



Fishing New Zealand's South Island

With Mel Light

Our March program speaker needs no introduction. Some of us will recognize him as "The Fishing Fanatic," others as a celebrity landscaper, yet others as a master fly tyer who invented the "Mel's Mangled Cripple" and "Mel's Bunny Emerger" fly patterns for wary trout. By any other name he is our own former WFF President, fly tying chairman and long-time member, Mel Light. Recently returned from a 3-month long fishing expedition to New Zealand's South Island, Mel has promised to walk us through the best times and places to fish, the best techniques and patterns to use, and how to navigate the land of the Kiwis without necessarily hiring a guide.



*Mel holding Henrik's +5lb. fish.
Henrik is Mel's fishing buddy on this trip.*

continued on page 2

March 2018 MONTHLY MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 13th
Wet Flies: 6:00 PM / Dinner: 7:00 PM / Program: 8:00 PM
Place: [St. Augustine By-the-Sea Episcopal Church](#)
[1227 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401](#)
Cost: **\$30** per person with dinner or **\$10** per person program only
Parking: [City parking structure across the street](#) is most convenient.
Posted rates first 90 min. free, \$1.25 first add. hour, \$1.85 each add. ½ hr., \$17.50 daily max.
[1234 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401](#)

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS: [RESERVE ONLINE](#)
OR CALL THE HOT LINE 310 280-3459
OR MAIL IN THE FORM ON PAGE 9

INSIDE

Fishing New Zealand's South Island	1 - 2
Coming Events	3
TIC	4
Notices	5 - 8
Meeting Reservations / Mail-In Coupons	9
Calendar	10

Fishing New Zealand's South Island

Mel's program promises to be a down to earth presentation on one of the premier fly fishing destinations on the planet. Although Mel has a strong preference for fishing dry flies, rumor has it that even he often resorted to sub-surface nymphs during his daily outings on the South Island. Always willing to share his hard earned fishing secrets, this program will provide information that even the local guides may not be willing to divulge.

Mel is no stranger to adventure fly fishing. Some of his frequently visited favorite rivers in the U.S. include the Green River in Utah, the Missouri and Bighorn in Montana, the Trinity in California, and the South Fork of the Boise and South Fork of the Snake in Idaho. (Mel knows all of these rivers intimately, but he may not be able to give you much information about local accommodations because he invariably camps on the banks of his river of choice in his elaborately outfitted "Trout Mobile" van. Who needs hotels?) But Mel's experience doesn't end there. During the palolo worm hatch in Florida he may be found chasing tarpon in the Florida Keys, and everyone is sure to remember Mel and his brother Neil's program presentation that focused on camping and fishing for sea-run brown trout in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina – all accomplished on a do-it-yourself, learn-as-you-go basis.

If you have ever wanted to fish New Zealand, or even if you haven't, don't miss our March program. There will be something for everyone - beautiful photos of incredible scenery, enough large fish stories and photos to fill a catalogue, travel tips, and suggestions on how to be successful fishing one of the most beautiful destinations you will ever find. March 13, 2018, 6:00 p.m., St. Augustine By-the-Sea. Make your reservations now.



Baton River Rancher's cabin. "We stopped to ask if we could fish their section of the river and they said we could camp there and use their toilet. Extremely friendly and welcoming."



Board of Directors

President	Board
Vice President	OPEN
Secretary	Celia Carroll
Treasurer	Tom Rasmussen
Treasurer	Art Antolick
Speaker Programs	Art Siegel
Membership	Marcia Breskin
Dinner Reservations	OPEN
Inventory	Clay Dodder
Database Manager	Marcia Breskin
Conservation	OPEN
Outings	Gerald Berman
Webpage	Larry Carroll
Newsletter	Rich Peters
	Michie Hirooka
	Clay Dodder

Club Activities & Committees

New Member Committee	Reece Lewis
	Leslie Riley
Spring Super Raffle	OPEN
Conservation Super Raffle	OPEN
Hotline	John Dalton
Casting Classes	OPEN
Fly Tying Classes	Peter Haight
Trout in the Classroom	Celia Carroll
SW Council - FFI Representative	H.L. Boihem

©Mending the Line is published monthly except in August & December by the Wilderness Fly Fishers of Santa Monica, California. Submit inquiries regarding articles for publication to Wilderness Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 3358, Santa Monica, California 90408-3358. All articles should be emailed in RTF or MS Word format to:

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 2311 30th Street, Santa Monica, Ca 90405. Parking permits provided by hosts. Meetings start 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 [Document Library](#)

COMING EVENTS

For more information go to the WFF website [CALENDAR](#)

WFF TIC Fry Release	Thu.	Mar. 15
WFF TIC Fry Release	Tue.	Mar. 20
WFF Fly Tying	Sat.	Mar. 24

Trout in the Classroom

Release Dates - March 15 and 20

Here is your opportunity to give back to the sport of fly fishing! Assist elementary school students to learn about our sport while they release rainbow trout fry into Kenneth Hahn Lake that they have raised in their classrooms from eggs.

Mark the dates: Thursday, March 15 and Tuesday March 20.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) is an annual hands-on activity through which our club introduces students to active outdoor learning. During the release outings, which are the culmination of a classroom science unit, WFF volunteers help the students try out fly casting, observe fly tying, catch aquatic insects for examination under magnification, and release their classroom aquarium trout into a thriving stream environment at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

We meet at Kenneth Hahn Lake near Culver City at 9:00 am. TIC activities end at 12:30 pm. Volunteers enjoy a complimentary picnic lunch together after the morning's activities.

Contact Celia Carroll, TIC coordinator to volunteer:

ccarr10186@aol.com



WFF volunteer Lawrence Driscoll supervises Linwood E. Howe third graders as they free their young trout at Kenneth Hahn SRA in 2017.



Notices



Join us for a weekend at Kelsey where fly rod caught bass in the 3 to 5 pound class are common. (The current lake record is 16 pounds 12 ounces caught in January of 2014!) Since we have permission to camp lakeside, you can indulge in catch and release fishing from as early as you want to as late as you want. With twelve anglers in our group, we will pretty much have exclusive access to the 125 acre lake for the weekend.

Details and Registration at www.WildernessFlyFishers.org

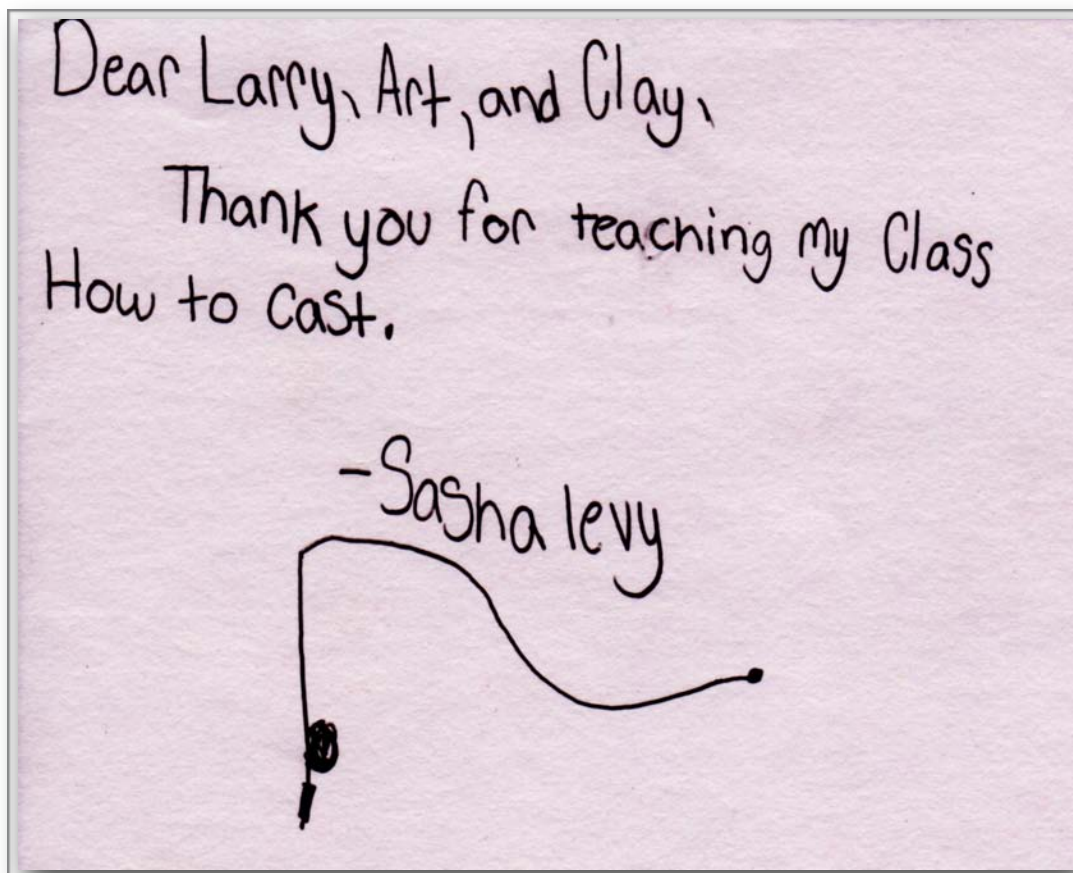
Don't Miss It!



Notices



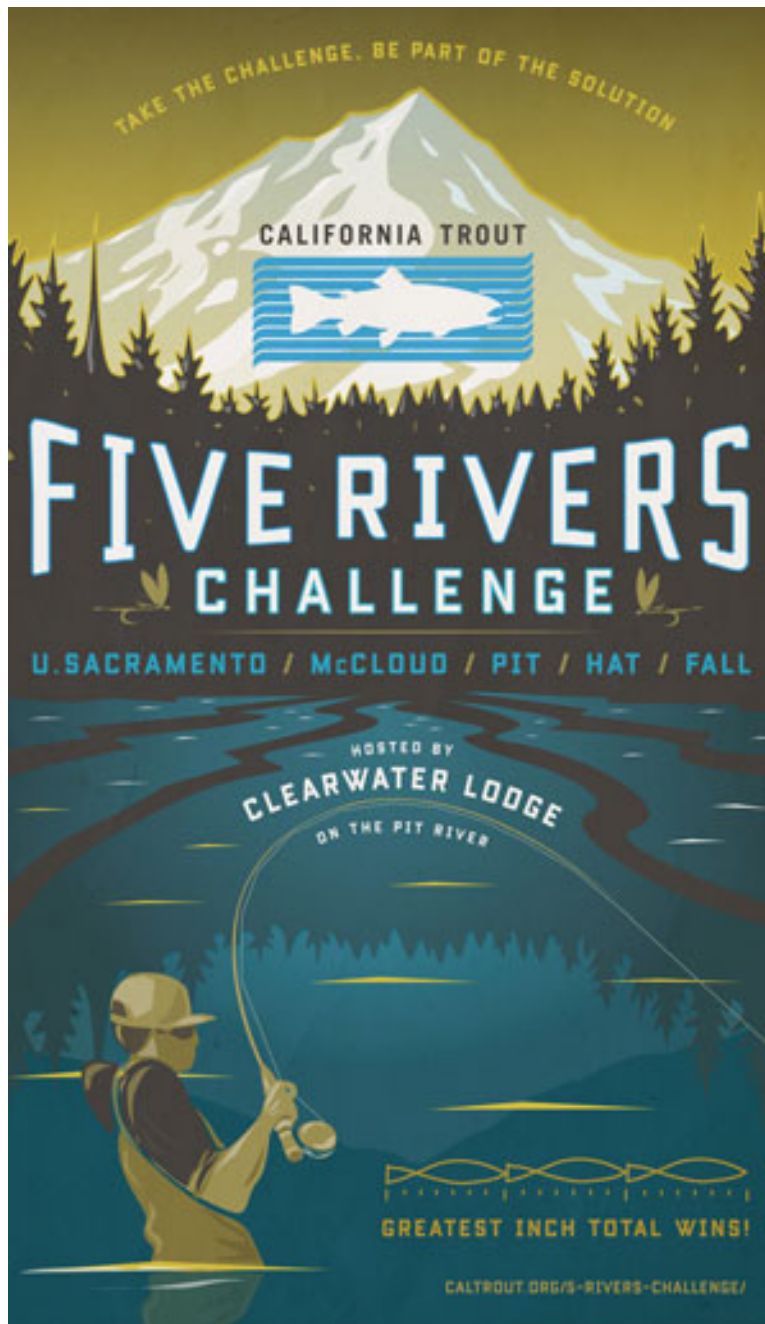
WFF's long time supporters, Mark and Rachel Stroda who operate Leaning Tree Lodge and have made several trip donations to our various raffles in the past, have a new website – <https://montanaflyfisher.com>. Please make a note of their new contact information and think of them the next time you visit the Bighorn River. They can be reached 7 am to 7 pm, 7 days a week by phone at (406) 666-9110, email at mtflyfishers@msn.com and their physical address is 111 Front Drive, Fort Smith, MT 59035



TIC Thank you art work by Sasha Levy



Notices



**** Announcing 2018 Dates: June 19 – 23 ****
[Click here for more info.](https://caltrout.org/s-rivers-challenge/)



Notices

So You Want To Be a CI

Saturday, April 14, 2018, 09:00 - 14:00

Southwest Council

Contact Eric Callow, Casting Director, SWCFFI at casting@swcffi.org or (818) 219-2276

Many casters who have reached the intermediate or advanced skill level find themselves asking two questions:

- How can I continue to improve my casting skills?
- How can I share my passion for casting and fly fishing with others?

The Certified Casting Instructor program of Fly Fishers International answers both by providing a thoughtfully structured syllabus of casting skills to be mastered with an equally important emphasis on teaching technique and a thorough grounding in casting theory. As such, it provides a road map for becoming the caster we want to be and a teacher who can effectively share their skills with others.

Going back to the early 1990's, the Certified Casting Instructor program was conceived as a way to provide both consistency and a higher standard in teaching others how to fly cast. Today, over fifty instructors who are active in the Southwest Council of the FFI have earned the CCI or Master Casting Instructor title. This clinic will provide a window on how you could become one of them by:

- Providing hands on demonstration and practice in each of the required casting skills.
- Highlighting study sources needed to become a knowledgeable teacher.
- Explaining the role of a mentor and how to find one.

Cost: \$50.00 FFI members, \$60.00 non-members. Register online at www.swcffi.org.

Location Long Beach Casting Club
5201 East 7th Street
Long Beach
California
90808
USA
(562) 433-9408



Print & Mail Coupons

If you prefer not to use our website, mail in a coupon with your check.



Wilderness Fly Fishers Membership Application

_____ New Member _____ Renewal

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Annual Dues:

- ☐ \$50 Single - Regular
☐ \$70 Single - Golden Trout
☐ \$60 Family - Regular
☐ \$80 Family - Golden Trout

_____ Additional Donation

_____ TOTAL enclosed

Mail Check With This Form To:

Wilderness Fly Fishers
P.O. Box 3358
Santa Monica, CA 90408-3358

Monthly Meeting Reservations

Please make your dinner [reservations online](#) or send in this coupon.

Your check must be in the club mailbox by the Wednesday, the week before the meeting.

Names _____

_____ Dinner(s) and Program(s) x \$30 per person

_____ Program(s) only x \$10 per person

Total \$ _____

Please make check payable to W.F.F.

Mail to:

Wilderness Fly Fishers
P.O. Box 3358
Santa Monica, CA 90408-3358

Join us online, Visit our website www.wildernessflyfishers.org



March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6 WFF Board Meeting	7 Fred Hall Show Long Beach	8 Fred Hall Show Long Beach	9 Fred Hall Show Long Beach	10 Fred Hall Show Long Beach
11 Daylight Saving Time Begins Fred Hall Show Long Beach	12	13 WFF Monthly Meeting Mel Light "DIY New Zealand Fly Fishing"	14	15 TIC Fry Release	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20 WFF Deadline for Newsletter Articles TIC Fry Release Vernal Equinox	21	22	23	24 WFF Fly Tying
25	26	27	28	29	30 Good Friday	31 Passover (1st Day)
1 Easter Sunday	2	3	4	5	6	7

