



TIGHT LINES

info@santaluciaflyfishers.com

| San Luis Obispo County |

Editor: Michael Powers

Save-the-Dates

- **May 14, 2026** – SLFF Monthly Meeting
- **June 11, 2026** – SLFF Monthly Meeting
- **June 20, 2026** – Club Education Day
- **July 9, 2026** – SLFF Monthly Meeting
- **Aug. 13, 2026** – SLFF Monthly Meeting
- **Sept. 13, 2026** – SLFF Fall Social
- **Oct. 8, 2026** – SLFF Monthly Meeting

- **May 25, 2026** – Newsletter material deadline for June 2026 newsletter

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SLFF

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Salt Spring Island, Gulf Islands, Canada

In This Month's Newsletter

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May Meeting Notice
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2026 Outings Schedule
Manzanita Lake Outing Info
Unclassified

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



Berg Lake in the Shadow of Mount Robson, British Columbia Province, Canada

We had another great monthly meeting in April where three members gave individual presentations on their favorite recent trips. Don Wheeler, Steve Hanover and I filled up the program with tales of chasing baby tarpon in Mexico, sight fishing for trout in New Zealand and backpacking to the Kearsarge Lakes for trout in the Eastern Sierra. Seeing the size of my 6" brook trout on the screen after Don and Steve's beauties definitely gave me a case of fish envy, but what the heck. You don't necessarily venture into the wild to find the biggest fish. It's the peace and solitude that we desire the most in nature's most wondrous places.

We received a lot of positive feedback about having members stand up and tell their tales to the Club, so we are going to do that again at the May meeting. Mark and Marcy Osterkamp will enchant us with their trip to Iceland, Aaron Floyd will enthrall us with his fishing adventures in Bolivia and Tom Fitzhugh will entertain us with the sheer beauty of Montana as a backdrop. Come join us at the Milking Parlor on May 14th!

Finally, we are pleased to announce our next Club Education Day on June 20th at the Odd Fellow Hall in San Luis Obispo, from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Fly fishing 101 (the basics), entomology, fly tying, conservation, hands on gear demonstrations and reading the water. This day is probably best suited for those new to our sport, but not necessarily. Veteran anglers are certainly welcome to brush up on a skill and join in on the fun. I, for one, want to hear Mark Shelton give his presentation on entomology and tie some flies with Jim Snodgrass in person.

Coffee, water and lunch will be provided. Kindly RSVP to me if you would like to join at etinglof19@gmail.com or call me at (417) 861 - 0264. We want to get the food order right, and this will certainly help.

SLFF MONTHLY CLUB MEETING
Thursday, May 14, 2026
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.

Member Programs

Our trip to Iceland - Mark & Marcy Osterkamp



(or ... *Old, but not Too Elderly, couple can catch some nice fish surrounded by the extraordinary scenery of Iceland*) The talk will describe some of the different fishing rivers, guides, weather and hospitality we experienced on our three weeks in Iceland the latter part of June and into July of last year.

Fishing Bolivia - Aaron Floyd



Golden Dorado in Bolivia, August 2025 trip report from the wild jungles of Bolivia. Experiences with the fascinating native tribe, spectacular wildlife, and aggressive fish!

Montana Mayfly Tour – Tim Fitzhugh



My topic will be "2026 Montana Mayfly Tour". I will be reviewing my upcoming trip May 4-9, fishing with Blue Ribbon Outfitters in Montana. I'll try and give an overview of what a guided multi-day trip is like for those who haven't experienced one. Let me know if you need anything more for now.

Introducing our 2026 Meetings Programs

Low Leichter & Mark Shelton

We're pleased to introduce you to our 2026 meetings programs and speakers

The goal continues to be in-person speakers on topics of local interest to members. Like most other things, in-person speakers have become more expensive. As a way to offset this, and in response to positive feedback we received, we'll have 2 meetings this coming year featuring club member presentations. We have 6 members who will share a neat experience or fishing trip 3 at each meeting.

We're bringing back two of our favorite speakers via zoom Phil Rowley & Jeff Currier.

The rest of the programs will feature 2 destination speakers and programs of local interest.

Hope to see more of you at our 2026 meetings.

2026 Speaker Program Schedule Low Leichter and Mark Shelton

<u>2026 DATES</u>	<u>FORMAT</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PROGRAM DESCRIPTION</u>
8-Jan	ZOOM	KARLIE LOFTICE	My Fishing Life
12-Feb	IN PERSON	CRAIG DEMARK	Ondemark Lodge Montana
BANQUET 7-Mar	IN PERSON	DAGUR GUDMONDSON	Fly Fishing Iceland & the Central Coast (quite a contrast!)
9-Apr	IN PERSON	MEMBER PROGRAMS	Eric Tinglof (Kearsarge Lakes) Don Wheeler (Surf Fishing) Steve Hanover (So. Island, New Zealand)
14-May	IN PERSON	MEMBER PROGRAMS	Mark & Marcy Osterkamp (Our trip to Iceland) Aaron Floyd (Fishing Bolivia) Tim Fitzhugh (Montana)
11-Jun	ZOOM	JEFF CURRIER	Fly Fishing through mid-life crisis
9-Jul	IN PERSON	RACHAEL BEST - LCSLO	Protecting habitat & conservation efforts in North SLO County
13-Aug	IN PERSON	ZACH CRUM CA DEPT FISH & WILDLIFE	Protecting habitat in North SLO County
13-Sept	IN PERSON		FALL SOCIAL
8 Oct	ZOOM	PHIL ROWLEY	Fly Fishing Canadian Lakes
12-Nov	ZOOM	PHIL HILBRUNER	Lake View Outfitters - Kenai River Stream Watch
10-Dec	IN PERSON	MEMBER SLIDESHOW	

The Conservation Corner

Trout Season Conservation Tips and Tricks

by Don Baldwin

Trout season has arrived and it is our responsibility to promote ethical stewardship of the lakes and streams we fish to ensure healthy streams with clean flows, intact habitats, thriving insect life, and robust trout populations exist for future generations to enjoy. It is good practice to be aware of water conditions when fishing in areas with high summertime temperatures. A small thermometer is easy to carry in your fly fishing vest or pack to monitor water temperatures throughout the day while fishing. Trout face extreme stress in water above 67°F. Consider fishing the mornings only and not fishing after 12:00 pm. This is the "hoot owl" restriction, where anglers voluntarily stop fishing during the hottest parts of the day.



Figure 1. Coastal cutthroat trout

Always remember to pinch your barbs, use rubber or knotless landing nets instead of nylon so not to damage trout's protective slime layer, and always wet your hands before handling fish.



Figure 2. Coastal cutthroat trout

It's best to keep fish in the water as much as possible. When taking fish photos, try keeping the fish in the water, especially the mouth so they can draw water over their gills. When lifting the fish out of the water for a photo, make sure the person taking the photo is ready and lift the fish quickly by counting to 3 and returning the fish to the water. This technique creates a great photo when it captures the water dripping off the fish.

The simplest stewardship practice is to always pack out trash. Those clipped tippet tags, monofilament scraps, and other small debris are easy to overlook but harmful to fish and wildlife. Bringing a small trash bag or a zip lock bag to pick up trash while fishing will help keep our lakes and streams pristine. Have fun on the water, practice fishing conservation ethics, and keep'em wet.



Figure 3. Lahontan cutthroat trout

Interesting conservation article links:

A record 30,000 coho salmon return to Mendocino coastal rivers

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/record-30000-endangered-central-california-coast-coho-salmon-return-mendocino-coast>

Klamath River <https://caltrout.org/news/klamath-dam-monitoring-december-2025/>



SAVE THE DATE

Club Education Day

Saturday, June 20th 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Odd Fellows Hall, San Luis Obispo

520 Dana Street

Due to popular demand, we are pleased to announce our next Club education day on June 20th. Thanks to member Steve Soenke and his connections to the local Odd Fellows Hall, we have been able to book the main dining area from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. This will be a great opportunity for members, old and new, to get an overview of our sport, brush up on a skill or simply enjoy like-minded angler companionship.

Subjects to be presented include (timing to be determined):

- Fly fishing 101 (the basics of the sport)
- Entomology
- Fly tying workshop (with hands on participation)
- Conservation
- Reading water

There will be lots of gear on hand to show you in person the different aspects of our sport.

Complementary coffee, water and lunch will be provided by the Club.

Please RSVP to etinglof19@gmail.com or call Eric Tinglof @ (417) - 861 - 0264 to let me know that you plan on attending. That way, we can get the quantity of provisions correct.



2026 TENTATIVE OUTINGS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT NAME	CONTACT EMAIL
01/31/2026 02/07/2026	Annual free casting team clinics	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
03/16, 03/25, 03/28, 03/31	Santa Rita Ranch Bass	Don Wheeler/ Andy Harrison	donalgdwheeler@gmail.com maharrison99@att.net
04/07, 04/11, 04/16, 04/21	Santa Rita Ranch Bass	Don Wheeler/ Andy Harrison	donalgdwheeler@gmail.com maharrison99@att.net
0408	Sant Margarita Lake, White Oak ramp	Tom Fitzhugh	tfitzhugh2@gmail.com
04/30	Santa Rita Ranch Bass Woman's Only Trip	Glynis Tinglof.	gct_art@yahoo.com
May Dates TBD	Santa Rita Ranch Bass	Don Wheeler/ Andy Harrison	donalgdwheeler@gmail.com maharrison99@att.net
June Dates TBD	Santa Rita Ranch Bass	Don Wheeler/ Andy Harrison	donalgdwheeler@gmail.com maharrison99@att.net
November-February Dates TBD	Surf Perch Outings, SLO County	Don Wheeler	donalgdwheeler@gmail.com
06/25 to 07-01	Manzanita Lake Lassen N Park	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
07-11, 07.25	Halibut outings, Port San Luis	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
08/01, 08/12	Halibut outings, Port San Luis	Bernard Pieters	bpieters84@gmail.com
8/11 to 08/14	San Juan River, NM.	Eric Tinglof	etinglof19@gmail.com

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.

MANZANITA LAKE OUTING JUNE 25th to JULY 1st

Bernard Pieters

This majestic place with its snow-covered peaks, natural beauty, and quality trout fishing brings us back year after year.

The park also attracts a lot of non-fishers, and because of this there is a shortage of camp-sites, especially around the outing dates! If you are interested, I urge you to RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW! If possible, we try to have all members together in Loop C!

WHERE: Manzanita Lake, Lassen National Park north entrance, Highway 44 east of Redding, to Highway 89

ACCOMMODATIONS: camping near the lake (no hook ups)

RESERVATIONS: recreation.gov or call 877 444 6777.

Most members are camping in loop C. I'm in C1.

Motels are in Shingletown ,about 14 miles toward Redding.

For many years, myself and many other fly fishers of all skill levels have chosen to use this unique picture-perfect great fishing lake above many others to elevate their still-water knowledge!

For those new to the lake, the fishing is primarily done in 4 to 8 ft of water with long leaders over submerged weed beds. Most of us begin around mid morning for the best fishing and stop mid afternoon. Fishing is slow between 3:30 and 7:00 pm. This will give you ample time to have dinner, and be ready for the evening fishing. If the fishing gods were not at your side during the day, you still have a good shot for great fishing in the evening. The lake comes back to life when the sun is going off the water around 7:30 pm. The dry-fly activity starts at that time with improving results later in the evening until dark. During this low light period, the fish are less picky and easier to fool. What was (for some) hard to achieve during the day is now working great. At the same time 8 to 9:30 pm, stripping a dark medium size seal bugger or wooly-bugger, can be very productive with a lot of violent strikes from mostly brown trout. This is a great way to end your fishing day. A floating device is the best way to go, however there are many good spots around the 80-acre lake, which can be fished productively from the shore .

A fishing license is REQUIRED, as is a personal floatation device (PFD or life jacket) if using a boat or float tube.

For those who are interested, or are new to the lake, I plan to have a DAILY FISHING INFO get together at 5pm at site C1, where each of us can talk about their fishing day experiences, what worked, and what didn't work so well. If needed, we can come up with line/leader/fly selection adjustment for the next fishing day. Last but not least, and most important for Manzanita, we'll discuss the different fly retrieval and presentation techniques to use — this can make or break your day !

A dinner get-together can be arranged for Saturday 6 to 7 pm in site C1. If you are considering coming, or have any questions don't hesitate to call or email me at 805 489 305 or bpeters84@gmail.com.

See you at Manzanita for a fabulous time of fishing!

Unclassified ...

Used Dave Scadden Boat for Sale - Jim Trask

Jim Trask is selling his Outlaw Predator. This is his original inflatable, formerly owned by Judy's husband Rich Chubon.

SALE FUND RAISER. All proceeds will go to the club. \$500.00 or better offers. Offers in \$50 increments accepted until May 15th, 2026

Call Jim Trask @ 805 886-9843. Leave a message

Scadden Inflatable "Outlaw Predator"

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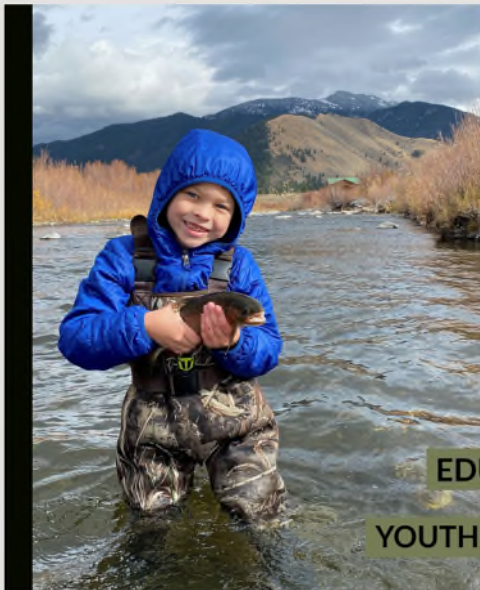


FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

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

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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
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