

*Santa Cruz  
Fly Fishermen  
Est. 1977*



*To promote,  
educate, and  
enjoy the sport  
of fly fishing*

**Monthly Meeting Program**

**Successfully Fishing Pyramid Lake**

**Date:** February 3, 2021 Zoom Presentation  
**Time:** 6:30 pm, presentation starts at 7pm  
**Place:** Zoom- see website menu for Zoom link  
*by Program Director Jim Black*



Our February Wednesday 3rd Speaker will be Joe Contaldi, who guides on Lake Pyramid until May 1st. Then moves to Mammoth Lakes. His presentation will include the techniques and methods for successfully fishing at Pyramid. Corporate and Angling Club outings as well as current fishing success. Of interest for SCFF might be a Club Outing for 10 Anglers or more, Fly fishing for giant Cutthroat. Bring your group together and enjoy a day(s) on the lake. Contaldi can arrange customized trips for everyone, regardless of angling experience. From lessons, to classes, to half, full, and multiple day we can help make your group outing enjoyable, safe, and memorable. As you will see in his presentation, he offers Ladder Chairs for each Fisherman for comfort and to allow more fishing time. These are customized trips and we tailor each trip to your liking. \*Rods, reels, lines, leaders, and custom tied flies are provided cold water and non-alcoholic beverages are provided \*Catered lunches are provided on applicable trips \*Outings are for up to 16 people – if your party has more than 16, please contact to discuss

In our upcoming Zoom meeting, Joe Contaldi will discuss different techniques and methods for catching Cutthroat Trout, including proper equipment, fly selection and the use of his Ladder Chair to provide some relief from the cold water and maximize your fishing time. Additionally, he will provide a current fishing report.

**Fly Tying Class**

**with Fly Tying Instructor Elaine Cook  
Booby Fly**

**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021  
**Time:** 6:30pm  
**Place:** Zoom- see website menu for Zoom link

This fly is a pattern style rather than specific fly pattern. It has a funny name and also funny look, but don't let that put you off. It was first created in England back in the 80's and has been so successful that it has been ultimately outlawed there. It allows you to fish near the bottom of a body of water without hanging up on low lying weeds or rocks. This is achieved by using eyes made of foam. This is another great fly for beginners and anyone going to Pyramid Lake. If you need vise, tools or thread let me know when you sign up. The thread this month's will be white flat waxed nylon. All other materials will be provided. Your packet of materials will be left at my front door after you call. (831) 688-1561.



**What's Inside**

President's Line.....	2
Monthly Raffle.....	3
Membership Notes.....	3
March Fly Tying Class.....	3
Fishout Schedule.....	5
2021 Board.....	5
Gearing Up: Pyramid Lake.....	6
Gearing Up: Los Banos Creek.....	7
Conservation Concerns.....	7
Fly of the Month.....	8
Cast of Thousands.....	8-9
Cartoon.....	9

## January Fires, February Rain -Fly-Fishing or Bust

by Tom Hogue

Well – winter in the mountains is finally getting here now that it's February – but glad the rain is coming, even if it means power outages, debris flows... Don't know if that's better than power outages and fires. But the rain is very much needed.

Hope all of you are getting some time to spend practicing your casting, fly-tying at some of our Zoom based fly-tying classes and it has been really nice to see more and more of you attending the general meetings via Zoom. If any of you are having any trouble using Zoom – please reach out to me or Scott Kitayama. It's really quite easy to use and we're having fun. There is a "Zoom" tab on the website where you can join all of the monthly activities – Club Meeting, Fly-Tying Class and the Board Meeting.

If you have never been to Pyramid Lake, but you've heard about it from our members for the last 30 years, I can tell you from experience, it is a terrific place to handily land average five-pound Lahontan Cutthroat and Pilot Peak Rainbows. This place has a mystery and beauty all its own and this month, Joe Contaldi is going to tell you all about it. Joe also spends a lot of time guiding Crowley Lake and many other hot streams on the Eastern Side of the Sierra. Don't miss this one. And Jeff Goyert has been coming up with some GREAT raffle prizes and some nice door prizes. This month is equally as good. with a nod to Pyramid. Check out the website.

While we haven't had much rain, I've been having a great time learning how to cast my Spey rod, down in the estuary by the Boardwalk. I'm finally getting the hang of the Snap-T, Single and Double Spey, Perry Poke, thanks to Rich Rubin's tutelage, and this weekend started practicing the snake roll. To think I couldn't tell one from the other six months ago. Really fun learning something new in fly-fishing.

As vaccinations are taking place and we begin to get a handle on the Covid situation in California, we do look forward to getting together at the Grange and other places in 2021, but we just don't know when that will happen. But we are fishing together minding social distance and other Covid precautions.



We are supporting our Conservation goals and the High-School Scholarship goal. The fly-tying classes have been well attended on Zoom, and we've had some really nice casting practice sessions at Jade Street park on Saturdays thanks to Steve Rudzinski and the others who help out.

As a members, you are welcome to attend the board meetings simply as a "guest", or if you have an idea you want to share for the club – we'd be happy to have you and put it on the "agenda". Board meetings are almost as fun as the club meetings. Try one. We are looking for members to join in some of the board positions too. Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, President – yes, President – and other capacities. Having something to share with the club and participate in the fun and future success is how we all came to be involved. It's easy, fun and rewarding.

And if you do the whole social media thing, look us up on Facebook. We share a lot of pictures and information about things we're doing and places we're going... I also want to let you know if you don't do Facebook – our new Social Media/Communications Chair, Jerry McKeon, got us moving into that part of the 21st Century with our Instagram account! santacruzflyfishing.

As we add new people onto the Board, some will come off. Pat and John Steele gave me the opportunity to brag about them again after a simple well thought note that said they were retiring from their "at-large" positions on the board.

in 1977 when SCFF was a group of anglers of all types, but mostly fly-angling, a bunch of people got together as a means of promoting the sport and also to support the local fly shops in Santa Cruz – yes there were a few – but most notably, Ernie's Casting Pond. No cell phones, no internet, but we had mail and we had Pat and John Steele. As some of you know, our monthly newsletter was an Award Winning pub, noted by the Federation of Fly Fishers International. Some of our members, including Pat Steele, put that news letter together, printed it and

*continued on page 3*

## President's Line, continued

mailed it to your membership – for 29 years. John – well, he's made, bought, stored and donated more fly fishing goodies, and beautiful prizes to the club, especially our annual dinner and fundraiser – for the same number of years. And these were just their active years.

John and Pat have been family to me. Even when I disappeared from the club for several years, raising my children, building a house and trying to pay the bills, I was always reminded by Mona to check in on the “fly club” as she always called it. Pat was the best editor a “kid” could ever have, and she has encouraged me more times about more things, not just fly-fishing, than I would ever have expected. John and Pat hosted board meetings at their home, took care of all the raffle prizes for each years fundraiser, and then built a web-site and maintained that after 1996, when the internet literally first came of age.

John and Pat have plans to continue traveling somewhere every single month on fly-fishing adventures, as they were doing before Covid.

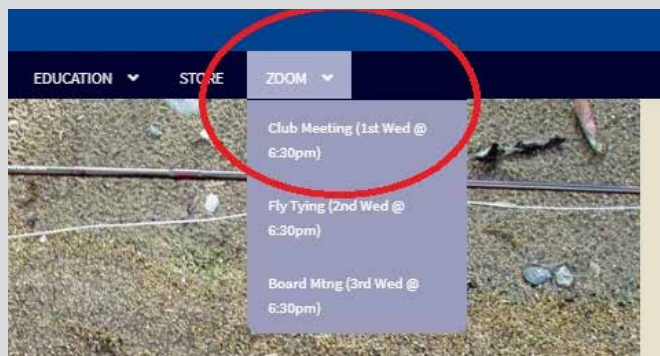
A thousand thanks from all of us John and Pat  
– Fish On my friends. Tom



Fishing the San Lorenzo River back in the day

## Zoom Links

Zoom links are on the main menu of the website. Just click on the menu item for the meeting and you're in.



## Monthly Raffle

### Step right up to the raffle ticket bar!

by Prize Guy, Jeff Goyert



## SIMMS FISH WHISTLE

Say what? How many of us have a Fish Whistle? How many of us even know what a Fish Whistle is? Well, I gotta say Simms makes a great one! (Go ahead, Google it).

This kit has a nice descreat little pipe with screen, a Bic Sparky, and an eighth ounce waterproof stash cup. Note: organic green vegetable cuttings not included. It is perfect when things get slow; just take a break and whistle up some fish. It may not bring on a hatch but you probably won't care. Consult local regulations concerning “whistling”.

## PYRAMID LAKE FLY BOX

I am neatly at a loss for words when I look at this box of Pyramid lake flies. There is a total of 36 beauties, tied by Gary Turri and donated by Matt Maulin, half are buggers and beetles along with half nymphs and midges. Whether you're a milti-season veteran or first time greenie to the land of the Giants, this box of flies does it all. Don't miss out on this collection, this box belongs in your vest.

## 5 WEIGHT ADAMSBUILT ROD/REEL PACKAGE

New to the sport and need an all around “go to” rod and reel or need a backup spare to keep in the truck for emergencies? This Adamsbuilt, out of Fallon Nv, package is perfect for you. It is a 9 ft 4 section 5 wt rod with a MMH reel pre-loaded with backing, a floating line, and leader. This is all contained in a hard rod and reel tube case. This package is ready to fish.

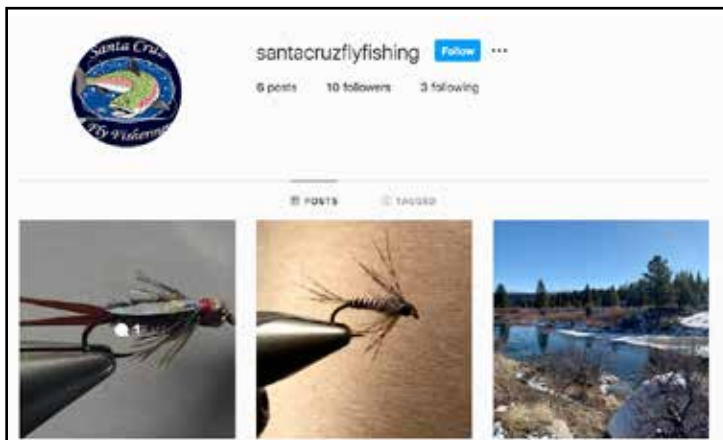
Raffle tickets are \$1 each sold in packets of 5. Spend \$20 bucks and get 25 tickets. Please indicate to which prize your tickets should be applied. Ticket sale purchases must be made by noon of the day of the monthly meeting (February 3rd, 2021). **NEED NOT BE PRESENT AT THE ZOOM MEETING TO WIN.** Click on the following link to purchase tickets.

<https://santacruzflyfishing.org/raffle>

## Membership Notes

### Instagram Was Built for Fishing

by Jerry McKeon



Did you know that Kevin Systrom, founder of Instagram designed his app so that he could share fishing photos with his friends? Of course you didn't because that's completely untrue but in fact Instagram is an excellent tool for fly fishers. The club's website and Facebook Accounts have their place and aren't going anywhere, but they are not as elegant as Instagram is for those of us who prefer our mobile devices. I like to wake up before my wife and kids and head down to my quiet kitchen. Cup of coffee in one hand, iPhone in the other, I take in some content that's all mine. Within 5 minutes I'm caught up on the photo rich content of the people I follow. A baseball writer, a few fly-tiers, a comedian and some interesting friends. It's how I kick start my day with wonderful photos, short videos and inspiration of the things I'm passionate about. In truth, I'm average at best with technology but Instagram solves for that by being incredibly user friendly. It's fun, it's fast and it's easy which has made it incredibly popular with today's youth. For those of us not so young, we also see the value in it.

"SantaCruzFlyFishing" now has it's own Instagram page and I hope you get a chance to visit and follow us. The page is currently in its nymphal stage but I see a lot of potential for it to help the club share our stoke of everything fly fishing with each other and future members alike.

## Membership Notes

### 150 Members for 2021

by Membership Chairman Bob Peterson

I am happy to announce that we have reached our goal of 150 members for 2021, including 22 new members. Also a first, is 70% of members signed up, or renewed online through the new webpage. In addition we received over \$2,500 in member donations for conservation and scholarships. The 2021 roster will be printed in March.

## Fly Tying Class

with Fly Tying Instructor Elaine Cook

### Sign up for Poppers Class

**Date:** March 13th (Sat.) AND. March 14th (Sun.)

**Time:** 6:30pm

**Place:** Zoom-see website menu for Zoom link



In March we will be making poppers so that we can go for those big mouthed bass. In the past the class has spanned over 2 days and involved lots of paints, epoxies, glues, solutions, along with various other supplies.

It is not reasonable to assume that everyone would have everything that would be needed to craft these beauties, and not practical via Zoom. In order to not miss out this year, a simplified method has been devised which will give everyone reasonable and useful poppers. The only thing you will need to complete your popper fly is clear nail polish and Super Glue or equivalent. If you have 30 min epoxy, a variety of acrylic paints and rubbing alcohol, your finished fly will be more like the ones we usually craft.

Some lead time for prepping and putting supplies together will be needed. So please sign up soon but no latter than Mar. 5th. It will still be a 2 day class, but fewer hours than usual. We'll start at noon. Allow 2-3 hours each day. You beginners to fly tying should feel comfortable doing this class. As always, the class is free and materials provided. Very strong thread, any color, such as flat waxed nylon or monocord will be needed. If you need thread, or tools and vise if you are a beginner, the club can loan them to you. Materials, directions and tips for bass fishing will be bagged for you to be picked up at my door. **Call me to sign up @ (831) 688-1561**



## ***Fishout Schedule***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Target Species</b>	<b>Fishmaster</b>
April 5 -11	Pyramid Lake	Lohanton Cutthroat	Mike White (831) 706-5556
April 6-8	Los Banos Reservoir	Bass & Trout	Dan Eaton (831) 336 2933
Spring TBA	Clear Lake	Bass & Crappie	John & Elaine (831) 688-1561
May 8, 5:50am	Rio Del Mar Beach	Surf Perch and other species	Sam Bishop (831) 476-6451
June TBA	Loreto, Baja Sur	Saltwater Fishing	Rich Hughett (831) 595-0288
June 5, 5:35am	Palm Beach	Surf Perch and other species	Sam Bishop (831) 476-6451
July 10, 5:45am	Manresa Beach	Surf Perch and other species	Sam Bishop (831) 476-6451
Aug. 7, 6am	Rio Del Mar Beach	Surf Perch and other species	Sam Bishop (831) 476-6451
Sept. 4, 6:30am	Manresa Beach	Surf Perch and other species	Sam Bishop (831) 476-6451
Oct. 9, 7am	Palm Beach	Surf Perch and other species	Sam Bishop (831) 476-6451
Oct. - Nov. TBA	O'Neill Forebay	Stripers	Steve Rudzinski (831) 462-4532

Covid 19 is making it hard to encourage club members to sponsor much desired fishouts. Outings in the out of doors where people can social distance, such as The O'Neil Forbay and the surf are the safest and have worked well in 2020. Gatherings at campgrounds are a great option, as well as spontaneous, short notice outings that you can announce on our Google Groups email site. Fishouts that involve housing are more challenging. Therefore the Green River and Mammoth fishouts will not happen this year. If you wish to schedule a fishout that involves housing, the vaccine role out, safety mandates, and participant comfort level, will be important considerations. Please let me know if you would like to schedule a fishout.

Thanks, John. (831) 688-1561



*Pyramid Lake*

## ***2021 Board Members***

**President:** Tom Hogue

**Vice President:** Kevin Murdock

**Treasurer:** Jim Tolonen

**Secretary:** Camile Padilla

Monthly Raffle: Jeff Goyert

Membership: Bob Peterson

Fishouts: John Cook

Programs: Jim Black

Conservation: Steve Rudzinski

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor: Scott Kitayama

Fly Casting Master: Mark Traugott

Fly Tying Master: Elaine Cook

Marketing/Publicity: Michael McGanno

Social Media/Communications Chair: Jerry McKeon

Facilities Coordinator: Stephen Rawson

Annual Fundraiser Coordinators:

Dinner - David South

Raffle/Silent Auction: Kevin Murdock

Member At Large: Kathy Powers

## Gearing Up

### Pyramid Lake Fish-out April 5-11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

*Fishmaster: Mike White – (831) 706-5556, lumberguy73@hotmail.com*

We are planning on having a Pyramid Lake 2021 fish out. The dates are April 5<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. We have 4 mobile homes reserved so far, and currently they are all full. If you are interested in attending please contact Mike White immediately and he will help you find accommodations preferably at Pyramid Lake Lodge at (775) 476-0400. This has been an unusual time for all, and trying to arrange a fish out under these conditions has been challenging. However, at this point we have confirmation that everyone on the list of current attendees understand the risk, and are still committed to going on the trip. So, if you are in that camp contact Mike White.

The Pyramid Lake trip is one of the best-attended fishouts the club has, and for a good reason. Lahontan Cutthroat Trout cruise parallel to the shore in easy casting distance from shore. Cost for the week including meals and lodging and is around \$300+ per person depending on the number in attendance. You need not fish all six days as there may be openings (usually later in the week.) Contact Mike for more details (831) 706-5556, to check on openings, or be put on a waiting list. First come first served.

You can also make your own arrangements either by bringing your own RV (Pyramid Lake Lodge has hook-ups and sells permits to park on the any of the beaches along the lake) or staying in Reno. Reno is 45 minutes away. Call Pyramid Lake Lodge to inquire about last minute cancellations in their cabins as well (775) 476-0400 and check out their website to see what the cabins look like at [www.pyramidlakelodge.com](http://www.pyramidlakelodge.com). The General Store in Sutcliff offers meals on selected nights only to those who call in before 2:00 PM. Check at the General Store for details.

**Equipment:** 6-9 weight rods with hi-speed, hi-D shooting heads or fast sink integrated lines to fish the bottom in 6 to 9 feet of water, and a floating line for indicator fishing. You should bring a stripping basket and a ladder that will accommodate it. A ladder helps to get you up out of the cold water and enable you to cast out to where the fish are. You can still catch fish without one but not with near as much consistency.

**Flies:** Woolly buggers in black, white, purple, olive, midge, caddis and mayfly nymphs to name a few. If as in years past the Confab in February is offering the opportunity to see how some of the best Pyramid patterns are made plan to attend and bring a vise and tie some yourself. Flies may

also available from club member Jim Hall who ties some very good flies specific to Pyramid cutthroat as well as other species at reasonable cost. His number is (831) 713-6835. There is a general store with provisions as well as tackle and an assortment of flies.

**How to get there:** Take US 80 to Reno-Sparks, take the Pyramid Blvd. off ramp and go north about 35 miles. Crosby Lodge is at Sutcliff, near the Ranger Station.

If you have any questions about equipment or how to get there, check the “Gearing up” columns in the March 2007-2009 archives on our great club website, or call Mike White at (831) 706-5556.

If you are considering going to Pyramid again this year with the club and you have not already done so, please contact the person who is booking the trailer you stayed in last year. Trailer-masters, if your trailer has gaps or cancellations, you can call Mike so he can pass the names of members who don't have lodging to fill the empty spots.

#### **Fishing, Camping, and New Ladder Regulation:**

Fishing and camping permits can be purchased online prior to the fish-out. We would highly recommend doing this. Go to [www.plpt.nsn.us](http://www.plpt.nsn.us) to obtain your licenses. There is also an RV Park available at (775) 476-1155.

As with any great fishery there are always a long list of rules and regulations. We would recommend you review them on the website above. Suffice to say those of us who have been going to Pyramid Lake for many years are a good source of information as well. We will help inform and guide all newcomers.

**15.6 USE OF LADDERS, ETC.** Any ladders, milk crates, boxes or other objects used in the water as a fishing aid must be occupied or closely attended (i.e. remain in the area) by fishermen at all times. Any person who leaves such objects unoccupied in the water for more than one hour will be deemed guilty of littering. **15.6.1** Fishing aids described above must have a permanent tag affixed that has the name, address, and phone number of the owner of the fishing aid. If the permitted angler using the fishing aid is not the owner, the owner will be the responsible party for any infractions by the permitted angler.

*NOTE: Due to insurance regulations, all attendees must be paid up members of Santa Cruz Fly fishermen, so get your membership paid up if you haven't done so yet.*

## *Gearing Up* **Los Banos Creek Reservoir Fishout April 6-8**

*Fishmaster:* Dan Eaton (831) 336 2933



Los Banos Creek Reservoir has Bass and Bluegill and the option of fishing Stripers and Bass in the O'Neill Forebay 20 miles away. As of now, the campground is closed so the choices are to get a nearby motel or go for day trips. This Fishout is limited to the first 10 members who contact – Dan Eaton (831) 336-2933

Gear: Float tube and fins. Fly line include floating, intermediate, and fast sinking. For fly suggestions contact Dan.



### ***Conservation Concern***

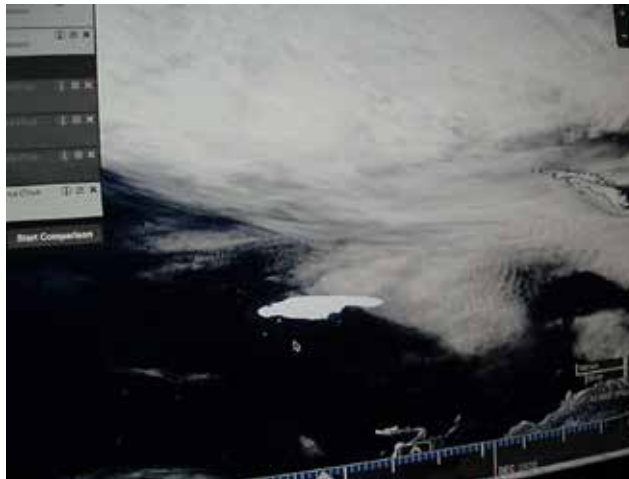
#### **Iceberg A-68**

*by Steve "Conservation Slim" Rudzinski*

I'm running late again in submitting a worthy article this month although what has my interest the last 2 months is this massive iceberg that has broken off Antarctica that is a little over 100 miles long and about 35 miles wide. Large icebergs are named by the US National Ice Center who gave it the identification A-68.

I found it when watching a nightly weather and news program, (Above Ground World News). Mike Morales does a weather report that the networks would never allow, using NASA technology and satellite imagery EOSDIS, RAMMB, Mike was commenting on this iceberg one night and I have been following it since. The iceberg was drifting NE and directly at the S. Georgia and S. Sandwich Islands in the southern ocean about SE from Tierra Del Fuego at the tip of S. America. A-68 was on a collision course with the main island, on the satellite the iceberg was almost exactly the same size as the main island.

Cloud cover hid the activity for days but I took digital photos of the screen and posted on FB for



some friends who were interested like me. A-68 got within 35 miles of the land mass and the currents or actions by man turned it south and a 35 mile chunk sheared off in almost a perfectly straight line A-68A was born. The smaller part stayed in the area of the Sandwich Islands while the 70 mile long 'mother berg' drifted south and within days, a long narrower part broke free A-68B which is now well over 100 miles

north of the S. Georgia/S. Sandwich Islands and heading for warmer water north.

Note the 'frequency clouds' north of the Sandwich Islands that may have something to do with the breaking up of this massive berg. I was surprised something like this event was never mentioned in the usual media sources. My thought right away was how many million gallons of fresh water was in this massive chunk of ice melting into the sea.

Wikipedia search 'Iceberg A-68' for info on it's source calving away from the Larsen Ice shelf.

*Fly of the Month*  
**Midnight Cowboy**

by Fly Tying Instructor Elaine Cook

Hook: TMC 5263 or TMC 200R Sizes 6 (at Pyramid) -12. Adjust materials for the smaller flies.

Thread: black 6/0

Tail: Black marabou with fluffy tips (straight tips can be broken off)

Tail Flash: both red and blue Flashabou

Hackle: Black strung hackle, AKA India hen back.

Body: Speckled midnight fire chenille (black chenille with short projections of both red and blue flash)



1. Crimp barb.
2. Attach thread behind eye. Wrap to above hook barb, then forward to mid shank.
3. Note: moisten marabou for easy handling. Cut moderately large clump from stem. If barbs are not at least 2 shank lengths long, tie in at rear of shank. Lay on top of shank, butt ends 2 eye lengths behind eye. Tie in place to top of entire shank. Advance thread 1/4 inch. Shorten length of tail, by pinching not cutting, to length of hook (some prefer a tail half that length).
4. Holding one strand of both red and blue Flashabou together, moisten for easy handling, cut in half. Tie center of all strands to top of shank with a couple wraps. Holding half on far side of tail and half on near side, tie in place back to rear of shank. Cut to length of tail.
5. Holding tip of hackle, stroke all other barbs against the grain. Tie tip to rear of shank with shiny side facing you. Advance thread to 1-2 eye lengths behind eye.
6. Strip 1/4" chenille from center threads. Tie threads to shank. With touching wraps, wrap to rear of shank then forward to tie in. Tie off, cut excess.
7. Spiral (palmar) hackle forward in about 8 wraps, stroking barbs backward with each wrap. Tie off, cut excess.
8. Holding barbs back, wrap thread head. Whip finish. Cut thread. Apply Zap-A-Gap glue or similar.

*Cast of Thousands*  
**Opportunity for a September  
Alaska trip for two**

Steve Rawson writes: I have a deposit in on the trip targeting trout to Cooper Landing, Alaska. Leaving September 4 and returning September 21, 2021. It is not going to work out for me this year, so there are a couple of spots to fill.

Trip is a shared trip (rental car, guides, cabin and groceries) with three others. Very economical. I did before and highly recommend.

Contact: Steve Rawson 831 917 0551



## Cast of Thousands

### For Sale: 1997 Mercury 200 horsepower Two Stroke Outboard motor

by Don Firth

**For Sale 1997 Mercury 200 horsepower Two Stroke Outboard motor Long Shaft  
\$3600 or best offer**

**Contact: [danfirth@comcast.net](mailto:danfirth@comcast.net)**

Motor is in excellent condition, lightly used (182 hours!) and regularly serviced by an authorized Mercury dealer. I have receipts. No rust or corrosion!

This motor was rebuilt while still under warranty after sucking a plastic bag and then stored for several years. When I bought it the motor had 10 hours on the rebuild. It now has 182 hours. Service has been every 1-2 years at Moore and Sons Mercury Outboard Motor Shop in Santa Cruz.

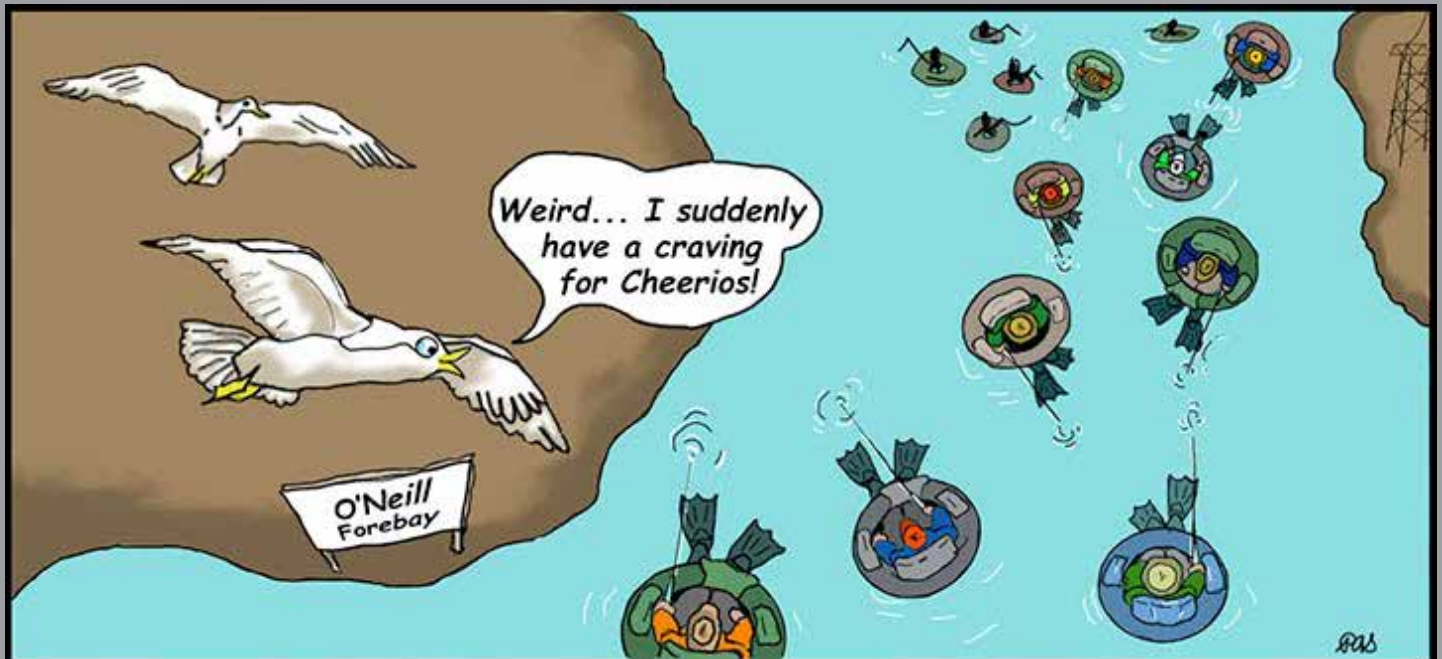
If you are interested to buy, Moore and Sons can pull the motor from my boat and install on yours. Or, if you are not near Santa Cruz I am willing to drive some distance to have the motor removed from my boat at an outboard motor shop of your choice. Contact me at [danfirth@comcast.net](mailto:danfirth@comcast.net) for more information. Thanks.

Sale of this motor includes the oil mix tank and associated hoses, steering cables, gauges and top mounted binnacle.



## Cartoon Flotilla

by Pat Steele



*What birds see looking down on O'Neill Forebay.*