



# Reading the Water

March 2004

## Annual Conservation Raffle & Auction

### MEETING

Monday

March 22

Welcome: 6:00 P

Dinner: 7:00 P

Raffle: 7:30 P

**Barone's  
Restaurant**

2334 Carmel Valley Rd.

Del Mar

(Map—Back Page)

### Features—

Fred Hall Show 2

President's message 3

Kaul casting class 4

Bug class for fly fishers 4

Casting under the wind 5

AFFTA Discover Fly Fishing 6

Meeting details 7

Tom Loe 7

*Note the special location and time for this dinner raffle in the sidebar at left—See p. 7 for details.*

**P**ETE GRAY, of *Let's Talk Hook-up and Outdoor Adventure Radio* (MIGHTY 1090AM), and his co-host **Dave Ezratty**, to MC **Annual Conservation Raffle and Auction.**



*Pete Gray, Rob Machado, Dave Ezratty*

As we reported last month, Pete is trying to make *Outdoor Adventure Radio* more and more about fly fishing, and asked for the assistance of GSF. We are kicking this effort off with the Annual Raffle

**T**he Raffle is *the* fundraiser of the year for GSF, and it is important to not only the conservation issues we support, but operation of the club. *Simply put, the success of the club depends on the success of the raffle.*

The Raffle will be a combination of raffle drawings and a silent auction. As last

year, we are assembling a lot of great prizes—including rods, reels, float tubes, flies, videos, books, GSF logo shirts and caps, art, magazine subscriptions, etc.

*Plus*, this year we have *two* Super Raffles. **Super Raffle I** will be for a choice of two 2-for-1 stays at **Saltery Lake Lodge**, each having a value of about \$2,000; and **Super Raffle II** will be for a choice of two 2-for-1 stays at **Raspberry Island Remote Camps** (Kodiak) or **Driftwood Lodge** (Alaska)—see website for details.

**T**he Annual Conservation Raffle and Auction is open to *everyone*. And there is no

limit on the number of prizes you may win in the raffle, silent auction, or Super Raffle. The more tickets you buy, the greater your chances of winning!!!

Raffle tickets have already been sent out, and you can also purchase additional tickets. ***Please return them with your donation as soon as possible.***

We look forward to a fun evening with Pete and Dave, and the chance to take home some great prizes! |

# Fred Hall Show-Del Mar

**G**SF TO HAVE booth at the Del Mar Fred Hall fishing show, **March 17-21**. *Bart Hall has asked GSF to take the lead in introducing more of our local anglers to the opportunities and excitement of fly fishing, and has generously donated a large 300 square booth to us, plus media promotion of GSF!!!*

This is a terrific opportunity for GSF to obtain local exposure and garner new members, to contribute to the sport of fly fishing, as well as for you to help some terrific people that want to get into the sport and hear and learn how to do it.

While the details are still coming together, the booth will include a *Mini-Theater with a big screen TV*, display with GSF banner and exciting fly fishing graphics, and a tying station.

**F**or programs, **Gary Kutz** will be putting together a team of experienced tiers to demonstrate the art of tying (the Fred Hall folks are supplying a video camera to transmit the demonstrations to the Mini-Theater).

**Conway Bowman**, star of ESPN's *In Search of Fly Water*, will also be presenting a couple of his exciting programs on Saturday and Sunday afternoons of the show.

GSF is also coordinating with the

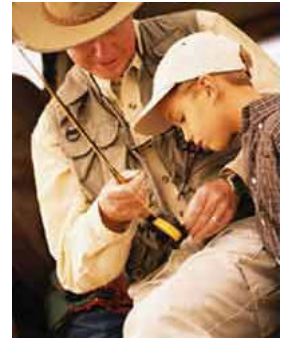
American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA) and their free program, *Discover Fly Fishing*, to expose as many people attending the show as possible to fly fishing. Through *Discover Fly Fishing*, newcomers will be given a free 50 page booklet introducing them to fly fishing, and a free introductory fly fishing lesson.

**G**SF will assist in this effort by providing casting instructors—and that is where you come in. Relax...this doesn't mean you have to be a FFF certified casting instructor to help out—if fact, Bart Hall says he actually prefers the “instructors” be average fly fisher men and women. The idea is to get a fly rod in the hands of those new to the sport and demonstrate it simply isn't as difficult as the person might think.

The show runs five days, as follows... Wed thru Friday, 2:00 pm-9:00 pm; Saturday, 10:00 am-9:00pm; and Sunday, 10:00 am-6:00 pm. We are looking for volunteers (admission is *free*) to man the booth, as follows:

- ‡ Casting instructors and presentations, contact Pat Case, 858-692-3771, red20hook@aol.com.
- ‡ Fly tying, contact Gary Kutz, kutzg@lacostaglen.com, 760-438-6682.
- ‡ General volunteer, contact Helen Condict, hrcondict@san.rr.com, 858-692-3772.

*Let's work to make this the best Fred Hall fly fishing event in years, and have a lot of fun in the process! ‡*



*This is a terrific opportunity... for you to meet some terrific people that want to get into the sport and hear and learn how to do it.*

## Presidents message

**A**S YOU CAN SEE, March is going to be a busy month for GSF...the Annual Raffle and the Fred Hall Show in Del Mar.

As we did last year, the program for March is set aside for the **Annual Raffle**, which will be MC'ed by none other than **Pete Gray**, of *Let's Talk Hook-up* and *Outdoor Adventure Radio*, and his co-host **Dave Ezratty!!!**

*Before I forget, note the March raffle meeting will be at a new location, Barone's Italian restaurant in Del Mar—see the details on p. 7, and map on last page.*

In addition to lots of terrific prizes—including rods, reels, float tubes, flies, videos, prints, magazine subscriptions...you name it—we are going to have **two Super Raffles**.

You will note the super Raffles focus on Alaska, with budgets of \$2,000 and \$4,000—which means you and a friend can have a week-long Alaskan lodge experience-of-a-lifetime for about \$1,000 each...it doesn't get cheaper than that! The Super Raffles offer an Alaskan lodge stay for everyone's budget.

**A**s in the past, we have had a number of vendors, manufacturers and individuals make a number of very generous gifts to the raffle. However, companies are finding it harder than ever to support fundraisers. *This makes it all the more important for our members to participate in making the raffle every bit as successful as last year.*

There is a saying in fund raising that

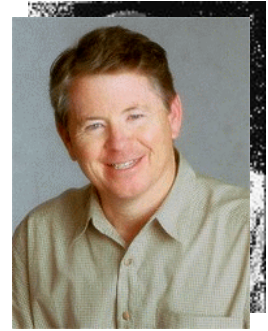
*people don't give to causes, people give to people—this is where you come in. Here's the challenge: Every member contribute at least one item to the raffle.*

It's easy...just ask your favorite restaurant, guide, lodge, fly shop, clothing store...you get the idea...to contribute to our conservation raffle. Also, *everyone* has used books, equipment, and gadgets they will never use again—rather than have it sit around collecting dust, donate it to our worthwhile cause, let someone else use it, and take the tax write off.

Last, but certainly not least, **BUY LOTS OF RAFFLE AND SUPER RAFFLE TICKETS—now on sale!**

**P**receding the Annual Raffle by a day is the five day run of the Fred Hall Fishing Show (see p. 2). Bart Hall has honored GSF by asking us to be the ambassadors for San Diego fly fishing, and comping us a spectacular booth for the show. In conjunction with AFFTA, we will be assisting with ushering in *Discover Fly Fishing* to San Diegans. **Please call today to volunteer for the booth—as a reminder, volunteers get free passes to the show.** This is a terrific opportunity to obtain local exposure and new members, plus have fun.

It was nice to see another good turn out at the February meeting. Steve Bonner's program on stealhead fishing on the Rogue and other Southern Oregon rivers—complete with beautiful visuals and examples of how multiple daily hook-ups were the *norm*—had many in attendance ready to book a trip there this Fall. †



Patrick Case, President

*“Here's the challenge: Every member contribute at least one item to the raffle.”*

### Mike Kaul's casting workshop

**T**HE ADVENTUROUS SOULS that braved the inclement weather of Mike Kaul's casting workshop on February 22 were treated to one of the best clinics we have had! This was a class in real life situations, including casting into the wind and dealing with the occasional rain shower. We only had to retreat to the cars for one 10 minute period of rain.

Unlike most casting clinics that focus on the mechanics of the traditional cast,



Mike put more of an emphasis on casting to catch fish, starting with rod and line handling right at the shore, and ending with the double-haul.

Mike delved into such things as shooting line, side-arm casting (this is considered provocative stuff in FFF casting circles), aerial mending, and other ways to break



the rules of casting, and why. Mike is a real professional instructor, as well as guide, and you should try to catch his clinic the next

time he is in town (Mike spends his summers teaching and guiding in Wyoming).

I think everyone went away a better caster and fisher than when they arrived for the class. Mike has also made a 2-for-1 donation of his fishing school and a lodge stay at his place in

Pinedale, Wyoming, to our Annual Raffle—thanks Mike! You will also be able to catch Mike at the GSF Fred Hall booth. †



*Mike Kaul with third arm training assistant*



*Demonstrating home practice technique, top; shooting line, left; graduation handshake for Mac McCollum, above..*

### Maggie Merriman bug class

**G**SF is sponsoring a no-nonsense entomology (bug) class for fly fishers, March 27, 9 am-12:30 pm, at Barone's Restaurant. The cost is \$45.

**Maggie Merriman** is a professional fly fishing instructor with over 30 years teaching experience. This is the same course Maggie teaches at the FFF National Conclaves. This is a great workshop that will teach you how to identify the basic trout food—mayflies, caddis, stoneflies, midges and others. You will

learn to identify the bugs, match the hatch, and select the correct fly—thus help you become a better trout fisher and fly tier. Class includes: samples of bugs, corresponding flies, and a *class handout*.

Pre-registration and payment is required by March 20th. Pre-register directly with Maggie Merriman, 714-969-5829. Please send check made out to "Maggie Merriman" to her at 19791 Coastline Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. †



*Maggie Merriman*

## Casting under the wind

**I**N ORDER TO HELP students deal with a head wind, we often advise them to cast 'underneath' it, either by using a side arm motion or by tilting the trajectory to make a high-to-low forward cast. These tricks are based on our vague belief that wind speed diminishes near the ground. But how much does the wind actually decrease and where does this decrease occur?

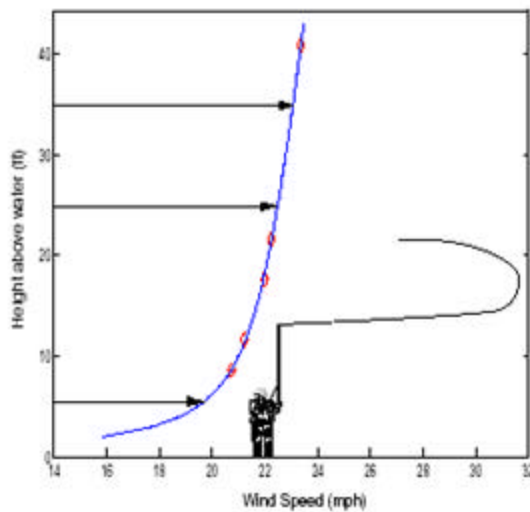
Although direct measurements of wind profiles over land are quite common, profiles measured over water are quite rare. Luckily, my colleague Dr. Jim Edson, at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, has made the type of measurements we are looking for.

**T**he figure shows a typical example of a mean wind profile measured over the Pacific Ocean. The shape of this profile is typical over open water or on a bonefish flat, but not necessarily over rough terrain. The figure also shows a 6-foot person who is using a 9-foot rod to cast into the wind. Unfortunately, the caster's loop is quite open, probably because he has not been heeding the advice of his local FFF Certified Instructor. The result is that his fly is more than 20 feet above the water sur-

face.

The average speed at the eye level of the caster is just over 20 mph. Significantly, the speed at the level of the fly is not much greater: about 22 mph.

Throwing a tighter loop (and maintaining an upright casting posture) will lower the path of the fly and will diminish wind resistance. It will not, however, significantly alter the wind speed at the fly level.



*This wind profile was taken on a moderately windy day.*

**T**o do that the caster could use a side-arm motion, putting the loop in a horizontal plane perhaps 4 feet off of the ground. The wind speed at this elevation is more like 18 mph, giving some advantage but not a lot.

I earlier criticized the caster for have such an open loop. However, an open loop on the backcast actually leads to a slight assist from the wind in straightening the backcast. The loop extends over an elevation of about 15-22 feet and the average wind speed over this range is greater than it is over the 15-17 feet that would be sampled by a tight loop.

Of course, the forward cast is an entirely different matter. The loop needs to be tight to penetrate the wind.

You may have heard it said that the

*“Although tricks such as opening the loop on the back cast, tilting the cast trajectory, or using a side-arm motion offer some advantages, the most important 'trick' in penetrating the wind is a tight loop.”*

wind speed actually decreases to zero at ground level. This was a matter of great debate among fluid dynamicists during the early part of the 20th century.

**E**ventually it was shown through visualization of microscopic parcels of air that the wind speed does indeed decrease to zero at the solid ground. Over the ocean, the wind speed decreases to whatever the speed of the water is at the surface.

For the conditions under which the figure was made, this surface speed is very small (< 2 mph). As the figure suggests, most of the decrease in the wind actually occurs in a very thin layer right next to the ground. For example, note that the wind speed at the level of our caster's knees is still about 15 mph.

Why is it that tilting the trajectory of a forward cast (such that the cast begins high and finishes low) yields some divi-

dends? By finishing low, the wind-vulnerable leader and fly can turn over within a few feet of the ground where the wind speed is significantly lower than it is aloft. Other than the distance added by a complete turnover and straightening of the leader, it is hard to see, however, why this trick should give any additional advantage.

**T**he conclusion? Although tricks such as opening the loop on the back cast, tilting the cast trajectory, or using a side-arm motion offer some advantages, the most important 'trick' in penetrating the wind is a tight loop. Tight loops, everyone! †

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*Dr. Larry Pratt is a Certified Casting Instructor and an oceanographer at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He also teaches fluid dynamics at M.I.T. (Illustration by Jack Cook, Jim Edson, and Larry Pratt)*

## **AFFTA's Discover Fly Fishing**

**F**or those new to the sport or who want to hook a friend on fly fishing, there are many ways to learn about fly-fishing. AFFTA's new *Discover Fly Fishing* is one such program!

The American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA) is working to promote fly fishing through its *Discover Fly Fishing* program. AFFTA will send you a free 50-page how-to-fly-fish booklet to anyone signing up online ([www.discoverflyfishing.com](http://www.discoverflyfishing.com)), there is a \$5 shipping fee.

AFFTA will also be at the upcoming Del Mar Fred Hall Show, March 17-21

at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. They are offering a free casting lesson and the free booklet to anyone signing up at the show, and Golden State Flycasters is assisting with this program. This is your chance to participate, and extend the friendship of reaching out to others through casting!

So when you are at the Fred Hall Show, say hello to the folks at AFFTA, and bring a friend along to sign up for a free casting lesson at the GSF booth. Please call me at 858-692-3772 to sign up for the booth. †



*Helen Condict is also a freelance writer and GSF's PR person*

## GSF goes Italian for Annual Raffle!

<b>When:</b>	Monday, March 22nd
<b>Where:</b>	Barone's Restaurant
<b>Address:</b>	2334 Carmel Valley Road, #A, Del Mar (see map on page 9)
<b>Time:</b>	Wet Flies, 6 P; Dinner, 7:00 P; Raffle, 7:30 P
<b>Cost:</b>	\$15 of meal, including tax and tip (booze extra)
<b>Menu:</b>	Choice of pasta, chicken, fish or veal entrée



## Tom Loe fishing tips—more on catch and release

I have witnessed the releasing of many fish by anglers having good intentions for the well being of the fish. Time and time again, I watch as the fish is mishandled and its fate doomed by improper release methods.

Please do your best to moisten your hands if you must handle the fish. Use a good quality soft, non-knotted net, and keep the fish submerged as much as possible during the release process. Make sure your barbless hooks are really barbless, and try not to handle the fish around its head or mid-section if at all possible.

When taking a photograph of a FAT ONE!!! please have your camera ready so to limit the amount of time the fish is forced to pose. Hold your breath after running 3 minutes without taking a gulp of air and see how it feels. Use this as a meter when admir-

ing a fish.

If you are in fast water, please release the fish in a quiet backwater or pool so it can regain it's strength without having to fight the current also. In a lake you can hold the fish gently by the tail, in an upright position, and move it back and forth slowly until it gains strength enough to move away.

Also, under no circumstances should you upgrade your catch or allow this to happen in your presence. It is not

a crime or improper to keep fish in legally designated ar-

reas; however, it is wrong to catch a limit then exchange smaller fish already creeded for a larger one.

We as sportsman must passionately adhere to this simple format to insure quality fishing for future outings. Enough said. ↓

For Tom's latest fish report go to  
<http://www.sierradrifters.com/fish.html>



Tom Loe



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*'When Experience and Results Count'*

**Advertise in *Reading The Water***

Deliver your message by advertising in *Reading the Water*. As the voice of fly fishing in North San Diego County, *Reading the Water* can provide you a direct hit to this affluent market. Copy must be in JPEG format.

The **annual rates** are as follows...

- Full page.....\$300
  - Half page.....\$200
  - Quarter page.....\$150
- Please call Helen Condict at 858-523-1017 to discuss your needs. GSF reserves the right to refuse publication of any ad for any reason. †



**Call for speaker hosts**

**We still have openings for hosts for our speakers in 2004.** Have a guest bedroom? Don't miss a rare opportunity to spend personal time with the best in our sport...teachers, guides and outfitters, writers, photographers, and other professionals. Think about it...your own

fireside chats with the best in the sport. Here's what to do...go to the website—[www.goldenstateflycasters.org](http://www.goldenstateflycasters.org)—note the dates of the meetings and speakers, and call Gary Kutz, 760-438-6682. †



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[www.goldenstateflycasters.org](http://www.goldenstateflycasters.org)

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Co-editor: Helen Condict



## Welcome to the Golden State Flycasters

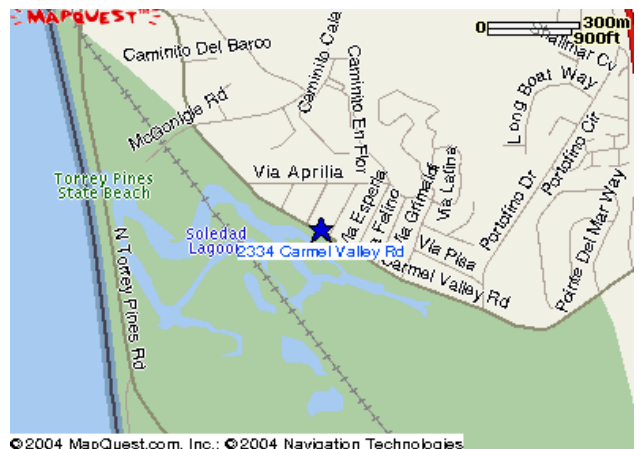
The GSF was formed in 2002 to serve the interests of fly fishers in North San Diego County, South Orange County, and Camp Pendleton.

### *Mission Statement*

*Promote national and international amateur fly casting competition; conservation and restoration of fisheries; and knowledge, support, ethics and social relations in the sport and art of fishing.*

## Map to meeting location

Barone's Restaurant  
2334 Carmel Valley Road  
Del Mar, CA



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## Submissions to newsletter

*Hey, you frustrated Hemingways and Steinbecks out there...we are looking for articles for Reading the Water.* The best are personal stories that are entertaining, or provide information not found elsewhere. Have you fished an out-of-the-way place recently?...Come across a killer fly for a favorite river?...Have a hot newsflash about a fishery?...Send it in for publishing!



Most importantly, we want the newsletter to address the topics *you* are interested in. So please contact us to let us know your feelings. What do you want to see in the newsletter?

Please limit your article to about 500 words, submit it in Microsoft Word, and *include photos or relevant images.* E-mail your submissions to: [hrcondict1@yahoo.com](mailto:hrcondict1@yahoo.com).