VOL. LI WILDERNESS FLY FISHERS SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA FEBRUARY 2016



# Flats Fishing the World

We fly fishers quickly discover that there are at least two elements of our sport that are amazingly constant. One is that we almost always find stunning beauty in where we fish, excusing, of course, the sometimes bizarre and unusual location of carp fishing in the L.A. River. Most of the time, however, we are in true beauty and splendor of nature, be it a small mountain stream, a brawling Rockies free stone river, a picturesque alpine lake or a stunning atoll in the Pacific. It is true: most fish live in the most beautiful places on earth. The second constant is that there is always, ALWAYS something new to learn – some new strategy, some new fly and some new place to go.

Well, for the second presentation in our new year, we are going to be absolutely smothered in beauty -unabashed images of spectacular scenery from around our earth that will undoubtedly create a lovely wish list of new destinations, all the while being bombarded with new ideas and tactics and gadgets.



Bruce Chard

continued on page 2

1-4 5 6

February	2016 MONTHLY MEETING	INSIDE					
Date:	Tuesday, February, 16th	INSIDE					
Wet Flies:	6:00 PM						
Dinner:	7:00 PM	Flats Fishing Around the World					
Program:	8:00 PM	Coming Events					
Place:	Olympic Collection, 11301 Olympic Boulevard, LA	Message from the WFF Club President					
Cost:	<b>\$37.00</b> per person						
Parking:	\$4.00 underground – Free on the street.						
TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: RESERVE ONLINE							
OR CALL THE HOT LINE 310 280–3459							
OR MAIL IN THE FORM ON PAGE 16							

#### **Flats Fishing**

For more than two decades, Capt. Bruce Chard has made his love and commitment to fly fishing abundantly clear through countless activities and accomplishments. And without a doubt, his first love (after fly fishing) is teaching people – all kinds of people – how to fish, how to cast, how to see all the grace, charm and beauty in what we do and where we "do" it.

Bruce started fishing when he was 10-years-old, living in Venice, Florida, by tossing shrimp in the intercostal waterways. After moving to Pennsylvania, he saw a fly fishing magazine while he was still in his teens and loved the way the casting looked; he's been a devotee ever since. After graduating high school in the keystone state, Bruce moved immediately back to Florida and, at 18, started guiding in the Keys. His mentor was Jake Jordan, who was affiliated with the fly shop where Bruce had started working. Jake took young Bruce under his wing, introducing him to the many fly fishing icons he knew.

That was 24 years ago and Bruce's rise in the fly fishing world has been meteoric. From when he was certified as a Federation of Fly Fishers *Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor* while still in his early 20s, Bruce has been conducting multiple fly casting and fly fishing schools throughout the Florida Keys, the Bahamas, Mexico and Belize, and he's recently been expanding these schools to even wider world locations. He's also the Director of Fly Fishing School Operations for Bozeman, Montana-based Yellow Dog Fly Fishing Adventures.



Florida Keys Tailing Permit.



Key Lime Pie Tarpon Fly



Seychelles Flats



Florida Keys Sunset.



Florida Keys Sunset Sandfly Key

#### **Flats Fishing**

14 times has Bruce been on the cover of well-known fly fishing magazines and he's been written about countless times. He is a published writer and photographer himself and is currently under contract to write a fly fishing book for Stackpole. And Bruce gives back; he has devoted his expertise and time as a board member of the American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA) and regularly contributes time and energy to the many important conservation efforts of Bonefish and Tarpon Trust (BTT). Still in his early 40s, Bruce has already accomplished multiple achievements in both the introduction of new developments in the fly fishing industry as well as game changing flats fishing techniques, fly patterns and equipment.

And yet, of all his many accomplishments, overriding all seems to be his undisputed gift of connecting with fly fishers of all ages and skill levels. And his enthusiasm is described by everyone who knows him as absolutely infectious -- people say fly fishing isn't Bruce's job, it's his life. And he loves all of it.

FISH THE SALT WATER FLATS



Oceanside Florida Keys



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Bruce Chard on a flat.
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Flats World Wide

DESTINATIONS WORLD WIDE

### **Flats Fishing**

As Bruce takes us literally around the world, this is a presentation you will definitely enjoy, whether you are a flats fishing aficionado (yet) or not. See more about Bruce by going to <u>www.brucechard.com</u>



Worldwide Bonefish Fly Selection.



Bahamas Andros



Sunset Rollers, Bahia Honda, Florida Keys

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### **Board of Directors**

President	Celia Carroll		
Vice President	Paul Parminter		
Secretary	Peter Haight		
Treasurers	Tom Rasmussen		
	Art Antolick		
Programs	Art Siegel		
Membership	Marcia Breskin		
New Member Committee	Reece Lewis		
	Leslie Riley		
Dinner Reservations	Michie Hirooka		
Monthly Raffle / Inventory	Clay Dodder		
Database Manager	Marcia Breskin		
Spring Super Raffle	OPEN		
Conservation Super Raffle	OPEN		
Hotline	John Dalton		
Casting	Jim Solomon		
Holiday Party	Therese Funk		
Conservation	OPEN		
Fly Tying	Mel Light		
Trout in the Classroom	Celia Carroll		
Outings	Larry Carroll		
	Clay Dodder		
Webpage	Larry Carroll		
Newsletter	Rich Peters		
	Michie Hirooka		
	Marcia Breskin		
	Clay Dodder		
Southwest Council-IFFF			
Representative	OPEN		

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Wildernessflyfishers@gmail.com

To join WFF, Visit our website www.wildernessflyfishers.org

#### Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

The monthly Board Meeting, held the Tuesday, one week before the monthly dinner meeting, will be held at 400 Bonhill Road Los Angeles, Ca 90049. Meetings starts promptly at 7:30 P.M. All members are welcome. New members are especially encouraged to attend. Come and see how your club runs and you might pick up some fishing tips, too. Minutes of Board Meetings are available to members on the website's <u>Document Library</u>

#### COMING EVENTS For more information go to the WFF website CALENDAR

Lower Owens River Clean Up Flats Fishing & Casting Clinic

Sat. Feb 6 Sat. Feb. 13

Monthly Raffle Items Value

# **Greetings from the New Prez: Time to Renew Our WFF Memberships**

By Celia Carroll, President of Wilderness Fly Fishers of Santa Monica

The beginning of my first year in office as Wilderness Fly Fishers President is a good time to thank you for being part of our fishing club and ask for your ongoing support. Without your participation, we would not have a group that brings so much fun, knowledge and enthusiasm to our sport.

In 2015 Wilderness Fly Fishers provided us with:

1 fabulous Holiday Party;

9 workshops including fly tying, rigging, surf fishing, still water and Tenkara techniques, all with exceptional instruction;

10 vibrant and instructive presentations at our monthly dinner meetings;

11 issues of *Mending the Line* with information about special fishing locations, excellent guides, Club outings and member reports;

12 chances to acquire new fly fishing gear at monthly meeting raffles, the May Super Raffle and the Holiday Party Conservation Raffle;

20 outings from California to Montana with new local spots, too;

And a partridge soft hackle snagged in a tree. (Okay, maybe not that last one.)

Some members may only be interested in one of these activities, others may enjoy several, and a few members may opt to participate in virtually all of them. But none of these activities can be made available unless the Club is sustainable financially. To continue this annual bounty, please renew your Wilderness Fly Fishers membership during the annual renewal period that ends March 31. It will be a big help if you do it sooner rather than later as our finances, while sound, are somewhat reduced from previous years due to the lack of the Super Auction last year and a smaller membership.

Now is also a good time to consider upgrading your membership to '**Golden Trout' status**, and/or adding a separate tax-deductible donation to your renewal. Both of these can conveniently be done when you renew online.

Thank you. This is going to be a fun filled year for WFF.

## **MEET OUR NEW WFF PRESIDENT FOR 2016**

An MTL Interview with CELIA CARROLL

2016 promises to see a lot of changes in the world of fly fishing, and here at Wilderness Fly Fishers we have already experienced a significant change in Club leadership. After serving two successful terms as President, Peter Haight decided it was time to hand the gavel off to someone else. And we are delighted that the "someone" who has accepted the hand-off is long time Club member and Trout in the Classroom (TIC) leader, Celia Carroll. Although she needs no introduction, we thought it might be interesting to ask Celia about her vision for the Club and a few other matters as she begins her term as President.

*MTL:* First of all, congratulations on becoming Club President and thank you for accepting this leadership responsibility on behalf of the Club. When you were growing up in Texas were you introduced to fishing at an early age? How did you first get involved with the sport of fishing?



Celia Carroll

*Celia:* Daddy took all of his children and any available nieces and nephews fishing, hiking and bird-watching. He taught me lifelong pleasures of sitting quietly and watching the beauty and drama of the natural world unfold. He could sit still for hours, until quail and roadrunners walked under his chair. And so today, I love to sit still on a streamside boulder and watch trout in their feeding lanes sorting through the stream of debris for a meal.

MTL: How and when did you first become involved with Wilderness Fly Fishers?

*Celia:* Larry and I joined the Club in the early 1980's, although I did not become active until our daughter was a teen.

*MTL:* Most every Club member knows about your longstanding role as the leader of our Trout in the Classroom Program and, of course, the huge expansion of that program under your leadership. What other roles and activities have you performed at WFF?

*Celia:* Over the years I have participated on the Board of Directors; the Double Haul Ball; numerous WFF outings; the Mammoth Fly Fishing Faire where I helped register participants; the Super Canyon Sweep for the East and West Forks of the San Gabriel River where Larry and I volunteer almost every year. When WFF participated in the annual beach cleanup – we volunteered for that – ever since, I pick up a mile of trash whenever we go surf fishing.

#### **New WWF President**

Volunteering for WFF outings and projects often yielded up surprises and opportunities to learn new skills: I have emptied traps of invasive crayfish for the Malibu Creek conservation project; picked up roadside trash on a stretch of Highway 395 south of Mammoth when WFF Adopted-a-Highway; helped serve over 100 sandwiches at the Double Haul Ball a couple of times; took my first excursion wearing snowshoes with Mary Jo Dalton at Alpers Ranch. I've also been part of a team of Dept. of Fish and Wildlife staff and WFF volunteers scrambling our way up Silver Creek [California] capturing electro-shocked brookies to help endangered Lahontan cutthroat trout regain viable habitat; witnessed an intense Trico hatch on the Bighorn River in Montana while on a WFF trip to Leaning Tree Lodge; and sung "Goodnight Irene" with George Patterson and others around a campfire at Kelsey Lake. I have served as Board Secretary for the last year, and, of course, I followed the 18-year stewardship of Jim Solomon and Jim Drummond as Coordinator for our TIC program.

*MTL*: Do you feel that your 41 years as a public librarian have helped you in the roles that you have had with the Club?

*Celia:* I use my librarian-ly skills often when researching material to bring to our work in the Trout in the Classroom schools. Three years ago, we added Culver City Middle School to the program so now all three seventh-grade classes of more than 500 students participate in TIC. As a public librarian, I was often a storyteller, and gave as many as eight storytimes a week to kids six weeks old to age 12 when school classes visited. I use that experience to now talk to kids in local schools about the amazing rainbow trout and the wonders of our California wild places.

*MTL:* Last year you took a guided trip on the Lower Owens River with Pat Jaeger using a Tenkara rod and technique for the first time. Was that a game changer for you in terms of fly fishing? How successful was the outing and do you intend to continue using the Tenkara technique in the future?

Celia: Tenkara fly fishing is great fun! I like its simplicity, and the way it lets me use the fly

or nymph to mimic insect behavior. Bishop guide Pat Jaeger introduced me to Tenkara fishing on the WFF outing to the Lower Owens last February. I quickly learned how to cast to the feeding lanes for browns and rainbows. The Tenkara casting technique gives a nice long drift with the ability to jiggle that fly and tempt fish! It's a great method for those of us who like to be in the moment on a beautiful stream without thinking excessively about technique. I have a Tenkara rod now which I used most recently on the Club Hot Creek trip in October.



Celia Carroll on the Owens River at Pat Jaeger's Tenkara Streamside Seminar in February 2015

#### **New WWF President**

*MTL:* We know that you like to combine bird watching with fly fishing. Of all of the places that you have visited, what is your favorite location for fishing and birding, and why?

*Celia:* The West Fork of the San Gabriel River is only an hour away, in the Angeles National Forest. The canyon is deep, cool and secluded, so trout are happy there most of the year. I have encountered twin teenage mountain lions, a black bear, gray fox, and bobcat, as well a healthy array of mountain quail, band-tailed pigeons, and canyon wrens, to name just a few! The canyon walls host plant communities which rarely occur so far south including red columbine, leopard lilies, mariposa lilies, and many more. There are many great fishing and wildlife-watching opportunities in our local mountains. Los Angeles has the greatest spread of wild land on its borders of any U.S. city! I will never see it all, but it is sure fun to try!

*MTL:* Turning to matters relating to your new administrative role on behalf of the Club, what is your vision of the Club during 2016 and beyond? Are you planning to make any significant changes either in terms of Club policies, the way meetings are held, recruitment of new members, or any other significant Club matters?

*Celia:* Like many long-lived clubs, WFF has lost membership and participation in its events and functions in recent years. Going forward, I believe we can be most successful by responding to our membership, and publicizing ourselves to the wider Southern California fishing community. Three members, John Kingsley, Leslie Riley and I completed a member survey last October. Our membership, though smaller than past years, is active, loves our sport and responds to the opportunities the Club offers. However, because we are a small group, the number of people who can free up time for Club responsibilities and events is also small. When we had 140 members five years ago, there was an adequate pool of people who were available for events and offices. An outing often had 8–10 participants; today, we must work to attract 5 - 6 people.

To continue to offer monthly dinners with an outstanding slate of speakers and to subsidize skills clinics with people such as Pat Jaeger and Ernie Gulley, we need to raise money and boost attendance at our monthly dinner meetings. It's a good year for members to bring guests to dinner meetings, and consider making added donations during membership renewal time. We are hoping for 100% renewals before the March 31 deadline so we know how to plan and pay for our activities. We also have a new Membership Group, formed under Reece Lewis' and Leslie Riley's leadership, which will focus on new member recruitment strategies. I have high hopes for ideas coming from that group, as well as our enlarged Outings Group, financial planners, and the Future-of-the-Club Planning Group.

*MTL:* What do you like most about the Club, and what aspect of the Club do you believe is most in need of improvement?

#### **New WWF President**

*Celia*: My favorite thing about WFF is the way we form friendships based on a sport we love, and the experiences we share in the beautiful places trout live! The Club needs wider participation by members – there is so much talent we can tap – and I'll be tapping on shoulders! So, the thing I least like is that a small group of Board members has had to keep the basic functions of the Club running for many years, without an infusion of new talent. We plan to change that this year.

*MTL:* Finally, if you were a fish and could live any place in the world, what kind of fish would you want to be and where would you live?

*Celia:* I like the way the sailfish slashes through the deep oceans, herding shimmering schools of sardines and flashing his amazing colors! Now THAT is a fish in whose scale-y skin I would like to swim for awhile!



WFF & Sierra Pacific Members at the 2015 Gary Bulla Joint Surf Fishing Class



WFF Members at the 2014 Big Horn Trip



Members enjoying the fly tying demo from January speaker Landon Mayer



Celia Carroll talking to a TIC Class



# **New Officers & Committee Chairs**

In addition to our newly minted President (*see MTL Interview with new President above*), there have been a number of other changes in the Club leadership for 2016. Long time members Jeff Pill (Program Chair, equipment guru and all around Club Ombudsman), John Dalton (Equipment and Monthly Raffle Chair) and Peter Haight (President) have each retired from their former positions and have turned over the reins to their successors. We want to thank each of them for many years of service on behalf of the Club. Although these are big shoes to fill, fear not because we have a small cadre of enthusiastic volunteers who have stepped up to continue their tradition of excellence.

First and foremost, Paul Parminter has agreed to take on the long vacant position of Club Vice President. Congratulations, Paul. Unlike many organizations, due to the multiple roles and numerous responsibilities of our Club President, the Vice President will be an active and integral part of the Club's administration.

Art Siegel has graciously agreed to take on the position of Program Chair vacated by Jeff. This should be a perfect choice as Art already performs many of the behind-the-scenes functions relating to greeting, housing and transporting our monthly program speakers. Thank you, Art. Art's job as Program Chair should be made a little easier because Jeff will continue to serve as program coordinator (not a WFF position) for the 7-Club Consortium where he will continue to identify, hire, interview and work with the program speakers for all of the clubs.

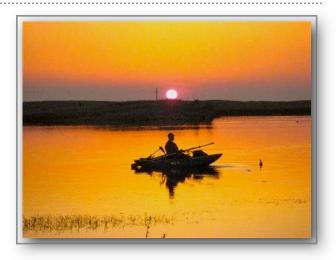
Adding to his several other roles at the Club, Clay Dodder has agreed to take over the position of Equipment Chair and inventory control maven vacated by John Dalton. Clay intends to continue with the monthly raffle, as well as devise a plan for a possible sale or donation of the Club's surplus equipment, fly tying and accessory inventory. Good luck, Clay!

Peter Haight will continue his service as a board member and will serve as Club Secretary. Rich Peters has joined the MTL staff (Clay, Michie & Marcia) taking over Jeff's role and serving as an editor.

It requires a lot of effort from a lot of volunteers to keep the Club running and for the most part running smoothly. There are numerous other members not named here that serve in various capacities and help make the Club what it is. We want to recognize and thank them all.



A beautiful day at Hot Creek Ranch



Sunset at Kelsey Lake





## Save These Dates

Tuesday, February 16: Bruce Chard "Fly Fishing Ocean Flats Around the World"

Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>: Peter Koga and Zino Nakasuji "Fly Fishing in Hawaii"

Tuesday, April 19: Dave Brown "Fly Fishing Streams of Alberta & British Columbia"

Tuesday, May 17: Marlon Rampy "Trout Route - A Journey Up Oregon's Highway 97"

> Tuesday, June 14: Gordon Tharrett "Fly Fishing Utah's Famous Green River"

> > Tuesday, July 19: Doug Ouellette "Trophy Trout of Cal-Vada"

Tuesday, September 13: Members Night "Show & Tell"

Tuesday, Oct 18: Jeff Currier "Fly Fishing Through the Mid-Life Crisis"

Tuesday, Nov 15: Tony Reinhardt "Western Float Fishing - Strategies & Etiquette"

www.WildernessFlyFishers.org

## FLATS FISHING & CASTING CLINIC PASADENA CASTING CLUB POND & CLUBHOUSE FEBRUARY 13, 2016

If you've been considering a flats fishing trip or just need a casting tune-up before your next adventure, sign up for a three-hour session with master caster and Florida Keys Captain Bruce Chard. The class will cover the basics of casting, rigging and equipment for bonefish, permit and tarpon. (Bruce will be our February presenter with his excellent program, "Flats Fishing Around the World.") He is one of the top Florida guides, a fly line designer and a member of the ECHO pro staff.

There are two sessions and, in order to insure personal and individual attention from Bruce, each session is limited to only 10 students.

Sign up for either session by emailing or calling Marshall Bissett (<u>marshallbissett@gmail.com</u>), 818 259-1551. Please indicate your name and Club affiliation on sign up.

PLACE: The Pasadena Casting Club Pond & Clubhouse (*pasadenacastingclub.org* for directions) DATE: Saturday February 13, 2016

TIME: Session 1 9 a.m. - 12 noon or Session 2 1 p.m.- 4 p.m.

EQUIPMENT: 6, 7 or 8 weight rod with floating weight forward line, sunglasses, hat, short boots or hip waders to wade in pond (about 12" deep)

REFRESHMENTS: Coffee, snacks, water and sodas will be provided

COST: \$35 per person, payable in cash or by check; get further details when you contact Marshall



Sierra Pacific Flyfishers Foundation Presents a Learn to Fly Fish Course 14.5 Hours of Classroom & On-the-Water Fly Fishing Instruction over 4 Saturdays



## Classes are on March 12, 19, 26 & April 2

At the One Generation Senior Center 18255 Victory Blvd., Reseda, CA 91335

On-the-Water Instruction will be at Reseda Park & the L.A. River

#### ALL CLASSES BEGIN AT 8:30 AM

Graduation Fishing Outing in Bishop April 8, 9 & 10 (Optional)

Cost for adults is \$40 Kids Under 18 FREE

Free Loaner Rods & Reels will be available

Go to www.spff.org to register

Contact Steve Ebersold at 818-439-0556 or email to education@spff.org for more information

#### LEARN TO FLY FISH

If you have ever wanted to learn to fly fish, here is your chance - SPFF's classes will take you step by step from your first cast to landing a beautiful trout on the Lower Owens River. The classroom sessions at the ONE GENERATION CENTER cover everything from knot tying to choosing the correct flies. At the nearby pond in Reseda Park you will learn the essential casts to prepare you to fish in rivers, lakes or our local beaches. SPFF supplies loaner rods and reels to get you started. The classes are run by certified instructors and experienced Club members. The first four Saturday morning classes are March 12 thru April 2 with a special graduation class in Bishop, CA on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Classes start at 8.30 am and run until 12 noon.

<u>March 12</u> – One Generation Reseda Park General introduction to fly fishing. Explanation of equipment, local fishing opportunities, learning the ROLL CAST.

<u>March 19</u> - One Generation Reseda Park Dry fly fishing, knot tying, the PICK-UP & LAY-DOWN CAST.

<u>March 26</u> - One Generation Reseda Park Nymph fishing, more knots, the FALSE CAST.

<u>April 2</u> - LA River TBD Take your new skills to the I A River – p

Take your new skills to the LA River – practice with nymphs and dry flies – you may even catch your first fish on a fly!

<u>April 8-10</u> Bishop, CA Graduation weekend in Bishop CA on the Lower Owens River. This is an optional event but we definitely recommend it.

*The cost for all sessions including the Bishop graduation outing is:* \$40 *for adults, free for those under 18, and includes all classroom materials and handbook. Travel and lodging in Bishop not included.* 

#### TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES GO TO WWW.SPFF.ORG

For more information, you can contact Steve Ebersold, our education guy at... <u>yukai340@gmail.com</u>.



Wilderness Fly Fishers	Annual Dues:				
Membership Application					
New Member Renewal	\$40 Single – Regular				
	\$60 Single – Golden Trout				
Name:					
Home Address:					
	Additional Donation				
City:	TOTAL enclosed				
State: Zip:					
Phone:	Mail Check With This Form To:				
	P.O. Box 3358				
Email:					
	Santa Monica , CA 90408-3358				
<b>Monthly Me</b> Please make your dinner <u>r</u>					
<b>Monthly Me</b> Please make your dinner <u>re</u> Your check must be in the club mailb	Santa Monica , CA 90408-3358 eeting Reservations reservations online or send in this coupon.				
<b>Monthly Me</b> Please make your dinner <u>re</u> Your check must be in the club mailb	Santa Monica , CA 90408-3358 eeting Reservations reservations online or send in this coupon.				
<b>Monthly Me</b> Please make your dinner <u>re</u> Your check must be in the club mailb	Santa Monica , CA 90408-3358 eeting Reservations reservations online or send in this coupon. box by the Wednesday, the week before the meeting.				

Join us online, Visit our website <u>www.wildernessflyfishers.org</u>



# February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6 Lower Owens River Clean Up
7	8	9 WFF Board Meeting	10	11	12	I 3 Bruce Chard Flats Fishing & Casting Clinic Pasadena Casting Club
14	15	I6 WFF Monthly Meeting: Bruce Chard	17	18	19	20 WFF Deadline for Newsletter Articles
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 WFF Fly Tying
28	29		2 Fred Hall Show Long Beach	3 Fred Hall Show Long Beach	4 Fred Hall Show Long Beach	5 Fred Hall Show Long Beach





