

# 2022 FLYCASTERS CLUB AWARDS

## **The Houwink-Seldon Conservation Award: Mason Seim and Mike Culcasi**

For exemplary dedication to the stewardship of our local creeks through a strong partnership with South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition that has resulted in many members regularly volunteering for creek cleanups.

## **The Education Foundation Award: Ken Imatani and Mike Culcasi –**

Mike and Ken have led turnaround and restart of Trout in Classroom program, recruitment of many new teachers/ classes, procured new sources of funding from Santa Clara Valley Water and Santa Clara DFW to support Trout in Classroom program, rebuilt roster of new coaches supporting new teachers, redesigned aquariums to latest design. And for exceptional leadership in establishing the Trout in the Classroom program, recruiting a dedicated team of volunteers, securing grants, and expanding the program to a large number of classrooms.

## **Member of the Year: Frank Eldredge**

For outstanding service to the club. Initiator for new Club Express website software, represented club in FFI activities, supported and helped resolve past funding issues with Education Foundation,

## **Distinguished Service: Roy Litherland**

Outstanding initiative in helping the club update and improve how it is organized and operates. Applied extensive business and legal skills to navigate complex changes, resulting in new program offerings such as Trout in the Classroom.

## **Distinguished Service: Wade Goertz**

Go-to person on a wide range of club operations, including editor of Flylines since 2010. Strong communications efforts to advance visibility of club fishouts, speakers, fishing articles, seminars, and many more valuable club activities. Wade is a great advocate for the club and brings a level of enthusiasm and service that is a model to all members.

## **Instructor of the Year: Bob Shoberg.**

Continuous leadership in driving improved knowledge and fishing skills for new members with focus on Fly Fishing 101 seminars. As former club President always helpful with consultation to our Flycasters board.

Since 2015 Bob Shoberg has conducted two (2) Fly Fishing 101 seminars each year, usually spring and fall. This has been instrumental in teaching our members that are new to the sport the basic fundamentals of equipment, entomology and knots. Bob brings to each seminar a wide variety of equipment so members will have an appreciation of the various components required to become a successful flyfisher.

### **Instructors of the Year: Bill Zuravleff and Bill Nelson**

Bill Zuravleff has been the instructor and leader in Flycasters fly tying classes since 2013. Always looking to make members more skilled and knowledgeable of fly tying techniques. Initiated zoom classes during Covid-19 pandemic when members could not meet in person.

Bill Nelson has assisted at many fly tying classes lending a hand and continuing the legacy of his dad, Dr. Dick Nelson. Bill helps contribute not only his time but a wealth of fly tying materials. In addition, Bill has written numerous fly tying articles for the Flylines monthly newsletter. Bill is an important asset to our club.

### **Fishmasters of the Year: Lee Dorius and Jeff Lorelli**

Sustained excellence in leading our highly successful Fishout program for several years. Outstanding dedication to supporting fishmasters and offering members great fishout choices.

### **Innovation Award: David Ahrens**

Dave took over as webmaster in 2019 and maintained that site through the transition to the new Club Express website. Dave was integral in the transition to the new website and its successful launch in the spring of this year. As well as being the webmaster Dave served on the board of directors for three years as the club Secretary. He also is an avid backpacker participating in many of the club's backcountry fishouts.

## **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER AWARD**



# CHUCK HAMMERSTAD

---

*For member in good standing, who has given exemplary service over a period of at least ten years, made special and unique contributions above and beyond what might be expected by membership or the holding of regular office and contributing outstanding contributions, locally or otherwise, to the enjoyment or instruction of fly fishing, conservation, or education of young people (e.g., Trout in the Classroom). Contributions must be made over an extended period of time rather than a single event.*

---



Outstanding leadership of conservation activities in the Flycasters club over several decades.

Led annual fundraising for conservation groups and kept members informed and engaged on important conservation issues.

Chuck has been more than active in Flycasters – he has been a driving force behind the club’s conservation efforts in fundraising and volunteering. His dedication to the continued health of our waterways and the future of fly fishing is an inspiration to everyone he meets.

He spends enormous amounts of time and energy pursuing those goals. And he still manages to go fishing all over the world.

## CONGRATULATIONS CHUCK HAMMERSTAD

# HONORARY LIFE MEMBER AWARD



## DIANA ROSS

Award Certificate Text: Diana Ross has proven her love and interest in performing many services, programs and leadership for the betterment of San Jose Flycaster members over the past 20 years. She has learned that you get more out of the club by donating your time and talent to help others become better fishermen and club advocates.

I am pleased and honored to nominate Diana Ross for the Lifetime Member award for the San Jose Flycasters. I have known Diana Ross since I joined San Jose Flycasters 12 years ago and verify that I have personal knowledge that Diana meets and exceeds the guidelines for the Lifetime Member award. Diana is among the most distinguished and experienced members of our club, who has given her time, talent, and resources to many of our club activities over the past 20 years. During my time with Flycasters Diana has demonstrated a great willingness to devote her time to promote programs that help others within our club.

Detailed background on Diana's history and involvement with San Jose Flycaster's:  
Diana joined Flycasters in 2000 because she took a class at the Sunnyvale extended learning center with Mike McNutt. At the end of the class, he invited everyone to attend a Flycasters meeting. Diana took Beginning Fly Casting multiple times with Jo Hood and Dave Turner. She mentioned, "It was fun to have patient instructors as I fumbled around and learned so much. Finally took Intermediate fly casting. Knots class - I can tie three knots without help! I loved the fish outs to the Eastern Sierras.

Walker River, Virginia Lakes.” “When I attended a fishout (*Lee Dorius was the Fishmaster*) and became a member of the Board, I began reaping the benefits of the organization and have made many friends for life.”

Club leadership: Served on the Board for six years. Vice President, President, Membership, Year in Review - multiple times. Diana has provided wise counsel to both past and current board members related to club activities, policies and membership recruitment.

Recommendation: Diana Ross has proven her love and interest in performing many services, programs and leadership for the betterment of San Jose Flycaster members over the past 20 years. She has learned that you get more out of the club by donating your time and talent to help others become better fishermen and club advocates. Diana is quite deserving of the lifetime award that is embodied in the Lifetime Member award.

# 2022 FLYCASTERS FISHING AWARDS

## FLYCASTERS, INC. 20/20 CLUB

MEMBERSHIP IN THE 20/20 CLUB IS AWARDED TO ANY MEMBER  
WHO LANDS A FISH 20 INCHES IN LENGTH OR GREATER ON A  
SIZE 20 FLY OR SMALLER

### ROY LITHERLAND

ROY CAUGHT AND RELEASED A 29 INCH STEELHEAD TROUT ON A #20 FLY ON  
THE TRINITY RIVER ON NOVEMBER 16, 2022



FLYCASTERS, INC.  
RING OF THE RISE AWARD  
2022

FOR THE LARGEST FRESHWATER FISH ON A FLY

**BOB LEVIN**

BOB CAUGHT A 35 INCH 22.5 POUND RAINBOW TROUT  
IN LAGO STROBEL, ARGENTINA ON 12/8/2022

YOU MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR WITH LAGO STROBEL IN ARGENTINA – IT IS  
KNOWN FOR EXTRAORDINARILY LARGE RAINBOW TROUT

YOU MAY HAVE HEARD OF ITS MORE FAMILIAR MONIKER

**JURASSIC LAKE**



FLYCASTERS, INC.  
RING OF THE RISE AWARD  
2022

FOR THE LARGEST SALTWATER FISH ON A FLY

**SHIZ NAKAWATASE**

SHIZ CAUGHT A 25 POUND LOUISIANA REDFISH  
IN JANUARY 2022



FLYCASTERS, INC.  
ANGLER OF THE YEAR AWARD  
2022

AWARDED ANNUALLY TO A MEMBER OF FLYCASTERS, INC. WHO  
ACHIEVES THE HIGHEST SCORE FOR CATCHING FISH ON A FLY BOTH  
FRESH AND SALTWATER

SHIZ NAKAWATASE

32 POINTS

SHIZ PLACED 1<sup>ST</sup> IN 8 DIFFERENT SPECIES

LOUISIANA REDFISH – BLACK DRUM – TARPON –  
BONEFISH – TREVALLY – BARRACUDA – TUSKFISH –  
GIANT HERRING



CONGRATULATIONS SHIZ

# THE EDITOR'S AWARD

We may not have had a banquet in the last few years but the club newsletter – Flylines – was published each month.

I always encourage members to submit articles and photos on any fly fishing subject they feel inspired to – from fishing trips (with photos) to conservation news (with photos) to helpful fishing tips (with photos)

And since we published Flylines in 2020, 2021, and 2022 I felt it necessary to give the coveted Editor's Award "Skitt Fiske" hat to a member for each year.\*

**Editor's Award 2020 is given to Mike Morsilli**

**Editor's Award 2021 is given to Adolfo Garcia** (who has an article in this issue as well)

**Editor's Award 2022 is given to Brad Winchester** --- who happened to be only one of these three to attend the banquet on May 13<sup>th</sup>.



**2022 Editor's Award recipient Brad Winchester sporting the prestigious Skitt Fiske hat.**

*If you are curious as to why the Editor's Award is a baseball cap the words "SKITT FISKE" embroidered on it, you will have to attend the awards banquet where I always manage to narrate a rather long explanation.*

*Or you can ask me in person when you see me ....*

*Skitt Fiske,*

*Wade Goertz*