

SANTA LUCIA Fly Fishers

TIGHT LINES

info@santaluciaflyfishers.com

| San Luis Obispo County |

Editor: Michael Powers

Save-the-Dates

50th Anniversary
Founded 1975

- **November 13, 2025** – SLFF Monthly Meeting, speaker Skip and Carol Morris
 - **December 5** - Deadline for sending in member photos; slideshow
 - **December 11** - SLFF Meeting with Member slideshow & Potluc
 - **January 8, 2026** – SLFF Monthly Meeting
 - **February 7, 2026** – Bishop Trout Rodeo
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- **November 24, 2025** – Newsletter material deadline for November newsletter

Contact Our Club:

SLFF
P.O. Box 166
SLO, CA 93406

EMAIL:
info@santaluciaflyfishers.com

WEBSITE:
www.santaluciaflyfishers.com



York Township, Atlantic Maritimes

In This Month's Newsletter

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Member Profile: Chris Rhoades
November Meeting
Fall Western Sierra Outing Report
Crowley Lake Fishing Report
O'Neill Forebay Striper Trip
Second Call: San Juan River Trip
Bishop Trout Rodeo

The Santa Lucia Fly Fishers fly fishing club was established in 1975 to give local area fly fishers of San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, Santa Maria, and northern Santa Barbara, CA, of all skill levels participation in a club to learn, share, and experience the challenges of our sport in saltwater surf, and freshwater rivers and lakes.

President's Message

By Eric Tinglof



As I was packing for the Kings River Club outing in mid-October, I said to myself, “I so need this!”. It has been a very busy fall, so the chance to finally fish again raised my spirits greatly. When the trip commenced, I made a point of stopping to see the General Grant Tree near the entrance of Kings Canyon National Park. I will never get tired of seeing these magnificent sequoia trees up close because pictures never do them justice. Later, the drive down into the canyon was absolutely breathtaking, as I struggled to keep my eyes glued to the road.

I have snow camped every March for the last 35 years, so tenting it at Sentinel Campground wasn't too cold. But, what marvelous days of abundant sunshine and evening campfires, sharing great comradery among the members in attendance. Luckily, Jim Snodgrass shared a special fly with me to fish the first morning. Right off the bat, first hole, first cast, I caught an 8” rainbow, and then nothing. Second hole, first cast, another 8” rainbow, and then nothing. Third hole, exactly the same outcome, and then no other grabs for the rest of the trip. I truly had a great time, and, boy, am I glad that I had my Jon Baiocchi designed wading staff at my hip. Those rocks are slippery! Next year, we are going to schedule this outing earlier in the Fall. We all missed Gary, because this was his outing to lead. Elk burgers and campfire music were contemplated in his honor, but the weather gods made it too much to pull off this year.

Glynis won the Fly Fisher of the Year award last year for her amazing efforts in organizing the Annual Banquet and the Fall Social. On top of all of that, she has done an incredible job as our Club Treasurer these recent years. She is stepping away from the Treasurers duties at the end of this year, so we need someone to fill this position starting in 2026. She will help with the transition through the Banquet in March and be ready to assist when questions arise. A full description of the Treasurer responsibilities can be found in this newsletter.

The December meeting will be our “Annual” meeting where we elect a new Board of Directors and review our Club financial statements. If you are interested in becoming a Director and helping to steer the future of our Club, please reach out to me directly at etinglof19@gmail.com. We will also be conducting our Member slide show. The detail for submissions is also contained later in this newsletter.

SLFF MONTHLY CLUB MEETING
Thursday, November 13, 2025
The Milking Parlor at the Historic Octagon Barn
4400 Octagon Way, San Luis Obispo
(And via Zoom)
Doors open @ 5:45 pm. General Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
Log-in instructions will be sent ahead of the meeting, for Zoom.

Make Soft Hackle and Wet Fly Fishing Work Skip Morris

Over the past 30 years, **Skip Morris** has published 23 fly-fishing and -tying books (with Amato Publications, Stackpole, Lyons) on fly fishing and tying flies (*Fly Tying Made Clear And Simple*, *Western River Hatches*, *Morris & Chan On Fly Fishing Trout Lakes*, and *Top 12 Dry Flies: How, When, and Where to Fish Them*, among others) and over 350 magazine articles and essays on those subjects in 22 magazines. A national and international speaker, Skip has served among the hosts of a fly-fishing broadcast television show and as the instructor in several DVDs. He lives with his wife, Carol, and their willful cat, Olive Penderghast, on Washington's lush Olympic Peninsula amid all its varied opportunities for both fresh and saltwater fly fishing. skip-morris-fly-tying.com



Member Profile

Chris Rhoades

I remember going fishing with my dad when I was a kid. While he fly fished, I'd be right beside him "fly fishing" in my own way, trying to do whatever he was doing. We didn't have many places to fish where I grew up, so most of our trips happened on family vacations, usually in the Eastern Sierra. Over the years, I drifted more toward conventional fishing.

I didn't truly get into fly fishing until 2020, when I met up with my dad in Montana for a float trip. That experience changed everything — since then, I've found myself reaching for the fly rod. I joined the Santa Lucia Fly Fishers the following year and have met a lot of great people who've helped me learn new techniques and how much local water we have to explore. I had no idea you could fly fish in the surf for perch or halibut in Avila Bay.

I've really enjoyed fishing with club members on the Western Sierra trip. I chase carp and steelhead on the Central Coast whenever I get the chance. Fly fishing has become the perfect fit for my love of the outdoors — it ties right in with my passion for waterfowl hunting, hiking with Bethany, and training my new hunting puppy.



Updating Contact Information on the Santa Lucia Fly Fishers website.

It is very easy to update addresses, email addresses and change passwords on the website. Log into the website with your username and password. Go into the "Members" dropdown under the SLFF logo and select "My Account". In "Account Details" on the left hand side of the page you can change your email address or reset your password. In the "Address" section you can change your home address. Then press the green "SAVE CHANGES" button at the bottom of each page and you are done.

Club Treasurer Position Needs to be Filled for 2026

Treasurer's Duties for Santa Lucia Fly Fishers

Keep track of all Club income and expenses

Work with Woo Commerce, Square and Quicken to document Club income and expenses.

-Woo Commerce

via the club website where members pay for dues, and event tickets. Finalize transactions, keep track of analytics for producing monthly financial statements.

-Square

Application that tracks all web based income and user fees.

Square analytics is used in producing Monthly financial statements. Square device used to take Credit cards at Banquet.

-Quicken

Quicken is directly linked to the Club business bank account.

Working knowledge of quicken to track income and expenses.

Quicken reports are used to produce monthly statements and to produce the quarterly reports for audits.

Quarterly Reconcile Bank and Quicken.

Treasurer's financial Notebook must be maintained with deposit receipts and expenditure receipts. Included in the notebook is a list of yearly speaker schedule (generated by others) with speaker fee amounts and addresses where payment can be sent.

Income

Track all income via woo commerce, checks, and cash; for dues, event tickets, silent auction, meeting raffles. Make bank deposits of checks and raffle cash.

Attend the monthly meetings in person when a meeting raffle is occurring to sell raffle tickets, handle cash and help select raffle winners. Sell club swag (hats) at meetings and banquet. Oversee banquet expenses, sales via square, income and accounting.

Expenses

Track all expenses including monthly auto pay expenses, quarterly expenses paid via check, annual donations, refunds, reimbursements requests, silent auction item purchases. Handle payments to guides and donations to non-profits.

Update the Board of directors on Financial health of the Club.

Monthly Financial Statement presented to the board of directors. This is currently in the form of an excel spreadsheet.

Provide the board with budget information for annual Club donations to other selected non-profits. End of the year short presentation to the general membership outlining overall financial health of the club.

File 501c7 non-profit paperwork with California Secretary of State. Online Annually File Taxes Form 990-N online with simple postcard (annual club income info needed for filing).

Keep the Treasurer procedures outline and all passwords safe. Help transition new treasurer when handing over accounts and financial notebooks from past years.

GCT 10/25

The Club's Fall Outing at Cedar Grove in 2025

Kevin Shaw

The late Gary Brennan was a big fan of fishing in the Western Sierra. So, for several years, he organized our fall outing to somewhere in that area. Most recently, he selected the South Fork of the Kings River, at Cedar Grove in Kings Canyon National Park, and we enjoyed a good outing there in 2024.

After Gary's passing, Eric stepped into his shoes and took over the planning for this year's trip to Cedar Grove. We had a curve ball thrown at us in the form of a snowstorm and cold weather, but eight SLFF members grabbed their warm clothes and made the trip to fish the Kings in mid-October – Eric, Bob, Robert, Mark, Pete, Tom, Jim and Kevin.

Kings Canyon is one of the deepest canyons in North America and the scenery is spectacular. This part of the river has not been stocked for decades and some have called it the finest wild trout fishing in the western Sierra. The fish tend to be small and wily; a mix of rainbows and browns. In October, the water is low and clear and the fish get a good look at everything. So, we have to work for what we get. For flies, we alternated between nymphs and dry flies, each of which seemed productive at various times of the day.

The section of the river from Boyden Cavern to Road's End is about 10 miles and most of it is fishable. After Labor Day, one can generally fish the whole day without seeing another angler. It's cold in the morning, so we didn't start early. We were usually on the water by around 10 am and fished until the sun ducked below the ridge line around 5 pm.

We camped at the Sentinel Campground. It's adjacent to the Cedar Grove lodge, with a store, snack bar and showers; we had several stay at the lodge this year. Temperatures were in the 30's at night, but warming to the 50s and 60s during the day. In some years, it's warm enough that you can still wet wade during October, but not this year.

I think we all caught fish, but not everyone. on every day. Being experienced fisherman, we naturally had all the excuses that anyone wanted to hear. But a partial compensation for low fish counts here is the beauty of the canyon and the river. Even when you're not catching a lot, it's still a pretty fine time hiking up that river.

I will look forward to the 2026 version of our fall trip to the Western Sierra, whether back to Kings Canyon or to another of our fine streams and rivers.







CROWLEY LAKE FISHING

Kenneth Baldwin

On October 1st, I traveled with my son and my two grandsons, ages 11 and 9, to Mammoth Lakes for two and a half days of fishing on Crowley Lake with Sierra Drifters guides Doug Doland and Doug Rodrick. On our first day, we met Doug Doland at the Crowley Lake Marina, where he launched his 23-foot boat—perfectly suited for three to four anglers. The conditions were ideal, with barely a breeze and plenty of active, hungry fish. By the end of our half-day outing, we had landed 18 fish, including my oldest grandson's first brown trout—a beautiful 19-inch fish. My younger grandson, on his very first fishing trip, was thrilled with the six rainbow trout he reeled in.

We returned to the marina by 1 p.m., giving us the rest of the day to explore local attractions. We drove to the historic town of Laws, about five miles outside Bishop. The restored town includes the Laws Railroad Museum, which offers a fascinating glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in the Owens Valley.

The next morning, we met our other guide, Doug Rodrick, at the marina and boarded his 24-foot boat for another go at Crowley Lake's famous trout. Conditions had changed overnight as the first snowstorm of the season swept through, making fishing more challenging. Even so, we managed to catch about ten fish ranging from 15 to 18 inches, including another fine 16-inch brown trout. As the wind grew stronger and the temperature dropped, Doug wisely brought us back to shore a bit earlier than planned.

After lunch, we took a short drive to Mono Lake and visited its informative Visitor Center, which highlights not only the lake's unique geology and landscape but also the history and culture of the indigenous Kootzaduka'a tribe, who have lived in the Mono Basin since time immemorial. We ended the day with a scenic drive back to Mammoth Lakes via the June Lake Loop—a sixteen-mile route that winds past several alpine lakes and offers breathtaking views of the Sierra peaks and the brilliant fall colors of the aspens. Our four-day trip was a great success, especially in witnessing the excitement on my grandsons' faces as they reeled in their fish. The Eastern Sierra offers countless fishing adventures, with the Owens River, Hot Creek, Crowley Lake, and many other pristine waters all within easy reach—not to mention the unmatched splendor of the Sierra Nevada mountains fall



2025 Speaker Program Schedule Low Leichter and Mark Shelton

DATE	IP (IN PERSON) Z (ZOOM)	PRESENTER	PROGRAM
JAN 9	IP	JOE GARZA	YUBA
FEB 13		STEVE SCHALLA	GOLDEN TROUT
MAR 22	BANQUET	LANCE GRAY	NO CAL WATERS TOUR
			FEATHER RIVER, ALMANOR & MANZANITA
APR 10	IP	TIM FRAHM	TU CENTRAL COAST STEELHEAD
MAY 8	IP	AUDREY TAUB	BEAVERS AND WHY THEY MATTER
JUNE 12	ZOOM	PHIL ROWLEY	STILLWATER MISTAKES
JULY 10	IP	MEMBERS	MEMORABLE MEMBER TRIPS
AUG 14	ZOOM	BRIAN O'KEEFE	FLATS FISHING BAHAMAS, BELIZE, MEXICO
			CUBA
SEP 7	FALL SOCIAL		
OCT 9	IP	SCOTT SUGIMOTO	LOWER SAC FISHING TECHNIQUES
NOV 13	ZOOM	SKIP & CAROL MORRIS	MAKE SOFT HACKLE AND WET FLY FISHING WORK
DEC 11	IP		ANNUAL MEETING & MEMBER SLIDE SHOW

O' Neill Forebay Striper Trip

December 7-8, tentative (high winds postpone)

Leader: Mark Shelton (459-7863; mshelton@calpoly.edu)

What: Fishing for mostly schoolie, some larger striped bass, with the occasional largemouth or smallmouth bass thrown in. The O' Neill lake record striper is 59 lbs., so you never know!

How: Float tubes, pontoon boats, kayaks, wading, power boats all work. Stripping streamers like clousers, Lee Haskin's San Luis Smelt, zonkers, deceivers, and flashtail whistlers on I-lines or sink-tip/full-sink lines works best. Topwater action can occasionally be good in low light (poppers, gurglers, etc.). Rod/line size 6-8 is best, but lighter and heavier gear works. Stripers aren't leader shy, so 6 or so feet of 12-15 lb. mono leader is good. I use fluoro, but doubt it matters. The forebay ranger station opens at sunrise, usually about 6:30 a.m. in fall. Wind can be bad, so I'll watch the wind info line and keep in touch with interested folks. There are flats on the west and south end of O'Neill that are easily waded and can hold quite a few stripers. The nearby big lake (San Luis Reservoir) is good for power boats and is another option.

Where: Just west of I-5 by Santa Nella, 3 hours north of SLO.

Lodging: Some folks like to camp at the lake (Medeiros area is popular); most stay in Motel 6 very near the forebay (I've found it surprisingly clean in previous stays). Motel 6 Santa Nella/Los Banos: 28821 Gonzaga Rd., 3 miles west of I-5. Ph. (209) 827-8700.

When: I'll head up Sunday and fish that afternoon and Monday, returning home that eve.

Sunday Dinner: Our club tradition is to meet for dinner the first night at the **Woolgrower's Restaurant** in Los Banos – **6:00 p.m.** This is a family style, Basque joint that is a unique and fun place. It's almost worth the trip to eat here.



Second Call

Soaring Eagle/San Juan River Outing

August 2026

If you like great fishing with knowledgeable guides; if you enjoy tasty food and comfortable accommodations; and if you like to catch big fish....the Soaring Eagle Lodge on the San Juan River in New Mexico is the place for you.

Eric Tinglof will be leading an outing of Santa Lucia Fly Fisher members and guests, to the Soaring Eagle Lodge from **August 10 through 15, 2026**. The trip is four days of fishing with accomplished guides and five nights of food and lodging. This is the first call for sign-ups on this trip, and a deposit is not due until January 2026, but anyone interested in fishing the San Juan River should speak up and reserve one of the seven available cabins.

The total cost **per person** is approximately \$3,500 (double occupancy)divided between;

Food and lodging	\$1,450
Transportation costs	650
Guides, guide tips & fishing license	1,400

Call **Eric Tinglof (417-861-0264)** or **email him (etinglof19@gmail.com)** to place your name on the list for the 2026 Soaring Eagle/San Juan River outing.



Call for Members Fishing Pictures

By
Eric Tinglof



Our December “Annual” meeting at The Octagon Barn includes our traditional Member slide show on the agenda. This offers all members the opportunity to showcase **up to (4) four pictures** of your favorite moments fishing in 2025.

This is always a popular event, seeing where your fellow Club members spent their precious fishing moments this year. If you attend in person or via Zoom, please be prepared to tell the story behind the picture. That’s where the real interest and magic lie.

Please send your entries directly to me, in a **jpeg format** for easy incorporation into the slide show. etinglof19@gmail.com

The cutoff date to send photos is December 5.



Mark your calendars for the 2026 Bishop Trout Rodeo!

The Bishop Trout Rodeo is returning on Saturday, February 7, 2026!

As a former participant in the Trout Rodeo, we're excited to invite you to join us again in 2026. So, if you're already thinking you might need a little getaway after the holidays — mark this on your calendar.

When: Saturday, February 7, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We'll meet at Bishop Tri-County Fairgrounds in the morning, then head to your favorite fishing spots. After the tournament, join us for dinner, raffles, and awards starting at 6 p.m. at the Fairgrounds.

Can't wait to see you again!

Keep an eye out for updates and news.

All of us at the Southwest Council,



2025 TENTATIVE OUTINGS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT NAME	CONTACT EMAIL
January - September Dates TBD	Surf Perch outings SLO County	Don Wheeler	donaldgwheeler@gmail.com
	Surf Perch outings SB County	Ken Baldwin	klb1048@gmail.com
February 1 & 8 (make up Feb 22)	Casting Clinic	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
March - June Dates TBD	Santa Rita Ranch	Bob Bayer	rbayer319@gmail.com
		Don Wheeler	donaldgwheeler@gmail.com
		Andy Harrison	aharrison99@att.net
May Date TBD	Kid's Camp	Lew Leichter	lsleichter@hotmail.com
June 22 - 26	Manzanita Lake	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
June 22 - June 28	Lake Almanor	Lew Leichter	lsleichter@hotmail.com
July 7-July 12	San Juan River	Jim Snodgrass	lynda.and.jim@comcast.net
August Date TBD	Avila Bay Halibut outing	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
October 14-16	Kings River	Eric Tinglof	ETinglof19@gmail.com
November/December Date TBD	O'Neil Forebay Striper fishing	Mark Shelton	mshelton@calpoly.edu
November/December Date TBD	Hot Creek (Mammoth Lakes) and Lower Owens River (Bishop)	Don Nott	donnott@yahoo.com
November/December Date TBD	Lower Kings River (Sanger, day trip)	Don Nott	donnott@yahoo.com
December Date TBD	Hot Creek (Mammoth Lakes) and Lower Owens River (Bishop)	LEADER NEEDED	
Other Possible Outings	Kern River	LEADER NEEDED	
	Yuba & Feather River	LEADER NEEDED	



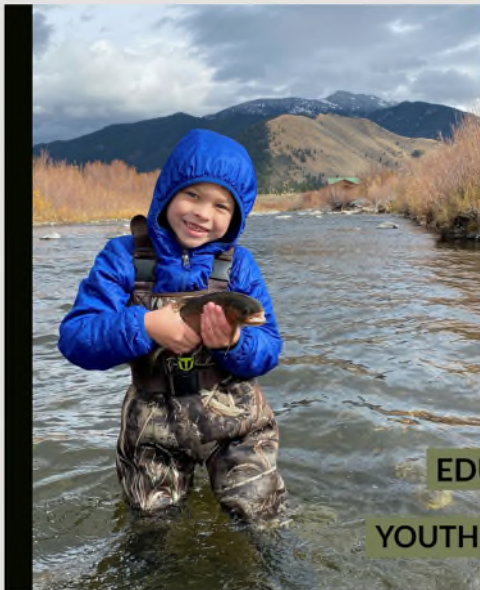
FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

Fly Fishers International (FFI) is dedicated, through education and conservation, to preserving the fly fishing experience. Conservation of our public waters and connected upland's is essential to our enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of fishes and their habitats and also the health of natural systems.

"When you teach a person to fly fish you have just created a conservationist"

- Lee Wulff

JOIN FFI TODAY



THOSE WHO FISH BECOME
CONSERVATIONISTS.
THOSE WHO FLY FISH
GO THAT EXTRA STEP.
KEEP 'EM WET. LET 'EM GO.

PARTNER WITH US.
DONATE TODAY!

EDUCATION/EVENTS/GRANTS/ACTION

YOUTH/WOMEN/DIVERSITY/CONSERVATION

Pictured above: Asher de Callier with his prize trout.

"When we teach a person to fly fish, we just created a conservationist." Lee Wulff

<https://www.swcffi.org/donate>

or send a check to: Southwest Council
PO Box 52, South Pasadena, CA 91031

If you would like to sign up for the Southwest Council Fly Fishers International's (SWCFFI) monthly newsletter, click here:

<http://eepurl.com/dEL97L>

PRIVATE CASTING LESSONS AVAILABLE

While our six FFI certified casting instructors generously put on a series of free casting clinics for our club members each spring, we wanted you to know they are also available for private casting lessons throughout the year.

If interested, please contact them directly for additional information.

Bernard Pieters	Arroyo Grande 489-3085 bpieters84@gmail.com
Bob Hurd	Arroyo Grande 550-9071 rbrthurd@gmail.com
Todd Tose	Grover Beach 904-5288. trtflyfisher@charter.net
Sally Stoner	Halcyon 550-9509 fishsal44@gmail.com
Deb Cox	Arroyo Grande 440-4344 debgrainercox@yahoo.com

SLFF MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

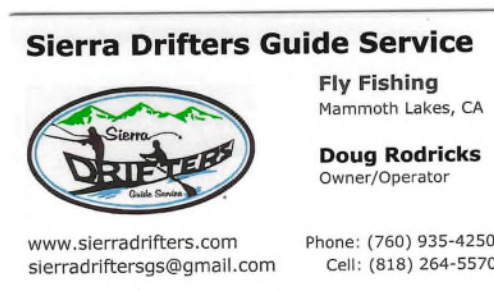
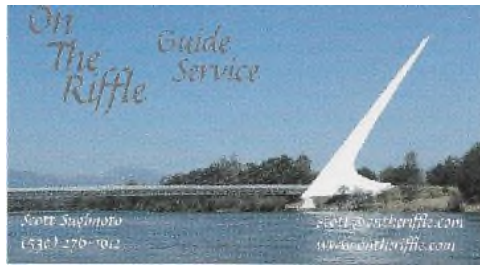
An individual regular membership is \$45.00 per year for 12 months (January through December).

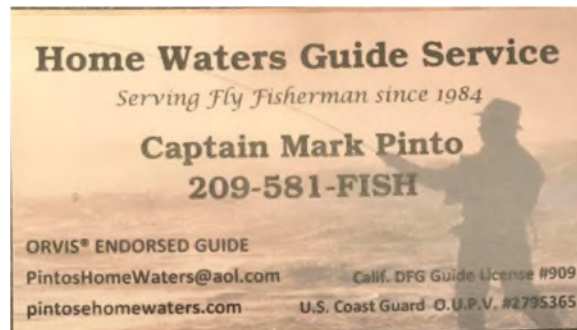
Enrollment after July 1st is \$30.00 for the remainder of the year.

**To join, please visit our website:
santaluciaflyfishers.com**

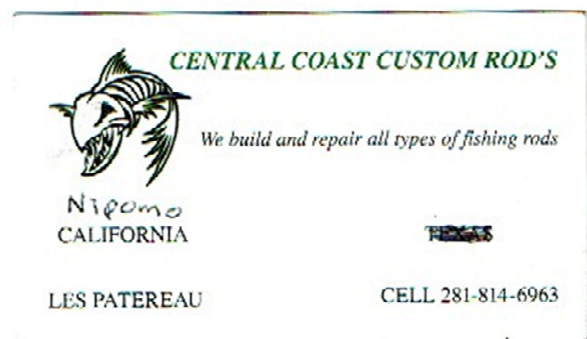
**MEMBERSHIP FEES CAN BE PAID ONLINE
New Members or Membership Renewal**

GUIDE SERVICES:





LOCAL SERVICES:



SLFF CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS		& COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
OFFICERS		HOME	CELL
PRESIDENT	ERIC TINGLOF		417-861-0264
VICE PRESIDENT			
SECRETARY	DON WHEELER		610-3158
ASST SECRETARY	CHRIS RHOADES		441-8394
TREASURER	GLYNIS TINGLOF		234 - 6299
ASST TREASURER	TOM FITZHUGH		310-935-9423
DIRECTORS	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
	BERNARD PIETERS	489-3085	
	KEVIN SHAW	213-229-9550	818-640-9694
	GLYNIS TINGLOF		234 - 6299
	ERIC TINGLOF		417 861-0264
	KEN BALDWIN		440-4200
	DON WHEELER		610-3158
	BOB BAYER	474-8950	434-7905
	RICH JENSEN		680-7615
	CHRIS RHOADES		441-8394
	TOM FITZHUGH		310-935-9423
	DON NOTT		626-289-1315
COMMITTEES	TOM FITZHUGH		
CONSERVATION	DON BALDWIN		440-6811
MEMBERSHIP	KEVIN SHAW		818-640-9694
NEWSLETTER	MIKE POWERS		748-7241
PROGRAMS	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
	MARK SHELTON		459-7863

OUTINGS SALT WATER	KEN BALDWIN		440-4200
	DON WHEELER		610-3158
OUTINGS FRESH WATER	DON NOTT		626-289-1315
EDUCATION			
CASTING	BERNARD PIETERS	489-3085	
FLY TYING	JIM SNODGRASS	925-5426	235-3738
BANQUET & BBQ	GLYNIS TINGLOF		234 - 6299
WEBSITE	CARSON DICICCO		345-5980
FUND RAISING	BOB BAYER (GEAR/SPECIAL ORDERS)		434-7905
	KEN BALDWIN (GEAR)		440-4200
	STEVE SOENKE (MEMBER GIFTS)		550 1715
	LEW LEICHTER (GUIDES/GEAR)	934-2476	452-0497
FINANCIAL AUDITS	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
	RICH JENSEN		680-7615
LIBRARY	STEVE SOENKE		550 1715
SWCFFI COORDINATOR	RICH JENSEN		680-7615
NOMINATING	LEW LEICHTER	934-2476	452-0497
	MARK SHELTON		459-7863
	ERIC TINGLOF		417-861-0264