buggers and poppers. You can also bring conventional spin rods and gear. Accommodations are the 1928 ranch house and a cowboy bunk house, or if you prefer, your own tent or vehicle. Breakfasts and dinner meals/barbecues are organized by teams. Lunches, snacks and beverages are individuals' responsibilities. For more details, please feel free to call me.

The terrain is rough, rocky and sometimes steep; **therefore all vehicles MUST be 4-WD or AWD with good clearance to drive in and around the ranch!** If you do not have a 4-WD vehicle, I can make arrangements for you to carpool with other members or with Scott. Non-fishers are always welcome. Each fishout is limited to 15 fishers and 4 non-fishers. NOTE: You are only able to call in for yourself and your partner, and children.

COST: \$250 /person (no charge for children 12 yrs and under). The earliest sign-up for either or both fishouts, is by phone call: Thursday, March 19, 7:00 pm. Your confirmation is not complete until I receive your check. Make check payable to Cecilia Stipes, 328 Capelli Drive, Felton, CA 95018

Gearing Up

Surf Fishing at Rio Del Mar Beach – Saturday May 9 – 05:50 am

Fishmaster: Sam Bishop - (831) 476-6451 - sambishop@totlcom.com



Let's hope the beaches remain open so we can once again enjoy teasing the Surf Perch and Strippers (Strippers?) on Rio Del Mar Beach.

We will be fishing an ebb tide, with a 06:50 am low at -1.4'. Sunrise is just after 6 am.

Take Rio Del Mar Blvd all the way until it drops down onto the flats, take a left 180, circling left around the roundabout and drive down Beach Drive about half a mile to the State Park area and park outside. Do NOT stop near the round-a bout! You will see us.

I will have spare stripping baskets and flies. If you haven't been out in a long time, please click here to review the article I wrote on surf fishing on the website:

<https://santacruzflyfishing.org/what-you-need-to-know-if-you-plan-to-go-surf-fishing/>

We don't serve coffee and I don't bring doughnuts, we just fish. Sometimes we end up at the Pixie Deli for post-fishing breakfast burritos, but since everything is closed, that probably won't happen this time.

Gearing Up

Fly Fishing 101: Public Education Day May 31, 2020, 10:00am - 4:00pm Quail Hollow Ranch



This is an annual Fly Club tradition. The event is hosted in conjunction with the Santa Cruz County Parks, Education and Conservation Program. Our club and the sport of fly fishing is recognized for taking care of our environment and passing on a conservation legacy. Quail Hollow Ranch is a beautiful mountain park acquired by the county in the mid 80s. It features a 300-acre preserve that was once the home to Ohlone Indians, Spanish ranchers, even the headquarters for Sunset Magazine. Now it is home to a few horses, a natural history center and a spring-fed “untouchable” bass and bluegill pond. Don’t forget the binoculars, as this is a major stop on the bird watchers circuit. The Ranch is located above Felton, about a mile up Zayante Rd., a left turn just past the old Trout Farm Inn.

The day is geared toward introducing and educating the public as to why the members of our club are so hooked on fly fishing. Fly Fish-

ing 101 will be taught by a member expert in the morning, followed by casting lessons in the morning and in the afternoon. There will also be fly tying demonstrations

Kids and grandkids are especially welcome, so bring them along. They are the future of both fly fishing and conservation, so it’s important to expose them to the sport. This event is all going to happen rain or shine. Everything is provided for fly casting, rods and reels, and hookless yarn flies. There will be fly tying demonstrations as well. This will be a great club event, with a special invitation to all members to come out and represent what we’re all about. Members who attend should be sporting some club attire, like one of our baseball caps, a T-shirt, or a casting shirt with our logo on it, and your name tag, so guests can tell who we are. There’ll be a BBQ lunch for everyone. Tell a friend and bring a friend to Fly Fishing 101 at Quail Hollow Ranch,

Gearing Up

The Green River, Utah - July 11-17, 2020 (Saturday through the following Friday)

Fishmaster: John Steele - 831-476-0648 - owlspad@me.com

The Green River has its head-waters in the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming, and is the largest tributary of the Colorado River. It reemerges from Flaming Gorge Reservoir Dam, situated in the northeast corner of Utah, and the tailwaters are where our group will fish. The water released from the dam is regulated to maintain an optimum temperature and flow that has created a world-famous blue-ribbon trout fishery. It carves its way through a spectacular red rock canyon and is the home of a healthy number of large brown and rainbow trout. It is rare to catch one under 16 inches, and not uncommon to catch several over 20 inches.



Lodging for some of the Santa Cruz Fly Fishermen group will be at Trout Creek Flies Lodge, which has cabins that can accommodate up to four fish-ers each, and have mini-fridges and microwaves, and there is an on-site restaurant. John has reserved two cab-ins thus far, so you wish to stay there, please call Trout Creek at 435-885-3355, and tell them you are with the Steele group. There are other lodging options in the area, namely, Flaming Gorge, (435) 889-3773, and Red Canyon Lodge, (435) 889-3759, and other dining opportunities as well. Your accommodations are up to you to reserve.

If you intend to go on this fishout, please let John know, so he can determine how to schedule guides. At this time of year, both accommodations and guide books fill up, so if your summer-time plans include the Green River, call John ASAP

You can walk a well-maintained trail along the river and bank fish, and/or book a guide to drift the river. The Trout Creek Flies and On The Fly guides are all very competent, excellent teachers, and provide all your terminal tackle, plus a delicious riverside lunch.

Gearing Up

Loreto Fly Fishing Trip - July 12-16, 2020

Fishmaster: Rich Hughett - 831-757-5709

Sign Up Now! Experience a new HIGH! Fish for Dorado, and many other salt-water fish, including Bonito, Roosters, Yellowtail and Sailfish on a fly! Join the group going to Loreto in Baja from Sunday, July 12th through Thursday, July 16th. This trip includes:



- Four nights at the beautiful Hotel La Mision, on the water-front next to Loreto Harbor.
- Three days of fishing on 24-foot Super Pangas, with fly fish-ing guides.
- Ground transfers and fishing licenses.

It does not include meals, because there are some nice restaurants (A lot of fresh sea-

food!) in town or if you prefer, eat at the hotel, where they will cook your catch.

The fishing day starts around 6:00 a.m. and we usually get back to the harbor between 1:30 and 2:00 p.m. Spend the rest of the afternoon fishing from the beach, having

a cool drink in the pool, exploring Loreto, or just sitting around telling some tall fish stories. And, you will have many exciting moments on the Sea of Cortez to talk about.

The approximate cost for everything but meals and airfare is: \$900.00 per person (double occupancy). Interested? Please contact Rich Hughett, 831-757-5709, for all the details. You will need to book airline flights* as soon as possible. No advance payment needed.

Monthly Raffle

Zoomed Door Prize

by Prize Guy, Jeff Goyert

I was all set to raffle off T-shirts, hats, and bumper stickers that screamed “SHELTERED SUCKS” however I haven’t quite figured out to do an online raffle but I am still working on it. What I am going to do for the May zoomer meeting is to do virtual door prize. Everybody gets a free ticket, must attend the meeting to win.

First the prize! We have a really trick Phixton XM-L2 tactical & military WT-04 rechargeable flashlight torch. Included are both ac and USB charging accessories or can function on three AAA batteries. All of this is packaged in mil-spec snap closure case. Perfect for the car, boat, float tube, or airplane,

“How to I get a door prize ticket?”

As everbody logs into the meeting I will write names on tickets that will go into a hat for the drawing. The lucky winner will receive their prize by USPS. What could be simpler?



Fly of the Month **Bead Chain Bugger**

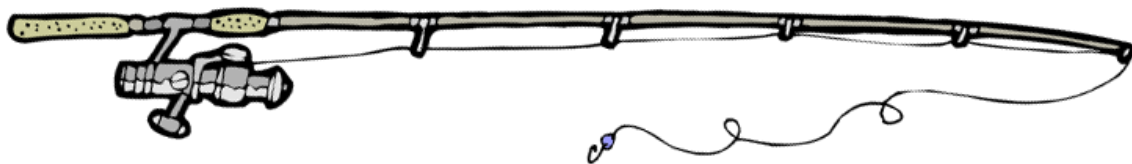
by Fly Tying Master, Elaine Cook

This bugger pattern is very effective when twitched or stripped using a sinking line in stillwater. It can be varied in size and color. You will find this easy to tie. Hooks: 4-12. Body Colors: solid black, mottled black/olive, mottled black/brown, mottled black/tan, mottled brown/tan. Tail, Hackle and Thread: color to match one of body colors. My favorite is as follows:

- Hook: TMC 5263 size 8
 - Thread: 8/0 olive
 - Eyes: sm. or med. bead chain
 - Tail: fluffy olive marabou
 - Hackle: saddle, dun color, barbs equal to 1 and 1/2 hook gap
 - Body: mottled black/olive ,med. size
 - Glue: Super Glue , Zap-A-Gap or simila
1. Attach thread behind hook eye. Touching wraps to 1/3 back then forward to one hook eye length behind eye.
 2. Attach bead chain eyes on top of shank with multiple crisis-cross wraps then wraps around under side of balls but on top of shank. Repeat several times. Apply glue. Position thread mid shank.



3. Position marabou on top of shank, tips extending hook length to rear of shank. Tie in place up to bead chain then back to rear of shank. Cut butts behind bead chain.
4. Holding tip of hackle, stroke bars so they stand out at right angles to stem. Tie in tip.
5. Pull fibers off 1/4 inch of end of chenille. Tie in exposed strings.
6. Position thread behind eyes. Wrap chenille forward in touching wraps. Tie off, cut excess. Palmer hackle forward in 6 wraps. Tie off, cut excess.
7. Wrap thread head in front of eyes. Whip finish. Cut thread. Apply glue.



Reel News

Shelter in place at Goodwin Lake

Roy has sponsored several club fishouts at his lovely 2 bedroom home at Goodwin Lake which is full of large rainbows. If you would like to escape from COVID for the next year, he will be leasing it out for \$1,450 per month plus utilities. It includes a boat with motor the get around this beautiful private lake. You can reach him at (831) 648-8822 or rgunteriii@yahoo.com for more details.

Cast of Thousands

To the Rescue!

by Cecilia Stipes

We owe a debt of gratitude to club member, Jeff Slaboden, who generously provided 100 bottles of hand sanitizer produced by his company in an effort to protect our community from the coronavirus. At the onset of the crisis and due to the apparent shortage of product, Jeff directed his company to immediately convert production from its usual products, to producing and supplying hand sanitizer to community first-responder agencies, organizations and some local stores. Being the generous person he is, he offered a supply to our club members for free, or to use as a fund raiser. All club members who requested some, gladly paid five dollars, and it raised \$500 for the club's scholarship program, where Jeff asked the funds be directed to



students entering the medical or science studies.

A huge thank you to Jeff for his humanitarian effort helping so many families during this serious pandemic. Thank you Jeff.

P.S. – Thank you Cecilia and Richard for stepping up, helping to get these 100

bottles of hand sanitizer to our club members who were rapidly moving to the shelter in place requirements. Jeff informed me that over the last 30 days, his company has produced and distributed over 100,000 bottles of hand sanitizer, “Thousands of which have been donated to a variety of good causes and people in need.

*If you have a special story you'd like to share around this crisis and fly-fishing – drop me a line.
–Tom Hogye*

Bait for Thought

Heed the Call of the Surf

by Lamar Underwood - author of “250 Amazing Fishing Tips”



<http://surf-perch.net>

If the call of the surf—the breaking waves, the flowing tides, the on shore and offshore birds with their flights and cries, the great vastness of the sky and the salt-sented air — means anything at all to you, I'd like to give you a shove, not a nudge, toward getting into surf fishing. Most people who are really crazy about surf fishing have found they don't have to catch a lot of fish to have a good day at the beach.