

# Sespe Fly Fishers



## MEETING

**Wednesday  
January 19, 2011**

**TIME: 7:00 p.m.**

### **PLACE:**

Recreation Center,  
Oak and Santa  
Clara St. Ventura

## Program

**Mike Lawson**

*"Proven  
Techniques for  
Difficult Trout"*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Phil Romans**

*"The Bitterroot; A River  
For All Seasons"*

**Wednesday,**

**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**7:00 PM**

## **BOARD MEETING**

7:00 PM

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>, at Carrow's  
Restaurant, Seaward  
and Harbor, Ventura

## **Outings**

Eastern Sierra

Mouse hatch!

See inside for details!

## President's Message

**January 2011**

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hope you had a pleasant holiday season. The Club ended the year in a festive mood with our annual Christmas Party. Chuck and Marcia Colwell again planned and arranged an outstanding event. The thirty-five attendees contributed to the evening's success with some fantastic food and a generous contribution to the Food Share project. We changed the evening's format a little from past years. Instead of a sit-down dinner and a gag-gift exchange, we asked attendees to bring salads, finger-food dishes and desserts. It was an impressive spread. In place of the gift exchange, Frances Smith came up with the idea of donations of non-perishable food items for Food Share. The goal was to fill the barrel. The goal was far exceeded with the final tally 140 pounds of food. Gary Bulla capped the evening by sharing one of his Baja fishing programs with us. The variety of species and the fantastic action shots got us all in the mood for the next season of fishing.

Since it is the New Year, here are some important reminders: Don't forget to renew your fishing license. The State has modified the way licenses are issued and some of your familiar license vendors may not be participating in the new format. I understand that there is quite a capital investment in switching to the new system. Do not despair however, you can order your license on-line. You immediately get a temporary license and the permanent version comes in the mail. (At least that's what Jeff Hereford told me).

It is also time to renew your club membership. Please submit the membership form included in this newsletter when you give Chris May your dues. It really makes his task a lot easier to track and update the club membership listing. As we announced a couple of months ago, we increased the annual renewal a modest amount and simplified the structure of the various categories of membership. If you are so inclined, give some extra for one of the club projects that you support. Extra revenue is always welcome.

It is also time to start planning for our Annual March Auction. As you have heard many times, our auction is the major source of funds for club operations. Frances Smith is busy planning and collecting items for the event. Check around and see if there are any items you have that are not being used, but could be donated to the auction for purchase. Contact Frances and she will arrange to get the items up for sale.

(Continued on page 7)

# ***Sespe Flyfishers Board of Directors***

## **PRESIDENT**

Paul Wilson 482-7443

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

Dennis Harper: 650-1708

## **SECRETARY**

Gary Bulla: 933-1367

## **TREASURER**

Carl Rhoads: 644-0940

## **DIRECTORS**

Frances Smith: 647-3522

John Dugan: 646-6898

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

Conservation – Dennis Harper 650-1708

Membership - Chris & Frances May 984-1267

Newsletter –Earl Arnold: 701-1239

Programs - Gary Bulla: 933-1367

Raffles –

Refreshments - Jeff Herford: 658-0829

Outings - Jeff Hereford: 658-0829

Web Site –Steve Schalla: 642-5898

Auction - Frances Smith: 647-3522

Fly Tying -Bob Smith: 647-3522

Trout in the Classroom – Kent Houston 649-4716

## **2011 Speaker Schedule\***

February	<b>Phil Romans</b>	<i>“The Bitterroot; A River For All Seasons”</i>
March	<b>Annual Auction</b>	<i>“The Main Money Source for Our Club”</i>
April	<b>Jim McLennan</b>	<i>“Fly Fishing Alberta- The Bow River and Beyond”</i>
May	<b>Marlon Rampy</b>	<i>“Southern Oregon; 5 Rivers, 5 Lakes”</i>
June	<b>Kirk Deeter</b>	<i>“The State of the Industry”</i>
July	<b>Charles Jardine</b>	<i>“Soft Hackels; Legend, Living and Lethal”</i>
October	<b>Tom Pero</b>	<i>“The Magic Language of Fly Fishing”</i>
November	<b>Peter Piconi</b>	<i>“Cajun Redfish”</i>

\*Speakers and programs subject to change without notice. Check the news letter each month.

## **Fly Tying**

From Bob Smith

Of course we will be having a fly tying session this month. We don't know yet what Bill has in store for us but you know it will be good....so bring your stuff and enjoy. And as usual we meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month ( January 27<sup>th</sup> ) at 7:00 PM.

Remember, we are now meeting at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center, 550 N. Ventura Avenue (corner of Ventura Avenue and Center Street). Enter from the parking lot on Center Street.

## **OUTINGS**

**Jan 28-30** Annual outing to the Lower Owens depending on weather and river flow. Conditions permitting I will be leaving Thursday afternoon and returning Sunday, staying at the El Rancho. Depending on conditions will fish the Lower Owens, Upper Owens and hot Creek. I will send out an update on 22 Jan.

**Feb** Possible another trip to the Owens. Date TBA

**Mar 25** Away trip to Belize

# SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

Mike Lawson

## “Proven Techniques for Difficult Trout”

We are pleased to announce that the first presenter for the 2011 New Year at Sespe Fly Fishers is one of our favorite people, Mike Lawson. Mike is not only one of the most respected and knowledgeable people in our sport, he is also one of the best liked. And he will deliver a program that will show how to achieve what most of us want to do when we go fly fishing. Mike describes his show this way:

*“There are probably more big trout in America’s best waters than there were 20 years ago as a result of proper management. These trout are usually very difficult to catch. This isn’t a program on catching big fish on exotic waters like Alaska or New Zealand. This is an in-depth look at the best times, best places, best techniques and best patterns to take tough trout on America’s finest public waters.”*

Mike was born and raised in southeastern Idaho, where he and his wife Sheralee (who will be with Mike at our meeting) are both fourth generation natives of southern Idaho. Mike taught school in St. Anthony for six years while working as a fishing guide in the summer. For many years, both Mike and Sheralee tied flies commercially. In 1977 they opened the Henry’s Fork Anglers fly shop at Last Chance, Idaho, and Mike’s reputation began.

He is recognized as the Guru of the Henry’s Fork and his first book, published in 2000 with co-author Gary Lafontaine, is titled ***Fly Fishing the Henry’s Fork***. His articles have appeared in all the leading national and international fly fishing publications and his pictures often appear on magazine covers. Mike is a Contributing Editor of *Fly Fisherman* magazine and has appeared in several fly fishing videos. He was one of the three “Traveling Fly Fishermen” (along with Gary and Jack Dennis) who appeared throughout North America conducting seminars and weekend clinics.

Mike’s most accomplished book is ***Spring Creeks***. He worked on this magnum opus for 12 years and it is the most comprehensive work on spring creeks and tailwaters ever published. This is a large, hard cover book (8-1/2” x 11” with beautiful slick paper) and includes more than 285 color photographs and 80 illustrations. It was published by Stackpole Books and has been lauded as the ultimate writing on the subject. (Editor’s Note: Mike is bringing a few copies of the book with him – and “only a few” because that is all he can carry as each one weights four pounds -- so some lucky people will be able to buy one from Mike and have him autograph it.) The last time Mike was at our club, we broke an attendance record and many people said after his presentation that it was the best program ever given. So we will be hosting a great January show no one will want to miss!



# AUCTION COMING IN MARCH

I have added one new name to this announcement and will continue to send this newsletter out frequently with new names.

Our yearly auction is coming on March 16<sup>th</sup>. I have received a few offers to purchase items for the upcoming auction. If you are thinking about purchasing any new fishing stuff soon, let me know what you want and maybe we can get it for the auction. You may save some money and the club will make some money.

**Please remember, all you have to do is guarantee the opening bid the night of the auction and go from there.**

The companies listed below have responded to my letter for support, and we expect more responses in the future so if they make anything you would like, please let me know right away.

The following are nine companies that are offering me a discount to purchase items for our auction.

**PATAGONIA:** If you would like to see an item from Patagonia please give me item number, color, size and how many of each item.

**RAJEFF SPORTS:** Airflow fly lines, Echo and Echo2 products.

**GALVAN FLY REELS:** Purchase reel.

**R. L. WINSTON:** Purchase a great rod.

**BAUER –PREMIUM FLY REELS:** I am able to purchase two reels from this company. If you want please tell me style and either left or right retrieve.

**THE WATERWORKS/LAMSON:** Reels, spools and some accessories

**TIBOR REELS:** Reels, can include a free fish engraving and shipping. I will need to call to get pricing.

**LAMIGLAS:** High quality rods for cataloged rods.

**SIMMS:** One pair of Simms G3 Guide Stockingfoot waders, or G4 Pro Stockingfoot waders, Headwaters Stockingfoot waders or Women's Headwaters Stockingfoot waders. Will need size.

Please contact Frances Smith at 647-3522 or email: [rfsmiith@jetlink.net](mailto:rfsmiith@jetlink.net)

## HELP WANTED

### Raffle Chairperson

Would you like to get to know more of the members? We need someone to take over the raffle. Our current raffle chairs, Joe and Dianne Joines are going to spend some time improving their property in Montana starting this next month. The raffle is one of the most important functions on the board and it provides nearly one third of our funds. It is a fairly easy job especially if you like to shop for fly fishing and sport related goodies. Joe said he spends about 4 hours a month working on it. All you need to

do is shop a little and sell tickets at the meetings. It's a great way to meet the membership too. Contact Paul Wilson if you are interested. 482-7443

### **SWCFFF Representative**

Go to the quarterly meetings and get to know all of the clubs in the Federation of Fly Fishers South West Council. Be first with all of the information from the Federation. Get involved! (See page 6)

## **FLY TYING FOR THE BEGINNER**

### **“The Seven Deadly Spins”**

For benefit of the Sespe Fly Fishers club I am offering a series of classes for the beginning fly tier. The seven-two hour classes will cover what I like to call the Seven Deadly Spins. These seven patterns are some of the best flies ever developed. I never go fishing for trout, bass or pan fish without them. Each class is designed to teach a basic skill and technique that will build on the previously learned skills. All classes include additional information on materials, tools, and fishing techniques so that at the conclusion of the lessons you will have sufficient knowledge and skills to tie and fish many patterns and styles of flies.

As a fly tying instructor I have been teaching and sharing my expertise at the vice for nearly 20 years. I have had the privilege to take lessons from some of the masters in the craft, Bob Johns, Gary LaFontaine, Paul Jorgensen, Bill Blackstone and many others. I will pass some of their great tricks and tips on to you.

The two hour classes will be held on Tuesday evenings beginning February 1, 2011. All materials, tools and printed patterns will be provided for each class with sufficient materials to take home and practice your craft.

Classes are \$50.00 each including the tools which you get to keep after completion of all 7 lessons. If you provide your own tools classes are \$40.00 per class. All proceeds go directly to the club.

Contact me, Earl Arnold at [earlwarnold@gmail.com](mailto:earlwarnold@gmail.com) or call 805-701-1239 for reservations. Class size is limited so reserve a spot soon.

## **Looking for a special item?**

Don't order it on line. See it before you buy. Call Eric at “The Artful Angler” and he will get it for you.





In looking ahead to our 2010 events, Dennis Harper, our Conservation Chairman is arranging for a follow-on

Dear Fisherman,

We hope that you are very well, enjoying a well deserved holidays with your family and friends.

We are writing you to inform you about the most unique hatch, the mouse hatch that is taking place in a very confined area of Chile.

So please carefully read the info below, and if you have any question please do not hesitate to contact us.

Here in Chile at the **Cinco Rios Lodge**, we are almost beside ourselves with excitement. Just a couple of weeks ago, one of our guides, who was fishing on the outlet of Lake Elizalde, noticed that the Quila (the local bamboo tree) was blooming. "So what?" you might ask. Well, blooming bamboo is a very big deal wherever bamboo trees are found. First of all, it is rare.

Dependent on the subspecies, bamboo blooms only once every 14 to 120 years (Chile's bamboo blooms once every 14-30 years). "So what?" you might ask.

After blooming, the tree drops huge numbers of seeds as the plant dies.

When this takes place, the mouse population explodes in response to the abundance of a new food source. That's the Big Deal.

We are already fishing mouse patterns with remarkable success. We expect this rare event and the fishing it affords will only get better during January, February, March, and the 1st 15 days of April.

We'll be using the mouse patterns that we are tying now, and I am sure the trout that you do not see feeding on the surface during the middle of the day will be coming up for the feast.

Many of you will want to come to see this, since it happens only "once in a blue moon" (actually since the 'blue moon' occurs every 2 or 3 years, bamboo seed drops occur "once in 7 or 8 blue moons").

Please check out the New Zealand version of this 'hatch' and then come experience the Chilean version.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4pOOMpFW\\_8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4pOOMpFW_8)

The most academic framed minds can read more about this at:

[http://www.nri.org/projects/bandicoot/docs/myths\\_and\\_facts\\_on\\_ratadas.pdf](http://www.nri.org/projects/bandicoot/docs/myths_and_facts_on_ratadas.pdf)

Best Regards,

Sebastián Galilea S.

[www.cincorioschile.com](http://www.cincorioschile.com)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ( continued from page 1)

In looking ahead to our 2010 events, Dennis Harper, our Conservation Chairman is arranging for a follow-on tree planting addition to the Yvon Chouinard conservation project. This will be the third year of planting. The survival rate for the trees already planted has been quite high. Watch for the February date and take the opportunity to participate in this very worthwhile event. It's really a fun day for a very worthy cause.

2011 promises to be another event packed year. The roster of monthly club meeting speakers includes some really excellent programs. In addition there are a variety of events including the monthly fly tying sessions with Bill Blackstone as arranged by Bob Smith, outings arranged by Jeff Hereford, Bob Smith's casting clinic, the Ray Johnson/John Dugan rod building class, a beginners fly-tying class conducted by Earl Arnold; and much, much more. Make a New Year's resolution to participate in everything you can. After all, it's your club.

Enjoy, Paul

## **CONSERVATION**

Dennis Harper

### **Sespe Fly Fishers Conservation Notes, Jan 2011**

#### **Sespe Club Tree Planting**

Update: The tree planting will occur on Feb 19 at 9:00 am, barring extremely inclement weather. I will circulate a signup sheet at the January meeting. The meeting place will be announced later as we approach the event date. The flow levels of the Ventura River will determine the best access point for the project. This year the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC) will donate the trees and we will furnish the tools and volunteers. The planting location will in the Rice Creek restoration site similar to the 2010 project. Again the project will be in an arundo removal area. The project is being coordinated with Rick Bisaccia of OVLC who will provide direction on proper planting procedures. In January we will request volunteers and provide more information on the meeting place and plans. This is an activity that has had good support and has been a very worthwhile endeavor for our club. The tree planting is dedicated to Yvon Chouinard in recognition of his tremendous support of the environment, our community and our club.

#### **Matilija Falls Access Closure**

The landowner has denied hikers access across his property to the Matilija Falls for some 18 months now. The creek and falls area has historically been open to hikers for over a century and many of the Sespe Club members have enjoyed this popular area. There should be a compelling argument that once public access has been granted historically, it cannot be taken away. Yet it seems to require legal action to restore public access to the upper Matilija Creek and Falls Area.

Alasdair Coyne of Keep the Sespe Wild in Ojai, has organized a group, "Keep Access to Matilija Falls Open" according to the Ventura Star, and has a local pro bono attorney preparing a legal brief arguing in support of protecting public access. As in all legal proceedings, funds are needed should legal action be required. An Ojai jeweler, 'Love Heals Jewelry' held a fund raising sale Dec 4<sup>th</sup> and donated 35% of the proceeds to Alasdair's group.

Interested members are encouraged to support Alasdair's efforts to Keep Access to Matilija Falls Open.

# 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:

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you are a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF)  Yes  No

Annual Family Membership Dues (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31)

Residence	Age	Membership	
Ventura & S.B. Counties	16 and over	\$40	\$ _____
Other Locations	16 and over	\$20	\$ _____
Any	Under 16	\$20	\$ _____

Voluntary contribution to the Sespe Flyfishers Conservation Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary contribution to "Trout in the Classroom" \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary contribution to Ty Stork Memorial Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please contact Chris or Fran May at 984-1267 or [chrismay5@msn.com](mailto:chrismay5@msn.com).



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

