



## June Dinner Meeting Utah's Great Green River with Gordon Tharrett

Not too far from southern California is the trout-filled Green River, which flows from the bottom of the Flaming Gorge Dam near St. John, Utah. The Flaming Gorge Reservoir and "The Green" straddle the near-borders of Utah, Wyoming and Colorado. As this river slices out from the dam through the beautiful Uinta Mountain Range, digging out a stunning red rock canyon on its journey to join the Colora-



do River, it creates a fly fishing paradise known around the world as one of the truly premier trout streams. The population of rainbow, cutthroat and brown trout is estimated at between eight and 22,000 per mile, with the dam's



release of steady-temperature water nurturing all of them. This consistently flowing cold, clear water and the associated plant life and abundance of insects are just a few of the reasons for a phenomenal growth rate of one to two inches *per month*.

Our guide on this



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### RAFFLE ITEMS FOR JUNE

**First Prize** — Your choice of one Mystic 9'3" 5wt 4pc, or St Croix 2wt 7'6" 2pc

**Second Prize** — Scientific Angler System 26 5-6wt reel with line

**Third Prize** — Your choice of one of three different style trout nets

### Big Barrel

Picture Frame, 5wt line, One dozen flies and box, Insect repellant

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



It is no surprise that we are all busier than we were before. You hear it all the time even from retirees who complain, as I do, that they are now busier than when they were working full time. The limited spare time of young couples with families and single professionals is the marketing target of the leisure industry – off-roading, skateboarding, winter sports, golf and, yes, even computer gaming. It has become easier to live a virtual life through YouTube and other social media than to try the real thing.

This sad fact is supported by recent data on the sale of fishing licenses in the Golden State. Jim Matthews in *California Fly Fisher* (June 2016) reports a drop in resident licenses from 2.2 million in the 1980's to just under 1 million today. With over 39 million residents in California, that is a pretty poor turnout. In Minnesota over 60 per cent of the population has a fishing license. For what it's worth, (I love you Kevin R) the drop in hunting stamps is even more dramatic. It does not help that we are in the fifth year of a serious drought. This has hit fly fishing retailers hard – over 40 stores in the West have closed their doors. Locally we have seen the demise of Sport Chalet and Sports Authority. Be grateful for your local store; Fishermen's Spot is now the only fly shop between here and San Francisco – support them whenever you can! In a recent article I wrote for *Angling Trade*, I pointed out that Clubs like ours more than share the burden of recruitment and education in fly fishing. All we can do is keep that up by mentoring others, encouraging kids and talking it up whenever possible. Your first chance comes on July 22-24 at the Getting Started Outing in Mammoth – details will soon appear on the website. Prior to that many of you will be at Hot Creek Ranch no doubt chasing the HUGE fish I terrorized below the Wyatt Bridge. Local fishing still has its high spots; last month both the calico and white sea bass records on the fly were shattered, the Upper Owens is cranking out good fish and the LA River its share of big carp. On June 18<sup>th</sup> we have the annual Program Chairs meeting to set the speaker schedule for 2017 and 2018. If you have any suggestions for good speakers please let me know and I will pitch for you. I would also like to extend a big thanks to the silent auction bidders who are helping turn the late Bill Harry's estate into money the Club can use for other purposes. A good example would be the scholarship recently awarded to Celine Chavez at the May meeting. In June we will be presenting three more to worthy students. The dinner meetings are getting better every month – don't miss the June meeting!

*Marshall*

## SWC IFFF Fly Tying Contest

The Carson Fly Fishing Club is hosting a fly tying contest limited to members of clubs in the Southwest Council. The flies will be raffled off as a group at the SWC IFFF Fly Fishing Faire in Bishop that takes place October 14-16, and all proceeds will go to the Southwest Council of Fly Fishers. Participants do not have to be members of the IFFF, just a current member of a SWC club.

The contest rules and entry forms for the three tying divisions are detailed in the document linked below. If you need additional information, there is an address on the contest introduction page.

<http://www.carsonflyfishingclub.com/files/2016SWCFlyTyingContest.pdf>



## DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President _____	Marshall Bissett	818.259.1551
Vice President _____	Open	
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Recording Secretary _____	John Roberts	818.248.7448
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SWCFF Representative _____	Tom Wright	818.367.8827
Social Media _____	Alex Serrano	818.636.1546
Member at Large _____	Don Lee	818.990.0248
Member at Large _____	Richard Ress	818.783.8684

## PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*By Jay Bushore, Membership Chair*

The members of Sierra Pacific Flyfishers look forward to meeting you. We hope to get to know you better at the Monthly Dinner Meetings, in our educational programs and on the water. SPFF always welcomes new members.

**Members, please introduce yourselves to new members at our monthly dinner meetings and make them feel welcome!**



Emily Gabel-Luddy  
Anthony Patrizio



(continued from page 1)

amazing Green River adventure is Gordon Tharrett. Gordon started guiding for the legendary Denny Breer of *Trout Creek Flies* Fly Shop and Green River Outfitters back in the early 90s, planning to stay a couple years. He's been there ever since . . . and that beginning of his Green River guiding career was 24 years ago. But Gordon has guided in such diverse locations as New York, Tennessee, Idaho, Alaska, Canada, New Zealand, Chile and Argentina, so he is definitely an experienced



fly fishing guide and not a “one-river” guide.

Gordon was born in upstate New York, the youngest of five siblings, and grew up just a five minute walk from the St. Regis River, where he started fly fishing with his grandfather. When he was 12-years-old on a fishing trip with his grandfather and an older brother to the Ausable River in Wilmington, NY, they stopped at the Adirondack Sport Shop that was owned by Fran Betters. There Gordon met Joan and Lee



Wulff, who, to this day, are idols of his. Gordon has spent his life in our sport and loves all of it, but especially the Green.

So if you want to learn all about this great river, its abundant hatches, its three sections (Red Canyon -- seven miles long, Devil's Hole -- nine miles and Browns Park -- 12 miles), its stunning beauty and diversity, what tackle you should use and what are the best tactics for fishing this

mecca of fly fishing, join Gordon at our June meeting and enjoy his lovely presentation. To learn more about Gordon and what he does, go to: [ontheflyutah.com](http://ontheflyutah.com)



# Pesca Maya 2016

## By Smoother Smythe

On April 23 the intrepid team from SPFF set off for Pesca Maya and its very mixed bag of fly fishing options. Our eight man team comprised of Bob Yokoi, Paul Reigert, Aran and Daniel Dokovna, Max Port, Bruce Altrock, Kenji Machida and myself.



Kenji was on a slightly later flight and exited the terminal in Cancun accompanied by security. In what appears to be an airport scam Kenji was ordered to pay \$400.00 for breaking a restroom door. Rather than spending a night in jail, pending an appeal, the fine was paid and we set off on the final leg of our journey. We hope the scam artist shows up in Kenji's courtroom one day.



Due to Janne's mishap and her knee in a cast Marshall elected to stay at home and take on the caregiver role. I now found myself

the team leader. As we fish two to a boat my main duty was to assign who fished with who and also with which guide. You think that's easy — you should try it some time!

The fishing options are numerous such as fishing the deeper channels from the boat for larger species such as tarpon and Jack Crevalle. There is the option to fish for bonefish and permit wading the flats or from the boat. There is also the choice of fishing locations. Making sure everyone was happy with their partner, their guide, which species and what locations was tougher than any crossword puzzle I have ever done.



ing the flats or from the boat. There is also the choice of fishing locations. Making sure everyone was happy with

their partner, their guide, which species and what locations was tougher than any crossword puzzle I have ever done.

The net result was terrific. Everyone did well and came



home with a great deal of satisfaction and nobody was sick (well, maybe Marshall). I am ready to go back.



### Silver Creek Update

Back in 2011 SPFF helped form a small pot of funding and volunteers to assist in removing non-native invasive brook trout from the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout recovery water of Silver Creek.



This project is projected to be an eight year effort to remove brook trout by electro-

fishing from 8 miles of creek. Working in conjunction with the Southwest Council International Federation of Fly Fishers, CDFW, CalTrout and Trout Unlimited, thousands of brook trout have been removed to give the several hundred LCT a fighting chance at survival. Once the brook trout are removed Silver Creek will be opened for fishing. This year we are working on installing an interpretive panel so future fishers will know how effective groups can be in the efforts to recover an endangered species for angling.



### Lee's Ferry

Lee's Ferry is a historic river crossing point on the Colorado River 9 miles south of the Utah state boundary in Arizona. Glen Canyon Dam regulates flows above Lee's Ferry, making the tailwater a fishing destination for many anglers. The National Park Service manages large sections of the river for recreational use, and the folks in Lee's Ferry want to have a voice in the matter. The following is part of a communication about what's currently going on, and something for you to track if you so choose. The comment period ended May 9th, but there may be additional opportunities to make your voice matter.

*The Long Term Experimental Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement for the operation of Glen Canyon Dam (LTEMP EIS) will set the operation of the dam for the next twenty years and have a determinative effect on the success of the trout fishery. The support of fishing and sportsman clubs, organizations, and individual anglers is critical in achieving support for amendments to the draft EIS plan. Please review the [the Lees Ferry Recreational Trout Fishery Recommendations](#) for the specific issues and items pertaining to fisheries. Stay involved by following the National Park Service at <https://www.nps.gov/glca/index.htm>. You can also reach out to the Lees Ferry Anglers Fly Shop, Terry Gunn and John Jordan, as they are directly affected by the work in progress.*

<http://www.terrygunn.com>

[Lees Ferry Anglers Fly Shop, Guides, & Rentals](#)

<http://www.leesferry.com>

[Cliff Dwellers Lodge](#)

<http://www.cliffdwellerslodge.com>



### Hot Creek - A Bridge Too Far (A Monster Lurks)

By Marshall Bissett

When my good friend and Club member "Smoother" Smyth was unable to travel to Hot Creek Ranch last weekend, I seized the chance to fish this iconic water for my first time. I have fished the public water, taken one of Mas Okui's long leader classes, but never set foot on the sanctus sanctorum of the private two-mile stretch of ranch water. Primed by discouraging reports from Fishermen's Spot, my hopes were not high. Steve Esgate was kind enough to point out all the traditional spots and we found a fish or two down by the "bluff" and later that day he directed me to the bridge above the cabins. As a concession to the lack of hatches and rises, Ranch manager Kevin Peterson lifted the ban on nymphs, so I was fishing two bead heads on my 12 foot Tenkara rod. Only a water haul and a quick flick of the wrist could send my two flies (and a split shot I am ashamed to say) into the deep pool below the bridge. I landed a couple of average 15" browns and was about to leave when I fell victim to that "one more cast" moment. I did not feel a take – more a sensation of soggiess in my line. I thought I was hung on weeds and pulled up with the gentle pressure required of Tenkara with 5X leader when the monstrous head

of a brown trout broke the surface below the bridge. Kevin had told me of the massive fish he had been observing but nothing prepared me for this. It was in my estimation well over 30" long with a head the size of a cantaloupe. It immediately retreated to the bottom and refused to move in any direction. I looked at the pathetic size of my net and my skinny rod tip and knew I had brought a knife to a gun fight. I kept him on for about five minutes when an angler joined me – he had a bigger net. He caught a glimpse of the fish below and eloquently summed it all up. "Holy crap" were his words. By then we both had a suspicion, based on the way the fish was acting, that I was snagged on the dorsal fin of this beast who had nowhere to go because of the skinny water to either side of the pool. The standoff ended with my line going slack, a bunch of swearing and my two flies coming back intact – further evidence that I was probably snagged. One day I will be back to take on that beast with a #22 Parachute Adams but I may have to bring my 10 weight!

**Holy Crap!**



## Volunteer Opportunity!

**B**ecome an SPFF Project Healing Waters Volunteer.

**S**pend time with a Veteran and share the wonderful world of Fly Fishing.

**W**e teach fly casting, fly tying, show a fishing video from time to time, share fishing trip stories, go fishing occasionally, and always have a FUN TIME!

**M**any of the Veterans have become SPFF club members and are enjoying attending SPFF monthly dinner meetings, learning to fly cast and tie flies, and are making new fly fishing friends.

**S**o Come Join the Fun!  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday  
4:00 PM to 5:45 PM  
Sepulveda Vet Center  
9739 Haskell Avenue  
Sepulveda / Mission Hills, CA  
91343

Send an email to David Hoffberg,  
Project Healing Waters Program  
Lead [dhoffberg@aol.com](mailto:dhoffberg@aol.com)



## SPFF DONATES TO CASTING FOR RECOVERY RETREAT

By Bill O'Kelly

**S**PFF again donated fly boxes to each of the 14 women who participated in Casting For Recovery's Southern California Retreat the weekend of May 20-22, 2015 up at Lake Arrowhead. A member of the Southwest Council of the Int'l Federation of Fly Fishers donated flies



that were included with the fly boxes. For those of you who don't know what Casting for Recovery is, it is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that uses fly fishing as a form of therapy for women with breast cancer. The motions of fly casting involve many of the same movements



used in providing physical therapy for women who have had surgery for their cancer, and we all can appreciate the emotional benefits the women receive from fly fishing. Our local angel who puts in thousands of hours organizing these retreats, which are free to the participants, and raising the approximate \$14,000 cost per woman for the retreat, is Bonnie Anderson. This is a wonderful program so if you want to contribute, contact her at [cfrsocal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cfrsocal@sbcglobal.net), and tell her SPFF sent you!



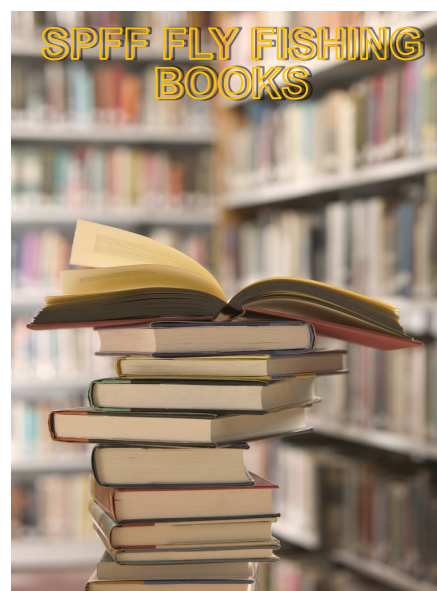
The beautiful boxes were obtained through River Traditions ([www.rivertraditions.com](http://www.rivertraditions.com)). Dave Humphries at River Traditions once again provided the boxes at his cost, and did a great job engraving the boxes. Dave has provided custom fly boxes in the past for our raffles and fundraiser. Keep him in mind if you want to get a personalized fly box or reel (I gave one to my son



for Christmas one year, and one for me just because), or other products he has. His company is listed on our webpage under "Sponsors". Check out his website for many cool things to do with fly fishing.



## SPFF Library



You can "browse the stacks" online by going to the [www.spff.org](http://www.spff.org) website.

All materials are available for members to check out at **no charge**.

A link is provided to contact our Librarian.

## EDITOR'S NOTES

**FLY PAPER ENTRIES**—Please email copies of your photos or "jpegs" at the unedited, original size and other newsletter items to **Glen Atkinson** at:

[news@spff.org](mailto:news@spff.org)

**DEADLINE:**  
**3rd Thursday each month**  
**by 5 PM (Dinner Meeting)**

## Meet Your Board Member



I'm Ren Colantoni and am currently the club webmaster for SPFF.ORG. In 2012 I was asked to check out the Club Express system for SPFF and

upon my favorable report I was rewarded(?) with the webmaster job.

Regarding SPFF, I found the ITFF course in 2010 at the Fred Hall show and joined thereafter. I had always wanted to learn to fly fish, and after retirement from 40 years as a community college teacher (electronics and computers) I finally had the chance to pursue it.



I guess I could be considered an advanced beginner, and have learned much from the senior members of the club, including Max Port and Tom Wright among others. I have found the club members to be generous with their technical suggestions and their friendship, which I greatly appreciate.

I currently have four usable rods and reels, the usual waders and vests and little stuff, and a steadily increasing number of flies. I have not gotten involved in tying since I have other interests besides fly fishing (horrors!), including painting, 4x4 off-road exploration, and ham radio. I'm also an avid non-fiction reader. Since retirement I have also been perfecting the art of the afternoon nap.



My wife is Mary, a retired English professor at CSUN. Into the marriage she brought five kids, four of whom are

now married with children of their own – 8 grandchildren so far. Keeping track of all of these kids as they grow up has been challenging but a lot of fun. There are a couple of potential fly fishers in the group.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016

### May 2016

PHW Vets Welcome Volunteers.....	5
Board Meeting.....	5
Mother's Day.....	8
PHW Vets Welcome Volunteers....	19
<b>Dinner Meeting, Marion Rampy</b>	
<b>Highway 97 Trout.....</b>	<b>19</b>
Big Horn Outing.....	22-28
Memorial Day .....	30

### June 2016

PHW Vets Welcome Volunteers!.....	2
Board Meeting .....	2
Hot Creek Ranch.....	10-13
PHW Vets Welcome Volunteers!.....	16
<b>Dinner Meeting, Gordon Tharrett</b>	
<b>Fishing the Green River.....</b>	<b>16</b>
Father's Day.....	19

### July 2016

Independence Day .....	4
PHW Vets .....	7
Board Meeting .....	7
PHW Vets .....	21
<b>Dinner Meeting @ Wilderness Fly</b>	
<b>Fishers.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>GSO.....</b>	<b>22-24</b>

### August 2016

PHW Vets .....	4
Board Meeting .....	4
IFFF.....	2-6
SPFF Picnic.....	14

### September 2016

Labor Day.....	1
PHW Vets Outing/Welcome	
Volunteers! .....	1
Board Meeting.....	1
PHW Vets Outing/Welcome	
Volunteers!.....	15
<b>Annual Auction Dinner MTG.....</b>	<b>15</b>
Nymphing Clinic (thru 2 Oct).....	30

### October 2016

<b>90 Day Membership Renewal Notice</b>	
Rosh Hashanana.....	3
PHW Vets .....	6
Board Meeting .....	6
Yom Kippur.....	12
IFFF Faire.....	14-16
PHW Vets.....	20
<b>Dinner Meeting .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Halloween.....</b>	<b>31</b>

### November 2016

<b>60 Day Membership Renewal Notice</b>	
PHW Vets .....	3
Board Meeting .....	3
Veterans Day .....	11
PHW Vets .....	17
<b>Dinner Meeting .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Thanksgiving.....	24

### December 2016

<b>30 Day Membership Renewal Notice</b>	
PHW Vets .....	1
Board Meeting .....	1
PHW Vets .....	15
<b>Dinner Meeting .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Christmas.....</b>	<b>25</b>



### Casting Clinic at Balboa Lake

1st & 3rd Saturday each month unless otherwise noted.

Instructors are usually available most Saturday mornings 9 - 11AM, schedules permitting.



Bob Yokoi – nice Permit!

**Next Dinner Meeting**

**Thursday June 16**

Monterey At Encino  
16821 Burbank Blvd  
Encino, CA 91436

**Menu**

**Green Salad**

**Baked Chicken or  
Grilled Salmon**

**Mashed Potatoes  
&  
Grilled Veggies**

**Hot Fudge Sundae**

**Coffee**

Cocktails at 5:30 PM / Dinner 7:00  
Call 818.789.1919 **Ext 10** (Michelle) or  
email

[MonterevatEncino@Gmail.com](mailto:MonterevatEncino@Gmail.com)

**Reserve by Monday June 13**

\$32.00 Cash or Check, No Cards  
Non-dining guests are now FREE!

**SUPPORT OUR SPONSERS**

The Board of Directors and membership of the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers wish to express their appreciation to the following retailers. Their promotion of our club and its activities throughout the year, and their contributions of products and services help us to continue the various public services that we offer.

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5425 Reseda Blvd  
Tarzana CA 91356  
818.345.4266

**Fishermen's Spot**

14411 Burbank Blvd  
Van Nuys, CA 91401  
818.785.7306

**Culvers Sporting Goods**

156 South Main St.  
Bishop, Ca.  
760.872.8361

**Great Pacific Iron  
Works /Patagonia**

235 West Santa Clara St  
Ventura, CA 93001  
805.643.6074

**Orvis**

345 S Lake Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
626.356.8000

**Gangadin Restaurant**

12067 Ventura Place  
Studio City, CA 91604

**Real Cheap Sports**

36 W. Santa Clara St  
Ventura, CA 93001  
805.648.3803

**The Trout Fitter**

Shell Mart Center #3  
Mammoth Lakes, CA  
93546, 760.924.3676

**Kern River Fly Shop**

11301 Kernville Rd  
Kernville, CA 93238  
760. 376.2040

**Sierra Pacific Fly fishers proudly supports the conservation efforts of:**

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