

October
2011

Oct 12 – The Magic Language of Fly Fishing with Tom Pero



Fly fishing is an interesting sport in that although it is still a niche activity, it inspires a disproportionate amount of beautifully-crafted, endearing and enduring literature. Regardless of whether each of us considers ourselves high-falutin' intellectuals, we're all susceptible to a well turned phrase or story about our favorite sport. How is it that fly fishing attracts such literary attention?

Our October meeting will discuss this topic in a most engaging fashion. Nationally known fly fishing writer, editor and publisher Tom Pero will draw on more than 2,000 years of tradition while reading passages from modern masters such as Ernest Hemingway, Zane Grey, Norman Maclean, and Michigan Supreme Court Justice John Voelker, who wrote under the pen name Robert Traver. (Journalist Charles Kuralt of "On the Road" fame, christened Voelker "the closest thing to a great man I ever met").

Pero is well suited to discuss why fly fishing sparks touching literature. Born and raised in New England, at 18, he became the youngest chapter president in Trout Unlimited, the fishery conservation organization, history when he started the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of TU. During the 1970s his early writing helped focus attention on the neglected salter brook trout fishery and the developing sea-run brown trout fishery on Cape Cod.

In 1977, at age 23, Pero was named the first full-time editor of Trout Magazine, the national publication of Trout Unlimited. He used his 16 years at Trout to make the magazine exciting and influential. Twice it was named Conservation Magazine of the Year, beating out magazines with substantially larger circulations and reputations such as Audubon and Sierra. He introduced the legendary trout biologist, Robert Behnke, to readers of Trout in a popular column. In recent years he founded the magazines Wild Steelhead & Salmon and Fish & Fly, both of which also won critical

for excellence in journalism and graphics.

Pero is now busy creating books. His Wild River Press (www.wildriverpress.com) company—based in Mill Creek—published *A Passion for Steelhead* by Dec Hogan, widely acknowledged as the new bible on fly fishing for the iconic Pacific Northwest game fish. And in 2010, after four years in development, Wild River released the much-anticipated *A Passion for Tarpon* by Andy Mill, featuring a special foreword by the first President Bush. The book has been nominated for more than a dozen national awards for excellence. *Atlantic Salmon Magic* will soon go to press.

During the last three decades nearly all the famous fly-fishing writers have written for Tom Pero's publications—including Thomas McGuane, Nick Lyons, Lefty Kreh, Dave Whitlock, Lee Wulff, Joan Wulff, Datus Proper, Steve Raymond, Ernest Schwiebert, Art Lee, Paul Schullery, John Gierach and others. Once, when working on a story about Atlantic salmon restoration during the 1980s, he approached Red Sox great Ted Williams on the banks of the Miramichi River in New Brunswick for a quote. The notoriously gruff Williams said, "I don't like writers." "I know," replied Pero, "but I fish." He got the interview.

Pero will also read from short stories he has written on exotic fishing destinations – from Russia to Cuba to Guatemala – and discuss a few of his adventures and colorful characters he has met. Also included will be uncensored excerpts from his book, *Till Death or Fly Fishing Do Us Part*, a collection of humorous essays about what happens when one person's obsession for the sport collides with his or her romantic relationship.

Program

2011

Oct12 Tom Pero – The Magic Language of Fly Fishing

Nov9 Peter Piconi - Cajun Redfish

Dec 7 Holiday Party

The **Conejo Valley Fly Fishers** meet the first Wednesday after the first Thursday of every month at the **Goebel Senior Center** located at 1385 E. Janss Road, adjacent to the Thousand Oaks Library. For additional info, call 805.498.2944.

4:30 - 5:30 Dinner at the Bandits' Barbeque

6:00 - 7:00 Fly Tying or discussion with speaker

7:00 - 7:30 Club business

7:30 - 9:00 Speaker's presentation

Conejo Valley Fly Fishers Board of Directors 2011

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Membership Application and Renewal Form

Date _____	New _____	Renewal _____	Family Membership \$50	\$ _____
Name _____			New Member badge \$10	\$ _____
Other family members' names _____			Student Membership \$10	\$ _____
_____			Donation to CalTrout	\$ _____
Address _____			Lifetime Membership \$500	\$ _____
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Home phone _____	Work _____	Cell _____	I wish to help in the following programs:	

Email _____

YES! I want to see the newsletter in color and save some \$ for the club by viewing it online instead of receiving a print copy in the mail. Note: Annual dues are \$50 per family living at the same address. Membership is per calendar year. New members joining in the last quarter have their membership extended through the following year. There is a one time additional \$10 fee for each name badge. Please indicate if you would like additional name badges for family members and include \$10 for each. Student (under 18) dues are \$10. Make checks payable to Conejo Valley Fly Fishers.

- Trout in the classroom
- Membership
- Conservation
- Fundraiser
- Newsletter
- Trips/Outings
- Other _____

Send payments and correspondence to:

Conejo Valley Fly Fishers, 2970 Diana Court, Newbury Park, CA 91320-3115

An Evening with Joan Wulff

Presented by Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers

Saturday October 14, 2011 6:00 pm

\$75 per plate

The Olympic Connection

11301 W. Olympic Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90064

Joan Wulff is widely acknowledged as just about the world's most famous fly fisher. From 1937 as an 11-year-old caster in Patterson, New Jersey to 1960, she won numerous International and National tournament casting titles. In 1951, she captured the Fisherman's Distance event while vying against an all-male line-up. Joan cast a fly 161-feet in one competition.

Through promotion of catch and release, she has helped sport fishing be accepted as environmentally-sustainable. Both Joan and her late, legendary husband, Lee Wulff, have had a positive impact on fly-fishing. She has written numerous books and columns and been featured in highly successful fly casting videos and DVDs.

This event, beginning with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. where Joan and her husband Teg Rogowski (a retired environmental-specialist attorney) will meet and greet guests, will include a sumptuous sit-down dinner with wine, brief remarks by a few people who know



Joan Wulff

Joan well and then Joan will speak about her life. After her talk, she will do something she has never done before and that is answer any and all questions from the audience, no matter how long this might take.

The evening will be a once-in a lifetime event and even though Joan is 84, she is sharp as ever. This will probably be the last chance to spend such a lovely evening with such a magnificent

lady. You wouldn't want to regret later on not attending this event.

The gathering will be held at The Olympic Collection, 11301 W Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles.

Also, payment is made to the Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, so money raised from the dinner will be used to fund *Trout in the Classroom*, casting and fly tying programs and ongoing support for local council activities.

Tickets may be purchased by calling 818-757-3474 or on the website, www.Southwestcouncilfff.org.

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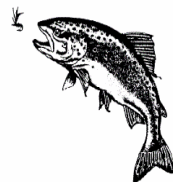


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