



# Rx Fly Fishing!

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Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

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## President's Message by Marty Kjelson

Fly fishing mistakes that guides see by Marty Kjelson

I came across an old article in the Jan/Feb issue of The American Angler by Ed Engle that seemed to be of value to improving our fly fishing experiences. Ed is a guide in Colorado that has written a number of good books and spoke at our Pleasanton show. His book on tying small flies, which I bought, is very good and has further convinced me ,that when in doubt, go small!

I've summarized Ed's observations. Most of us can relate to each of these mistakes. It's up to us to correct them and enjoy our times on the water more. If you need a better understanding of what's meant, ask one of our members to explain them to you.

Here's the list:

Casting Mistakes:

-Bending the wrist

- Not enough time on the back cast

-Making too many false casts (and doing so over the fish)

Presentation Mistakes:

-Failing to mend the fly line

-Leaving too much slack line in the water

Angling Mistakes:

-Casting too long

-Striking wrong

-Playing the fish poorly

-Being impatient

Learn, Apply, Enjoy..... You'll have more "tight lines"



## Calendar

May 31- June 1, 2013 NCCFFF Board and GM Meeting, Camp McCumber [www.nccfff.org](http://www.nccfff.org)

June 1, 2013 Catfish Derby, Oak Grove Park

June 2, 2013 Second Annual Shad Outing I (12 anglers)

June 19, 2013 DFF Annual Barbecue, Oak Grove Park

June 13-16, 2013 Lake Davis Outing

June 19, 2013 DFF Board Meeting

## Lake Davis the focus of DFF's monthly outing

By Herman Spalinger

June 13 – 16 – LAKE DAVIS Our Lake Davis outing is the second-most popular Sierra mountain outing after Bridgeport. For the newcomers, it is closer than Bridgeport (2 hours from Sacramento) and boasts many large "hot" rainbows every year. Built in 1966, Davis is a relatively shallow reservoir accessible year round with great fly fishing from late March until freeze-over in late December and early January.

The shallow coves on the west side of the lake are accessible not only by float tube or pontoon boats, canoe or kayak, but by thrashing the shoreline early morning and late evening wading where the fish can be seen cruising the shallows looking for minnows or damsel flies during May and June. May-June-early July is the most exciting time of the year to fish during the damsel fly hatch that brings 14 inch to 6 or 7

pound rainbows into the shallows where they surface cruise for the nymphs and sometimes adults. The fishing can be nerve wracking with the "bows" chasing the nymphs into the shore around your offering.

FLIES Small midges various color larvae and pupae, size 12 – 20. (Fish 18 to 24 inches below your bobber)

Wooly and crystal buggers in black, olive or dark brown, size 8 – 16. (Unweighted nymphs are preferred)

Sheep Creek Specials, Pheasant Tails, Prince nymphs, Stimulators can also work as the bite slows down.

TACKLE 4 to 6 wt rods and lines. Longer rods are easier to cover more water. Intermediate and floating lines (in that order) are preferred. Nine foot leaders

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with 3X to 5X tippet is recommended. (Note: The afternoon wind can be nasty at times so have an anchor available.) If you have a rubber boat with oars, it should be low to the water as the wind has been known to blow boats or float tubes across the lake!

Campgrounds & RV parks: (To reserve a US Forest Service Campground, call 877-444-6777 or go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov))

The economy has not been kind to Portola so eateries are few and far between as well as motels. An alternative is Graeagle ([www.graeagle.com](http://www.graeagle.com)) which is about a half hour's drive west on Hwy 70 and south on Hwy 89 with a few more motels and food choices.

J & J's Grizzly Store, Campground and Resort (530) 832-0270 Lake Davis 34 sites, RV, tents, 2 camping cabins, showers, flush toilets, piped water, dump station, restaurant and store, open all year. (Yummie softie ice cream cones in the afternoon)

#### RV SITES

Sleepy Hollow Park - (530) 832-5914 - 3810 Grizzly Rd, Portola - 40 sites, RV, full hookups. (Grizzly Rd is east road off Hwy 70 to the lake) I will be located in Sleepy Hollow Park. (If cell service available in RV park - 209-938-

9736.)

Trails West Trailer Park (530) 832-5074 - 73561 Highway 70, (west of Portola) 20 RV sites full hookups, Showers, flush toilets, laundry facility, Open all year

Motels (See Plumas County Recreation site for more information)

Lake Davis Resort (530) 832-1060 -

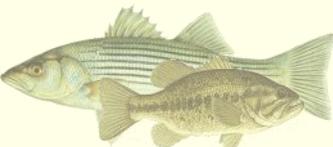
Lake Davis Road, Lake Davis, quarter mile from the dam at the south end of the lake. 4 cabins, 8 motel rooms plus suite with optional spa, fridges/microwaves, coffeemakers, TVs. Average rates: Cabins: \$98 to \$192/night. Motel rooms: \$67 to \$86/night.



DIRECTIONS: East off I-5 or Hwy 99 on I-80. Go past Truckee to Hwy 89/267 turnoff. North on Hwy 89 to Sierraville. Turn left on 89 & north to just before Stattley. Turn right on A23 & follow to Hwy 70 turn left and follow signs to Lake Davis or Portola.

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## No Fly of the Month tying session for June

# Gil Parker takes on the Eastern Sierras early in the season

By Gil Parker

I traveled to Virginia Lakes Resort on Tuesday following Memorial Day Weekend. Rented a cabin at Little Virginia lake through Friday with a friend of mine, John Watson. I saw a bank fisherman when I arrived, lay two long rainbows in a snow bank near the parking lot. Now, I am glad, I am where I am. Understand that May passing into the month of June, might seem to us flat landers as no big deal, it is a big deal when you live at a 9,700 foot elevation.

We woke on Wednesday morning to rain on the windows and high winds, varying fog to snow flurries. My itinerary was flexible but we were scheduled to hike into Kirman Lake on Wednesday morning. Soooo ..... Plan B was to find some where in another canyon maybe to fish



**Gil and his new pontoon boat**

possibly with a little less wind.

When I said High Winds, these winds were picking up small pebbles and throwing them at us. Needless to say business was slow that day at the lake for Carol and John Webb the owners of the VL lodge. Also to have a cabin was a real indication of just how really intelligent I can be sometimes! We did escape the winds by driving to the June Lake Loop

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and found a less windy environment at Rush Creek near the Aerie Crag campground. Nice but didn't even see a fish.

Thurs fished Green Creek in the AM and East Walker in the afternoon. Sporadic success with my friend catching a nice

Brown ( 17 to 18 inch range) on the East Walker using a beaded nymph. We both caught small trout in Green Creek as it wound through a meadow marsh peppered with beaver dams and huts. This place matches Virginia and Twin as spectacular in splendor but without commercial intrusion and seemingly untouched!

Stopped for flies at Ken's Sporting Goods in BP. The East Walker was at 59cfm and Ken's was fearing

that they would have to stop sending customers there due to slowing flows. All the creeks feeding the BP reservoir, were being diverted by the Local ranchers who own the water rights (since the 1800's) for grass irrigation. Given that it was a less than wet winter the reservoir is very low.

Friday we fished upper big Virginia lake in the AM with some success using Olive wooly buggers and streamers. The truth was that the bait fishermen on the banks were doing much better than us. Still we caught fish!

Once you have had success on East Walker, it keeps calling you. So for a short quick trip we tried the Bridge with no success. Then had a late



**Upper Virginia Lake, chilly in the spring**

lunch and drove to the West Walker Sonora Bridge (500 cfm) where we witness a 4 to 5 ft rattlesnake swim the north side to the south side or our side. Given that snakes are warm blooded to see one enter the cold water was sort of a contradiction, we theorized that he was highly motivated by possibly the opposite sex.

The only thing that I have in common with Indiana Jones is our repulsion for anything that slithers! When wading the west Walker, I couldn't help imagining another motivated snake wanting to cross the river, using me as a resting stop. The west Walker does not flow into the BP reservoir and the river had lost my favor. We had day light left and the East Walker was calling again. We raced to it and was able to get there for the late dusk fishing. We both lost fish that will linger in the dark recesses of memory and we will remain helpless to only revisit that *continued on page 4*



**The West Walker, flowing at 500 CFS**

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memory on some restless night. Lesson learned was late dusk was prime time on the East Walker!

Lastly, no bears, very few deer, even with deer migration signs every where, my brush with nature, came on the East Walker while standing in calf deep ripples, I was cleaning moss off my fly line when I noticed movement at my feet. Looking down I see an approximate 20 inch brownie using my legs as a rest-

ing spot while traveling upstream. After freezing all movement, I stood motionless and totally mesmerized at this beautiful fish at my feet. After at least ten minutes I moved one leg and the fish moved with it! Then after an occasional feeding swing into the current, he came back and held his position, as did I! I'm not sure I have experienced anything closer to the beauty of nature than that experience.

Overall, I would rate my fishing success on this trip from low to moderate. My

gain in knowledge increased considerably! Gains were made in understanding line and rod weights and their usages, the necessity of tiny flies and fish eating habits and more efficiency with line knots. My discovery of the cabins at Virginia Lake and the adjoining areas was immeasurable. Just as the East Walker calls you back so does this entire area. Even with moderate success, the new guy is getting better at this thing called fly fishing.

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## June is the month for saving on new memberships and membership renewals

If new members join the club in June, they can wave paying the last 3 months of this membership year that end on August 30 and get up to 15 months of club membership for the price of 12 months. If you are a current member, you can also save \$2 for every new member that you refer to the club on your annual membership dues for the 2013-2014 membership year. This offer is only good until August

30, 2013. Also current members can earn raffle tickets toward a new fly rod if they pay their annual dues either before the end of membership year (by August 30 = 3 tickets) or by the end of September (= 1 ticket). Given past dues payments those members who pre-pay their annual dues will have very good odds of winning this prize. Contact Bob Fujimura at [del-taflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:del-taflyfishers@gmail.com) for more infor-



mation on these membership projects .

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## Annual Barbecue Who Brings What List

From Marty  
Regarding the list of who brings what food to the BBQ : Moving the assign-

ments one level , I suggest for 2013 that A-C bring salads; D-G bring bread/butter; H-K bring main dishes; L-N cold drinks; O-R bring hot/cold Veggies; S-Z

bring desserts; Hope this is fair. We need to remind folks to bring their own silverware. Thanks , Marty

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## The new guy tries out the surf

By Gil Parker

After recently hearing about surf fly fishing, I had an opportunity to try it. I was headed to Santa Barbara and figured I would give it a try. Since I don't own a 9 wt rod or have a reel with sinking line! I chose to run it by Marty. He set me up with the equipment needed and a few casting lessons from his Meadow Lake dock.

Part of the reason for going to SB was to do some work on my Mother-in-law's house. So I started the work project and soon was anxious to go fishing. So as it

turns out, the day I picked to go was a perfect day to give it a shot. The morning was overcast, and the tide was incoming and very calm. So the surf was minimal with pretty clear water clarity. I picked a place called Henry's Beach thinking it was unpopulated and likely to have the kind of channels (low spots) needed to find the fish. And then my problems began.

I had gotten there early enough to get a parking place, but by the time I got my gear on, the lot was full. As it turns out, Henry's Beach is the dog beach for

SB. And the strange man in the waders standing in three feet of water was an invitation to all the dogs to come join him in the water. So when I least expected it, a Golden retriever or Great Dane would be circling my spot. I thought, walking a mile or so from the parking lot would be the solution but the farther I got the more the population of dogs and dog owners grew. After about 40 minutes of fishing the second problem developed. I needed to pee.

The populated beach is not a place to find

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a bush and chest waders are not subtle. Left with two options: get arrested for lewd behavior on a public beach or walk all the way back to the parking lot and use the public restroom. I chose the public restroom option which should have been only a small delay before I return to

the fishing, but then along came the third problem. As I entered the bathroom, a large high ceiling room, set up to deal with multiple participants, I step forward thinking I am going to have to drop the waders to get the job complete, when I hear a quick zap sound. That was the tip of my pole shearing off in the ceiling

fan. So ... After having a panic thought or two on how would I explain to Marty how I broke his pole ... I realize that I'm done fishing because I have no other pole. At this point, my attitude is never give up, but my first impression of Fly fishing the surf was that it seemed a little challenging!

# Pictures from the Catfish Derby

Photos by Bruce Rollans





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Any correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to:  
The Delta Fly Fishers Inc.  
PO Box 77862  
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# Second annual Shad outing

By Bruce Rollans

Well, we beat the water to a froth in temperatures reaching 100 degrees and almost everyone landed fish, but not many. Wayne Syn and the Sacramento Outfitters prepared a late afternoon feast with enough to feed three times the 10 fly fishers on the river. Most were using type 3 and 4 shooting heads on 7 weight rods. By 7 p.m. Bob Souza was still the count leader with about 17 shad, the other

Bob (Foster) had close to one dozen, Barry O'Regan was steadily landing his 10th fish about that time and Sallye finally hooked her third shad. It was a sad day for Dan McDaniel who worked hard, but landed nothing. Ed Cottrell did bring in the largest sucker of the day and yours' truly broke off his only hook up for the day. The wind had been blowing hard for several days and died off late in the morning with the barometer dropping like a rock.



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