

Sespe Fly Fishers NEWSLETTER

http://www.sespeflyfishers.org

February 2020, Volume 46 Issue 2



MEETING LOCATION Church of the Foothills <u>6279 Foothill Road</u> Ventura, CA 93003



Feb 19, 2020 James Garrettson "A Guide's Approach" 7:00PM



Click Image to read latest Southwest Council Newsletter

President's Message 2-2020

It's all about the auction next month. <u>We still need your donations!</u> Bring them to the meeting or contact **Frances Smith** and take them to her or even call me for a pickup! We want your Stuff (useable and in good condition that is!) Don't have Stuff to donate? No problem, come to the Auction March 18th and get some!

Save your money for this years auction.- **Malibu Fish n Tackle** closed their doors and donated all their fly fishing stuff to the club. We have hundreds of great flies that retail for \$2 for FIFTY CENTS A FLY! The fly tying table honor store will be full of great Stuff. Don't need Stuff? There will be Wine and Beer and Coffee too. Twofer guide trips. **Amazing discounts. Don't miss this!**

Exciting things are happening with the club. Next Month we are having a special event at Topa Topa Brewery in Ventura. Watch for the details in your email and on our social media pages. I had a meeting with the manager of the **Ventura Patagonia Store** and we are going to start working together on our event programs. That's a huge boost for the club, our contacts just increased a hundred-fold. You may have to register just to attend our programs and monthly events!

This month's speaker **James Garrettson** will give us a new prospective on fly fishing with his program "*A Guides Approach to Water*" and as a special treat for you fly tyers out there, he will tie some flies before the meeting. Get there early (7:00) for the demonstration.

HELP! We need someone to step up and help the club with two things. One we need a new refreshment person or persons to bring coffee and cookies to the meetings, second we need someone to open the church and help set up for the meeting. Please if you can help even on a part time basis let us know.

Go fishing every chance you get!

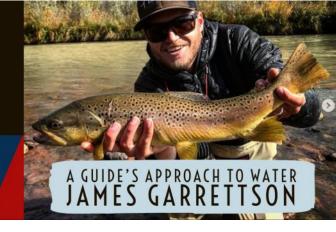
Earl





Wednesday February 19

7:00pm



A GUIDE'S APPROACH TO WATER – JAMES GARRETTSON

Our February speaker, James Garrettson, a fresh young face on the speaker circuit, will share his approach to the many variables he faces on every guiding day.

Weather, river flow, hatches and angler skill level all play a part in the intricate back story. James' home waters around Taos, New Mexico provide a stunning backdrop to this narrative and a reminder that this State has been overlooked in

previous speaker programs.

James is a keen advocate of the latest Euro nymphing techniques and an Ambassador the Fulling Mill Company.

An accomplished fly tier, he will be tying flies before the meeting.



In the world of fly fishing we often hear confusing slogans

such as "Think like the fish" or "Be the fly." The best advice might be "Think like a guide." How often have we wondered what thoughts run through the minds of professional



guides as they face the challenge of giving us a memorable day on the river?

Garret's program explores the guide/client partnership with many helpful tips to prepare us for future outings.

BIO - James is a full-time fishing guide and a part time astro-physicist (not really)! Originally from Northern Virginia, James started fly fishing at age 11 and never looked back. His unbridled enthusiasm for the sport landed him a job at Orvis before he could drive. After bouncing around the East Coast, Montana, Costa Rica, and the Pacific Northwest, James has finally planted roots in Northern New Mexico. When not spending quality time with his family or taking fishing tips from his 3-year-old daughter, James can be found on the vise or taking advantage of the Southwest's myriad of fishing opportunities. Apart from guiding, James enjoys writing, photography, Competitive ribbon dancing, and speaking at shops and clubs near and far. Catching fish is also very much enjoyed.



AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION! Sespe Fly Fishers Annual Auction March 18, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

WHOA! LOOK WHAT WE HAVE FOR YOU ON MARCH 18th AT 6 PM!

Look what you will miss if you don't show up for the auction ...

Attention all fly tiers! You won't believe the exotic fly tying materials, feathers, hooks and threads we have for you. You will want to look in our two people on each trip Silent Auction items for the four #1 Necks from Metz and necks from Whiting Farms. And the price is right!

For those of you who are looking for fly lines and leaders you won't want to miss out on the many great bargains we have. Plus many other great items in our Silent Auction that are too numerous to list.

In our Live Auction we have great new and slightly used fly rods, a Yosemite condo, 4-5 nts in a beach vacation home in Loreto Bay, Baja, Mexico, two trips from Island Packers to Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands for two lucky people on each trip, a beautiful fly plate, three great fishing Adventures, a fly tying lesson, and some excellent Patagonia items.

Don't miss March 18th AUCTION at 6 PM at the Church of the Foothills. Bring a friend...your family...and your checkbook or credit card!

Are you looking for some new equipment? We can secure your choice of rods, reels, waders, fly line, and accessories for certain Brands. Contact Frances Smith at 805-889-4995 so that Sespe Fly Fishers can get items for you at a <u>significantly discounted</u> rate. All we need at the Auction is for you to tell us what you want, then guarantee the opening bid and go from there. Remember first come, first served, so call as soon as possible to give Frances time to acquire what you want. Don't wait 'till the last minute.

We are also still accepting donations. Please contact Francis, and fill in the auction donation form at the end of the newsletter if you have anything, especially fly fishing related that might be someone else's treasure.

SEE YOU AT THE AUCTION IN MARCH 2020!

SESPE FLYFISHERS ANNUAL AUCTION ON MARCH 18th AT 6:00 PM HELD AT THE CHURCH OF THE FOOTHILLS IN VENTURA

Our Club wishes to extend an invitation to all our friends and other Clubs to attend our Annual Auction as we have some very exciting and unusual new/ used items to sell. The following are just a few of items we are offering:

Fly Tying Items:

- Fly lines
- Exotic furs
- Dubbing
- Thread
- Necks
- Hooks
- Flashabou
- Feathers
- Much more too numerous to list

New and Used Fly Rods:

- Thomas & Thomas 9' 10 wt. 3 pc. Rod with Orvis reel and line
- The FSF H2O Fall River 9' 5 wt. 4 pc. Rod with extra tip plus reel and line •
- Redington 9' 4 pc. 4 wt. rod with case
- Echo SR 71010-4 10' 10" 7 wt. rod
- Redington 9' 4 pc. 6 wt. rod with J. Ryall reel with two spools with a Scientific Anglers line DT6F
- St. Croix 9' 2 pc. 4 wt. rod
- Seven used fly rods

Reels:

- Tibor reel, Freestone model, in mint condition, fresh or saltwater reel, 5-6-7 wt. hold 150 yards of 20 micron WF6F. This reel is now out of production
- Lightly used Abel .5 model reel which is no longer manufactured

Lesson:

• Six hours of private fly tying lessons learning the Seven Deadly Spins

Clothing:

- New and gently used shirts
- Gently used men's fishing pants

Flies:

Great professionally tied flies for every occasion

Trips:

- Island Packer day trip to Santa Rosa Island
- Island Packer day trip to Santa Cruz Island
- One day rock fishing trip with Eric Kramer
- Two for one fishing the Green River in Utah
- One day in the backcountry with Earl Arnold

New Waders:

- Simms G3 Guide STFT Waders Size XLL
- Redington Palix River Bootfoot Size L11
- (Cannot be exchanged)

Backpack:

- Patagonia backpack with mesh fishing vest
- A few more but not listed

Art Work:

- Two water colors
- One painting

Condo/House:

- Four to Five nights in a 4 bedroom, 4 bath oceanview home (can sleep up to 10 with fold-out beds in Loreto, Baja California, Mexico
- One to five nights lodging at Yosemite West Condominium, just off Highway 41

Miscellaneous Items:

Many other items too numerous to list

They did it again!

Jan 10, 2020

Steelhead Habitat Restora-

tion—Day #2 Volunteers on the second and final planting day for Sespe Fly Fisher's Steelhead Habitat Restoration Project <u>got the job done!</u> Although the photo on right could be misleading (an awful lot of shovel leaning) in fact, all volunteers worked hard to complete the planting of a total (for both days) of 20 Coastal Live Oaks, and 134 native shrubs as companion plants.

Randy Nelson worked both days, and as many of you know, spent a long time writing and rewriting the \$1500 Grant from Fly Fishers International for Steelhead Habitat Restoration, with support and assistance from the Southwest Council of FFI to get the grant submitted and approved.

With a little encouragement from Sespe Fly Fisher members, there might be some hope for him to try again for a grant in 2020 as this is a historically strong and important club project, inspired by Yvon Chouinard's lifelong commitment to the



Kudos to our January volunteers: Erica Reeves, Bernie Ecker, Earl Arnold. Steve Schalla, Jeff Collins, Bob Gallagher, Eric Kra-

mer, Jim Worden, Gary Bulla, Michael Twomey, Clint Brown, Lloyd Christie and, Man of the Hour, Randy Nelson.





FISHING REPORT – EASTERN SIERRAS

Winter Fishing for Wild Trout

By Steve Schalla

We set out with great expectations on our first Sespe outing of the New Year! Our group, Mike Toomey, Lee White, Earl and Anne Arnold, Mike Ogden, Thad Skypien, and I all met in Bishop on Friday, Jan 24th.

We had anticipated fishing the Buckley Ponds, but found out that they were frozen over, so we took a quick trip to the Wild Trout section of the Lower Owens. Always important to be flexible when Fishing!

At the Lower Owens, Fishing was pretty slow for us but the weather was warm and the wind was low. Later, while enjoying a great dinner at the Bishop Bowling Alley, we met up with guide Pat Jaeger, a recent speaker at our club, for a quick visit.

The next day we fished Hot Creek. Another beautiful day also brought a number of fly fishers as the creek had plenty of activity yet the fishing remained slow. A couple of our party (Mike Toomey and Ann Bull) caught brown trout. Lee White and I fished the interpretive section below the hatchery and encountered many rainbows but only had a few strikes as they ap-



peared to be spawning.

On Sunday a front began moving through and snow squalls kept us from fishing the Upper Owens, so we returned to the Wild Trout section. The water flow had increased from Saturday to Sunday on the Lower Owens but was still manageable. Great conditions again at the Wild Trout waters with temps in the high 50's and low wind. There were a lot of fly fishermen, maybe over twenty on that 1/2 mile stretch, yet fishing remained



slow all around.

Earl Arnold was able to bring in another Brown. The Kern River Fly Fishers were there as well and had similar results but 1 member managed to hook into 5 trout that morning. We were left to pondor what the heck that guy did that we didn't. That's the way fishing can be ... well, fishing is great, but sometimes the hooking is slow.

Still there are always friends to laugh with and new things to learn. I think we all returned home with smiles on our faces so it was a good trip!

2020 SPEAKER SCHEDULE*

Feb 19 | James Garrettson

"Reading a River and Taos Area"

March 18 | ANNUAL AUCTION!

April 15 | Buhler Brothers (Ryan & Bob)

"Fishing the Pit, McCloud and the lower Sacramento"

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AT N

May 20 | Chris King

"Fishing the Pit, McCloud and the lower Sacramento"

June 17 | Jimmy Cheers "Big Browns on the South Holsten"

July 15 | Chris Leonard "The Magnificent Eastern Sierra"

August 19 | TBD

Sept 16 | Annual BBQ

Oct 21 Maury Hatch "Fishing the Delta"

Nov 18 | Gary Bulla "Fishing the Amazon"

December 16 | Annual Holiday Party

*Speakers and programs subject to change without notice. Check the newsletter or website for changes.

SESPE FF OUTING SCHEDULE 2020

All outings are subject to change

Look for confirmation contacts in the detailed descriptions (scroll down) New trips may be added throughout the year - visit our sespeflyfishers.com to check for updates





MF Tule and Kern River trip | June 26-28 Dates: June 26-28 FULL/WAITLIST ONLY

Fish the MF Tule River and Clicks Creek. Creek fishing at it's finest. On the Tule, we will hook into Rainbows,
Browns, and Brookies. On Clicks Creek, we will hook into Little Kern Goldens.
Lodging: Stay at the Schalla cabin. Limit of 6.
Costs: No cost for lodging. Share in the food costs.
Outing Leader | Steve Schalla, Stevenojai@aol.com,

Let's Go Fishing! —If you are a member of Sespe Fly Fishers and have an idea for an outing, or you'd like to host an outing, please contact **SFF Outings Chair Steve Schalla**. As noted above you can reach him at: stevenojai@aol.com, 805-264-1950

(805) 264-1950

OUTINGS 2020 CONTINUED ...

Bighorn River | MONTANA | July 28 to 31 Dates: July 28 to 31 SOME SPOTS LEFT!

• Lodging: 3 NTS Big Horn Anglers, Riverbend Cabin and two days of guiding, all meals included.

Large cabin located on a bluff above the Bighorn river about one mile outside of Fort Smith Montana with 40+ acres of private land and a 1/4 mile of Bighorn River frontage. Cabin is 2000 square feet with 3 bedrooms and two full bathrooms. There are 6 beds in each cabin and blowup mattresses can be provided upon request. Furnace, fireplace and air conditioning! The kitchen has all stainless steel appliances, concrete countertops, wine rack, herbs and spices for cooking, pots, pans, dishes, silverware....all the amenities that a gourmet kitchen should have,



not to mention a priceless view of the Bighorn River. The living area has extremely comfortable leather furniture, reading lamps, fireplace, and a 50 inch plasma television with surround sound, DVD player, and satellite TV. And again, the extraordinary view of the Bighorn River! Cabin also has grills on the wrap around porch, wifi internet access and pets are welcome.





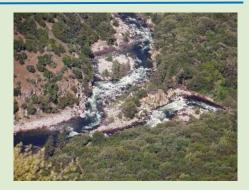
Costs: \$995/person—Covers Lodging, Guide Service, and Meals

Outing Leader | Steve Schalla, Stevenojai@aol.com, (805) 264-1950

Kings River trip (Yucca Point) | September 18-20

Dates: Sept 18-20 TRIP OPEN

- Backpack trip to the Kings River at Yucca Point. Just one night of camping, two days of fishing. Catch some big Kings River Rainbows.
- Costs: None
- Outing Leader | Steve Schalla, <u>Stevenojai@aol.com</u>, (805) 264-1950





Hole in the Ground (Kern River) Trip | October 5-9 Dates: Oct 5-9 SOME SPOTS LEFT!

 A pack trip on horseback to Hole in the Ground, Kern River. A 7 hour ride from Golden Trout Pack Station. 5 days, 4 nights. We share in the food and cooking. Camp Kitchen will be provided. Will be hooking into Kern River Rainbows and some Browns. Meet up at the Schalla cabin prior to departure from Pack Station.

Costs: About \$700 plus tips to the wranglers.
 Outing Leader | Steve Schalla, <u>Stevenojai@aol.com</u>,
 (805) 264-1950

BUILDING A BAMBOO ROD, PT. 3

Scraping, Sanding, Planing and (a little) Complaining

Tom Hall, Doug Treutelaar, Lee White, Randy Nelson, Tom Hall and I, with support from Bill Loehr and Steve Schalla, have now moved from working on rod butts to tips! We each have 12 tip strips, designed to make two rod tips eventually so that we will have a spare. The process of scraping the enamel side of the bamboo, then sanding, and then planing each strip into a thin, tapered equilateral triangle shape has began again, but this time it's much more delicate work.

Planing can be tedious so some light-hearted complaining livens things up (these guys can be pretty funny!). Most of the time is pretty quiet though, as it's very easy to get out of alignment and

even easier to break a strip, because once planed they are thin as twigs.

We all got a morale boost when Bill Loehr brought out some samples of reel seats, cork grips, ferrules, guides and thread so he could order what we need to finish our rods.













FIRST SATURDAY CASTING

CASTING THE FLY ROD | AN INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING

SFF First Saturday Casting in 2020 will be on March 7th

Nearly always the first Saturday of the month!

• 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Chumash Park, Petit and Waco, in East Ventura (off Telephone Rd).

As usual, this is open to everyone interested in learning and becoming a better caster or learning how to flyfish. Bring your friends, buddies, family and of course your mother-in-law (she will probably out cast you). Please help spread the word!

If you haven't tried it yet, here is your chance to prepare for the new FFI "*Casting Skills Challenge*". And what's in it for me you ask? Well, it's not only fun but you will become a better caster and fisher as a result of mastering the skill challenges, and you can do it at your own pace and receive a certificate for each level you pass and recognition from Fly Fishers International. There are three levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Learn all about the Casting Skills Challenge at: <u>https://flyfishersinternational.org/Education/Learning-Center/Casting</u>.

Bring your favorite rod and come on out! There will be an introductory class on fly fishing and casting for others in our community interested in learning about our great sport so please pass the word and let people know of our outing and invite them to join us.

If you have any suggestions as to how we might make our "First Saturday" outings better, in any way, please don't hesitate to share your

Fly Tying 2020

This month, FLY TYING class is on February 27

Rest of year: March 26, April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22.



Meet us at Eric's Tackle on Thompson, 6-8 PM

Eric's Tackle has made a huge improvement on the tying space in his shop, so join us there and Dennis will again wow us with his latest and greatest! Next date is Feb 27 at 6:00pm.

Guides Choice Nymph

01/23/2020

Back in the day, my go-to nymph was a Gold Ribbed Hares Ear Nymph and that was pretty much the case through the 1960's, 70's and mid-way through the 80's. Then in the late 80's I was fishing the lower Sacramento River with some minor success with a hare's ear. The guide handed me one of these nymphs and said try this and the rest of the day we caught and released so many trout that I lost count. Since, that day, this has been my go-to nymph. This pattern is like a hopped up Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear on steroids. You have to give this fly a try, you won't be sorry.



Fly Ingredients:

Hook: Size #16, #14, #12 Nymph Hook Thread: 6/0 Brown or Red Thread Bead: Gold Bead to Fit Weight: Lead Wire Wing Case: Pearl or Iridescent Flashabou Legs: Partridge or Hen Back Thorax: Peacock Herl Body: Hare's Ear Blended Tail: Hare's Mask Fur Ribbing: Gold Wire

Tying Instructions:

Slide the bead on the hook and then insert in to the vise.

Push the bead up behind the hook eye and then put 5 to 6 wraps of lead wire up against the bead.

.Cover lead wire and hook shank with thread and then position thread on hook shank at the start of the bend.

Cut a piece of hare's mask fur with guard hairs, about the width of the hook gap, and secure to hook to form the tail.

.Tie in and secure the gold wire above the hook bend where the tailed was tied off.

Now start dubbing hare's ear fur from the tail to about 2/3 of remaining hook shank (remember to taper the body as your dubbing and wrapping), and tie off.

Wrap gold wire through dubbed body and tie off.

Now, where the dubbing ended, tie in a piece of flashabou, for the wing case, and fold back out of the way.

Tie in 3 or 4 strands of peacock herl by the tips, twist them around the thread for a more secure wrap, and then wrap up to the bead and tie off and clip.

.Pull over flashabou wing case and tie off and clip.

•Tie in a partridge or hen back hackle feather by the tips, curved side down, and stoke fibers towards the tail, making a nice full wrap, tie off and clip excess (make sure that that all of the hackle fibers are stroked back).

.If you used red thread, form a thin band of thread behind the bead, whip finish and apply head cement, and you're done.

If you used brown thread, tie off and clip and then tie in red thread and form a thin band of thread behind the bead, whip finish and apply head cement, and you're done.

Tight Lines! Dennis McCarty



"This is an organization that is making a difference every day."

Dep Sec Sloan Gibson, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

WINTER SCHEDULE:

We meet at the Ventura Vet Center on the 2nd and 4th THURSDAY of the month from 2:30 to 4:30 PM.

This is a program serving disabled veterans in Ventura area. Join us! Please contact me if you would like more information about donating or helping with our program.

HEALING WATERS UPDATE:

We got our fly rod kits so the next two months we will be building rods at the Dudley House! Earl Arnold | Program Lead

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – Ventura

earl.arnold@projecthealingwaters.org





International Fly Fishing Film Festival® 2020

The International Fly Fishing Film Festival[®] consists of short and feature length films produced by professional filmmakers from all corners of the globe, showcasing the passion, lifestyle and culture of fly fishing. The films at this popular event are capturing the attention of anglers around the world. IF4[™] contains exclusive content and The International Fly Fishing Festival (IF4) is a must see experience ! WEBSITE FOR INFO and updates: https://www.flyfilmfest.com/

UPDATE: IF4 Films are showing in Pasadena, Wednesday, April 15, Regency Academy Cinemas, hosted by Caltrout.

Caltrout is also hosting a screening in VEN-TURA, date and location TBA. So keeping checking! That website.



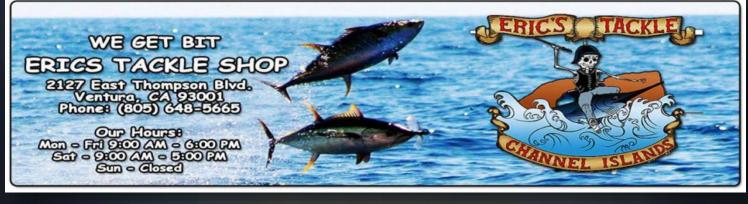


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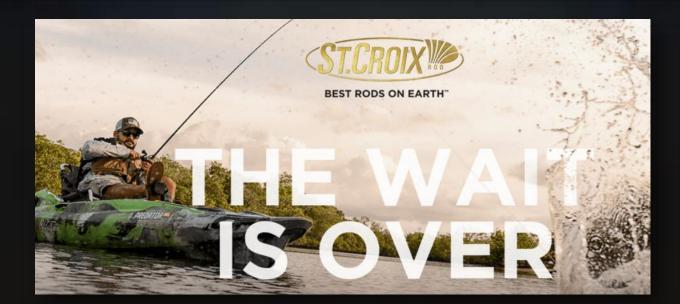
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RENEW OR JOIN SESPE FLY FISHERS ONLINE OR USE THIS FORM!

Sespe Flyfishers Membership Renewal

Dear Flyfisher,

Welcome new members and renewing members alike! Your membership dues enable the Sespe Flyfishers to continue to provide quality programs, outings, seminars, and to participate in conservation efforts.

Please complete this application and return it along with your membership dues today to the following address or Renew on line at <u>SespeFlyFishers.org</u>

Sespe Flyfishers P.O. Box 5127 Ventura, CA 93005

Your support	is	appreciated.
NAME:	_	

Please include names of Family Members that may participate in club functions:

Family Member:			_
ADDRESS:			-
			_
HOME PHONE:			_
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Residence	Age	Membership	
Ventura & S.B. Counties	16 and over	\$40	2
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If you have any questions, please contact Chris or Fran May at 984-1267 or chrismay5@msn.com

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Consult your tax advisor. Your Contribution may be fully tax deductible.