



**RAFFLE**

All prizes will be drawn from the Big Barrel this month:

Echo Base 9ft 7 wt rod

Echo Base 6/8 Reel

Cartland WF-4-4F fly line

Fanny Pack

SPFF T-Shirt

Handmade trout theme pen

**DINNER MEETING: THURS, JUNE 20**

**WET FLIES AND HOW TO FISH THEM**

with **DAVE HUGHES**

by Marshall Bissett

In June we welcome back legendary angler, author and fly tier Dave Hughes with a brand new program on **Wet Flies and Wet Fly Fishing**.



Despite its ancient origins and varied styles, wet fly fishing is frequently overlooked by the

modern fly fisherman. Dave will show that, fished correctly, these versatile flies can outfish the more standard contents of your fly box.

In his long career Dave has been fortunate to meet, and in most cases to fish with, some of the most famous wet-fly anglers in the world: Sylvester Nemes and his soft-hackles, Pete Hidy and his flymphs, Polly Rosborough and his fuzzy nymphs (the basis for all-fur wet flies), and Davy Wotton, instructor in the video *Wet Fly Ways*. This new presentation reviews the various wet fly styles, with notes on what makes each attractive to trout, including notes on many hatches that they match. It focuses on how to rig and fish wet flies.

Dave Hughes is author of more than 20 books about fly



*(Program continued on next page)*

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## DINNER MEETING (CONTINUED)

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fishing for trout. They include *Wet Flies*, *Handbook of Hatches*, *Reading Trout Water*, *Essential Trout Flies*, the classic *Western Hatches* (with Rick Hafele), *American Fly Tying Manual*, *Nymphs for Streams and Stillwaters*, *Trout From Small Streams*, *Pocketguide to Western Hatches* and the massive reference *Trout Flies*.

His articles on fly fishing have appeared in *Field & Stream*, *Outdoor Life*, *Sports Afield*, *Gray's Sporting Journal*, *Fly Fisherman*, *Fly Rod & Reel*, *Northwest Fly Fishing*, and *Fly Tyer* magazines. Dave served as editor of *Flyfishing & Tying Journal* for eight years, and is currently a columnist for *American Angler*, and *Flyfishing & Tying Journal*.

Born in Astoria, Oregon on the 4th of July, 1945, Dave worked his way through college at jobs specializing in the Three Ds--Dirty, Difficult, and Dangerous: mink ranches, tuna canneries, and shrimp boats. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1967, and from Army Infantry Officer Candidate School in 1968. Dave served one-and-a-half years in Viet Nam: 6 months as a communications site

commander in the Mekong Delta and one year as liaison officer to the Commanding General of communications in the Southeast Asia theater.

Dave was founding president of Oregon Trout in 1983, and was awarded life membership in the Federation of Flyfishers in 1985. He was awarded the Pete Hidy honorary life membership in the Flyfishers Club of Oregon in 1992 for his literary accomplishments. Dave received the prestigious Letcher Lambuth Angler Craftsman Award in 2008 from the Washington Fly Fishing Club. He is a life member of his home club, the Rainland Flycasters in Astoria, Oregon.

Dave is an accomplished amateur aquatic entomologist. His hobbies include collecting, identifying, and photographing the aquatic insects that are fed upon by trout, as well as tying and fishing the flies that match those insects and fool those trout.

Dave lives in Portland, Oregon with his wife, Japanese fly fishing writer Masako Tani.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Ress

Friends who aren't fly fishers often ask me why I became interested in the sport. It starts with the usual questions, such as why we fish but don't keep and eat the catch. Beyond that, I usually try to explain the attractions of fly fishing, including the beautiful places it takes me and neverending



opportunities for learning and teaching, including casting, fly tying and different methods of fishing. However, as I think about it, these are really the byproducts of the essential experience, which is the comraderie and generosity of fly fishers, not only within our club but in the wider world.

Whenever I travel, I try to get in a little fishing if possible. My wife Mira's sister lives in Connecticut and her brother is in Massachusetts, so I've fished the Farmington River several times. Since I don't know the area well, I rely on the locals. As elsewhere, I start at a fly shop, in this case Upcountry Fly Shop in New Hartford, CT, one of numerous nearby towns whose signs proudly announce their year of incorporation, most in the 1700s, a few in the 1600s.

The last time I was there I ran into a couple in their 60s who fished there regularly. I wasn't having much success until they clued me into the most likely spots, showed me where there were redds to be avoided, and gave me a few of their own flies that were working. I went there again 2 weeks ago. Things were much different, with high water and poor fishing after several weeks of rain. In the past I was able to wade across the whole river; now it was more like the Madison. My window of opportunity was limited, with no clear weather in sight, so I hired a guide for a float. I had to work hard to catch a few decent rainbows on streamers. Before I left home I had posted a query on

the TU site asking for recommendations and that's how I found the guide.

My next stop was in Stockbridge, MA where I hoped to fish the Housatonic. Again, we had 10 straight days of rain so the river was blown out. Fortunately, I had connected with a friend of my brother-in-law who used to live in LA and is now in Lenox. He told me he has a friend, Charles Wohl, who is a well known fly fisher, and put us in touch. After a dozen emails discussing locations, flies and local techniques, he invited me, my wife, her brother and his significant other and our mutual friend and his wife all to his home for drinks and a salmon dinner, then took me the next day to a private lake where he was a member so we could catch a few trout. I figured out later that he had been the first person to answer my post on the TU site.

In my experience, none of this is unusual. Despite our reputation for keeping our precious "secret" sites, I've never been given a bad recommendation. I hope that doesn't change as climate change and fishing pressure alters our world, and that we can attract younger folks to our sport by our continued generosity.

## DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President .....	Richard Ress
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Special Projects.....	Glenn Short
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Web Master.....	Ren Colantoni
Technical Assistant.....	Aran Dokovna
SWCFFI Representative.....	Tom Wright

# CONSERVATION

by Debbie Sharpton

## Update on CDFW Proposed Changes to Inland Trout Angling Regulations:

I want to give a big thank you to all of you who either attended a townhall meeting, commented online, or sent emails or letters to CDFW on the proposed regulation changes. At the May 16 meeting of the Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) of the California Fish and Game Commission, CDFW reported to the WRC on the status of the draft regulation changes. There were six townhall meetings attended by 330 people, the majority of whom showed up for the meetings in Bishop and Truckee. The online comment period ended on May 3 and resulted in 3,500 submissions.

In addition, the CDFW staff received over 150 emails, 150 phone calls and 27 letters.

The CDFW staff are working to assess the input and revise the proposed changes. CDFW Deputy Director Stafford Lehr informed the WRC that it's pretty clear there is strong concern, in particular to Mono and Inyo counties. Stafford wants to push the timetable back in order to work with groups that have expressed strong concerns. The proposed regulation change package to WRC will not be ready in September. Stafford stated it would be an "ugly package that would go south if brought to WRC without further work." WRC is requesting that the item be removed from the June Fish and Game Commission agenda.

## Annual License:

Assembly bill 1387 involves two main changes to the annual license: 1) move from calendar year expiration to 12 month expiration from when the license is bought; and 2) allow licenses be displayed on an electronic device. CDFW Deputy Director Stafford Lehr commented that CDFW is working with stakeholders for the recruitment and retention of hunters and anglers through various programs and efforts. The WRC supports the proposed legislation and is asking the Fish and Game Commission to express conceptual support for AB 1387.

## CDFW Field Trips:

Below are the dates for CDFW field trips requiring packstock and/or volunteers:

**June 10-13: Monache Meadow** – erect/repair fence around wildlife area, Dale Stanton and I will hike to Templeton Barrier, download cameras at Schaeffer and Templeton Barriers. (Volunteers Welcomed)

**July 8-12: Rocky Basin Lakes** – set gill nets to confirm lakes are fishless before introduction of Mountain Yellow-legged Frogs. (Packstock Required)

**July 22-26: Volcanic Creek/Left Stringer** – VES counts, document stream reach length, remove temperature probes. (Packstock Required)

**August 9-17: KRRT** – Nine Lakes and Chagoopa Plateau, bring KRRT out to Kern River Hatchery to start native fish program. (Volunteers needed – 4)

**September 16-20: Templeton Meadow** – Barrier Evaluation, survey SF Kern above Templeton Meadow for presence/absence of non-native species. (Packstock Required, Volunteers needed -2)

**Early October – Monache Meadow** – Drop fence around wildlife area and close cabin. We will be assisting NOAA on POP surveys on the upper Carmel River Watershed late September to early October so this trip will be scheduled at the last minute as time allows (Volunteers welcome, but not necessary. Will be difficult to provide advance notice due to Carmel River surveys)

\* \* \* \* \*

Thank you for submitting your Newsletter Items to [news@spff.org](mailto:news@spff.org) by the 3rd Thursday, each month. Look for the Newsletter on [spff.org](http://spff.org) on the 1st of each month.



# ANNUAL SPFF PICNIC AND GARAGE SALE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

by Glenn Short

*It's almost time for our annual picnic, so mark your calendar and plan to join us for a day at the beach. We don't have a dinner meeting in August, so come to the picnic to enjoy free food and beverages with friends while you escape the Valley's heat. The fly fishing "garage" sale will be an opportunity for great deals that benefit the club. If you have fishing or outdoor gear you don't use and would like to donate to the club, contact Kevin Radanovich.*

*Rincon Beach Park has shade, picnic tables, real bathrooms, an outdoor shower, and convenient parking. Do I need to mention cooler temperatures and free food again? You can do some surf fishing—there will be a rising tide—and Bill Woods will be on the beach at 7:00 a.m. to help surf fishing novices!*

*We hope to see you there—bring your surf fishing gear, and remember your license with an Ocean Enhancement Validation! If you want to bring an umbrella, blanket or beach chairs, and park yourself on the sand, we won't mind. There is a paved walkway down to the sand.*

**Sunday, August 18  
9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.  
at  
Rincon Beach Park  
Carpinteria  
(Highway 101 @ Bates Road)**

*Low tide is at 5:58 a.m.  
High tide is at 12:20 p.m.*

*Alcohol is permitted for those over 21, but smoking is prohibited.  
Dogs must be leashed at all times.*

**Directions:** <https://www.google.com/maps@34.3759555,-119.4793852,15.85z>

# EDUCATION

by Michael Peratis

## FLY TYING

This short notice is targeted at those of you who **DON'T** attend our fly tying sessions. As you may or may not know, we meet weekly during most of the year to learn how to tie flies which are later used to tempt trout, bass, and various species that hang out in the surf.

The way we operate is as follows: For a couple of hours each week a member of our group demonstrates & then step-by-step teaches a favorite or a new fly to the rest of us.

Lucky us....every so often we're very fortunate to have outstanding people from the fly tying world come to instruct us. So far this year we've been joined by Dean Endress and John VanDerhoof for a couple of terrific evenings. We're looking forward to having Steven Fernandez and Naomi Okamoto be our guest tiers in a few weeks.

We would like to have you join us. Think you might be interested? Give me a shout at [education2@spff.org](mailto:education2@spff.org).

# MEMBERSHIP

by Jay Bushore

The members of Sierra Pacific Flyfishers look forward to meeting you. We hope to get to know you better at the monthly dinner Meetings, in our educational programs and on the water. SPFF always welcomes new members. New membership signup is at [spff.org/New Member Signup](http://spff.org/New_Member_Signup).

SPFF always welcomes new members. Please welcome and introduce yourselves to our latest members:

**LJ HOUDYSHELL**  
**VICTOR RODRIQUEZ**  
**JOHN DILMORE**

# SPFF EVENT CALENDAR

## JUNE

Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	1
Project Healing Waters Vets.....	6
Board Meeting .....	6
Hot Creek Ranch Weekend 2019.....	7-10
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	15
Project Healing Waters Vets.....	20
Dinner Meeting (Dave Hughes, Wet Flies and How to Fish Them") .....	20

## JULY

Independence Day .....	4
Dinner Meeting (Kesley Gallagher, "Introduction to Flats Fishing").....	16
Project Healing Waters Vets.....	18
Get Started Outing .....	19-21
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa .....	20
FFI Fly Fishing Expo (Bozeman, MT).....	23-27

## AUGUST

Project Healing Waters Vets.....	1
Board Meeting .....	1
Casting Clinic at Lake Balboa.....	3
Project Healing Waters Vets .....	15
Casting Clinic @ Lake Balboa.....	17
<b>Annual Family Picnic</b> .....	18

# PROJECT HEALING WATERS

by David Hoffberg

Volunteers meet at Sepulveda Vet Center twice a month to teach Veterans fly tying and fly casting.

Visit [spff.org/Project Healing Waters](http://spff.org/Project_Healing_Waters) for more information.

## GETTING STARTED OUTING

by Jim Fleisher

The Getting Started Outing is a fantastic event designed especially to help beginning fly fishers to get started fly fishing the Eastern Sierra. But even experienced old time members can join in the fun. Check out the lineup of guided activities. Register for the BBQ Dinner and those events for which you qualify. Please note that a few are specifically encouraging beginners. Others are planned for more advanced anglers. Many are open to all. Or, don't register for any of the guided activities, but come and fish some of your favorite Sierra spots and get together with friends for meals and campfires.

You can get more information by going to our website ([spff.org](http://spff.org)) and clicking the "Additional Info:" link or going to "Getting Started Outing" under "Special Events".

### Update:

Several updates to the information on the GSO:

Registration is now available on the SPFF website. You can click the "button" on the bottom of the home page and go directly to the registration page. You can also access it via the event calendar.

Some changes to the events include a new activity: You can now have the honor of learning how to fish the public section of Hot Creek on Friday with your president, Richard Ress. You can register for this outing on the website.

In addition, Roger Backlar has made some additions and changes to the description of his San Joaquin River outing on Friday. Please continue to check the website as changes may continue to be made.

As previously noted, we have a reservation at the group campsite in Mammoth Lakes. You may now register for a campsite on the website. Please contact Michael Schweit if there are any questions. In addition, a block of condominiums has been reserved at a reduced rate and you need to contact Michael Peratis for additional information.

There are also two guided activities, Friday Tenkara clinic with Pat Jaeger and Saturday Owens River Clinic with Joe Contaldi. These events have a small fee payable at the time of registration. You can check out the bio's of Pat and Joe at <http://www.jaeger-flyfishing.com>.

About our volunteer leaders:

Other than the pay clinics, the rest of our leaders are volunteers. None are paid, certified, or licensed. They volunteer their time and knowledge purely for the love of our sport and their genuine desire to help our members and guests enjoy fly fishing. They are friends helping friends.

### When:

Friday, July 19, 2019 to  
Sunday, July 21, 2019

### Where:

Mammoth Lakes, CA

## LIBRARY

by Tom Wright

Learn more about fly fishing. Please visit our vast Fly Fishing Library online at [spff.org/Library Catalog](http://spff.org/LibraryCatalog).



# FISHING REPORT

## A MAY VISIT TO HOT CREEK RANCH (OR “AS THE WEATHER TURNS”)

by Ed Swanson

In May of this year my wife Leigh Ann and I made our annual trek to Hot Creek Ranch. The weather this time of year can be quite unpredictable, and so it was on this occasion. After a couple (relatively) warm and sunny days, we first encountered cold and wind and then a belated winter wonderland.



Because the water was rather murky, nymphing was permitted, though not streamers. This was a boon since virtually no surface action was noted during our stay. Single and double-nymph rigs, on the other hand, proved quite



useful in enticing browns and rainbows to show themselves.

Fellow SPFF member Steven Fernandez and his brother also were at the Ranch when we were there. Steve netted a very nice 24 inch trout, while his brother “netted” some impressive photos of two bald eagles in the neighborhood. Another visitor to the Ranch that week also netted a 24 inch trout, using a mouse pattern.



# FLY FISHING AND SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

The staff of Liarflies Fly Fishing Adventures in Fort Collins, CO, have joined forces with SPFF's Jody Martin (author of *The Spirituality of Fly Fishing*) and Alexandra Donovan (poet, teacher, chaplain, and author of *Mother Stump*) to offer you a weekend like no other. Days will be spent learning how to fly fish and casting to wild brown, rainbow, and cutthroat trout on the storied Cache La Poudre River, Colorado's only nationally designated "Wild & Scenic" river, while evenings will be devoted to furthering our understanding of the spiritual nature of fly fishing – why we are so drawn to it, how it helps and heals us, what we want and expect from it, and how we can give the gift to others – based on Jody's book.

Men, women, couples, families, and even children (over the age of 12) are encouraged to attend, as there is sure to be something meaningful for everyone.

Come relax, recharge your batteries, get closer to God, and become engaged in the wonderful and spiritual world of fly fishing on the Poudre, truly the crown jewel of northern Colorado trout streams! But register soon – spaces are limited!

**When:** Thursday afternoon, July 11, through Sunday morning, July 14, 2019

**Where:** Guests will be staying at the Days Inn, Wellington, CO (see below), or at other nearby lodging facilities at their choice.

**How to register:** Contact Evan Daldegan or J. Pearson, Liarflies LLC, <https://www.liarflies.com/>

Price per person	\$445, broken down as:
Lodging (estimated):	\$225 (\$75 per person per night, 3 nights at the Days Inn, Wellington, CO
Liarflies guided fly fishing:	\$220 per person (covers both days), payable to Liarflies

Not included in the above:

Your travel to and from Wellington, Colorado

One dinner on Thursday night (in Wellington, CO; place to be determined)

Two dinners at the Mishawaka Outdoor Amphitheater on the River (Friday: Grab & Go Grill (\$12), and Saturday: Restaurant (\$20)

One breakfast (on Sunday morning) at the Mishawaka (plan on \$13)

A Colorado 2-day fishing license for July 12 and 13

Any gratuities you would like to leave for hotel, Mishawaka, or Liarflies staff

Contact Information:

**Liarflies, LLC**

Attn: Evan Daldegan or J. Pearson

3212 Wigwam Way

Wellington, Colorado

866-773-5128

[info@liarflie.com](mailto:info@liarflie.com)

**Days Inn by Wyndham, Wellington**

7860 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Wellington, CO 80545

Phone: 970-305-4619

<https://www.reservations.com/hotel/days-inn-wellington>

**Jody Martin**

[Jmartin.nhm@gmail.com](mailto:Jmartin.nhm@gmail.com)

Phone: 818-292-5650

# KERN RIVER HATCHERY REOPENS

by Brian Thurston

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The Kern River Hatchery has reopened to the public with a bold and innovative new mission: to raise the Kern River rainbow trout and stock the native fish throughout the Kern River Basin where anglers will have a chance to catch it.

New facilities recently constructed at the Kern River Hatchery in Kernville are designed to breed,



rear and facilitate the planting of the Kern River rainbow trout, one of 12 subspecies of trout native to California. The goal is to plant the native strain of trout instead of other domesticated strains of rainbow trout.

Historically, warming water temperatures during summer months did not adequately allow for full hatchery operations. Utilizing groundwater to augment the hatchery's water supply solved the problem. New wells providing cool, year-round water along with the building of new facilities to hold broodstock, egg taking stations, an incubation area, deep tanks, chillers and raceways make it possible to start the new program using local native stock

“The goal is to not only provide fishing opportunity but help with the restocking of a native strain of rainbow trout to native watersheds,” said Tony Holland, Kern River Hatchery manager. “This twofold operation has the potential to increase natural reproduction while providing continued angling opportunity.”

This summer, CDFW biologists and hatchery crews are planning to collect wild Kern River rainbow trout broodstock to start the program. Four new deep tanks to rear fish are in place. The goal is to capture 50 to 100 mature trout from the backcountry within the Sequoia National Forest. The trout will be transported to the Kern River Hatchery where genetic samples will be taken to match and define genetic pairing to produce the best offspring.

The hatchery, located in Kernville, Kern County, is open daily to the public from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## MONTHLY DINNER PROGRAM MEETINGS

THIRD THURSDAY

Monterey At Encino

16821 Burbank Blvd., Encino, CA 91436

6:00 Cocktails / 7:00 Dinner / Program follows

\$32.00 Cash or Check, No Cards

Non-dining guests are FREE!

**Reserve Dinner by Monday Prior**

818.789.1919

[montereyatencino@gmail.com](mailto:montereyatencino@gmail.com)

### DINNER MENU:

Appetizer

Baby Green Salad

Entree

BBQ Beef Ribs, Roasted Potatoes and Green Beans

Fish & Chips, Coleslaw and Roasted Potatoes

Dessert

Ice Cream Sundae

# LEARNING FROM THE BEST: FLY FISHING WITH DEVIN OLSEN

by Marshall Bissett

A quick 18 holes with Tiger, a few sets with Roger Federer or a couple of laps with Dale Earnhardt Jr. are the staples of many a bucket list. For me, a few days fishing local rivers with US International Team member Devin Olsen was close enough. I had read the books, watched the fly tying videos, and worked with Devin on his program for the local Clubs – now I could not turn down the chance to see how he would approach our home waters. We made an early start and, despite a flat tire in rain-swept Mojave, made it to the Upper Owens by early afternoon. I learned that competition anglers are not only extremely prepared but pay no regard to fishing reports (mostly negative) or to fly recommendations from locals. Devin rigged two Thomas and Thomas 10'6" Euro nymph rods, one for nymphing with two flies and one for dry/dropper – an approach he uses for rivers worldwide on the tournament circuit. He has a waterproof Fishpond sling pack and a waist pack but mainly works from a tiny chest mount with his "go to" flies.

Just as Tiger cannot swing badly when he plays a casual round with his pals, Devin is all business, all the time. He fishes the river with the same analytic intensity he brings to the US team. He stays in the first deep river bend, changing flies and tippet length until he catches his first fish. From there it's a "step and repeat" working upstream. He checks out my rig. "Your first fly is too far from your sighter and you can go a lot lighter – they're keying on this," he says handing me a Perdigon size 18, "and go to 6x fluoro, it makes a difference here." And, of course, it did. He then showed me an iPhone photo of stomach contents from a larger rainbow he had caught. Large scuds and stoneflies were mixed in with smaller baetis nymphs. I asked why he wasn't matching the hatch. "It's all percentages – I will catch more going smaller – remember the motto – go thin to win." We each caught large cutthroat on that fly.

The following day we moved to the wild trout section of the Lower Owens against the advice of locals, fish reports and, some would say, common sense. The river was running high (400cfs) and off color. "Now you can break out that heavy point fly but stay light on the dropper," he said after landing four fish out of the first run we fished, "and use a tuck cast to get down fast." Further downstream we both caught doubles and countless healthy hungry browns. They seemed happy to meet us – we saw only one other car on Chalk Bluff Road. A perfect day ended with a demonstration of how to tie that secret Perdigon.



Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers proudly supports the conservation efforts of:



[dfg.ca.gov/fishing](http://dfg.ca.gov/fishing)



[caltrout.org](http://caltrout.org)



[flyfishersinternational.org](http://flyfishersinternational.org)

**FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL**

[tu.org](http://tu.org)



## SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The Board of Directors and membership of the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers wish to express their appreciation to the retailers below. Their promotion of our club and its activities thorough the year, and their contributions of products and services help us to continue the various public services that we offer.

**Fishermen's Spot**  
14411 Burbank Blvd.  
Van Nuys, CA 91401  
818.785.7306

**Gangadin Restaurant**  
12067 Ventura Place  
Studio City, Ca 91604  
(818) 509-0722

**Kern River Fly Shop**  
11301 Kernville, Rd.  
Kernville, CA 93238  
760.376.2040

**Orvis**  
345 S. Lake Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
626.356.8000

**Pat Jaeger**  
Eastern Sierra Guide Service  
2327 Stone Circle  
Bishop, CA 93514  
760.872.7770

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Great Pacific Iron Works  
235 W. Santa Clara St.  
Ventura, CA 93001  
805.643.6074

**Patagonia-Pasadena**  
47 N. Fair Oaks Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91103  
626.795.0319

**Real Cheap Sports**  
235 W. Santa Clara St.  
Ventura, CA 93001  
805.643.6074

