

The Flyline

Newsletter of the Aguabonita Flyfishers

Est. 1979

January 2016



**Our January
Presentation Will Be!!!**

Drift-Boating the Lower Owens



This slideshow primarily answers the question why a drift boat is the perfect off-road vessel for exploring the trout infested water of the Lower Owens River. I will literally describe the in's and out's of the river we fish and impart the simple tactics we use to trick trout. I shed light on the facts of weather, water flows and hatches that create this world-class fishery.

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"Drift Boating the Lower Owens" continued

I will describe other year-round waters that the Eastern Sierra has to offer and help you plan your next fishing adventure this winter or spring.

This show is not a big "fish holding" commercial but an educational, factual, maybe humorous, visual tour of the waters that we know and love. This PowerPoint presentation will confirm that we don't sit around a wood-burning stove tying flies and dreaming about the warm days of summer during winters in the Eastern Sierras.

Indicator Workshop

I will be offering a Drift Indicator workshop; I will simplify the on's and off's of the most popular indicators. And discuss some of the newer concepts that we've been working with in the last few years. This Q and A will help the newer anglers and excite the advanced. This will define the reasons why guides are like a good mechanic, we have more than one wrench in our toolbox.



Eastern Sierra Guide Service

<http://jaeger-flyfishing.com/>
esguidejaeger@hotmail.com
(760) 872-7770

Who Is Pat Jaeger?

Pat has fished and explored the Eastern Sierra for over 30 years. His journey began when he moved to Mammoth Lakes in 1978.

In 1980, he became part-owner of the Trout Fly in Mammoth Lakes. His passion turned into a profession after serving an internship at the Clearwater House on Hat Creek and a partnership with Eastside Guide Service in 1995.

Currently, Pat is a proud dad of two beautiful girls, a husband and owner /operator of the Eastern Sierra Guide Service. He logs over two hundred days a year on the water. His guiding is based out of the Mammoth Lakes area; he spends a month on the McCloud River and six weeks in Oregon guiding for Steelhead on the Rogue River.

Pat's main objective as a guide and teacher is to simplify the techniques for the person entering the world of fly fishing and to defy the most advanced of anglers in the trout-infested waters in the West.



Leader's Line

Dale Harper, President

Our annual December Festival was a great success this year, we had an excellent turnout and enjoyable food. Thanks to all that attended the event. We are now in the process of moving the club house from the current location to a space in the front of the building. Lew Albright and I packed up most of our gear, unbolted our shelving from the walls, etc. The new space will offer much more natural light and I think will be more conducive to holding classes. We will be looking for instructors in the coming year. The next step in the move is to start moving boxes and set up the new space. That is scheduled for Monday 28, December.

Our annual fund raising banquet is approaching and is tentatively scheduled for March 19. We are looking for volunteers and donations. Our speaker for the January Meeting will be Pat Jaeger and the subject will Drift Boating the Lower Owens. This should be interesting and it is something that is available in our own back yard. January is also a great time to fish Owens Gorge, so that will be the January trip. As your participation and support for the club and sport of trout fishing is greatly appreciated.

R/s,
Dale Harper

2016 Membership Dues

Lloyd Smith, Membership Chairman

If you have not already paid your 2016 membership dues, they are **PAST DUE!** I sent out renewal notices the last week in November. The notice includes your membership information (please check it over for correctness) and the amount due based on your prior member status. PLEASE include the return slip with your dues in the enclosed envelop. This is my way of confirming your membership status and your membership information.

The Chuck Newmyer Commemorative Fly Plate

Lloyd Smith, Membership Chairman

Get your chance to win the Chuck Newmyer Commemorative Fly Plate that Gary Davis is producing. This tribute to Chuck created with artist style of Gary Davis will be a collector's item. Don't wait until the last minute to get your chances from two decks of cards to win this fly plate. You can get your winning cards from Lloyd Smith at our monthly meetings or call me at (760) 377-3542 or email: lloyd.smith@hughes.net to reserve your card.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

**The 37th Annual Aguabonita Flyfishers Club
Banquet and Fundraiser**

will be held on Saturday, March 19th, 2016

—Additional Information Coming Soon—



FIRST FINCH AT THE FEEDER

Tippets from the Fly Addict - Allen Bell

Every morning I do the same things. I usually have some gardening to do, a quick clean up after the dogs and then I feed the birds that share my garden with me. After I'm done outside, I come back into the house and into my bedroom to spend some time with God. As I look out of my window, I always look for the first finch on the feeder. He is always very happy, surrounded by a nice pile of food. It doesn't last, as a hundred or so doves are soon coming for breakfast, too. But, that is later. For now, my happy finch has the best spot all to himself. As I watch my little friend enjoy his peaceful breakfast I always think of the times I have been lucky enough to be the first at the best spot, just before the hatch starts and the fishing is better than good.

The Kern is where I started fishing hatches. There were many others following the evening caddis hatch, it was ok, everyone managed to find a spot. We would all fish together until it became too dark to see. Everyone caught fish and it was a happy time back at the truck. Then, I decided to sneak out of work early during the week. This was a good idea.

I ended up with the prime pool, all alone. First finch to the feeder!! What an amazing time of fishing and catching. That was a time I'll never forget.

After a while, I found the Lower Owens. There are amazing hatches there, but they are well populated with fishers on the weekends. When I started going there, I had no idea how to really fish Blue Wings on water that small. This was definitely a different game. I ran into a nice man that showed me how to fish the runs, how to position myself to maximize my drift. I still was having a difficult time, so, he tied one of his



Sweet Caddis Water!!

flies on, put me in his spot and said, "wait". After a couple minutes, a bunch of nice Browns started rising. He said, "Put your fly right there", which by some miracle, I did. Whack!!! I caught a really nice Brown and a Blue Wing addict was born. I started making it a point to be there whenever hatches were coming off and I could usually find a spot, but most of the time I just couldn't get into the prime water until after it had been fished pretty hard. Then one glorious day, persistence paid off and I pulled up to a great hatch pool with no one around. Cha Ching!!!

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I stayed long after I should have left and it was one of those rare days that few people were out fishing and I had the spot and stretch of river to myself all day. I still sometimes feel sorry for all those fishes with sore lips!!!

I caught a really nice Brown and a Blue Wing addict was born.



LowO Blue Wing Madness!!

So, as I fished through the years, I eventually started making trips to distant and exciting waters. One such trip was to the Owyhee. As we fished through the day, we were told to go up by the bridge and look for Mahoganies and PMD's. So, we did. Lucky us, the first day we tried it, we were all alone, just us and about a million PMD's and lots and lots of fishes!!! These were big, smart Browns and Rainbows feeding in calm water, slowly moving along. Good for the fish, not so much for us. Those were some difficult to catch fish. We did manage to catch a few and it was so nice and peaceful there, just us in the cooling evening. Sometimes it's just too much fun being the first finch at the feeder!!!



Evening Browns on the Owyhee!!

Since then, I have been so fortunate to have the timing and luck to be the first and only at some really great places on some really great rivers. The 'Slick' on the Beaverhead, the 'Back Eddie' on the Green, the 'Fun Farm' on the Henry's Fork. I've also enjoyed great fishing and privacy in many other unknown places. It doesn't have to be a famous river to offer amazing fishing. All it really takes is a pool full of insects maturing to short lived adulthood and a whole bunch of hungry fish to make a special memory. Just me, a Winston rod, a few flies and a lot of fishes. Yep, being the first finch at the feeder can be a groovy thing!!!

Blue Skies and Fishy Flies.....Allen

I still sometimes feel sorry for all those fishes with sore lips.

MONTANA IN SEPTEMBER

Submitted by Dave Venlet

I was enjoying the recent Flyline and realized I had not sent a fishing report from a great trip to Montana in September.

Last week of September I met a fighter squadron shipmate from the 70s and 80s, Bill Hill (doing Andy Garcia imitation in his straw hat) to fish southwest Montana and Yellowstone.



The weather was dry and blue sky all week. He introduced me to 5 all new rivers for me - Madison (both in and outside the park), Firehole, Yellowstone (in and outside the park), Beaverhead and Big Hole. We mixed walking some days and guides some days. Fished six days. The quantity and quality of fish was rare and spectacular - both brown and rainbow. The Firehole had cooled by late September, flow was good and I caught a nice rainbow on a purple San Juan worm. Never would have picked that bug but the guys in BRF in West Yellowstone said it was a good one. They were right!

Walking back from the Firehole we found our car surrounded by a dozen snoozing buffalo. Had to walk up sun and sneak up on them to make the car. Old fighter pilot trick - come at em out of the sun... Works on fish too.



We found ourselves in the middle of the day hatch on the Beaverhead like I had only read about. We had stopped for lunch and quickly forgot food when the pool before us had a couple dozen big trout stacked up feeding just below the surface on a foam seam right before our eyes. A hand grenade would not have spooked those fish they were so focused. We each caught and released a couple in the same hole before moving on.

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The quantity and quality of fish was rare and spectacular.

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A hand grenade would not have spooked those fish they were so focused.



My favorite fish was a nice brown the last day on the Big Hole. We stayed in West Yellowstone, Livingston and Twin Bridges during the week.



My main rod all week was one Chuck made for me back in 2003 - Sage 9ft 6 wt with a beautiful two color cork handle (shown in pic on the Beaverhead with blue raft).



Bill is reaching for his net with a nice fish he caught on a streamer on the Madison in the park in the last pic (he spared the fish the terror of the net...)

Bill and I will meet again in March for steelhead on the Trinity River in California. That has turned into our favorite due to past success with both dries and nymphs on steelhead and sea run browns.

My best to all Aguabonita friends!
Dave Venlet

Card Raffle for a Custom Fly Rod

Craig Rae, Club Director

Fly Fishers -members or not - Brad Weich (master rod maker) will make the rod you have always wanted - super light weight up to a power saltwater heavy weight! Just be the holder of the winning card drawn. The materials costs are limited to \$350 for your winning card (custom handle and _____ rod blank) but if you want an even fancier rod or a more deluxe (expensive) rod blank or specially engraved you may pay the extra material costs to get those features in your rod.

This is to be a two deck card drawing raffle - all 104 cards must be sold @ \$5.00 each before the drawing is held. We are hoping to complete card sales before the banquet and hold the drawing then. Cards will be available at the regular meetings before the banquet, by mail, or at the banquet if not sold out before it.

Send your order to director, Craig Rae; 616 W. Coral; Ridgecrest; Ca. 93555 with

- 1) A self addressed stamped return envelope
- 2) A check for the number of cards desired
[Make your check payable to the:
Aguabonita Flyfishers Club]
- 3) If you are superstitious you may request a specific suit, number/s, and deck(Dragon Back or Club Tattoo)



January 21-24, 2016
Cal Expo • Sacramento, CA
www.sportsexpos.com



February 26-28, 2016
Pleasanton, CA
www.flyfishingshow.com



January 30, 2016 9 am - 4 pm

LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB. 4901 East 7th Street Long Beach, CA 90804

On The Hook

Gary Ahr Sr., Weekend Fly Tying

The next weekend fly tying session, called "Ties & Lies," is scheduled for Saturday, January 16th from 9:00am to noon. Come in out of the cold and join us at "Chuck's Place," 145A Panamint Street.

As always, these fly tying sessions are open to everyone. If you need help in solving a particular fly tying problem or have a question, others are there to help out. You don't even have to tie flies, just come on in and watch, kibitz or listen to fish stories; maybe tell a few of your own stories.

This is also a great opportunity for members to gain access to the Club's extensive book and video library. There is a small fee to checkout books or videos from the library though.

If you need additional information or directions, please contact me, Gary Ahr Sr. at my email address: gary_ahr@yahoo.com.



Up Around The Bend

Fred Freiberg, Programs

We're already gearing up for 2016 with several speakers scheduled to give presentations at our monthly general meetings.

January 5th	Pat Jaeger "Drift Boating the Lower Owens"
February 2nd	Jim Eerdman Fisheries Biologist, California Dept of Fish & Wildlife
March 1st	Jana Leiran Fish & Wildlife Interpreter, California Dept of Fish & Wildlife
April 5th	Michael Schweit President, SWC-IFFF
May 3rd	TBA
June 7th	TBA
July	No General Meeting
August 2nd	Annual Club Picnic
September 6th	TBA
October 4th	TBA
November 1st	TBA
December 6th	Annual Sportsmen's Festival

If you have suggestions for future speakers or you would like to give a presentation yourself, please drop me a line and we'll discuss it.

You can contact me at (760) 793-6964 or my email; fredfreiberg@hotmail.com

Refreshments for our monthly General Meetings

We're taking sign-ups for upcoming, monthly meeting, "Goodie Providers." Cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, you name it, club members will be more than happy to eat whatever you bring. This is a perfect opportunity to bring your wife's, the girlfriends, or the significant other's favorite dessert to share. Heck, even some of you guys could probably whip something up that's probably edible. Worse case scenario, head to the closest bakery.

A sign-up sheet will be available on the back table at general meetings where you can choose which month to bring the goodies.

January	Karen Davis
February	Neal Barry
March	TBA!
April	TBA!
May	TBA!
June	TBA!
July	No General Meeting
August	Annual Picnic
September	TBA!
October	TBA!
November	TBA!
December	Sportsmen's Festival

Club Equipment Inventory

FLY RODS:

1. Cabela's	9'-0"	6wt.	4-piece
2. Cortland	8'-0"	5/6wt.	2-piece
3. Fenwick	7'-6"	5wt.	2-piece
4. Fenwick	7'-6"	6wt.	2-piece
5. Fisher	8'-6"	3/4wt.	2-piece
6. Fisher	9'-0"	6wt.	2-piece
7. Fisher	8'-6"	5/6wt.	2-piece
8. Fisher	8'-0"	6/7wt.	2-piece
9. Fisher	9'-6"	7/8wt.	2-piece
10. Fisher	9'-0"	10wt.	2-piece
11. G. Loomis	7'-9"	2wt.	4-piece
12. G. Loomis	8'-0"	3wt.	4-piece
13. Powell	9'-0"	5/6wt.	4-piece
14. Sage	9'-0"	4wt.	4-piece
15. Sage	9'-0"	5wt.	4-piece
16. Sage	9'-0"	6wt.	4-piece
17. Sage VT2	9'-0"	5wt.	4-piece
18. St. Croix	9'-0"	3wt.	2-piece
19. St. Croix	9'-0"	6/7wt.	4-piece
20. St. Croix	9'-0"	8/9wt.	2-piece
21. St. Croix	9'-0"	9/10wt.	2-piece
22. St. Croix	9'-6"	7/8wt.	4-piece
23. Winston	8'-6"	6wt.	2-piece
24. Winston Accent	9'-0"	4wt.	4-piece

FLY REELS & LINES

1. Berkley	DT2F
2. Cortland	DT3F
3. Cortland	DT4F
4. Cortland	DT5F
5. Cortland	DT6F
6. Cortland	WF7F
7. Cortland	WF9F
8. STH	WF10F/S
10. Okuma	WF8F

WADERS:

1. 2 Pairs	Size-10
2. 1 Pair	Size-14

To check-out equipment please call Lew Albright at (760) 375-8725. The Club requires a nominal fee of \$5.00. The money will be used for maintenance of the equipment.

Monthly Club Meetings

General membership meetings are held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (639 N. Norma St., Ridgecrest, CA.). Everyone is welcome to attend! Our meetings feature guest speaker presentations, some brief club business, refreshments, a raffle and a silent book auction.

Annual Cost for Membership

General Membership	\$ 20.00
Associate Membership	\$ 5.00
Youth Membership	\$ 5.00
Life Membership	\$200.00
One Time Initiation Fee	\$ 10.00

Board of Director Meetings

The Board of Directors meet at 7:00pm on the last Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held at "Chuck's Place" located at 145A Panamint St., Ridgecrest, CA.. These meetings are open to everyone with agenda items to share. To be placed on the next meeting's agenda, please send your request to Dave Calvert at dave.calvert.ii@gmail.com

Club Donations Needed

The Club is looking for donations for our monthly, general meeting raffles. If you have items in good condition that are just taking up space then please consider donating them to the Club. These items "do not" have to be fly fishing related. You can bring items to Board meetings, monthly meetings or contact someone on the Board.

These donations go a long way to help the Club raise needed funds to help support our many projects and outreach throughout the year.

Board of Directors and other Club Officers

President Dale Harper	(760) 382-4903
Vice-President Fred Freiberg	(760) 793-6964
Secretary Dave Calvert	(760) 793-8026
Treasurer Steve Garrison	(760) 375-3192
Director A (2-Year) Dave DeKruger	(760) 384-8760
Director B (2-Year) Craig Rae	(760) 375-3707
Director SWC-IFFF Craig Porter	(760) 446-3400
Banquet Chairperson for 2016 Vacant	
Club Equipment Lew Albright	(760) 375-8725
Conservation Chairman Karl Zellner	(760) 499-6361
Education Chairman John Linder	(760) 377-5750
Membership Chairman Lloyd Smith	(760) 377-3542
Newsletter Editor Neal Barry	(760) 301-2098
Outings Vacant	
Programs Fred Freiberg	(760) 793-6964
Publicity Barbara Linder	(760) 377-5750
Trout In the Classroom (TIC) Jay Crawford	(760) 375-8275
Web Master Neal Barry	(760) 301-2098
Weekend Fly Tying Gary Ahr Sr.	(209) 918-1053
Youth Coordinator John Linder	(760) 377-5750

Goodies for the
January Meeting
— Karen Davis —

Goodies for the
February Meeting
— Neal Barry —

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	● Last Quarter 1	2
3	4	5 Monthly General Meeting 7:30pm - 9:00pm Dinner @ Casey's 6:00pm - 7:00pm	6	7	8	● New Moon 9 SWC-IFFF "Teach the Teacher" 9:00am - Noon
10	11	12	13	14	15	● First Quarter 16 Weekend Fly Tying "Ties & Lies" 9:00am - Noon
17	18 MLK BIRTHDAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19	20	21	22	○ Full Moon 23 SWC-IFFF "Teach the Teacher" 9:00am - Noon
24 ● Last Quarter 31	25	26 January Board Meeting 7:00pm	27	28	29	30 SWC-IFFF "Fly Buy" 9:00am - 4:00pm "Teach the Teacher" 9:00am - Noon

530-926-4540 jacktrout.com

Jack Trout Fly Fishing
Information

Since 1994

Northern California Fly Fishing Guides
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Web Site: www.jacktrout.com/
Blog: www.mtshasta.com/

Ernie Gulley
Guide Service

Web Site: www.erniegulleyflyfishingguideservice.com/
Blog: www.erniegulleyflyfishingguideservice.com/apps/blog/

Club Affiliations

International Federation of Fly Fishers (IFFF)

- Since 1964, the Federation of Fly Fishers has been an organized voice for fly fishers. The Federation of Fly Fishers and its Councils are the only organized advocate for fly fishers on a national and regional level.

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/>

Southwest Council International Federation of Fly Fishers (SWC-IFFF)

- The Southwest Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers represents all of Southern California and Nevada. The Federation of Fly Fishers is a 48-year old international non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the sport of fly fishing through conservation, restoration and education.

<http://southwestcouncilfff.org/>

California Trout (CalTrout) - Since its establishment in January, 1971, CalTrout's mission has been to protect and restore wild trout, steelhead, salmon and their waters throughout California.

<http://caltrout.org/>

Trout Unlimited (TU) - Since 1959, Trout Unlimited has worked to conserve, protect and restore North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds. We have protected more than 10,000 river miles nationwide and pioneered new scientific, legal and legislative tools to make America's rivers cleaner and healthier.

<http://www.tu.org/>

<http://www.tucalifornia.org/>



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The Flyline is published by the:

Aguabonita Flyfishers

P.O. Box 2059

Ridgecrest, California 93556

The Aguabonita Flyfishers are dedicated to the conservation of fisheries, waters, watersheds, and the enhancement of fly fishing with the participation of its membership through educational outreach programs to local schools and the surrounding community, county, state, and national level programs. The Aguabonita Flyfishers are an equal opportunity club without discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, age, religion or sexual orientation.

The Aguabonita Flyfishers is an affiliated club of the International Federation of Flyfishers (IFFF) and its affiliate, the Southwest Council of the International Federation of Flyfishers (SWC-IFFF). The Aguabonita Flyfishers is also affiliated with California Trout (CalTrout) and Trout Unlimited (TU).

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Aims and Purposes of the Aguabonita Flyfishers:

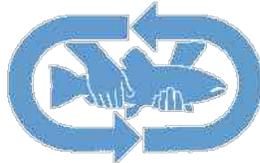
To improve and increase the sport of fly fishing

To promote and work for the betterment of fishing waters

To provide assistance to club members to help them become more effective fly fishermen and to promote the fellowship of the membership

To encourage and assist others to become fly fishermen and true sportsmen

To encourage and advocate conservation of fisheries, waters, and watersheds



Aguabonita Flyfishers

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P.O. Box 2059, Ridgecrest, CA. 93555

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www.abffclub.org

FIRST CLASS

Aguabonita Flyfishers
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