

President's Message by Stephen Johnson (the top dog in camp)

October, 2009

Finally, this is the time of year when life really takes on a new meaning. Local fruit and nut harvest is coming to an end. Soon no more dust. Evenings and early mornings are much cooler, trees and shrubs are starting their yearly rite of passage by donning some of the most beautiful colors known to man and the "steelhead" are on the move.

Life is beginning to look up, (now if I could just convince the feds to drop dead).

What's your favorite time of the year? Dead winter...cool spring days...the heat of summer perhaps or like yours truly the fall of the year. Next to the fact the steelhead make their big surge on the west coast this time of the year...it's time for Oktoberfest....beeerrr, please (that was for you Earl).

Fishing reports.....guess you have to go fishing before you can report anything...nada, nothing, not one damn trip this month, was supposed to head to Bridgeport with the club, however dear wife comes down with the flu, one of the female labs decide she will have her puppies a week early and the well went dry, literally.

Wife is back to normal...she just yelled at me for sitting a glass of water on the new oak table (without the aid of a coaster), Jett (the dog) wishes someone else had her litter of seven screaming brats and she was back working...and the well (water), let's see 3 days of no water, re drill well deeper, all new casing, 1.5 horse pump and electrical wiring...let's just say there will be "NO" new boats, out of state trips or even a new set of waders for a couple of years and to top off the month, the little red head leaves for Oregon in the morning and I have to stay home and meet with lawyers...no Rogue River trip this month.

I will be heading for the upper Sac in 2 weeks if anyone is interested...October Caddis...big bugs and lots of hungry fish, let me know if anyone wants to tag along.

What's cooking? I'm looking forward to our annual potluck...October 14th I believe at the school.

Ok, Ok...jeeze you mention food and guess who shows up...Kate, with another one of her books in her mouth...this dog loves to read and right now she is reading "Steelhead Fly Fishing" in low water by Dick Van Demark. Great informational read.

Oh yea Kate says...

"Maybe your stature as a fly fisherman isn't determined by how big a trout you can catch but how small a trout you can catch without being disappointed, and, of course, without losing faith that there's a bigger one in there . . ." Gierach

OOPS.... almost forgot...big fly fishing shindig in Lodi at the end of the month October 23rd and 24th hope to see ya there

Membership Form

Regular membership – \$30*

Family Membership – \$35*

62 years or older – \$25.00*

*New members please add \$5.00 Initiation Fee

Dues are for one year, from September 1 to August 31 Please fill out then mail to:

Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Check one:

New membership _____ Renew membership _____

Regular Membership:

One year \$30.00 _____

Senior (62+) \$25.00 _____

Family Membership:

One year \$35.00 _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____

Cell (____) _____ - _____

Work (____) _____ - _____

E-Mail Address _____

I would like to be on the _____ committee

Please renew your membership, if you have not done so. If you are not sure, check the mailing label for your current status. If there is any questions or problems please contact:

Bob Souza at 209-607-6604

or e-mail at suzasbs@clearwire.net.

Fishing Buddy Request

NAME _____

DATE _____

PHONE CONTACTS: (1) _____

(2) _____

The best time to contact me is _____ My E-mail address is: _____

I WOULD LIKE A FISHING BUDDY TO HELP ME WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Casting Fly Tying Attending Outings Equipment
- Knot Tying Float Tubing Pontoon Boating
- Stream Fishing Lake Fishing Trout Fishing
- Steelhead Fishing Shad Fishing Bass Fishing
- Striper Fishing Salt Water Fishing Private Water Fishing
- Rod Building Selecting a Guide Travel
- Entomology Other _____

Please describe what you would like help with _____

If you need further information, please contact the Fishing Buddy Committee:

Bob Souza at 209-607-6604 or suzasbs@clearwire.net

Grady Lee at 951-3623 or gmississippikid@aol.com

Mail the form to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Wednesday Night Casting & Fly Tying

The weekly Wednesday evening fly casting sessions will continue through the Spring, Summer and Fall. Meet at the Nature Center, in the Oak Grove Park, at 6:30. The exception is the 2nd Wednesday night when DFF has its monthly meeting.

Whether you are a novice and want tips on how to cast or an expert that wants an excuse to get out of the house, then come out for the camaraderie of other members. This is an excellent chance improve your fly Casting and/or BS abilities. For more information contact Jim Rich at 477-6404.

There also will be opportunities for fly tying. For more information contact Joe Balderston at 474-8515 or Jim Rich at 477-6404.

Oak Grove Parking

Jim Rich wants to inform DFF members that they will now need a DFF parking permit to display on your dash as the county sheriff's office will be writing tickets for non DFF members on Wednesday nights. Jim is going to print up placards or permits, so see Jim to get one. Information: 477-6404 or jrich1@sbcglobal.net

2009 NCC/FFF Conclave A Festival of Fly Fishing October 23 & 24

If you're interested in fly fishing then the Festival of Fly Fishing in Lodi, California is the place to be. The Conclave starts at 11:00 a.m. on Friday October 23rd through Saturday October 24th. This is a total celebration of fly fishing that will take place and you are invited to participate. The NCCFFF is presenting the Festival of Fly Fishing at the Hutchins Street Square in Lodi, CA. There will be informational programs along with hands-on events for novice and advanced fly fishers alike. Youth and family oriented events are scheduled throughout the two day event. The monies raised will go for conservation and fly fishing education programs in Northern California and Northern Nevada.

This year's special guest is Lani Waller of Novato, California. Lani is a well-known and respected fly fishing and casting instructor, lecturer and fly fishing. He has pursued steelhead for over four decades and is considered one of the foremost experts on trophy British Columbia steelhead. He was inducted into the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame in 1997. Lani will be giving 3 presentations during the Conclave. Along with Lani, you will be able to see and listen to: Jim Victorine, Dave Scadden, Al Smatsky, Trent Pridemore and others speak.

Casting instruction will be provided by Al Kyte, Eric Sherar, Floyd Dean, John Till, Bob Middo and Michael Maloney. Each one is an expert in their fields of fly fishing and fly casting. There will also be an opportunity to earn a Casting Certification through the Federation of Fly Fishers.

The Learning Center – for Beginners of all Ages – will feature continuous activities including: The Basics of Fly Tying, Casting, Knots, Reading the Water and Insect Life. Programs are scheduled all day Saturday. Enthusiasts, young and old, can participate in special educational classes, and learn the basics of fly tying, casting and other fly fishing essentials. Seminars on Friday and Saturday will show you how to improve casting and fishing skills as well as where and how to fly fish the West.

You don't want to miss the commercial exhibits on all things for fly fishing; Equipment, Guide services, Trips, Special Fly Tying and Casting classes Friday and Saturday and the Fly tying demonstrations from more than 40 of the best fly tiers in the west. Friday night there will be a barbeque with sausage and chili. Then on Saturday a spectacular evening banquet and social, featuring a great dinner, raffle and auction. This is a great opportunity to help support conservation and education programs. We will have a large selection of fly fishing equipment – rods, reels, pontoon boats, vests, etc. - along with special trips. This promises to be the best fishing event of the year!

Lani Waller: Biographical information

Lani has been fly-fishing for forty-five years and was inducted into the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame in 1997, by the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers. He has pursued both trout and steelhead for over four decades and is considered one of the foremost experts on trophy British Columbia steelhead. He is one of the leading US proponents of BC Steelhead fishing.

He has four award winning videos. These films were released in 2008 as a four part series called "Lani Waller's Steelhead Legacy." Lani has also written two books- "A River of Dreams," published by West Rivers Publishing in 2004, and "A Steelheader's Way," published by Headwaters Books in 2009.

Lani's articles and stories have appeared in all the major fly-fishing publications and he has held editorial positions for Fly Fisherman Magazine and Wild Steelhead and Salmon Magazine. Lani is a founding Director of The Babine River Foundation and is active in British Columbia watershed conservation politics. As such he has held consulting and fund raising relationships with The Wild Steelhead Campaign, Friends of Wild Salmon. Lani was a founding Director of British Columbia's North Coast Steelhead Alliance.

His conservation work in the US includes fund raising and promotional activities in behalf of Cal Trout and Trout Unlimited. Lani is also an active supporter of The Federation of Fly Fishers. His photographs and slide shows of wild steelhead have been viewed by audiences across the United States; his photographs and field work with California wild steelhead and salmon have been preserved in the California State Archives





REGISTRATION FORM

NORTH CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS Conclave 2009 - Festival of Fly Fishing

Hutchins Street Square, Lodi, California
October 23 and 24, 2009

Please do not write in this space.

Date Received: _____

Amount Received: _____

Registration No.: _____

- please fill in all data.

Full payment must accompany this form.

Your Name: _____

Additional family members : _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Registration form must be postmarked by October 1. We expect several events to sell out; earliest postmarks will be given preference. Only written cancellation requests postmarked by October 1 will be given a refund. No written confirmation will be sent. All tickets and registration packets will be held for pickup at the registration desk at the Hutchins Street Square.

| | FEEES PAID | Quantity | Amount |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON: | | | |
| 1 General Admission 1 Day (Friday or Saturday) | \$10.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 2 General Admission 2 Days (Friday and Saturday) | \$15.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 3 General Admission Children under 18 free with paid adult | N/C | _____ | _____ |
| 4 FRIDAY NIGHT CHILI FEED (Chili, Sausage, Salad, Bread, Dessert, & No-host Bar) | \$10.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 5 SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET (Banquet, No-host Bar, Auction, & Raffle) | \$50.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 7 RAFFLE TICKETS: 12 for \$10.00; 25 for \$20.00; or 75 for \$50.00 | | _____ | _____ |
| <u>FRIDAY CASTING CERTIFICATION</u> | | | |
| 8 CCI, MCI BOG Workshop - Joe Libeu, Bob Middo, Eric Sherar - 8 - 12:00 Noon | | _____ | _____ |
| 9 CCi, MCi and THCI Testing - 1 - 5:00 pm | | | |
| <u>FRIDAY CASTING CLINCS</u> - (See next page for more information) | | | |
| 10 Michael Maloney - Correcting Your Casting Mistakes & Understanding Them 12:00 (10 | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 11 Floyd Dean - Slack Line Casting and Mending For More Fish - 1 - 3:00 pm (10 Max) | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 12 John Till - Learn Intermediate and Advanced Casting Skills 1 - 3:00 pm (10 Max) | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ |
| <u>SATURDAY CASTING CLINCS</u> - (See next page for more information) | | | |
| 13 Al Kyte - Casting: Adjusting to Aches and Ailments - 10:00 am (20 Max) | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 14 Bob Mito - Spey Casting with a single hand rod - 12 - 2:00 pm (6 Max) | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ |
| 15 Floyd Dean - How to improve and perfect your double haul- 12 - 2:00 pm (10 Max) | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ |

TOTAL AMOUNT REMITTED: _____

Make check payable to NCCFFF

or

Credit Card Payment (Please Circle) - Visa / MasterCard

Card No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature Required for Credit Card Payment: _____

Mail completed form to:

NCCFFF

Festival of Fly Fishing

Mike Howes

4124 Natoma Ave

Fair Oaks, Ca. 95628-7621

NCCFFF 2009 Conclave General Admission Events

See Registration Form for General Admission Fees - Pre-Register Prior to October 1 to assure a spot in the clinics!

Exhibit Hall - Exhibitor Booths and Fly Tying Demonstrations
The Learning Center - For Beginners of All Ages - Continuous Activities Including:
The Basics of Fly Tying, Casting, Knots, Reading The Water, Insect Life and more!
Casting Ponds - Available for Rod Evaluation and Open Casting

Programs

Friday, October 23

| | Cottage | Pisano |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <u>Fishing</u> | Speaker / Program | Speaker / Program |
| 12:00 - 1:30 | Jeff Weaver - The Heritage & Wild Trout Program | Jerry Neuburger - Delta Large Mouth From Personal Watercraft |
| 1:45 - 2:45 | Dave Scadden - Advanced Pontoon Boat Techniques | Phil Erickson - Heritage Trout Challenge |
| 3:00 - 4:00 | Mike Mercer - Fly Fishing Opportunities of Nor. | Al Smatsky - Dorado and More |
| 4:15 - 5:15 | Lani Waller - A Steelheader's Way | Steve Cooper - Owyhee River Journal: Wild Brown |
| <u>Casting Certification</u> | | |
| 8:00 - 12:00 | CCI, MCI BOG Workshop - Joe Libeu, Bob Middo, Eric Sherar | |
| 1:00 - 5:00 | CCi, MCI and THCI Testing | |

Casting

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 12:00 - 2:00 | Michael Maloney - Correcting Your Casting Mistakes & Understanding Them (10 Max) |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | John Till - Learn Intermediate and Advanced Casting Skills (10 Max) |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | Floyd Dean - Slack Line Casting & Mending For More Fish (10 Max) |

Programs

Saturday, October 24

| | Cottage | Pisano |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| <u>Fishing</u> | Speaker / Program | Speaker / Program |
| 9:30 - 10:30 | Scott Hed - Red Gold, A Documentary Film on Alaska's Conservation Efforts | Phil Fisher - Solving Puzzles: Reading the Rise |
| 10:45 - 11:45 | Jim Victorine - Bamboo Rods | Lani Waller - A Steelheader's Way |
| 12:00 - 1:00 | Ralph Wood - Yuba River | Al Smatsky - A Belize Adventure |
| 1:15 - 2:15 | Dave Scadden - Advanced Pontoon Boat Techniques | Matt Coles - Four Seasons of the Truckee River |
| 2:30 - 3:30 | Steve Cooper - Owyhee River Journal: Wild Brown Tr | Lani Waller - A Steelheader's Way |
| 3:45 - 4:45 | Trent Pridemore: Crossing South America; Asado, Rainbows, Browns, Golden Dorado | Mike Costello - Delta Stripers |
| <u>Casting</u> | | |
| 10:00 - 12:00 | Al Kyte - Casting: Adjusting to Aches and Ailments (20 Max) | |
| 12:00 - 2:00 | Bob Middo - Spey Casting With a Single Hand Rod (6 Max) | |
| 12:00 - 2:00 | Floyd Dean - How to improve and perfect your double haul (10 Max) | |

Conservation by Ron Forbes

When I was ten years old I went on my first backpack trip in the High Sierras. My Dad bought me a metal fly rod at the local Payless and gave me a beat-up reel. The line was a sinking level type and the tippet was probably 3 or 4X. The flies (all 3 of them) were Japanese and about one third the size of my fist. The hooks were probably a size 8 or 10. We crossed the Sierras over Sonora Pass and took off from Leavitt Meadow. After 6 or 7 miles we stopped at Fremont Lake and made camp. The next day we climbed over a ridge and into the West Fork of the Walker River. To make sure my "fluff ball" fly was secure I tied it on with three half hitches. Since I had never fished before I found a rock next to a small falls, threw my fly upstream and left it drift around the pool below. After 30 minutes or so and while eating lunch, I hooked my first trout. In my eyes it was huge, at least 6 or 7 inches. That day I caught three more fish. Our leader marked me down as having caught four fish. I was in heaven. The trout limit had just been lowered from 25 to 15 fish. The next morning reality set in. Our leader was way ahead of his time in many ways. If you kill it, it you eat it. Like it or not. And so I learned the Theory of Catch and Release without any coaching.

Some of my fondest memories in life have been of my time in the high back country. Is there a point to all this? Yes there is. When I first backpacked there were about 8 million people in California. We have over 38 million people in the state now. Since my birth over 1,000 dams have been built (there are over 1,400 in the state now). Most without the legally required fish passage ways. All of the major flows into the Sacramento River have been blocked and neither steelhead nor salmon and pass. Of the 17 waterways that flow into the Sacramento River, all the original runs of steelhead are extinct. Our Delta is on the verge of collapse. Yet water districts really don't care. They will take whatever they can get and really don't care what happens to the Delta or its fish.

We hope to show the film, "The Lost Coast" to the club soon. It's an excellent film with the history of steelhead fishing in the northern part of California. Tom Skerritt narrates the film. He was the preacher in a "River Runs Through It". The film makes the point of what happened to the steelhead fishing back then. History is going to repeat itself in the Delta. We can talk all we want about the pros and cons but when you see the movie you can see what has happened to a once outstanding fishery and is happening here now.

When I joined Delta Fly Fishers I was impressed with our Flier and the statement of our commitment to conservation and the environment. We now need to live up to those words. However, our President has told me that he has received several letters of complaint because we are involved in Sacramento in fish and water issues. Evidently, these people want the club to stay out of the fight to preserve our fishery. But those days are over. We are living in the 21st century; not the mid 1950's. If we want to save the Delta we have to fight for it; if we don't we lose it.

We have fought and won the battle to delist Strippers as a game fish. We fought and won the battle to stop those trying to push those 5 poorly written water bills through Sacramento. They would have given the Governor power to build a peripheral canal costing \$52 billion without taxpayer's approval. But his battle is ongoing and will continue. The point is, if we want to continue to fish as we have,

we have to fight for it. We don't have a choice. If we don't, Westland's Water District and friends will have their way with "co-equal rights" and the Delta will be lost forever. Frankly, I'm tired of hearing, "There are more votes in Southern California; we don't stand a chance; if they want it they will take it and we can't do anything etc. etc. etc..." But we have to get involved now.

At our last meeting Bob Sousa told us that 35 letters had be send to oppose the 5 water bills. Our membership is about 105 people. About a third of us send letters. The Tracy club responded with 100% of its membership getting involved. We need to do better and we can.

We can start by doing some of the following:

- 1) Support California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
- 2) Support Restore the Delta
- 3) Send letters when requested
- 4) Tell your elected officials how you feel about the issues through your calls and letters. They are better than e-mails and have more impact. And they do make a big difference.
- 5) Read everything you can on fish issues and water issues.
- 6) Read webmaster Gerry Neuberger's CSPA newsletter on the net. It's the best source I have found about what's going on. It's located at: calsport.org

Now is the time for us in Delta Fly fishers to get involved. Really involved.

Good fishing

Ron Forbes

Five Rivers Sweepstakes Extended

By now, you are all aware that the Five Rivers Sweepstakes has been extended until we reach our 4000 ticket goal. To date, we've sold 2400 tickets. The drawing will be held on March 15, 2010. Tickets must be postmarked by February 28th, 2010 to be eligible. To purchase tickets and for more information on the Sweepstakes <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=5030>

To reach this goal we need the help of your club and your council. During the next few weeks we urge you to contact every FFF club member in your area encouraging them to purchase at least one ticket. Each ticket represents a donation to the FFF and demonstrates support of the organization's mission of Conserving, Restoring, and Educating through Fly Fishing.

This sweepstakes is a chance to support the FFF and possibly the fly fishing trip of a lifetime. We thank you for your work on this fundraising effort to date and look forward to your help in reaching our goal.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.fffgear.com from club or council representatives. If your council or club needs more tickets please contact Josset Gauley at josset@fedflyfishers.org or 406-222-9369 ext. 101

FFF On-line Auction

We will be posting items to the On-Line Auction area of our site. The Auction of items will begin again September 18, 2009. Trips, equipment and much more. <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4973>

DFE Officers 2009

President

Stephen Johnson 209-887-9255

1st Vice President

(Open)

2nd Vice President

Herman Spalinger 209-477-3412

(Temp)

Secretary

Sallye Rollans 209-274-0448

Treasurer

Bruce Rollans 209-274-0448

Directors

Joe Balderston 209-474-8515

Charles Edwards 209-951-0391

Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

Bill Laughlin 209-477-6644

Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

Sallye Rollans 209-274-0448

Larry Schmidt 209-948-3360

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Committees

Education

Joe Balderston 209-474-8515

Newsletter

Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

Conservation/NCCFFF Member

Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Historian/Property

Jim Grimes 209-367-4663

Membership

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Outings

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Publicity

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Programs

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

John Keagy 209-369-5690

Raffles

Bill Laughlin 209-477-6644

Catfish Derby (June)

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Trout Bout (November)

Charlie Reames 209-369-6053

Bob McMillan Trout Bout

(February)

Steve Cooper 209-956-1032

Web Site

David Coon 209-239-9936

Fishing Buddy Program

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Ron Pettitt 209-931-2997

Delta Fly Fishers Official Club Merchandise For Sale

Help support your club by buying and using club merchandise.

Polo Shirt w/club logo sale \$26.00

Ball Cap \$11.50

Club Patch \$5.00

Lapel Pin \$7.00

Lic. Plate Frames \$3.00

Official coffee mug \$5.00

Also the club has a video library

Videotape Rentals \$2.00 Per Video

See Jim Grimes 209-367-4663 for info on merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

Membership Meeting

October 14

October Board Meeting

October 21

October Newsletter

The deadline for the November issue is October 25th

October General Meeting, Potluck, What I Learned on My Summer Vacation and Other Useful Tips

Wednesday, October 14 is the date for the Delta Fly Fisher's General Meeting and Annual Potluck. See below to see who is to bring what food. Don't forget to bring your own plates and place settings.

Pot Luck Dish Assignments

Here's what to bring to our potluck:

A - D Salad

E - G Desserts

H - K Hot veggie plate

L - N Cold drinks

O - R Main course compliment (casserole, potato dish, etc.)

S - Z Dinner rolls and/or bread, butter, etc.

Along with the potluck you are encouraged to share what you have learned. It can be anything from tying a new fly, to tying knots, the best place and techniques to fish for Stripers, etc. It only needs to be 5 minutes or so. This is a great opportunity to dazzle the other members with what you know.

Swap and/or Trade

I wish to trade either a 7/8 wt and/or 6 wt fly rod for either a 5 wt, 4 or 5 piece, travel rod or a large reel, to hold 7-10 wt line.

Marty Kjelson - 477-9618

DFE Newsletter is Moving Towards Sending Via E-mail

DFE is working towards being able to send out DFE's Monthly Newsletter to our members electronically. By sending the Newsletter this way the DFE will be saving rising printing and postage costs that can then go towards our many programs. There is no need to send an email to Bob Souza, suzasbs@clearwire.net, if you want to continue receiving the Newsletter by hard copy, snail mail.

If you want to receive the Newsletter by email, send your email to suzasbs@clearwire.net. Please put the following in Subject Field of your e-mail: Newsletter Email. Advise Bob of your full name and the email address you would like the magazine sent to.

This is strictly voluntary but you will be saving the Club money. also, since Bob emails out the newsletter before he takes it to the printer, you will receive it sooner.

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing tip:

Nature shortchanged trout by giving it a pea-sized brain to deal with predators like us, intelligent in most cases. Even though the trout isn't very smart, it certainly can hold its own against all my scholarly fishing buddies and me. So why is there is so much cerebral work devoted to catching a creature with limited intelligence? Trout have to determine what to eat and what not to eat with everything that drifts, floats or passes in front of them and inspects everything as if they have an IQ of 180. It's simply through selectivity, they peruses the same thing numerous times, and recognize what has worked prior but does take in some odd stuff and obviously spits it out. It basically has to pass muster. This means it has to move in the same manner, dead drift rising to the surface, or fluttering on the surface and if it doesn't move as the trout expects it won't make the top 10 on their menu. Trout generally require characteristics that resemble their food source, body length, height of the wings, the symmetry is proportionate, and matching the color, as that is the very last thing you want to match. Trout flies that look similar in shape may not be what they are targeting. Select some flies and place them on a flat surface and back up about 3 or 4 feet and squint your eyes and match the proportions. Most match-the-hatch guys omit important details like legs, beards, thorax bulges, and the length etc. and it's important to notice these details when you are squinting at your flies. Don't tie or use flies that "you" think look good, seine the water and take a better look at the bugs from all sides, it might just improve your success.

Weather Continued high temperatures in the Eastern Sierra are about to change by the 28th, with wind driving a low pressure system into possible snow showers on Tuesday and/or Wednesday.

Legislation and/or News ~ September 4, 2009 WON

The Fish and Game Commission has proposed elimination of the need to wear your fishing license in full display above your waist while fishing – a law that has caused undue hardship on almost every angler since its inception. See the following: www.fgc.ca.gov/regulations/new2009/proposedregs09.asp. The law will remain in effect until officially removed at a later date. I will continue to wear my license in full display. Please check the regulations prior to fishing unfamiliar water as to any gear restrictions, size and limits.

ROCK CREEK – Has been good with most of the fish sitting in deep water due to the lake temp, so use full sink with black woolly buggers, and blue damsels. Dries are working, so try olive Hornbergs.

HOT CREEK – Is fishing well; water level is low and weed beds are showing. Fish early and late with dries (vary your colors in sizes 20-24, also small WD40's, PT flashback (22-24), gray baetis patterns #20-24, scuds, and small caddis emergers. Large foam ant patterns and try some small hoppers. There is always a afternoon breeze so be prepared for everything.

CROWLEY – Moss is worse than ever and it depends on which way the wind blows as to where you will be able to fish. Fishing is good when you get into the right waterway so try streamers, perch fry and leeches, but check with the experts at Crowley Lake Marina or in Mammoth for the latest info.

CONVICT – Has had a good breeze on most days so fish the same southwest corner near the aspens, go deep, deeper and the deepest you can handle and start from there up to see where the trout are holding. Water is warm all over, but is changing soon.

UPPER OWENS – Has also been fishing well when you find the right spot. Fish are a tad small but keep working it until you find the main channel where they are holding and use dry/dropper, Copper John, soft hackles, pheasant tails and prince nymphs with your best presentation. Use sizes 20-24.

MAMMOTH BASIN – Twin and Mamie are doing great on brown and olive Docs Twin Lake Special (DTLS), Olive Matuka, or a leech pattern with a nymph dropper #16 or #18. Pick your best working nymph.

SAN JOAQUIN ROAD – You can drive down to the meadow in your own vehicle now. You'll have to do some extra walking to get into fish as the water level is low and warm, so look for pools and keep a low profile while using Yellow Sallies, Royal Coachman, Parachute Adams and definitely Olive elk hair caddis #16.

JUNE Loop – Gull has been doing well on brown Twin Lakes Special, with or without a Pheasant Tail dropper, and June has done well on burgundy or olive leech patterns, the "staple" Hornberg (green) with a prince nymph dropper.

Go deep and I'm not kidding.

LUNDY – Has been doing fair from boats and tubes and is got their last load of Alper's last week. Their last day open was Sept. 13th. Work with Hornbergs, olive crystal flashy buggers, wiggle nymphs in olive or rust, and try some ants near the inlet and south shore near the aspens.

VIRGINIA LAKES – Had been good to great after Alpers trophies arrived along with the supplement fish and 400 pounds from Fish and Game. Just about anything worked for over 8 days, but the continued warm weather has plagued most of the Eastern Sierra without any relief driving the fish even deeper than last week. Flies working are all black stripped-down version of a woolly bugger with some flash in the tail, and you'll probably have to drive it down with full sink with a slow strip. Try a 2 fly rig with a hare's ear over a scud pattern, or a blue wing olive parachute, gray hackle peacock or fur body black ant. Also, black gnat parachute and Selby's Black Bitch.

EAST WALKER – Flow is currently at 98cfs and fishing quite well. Early is the best time to use PMD's, and trico's. Nymphs working are blood midge, WD40's, tiger, crystal and small caddis patterns in the afternoon in the 1st mile down from the dam. Elkhair Caddis in #16 or 18, small yellow sallies over any nymph will work. Fish only when temp is below 67 degrees, it's healthier for the trout. Current temp is 60 as the nights are cooling down the day-time water temperature.

WEST WALKER – Water is at very low 38cfs but standard for this time of year, so look for flat water and fish the pools and curves, and use a two fly rig with large attractor and tiger, crystal or flashback Zug as the bottom fly with a shorter distance between flies. Try some terrestrials, hoppers, ants, etc.

SADDLEBAG RESORT – The lakes basin is a bit slow except for Saddlebag, and it is doing well on the east side and heading toward the resort using a full sink with olive and or olive/black woollies. The stream is running fair and some nice brooks, browns and bows can be found in deeper pools so keep a low profile, they are spooky.

See you on the water....cj 9.9

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Every Wed (except meeting nights) | Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton | WEDNESDAY EVENING FLY CASTING & TYING Contact: Joe Balderston 474-8515 Jim Rich 477-6404 |
| Every 2nd Wed (except July & Aug) 7:00 PM | John R Williams School Stockton | Membership Meeting Contact Marty Kjelson 477-9618 John Keagy 369-5690 |
| Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM | Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton | Board Meeting All Members Welcome |
| Wednesday October 14 | John R Williams School Stockton | October General Meeting, Potluck, What I Learned on My Summer Vacation and Other Useful Tips |
| Wednesday October 21 | Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton | Board Meeting All Members Welcome |
| October 23, 24 | Hutchins Street Square Lodi, California | 2009 NCC/FFF Conclave A Festival of Fly Fishing |

DFF MENTOR PROGRAM

The Delta Fly Fishers Board of Directors, intent upon enhancing the existing Fishing Buddy Program, is proposing DFF adopt a Mentor Program which is proactive and broadly inclusive. The primary objective is, by sharing fly fishing skills and knowledge of existing DFF members with new members, this will assist new members in getting acquainted with existing members, with club activities and, generally speed the transition from new member to old friend.

The Board of Directors recognizes this will take considerable commitment from the existing membership and does encourage the active participation of current members. The following broad guidelines are thought to be necessary for this program.

- Every existing member willing to serve, as a Mentor will be asked to complete a skills/knowledge list that they will share with new members as requested. The Mentor Program Chairperson will maintain these documents.
- Every new member will be asked to complete a skills/knowledge request form, which the Mentor Program Chair will also maintain.
- The Mentor Program Chair will introduce any and all new members before the General Program begins and will make an effort to introduce the new members to DFF Officers and Board Members.
- Under consideration is the additional incentive for new members of some free raffle tickets.
- The Mentor Program Chair will follow up on matching a Mentor with a new member based on skills/knowledge sought and skills/knowledge available. The mentor and new member will work out a compatible schedule by which to transfer skills/knowledge. The Mentor Program Chair as needed can make reassignments.
- Examples of mentoring include such things as guiding a new member on local waters within a few months of assignment, accompany the new member to a local fly shop to assist with gear purchases, contact the new member a few days before each monthly meeting to remind the new member of the meeting and program, assisting with casting skills, how to tie useful knots and/or fly tying, sharing information regarding fly fishing destinations including basic travel tips and promoting new members to join DFF in its outings

Over time the Mentor Program may be extended to include existing members who want to learn new skills/knowledge.

A Summer to Remember

By Nathan Cooper

It seems like I just stepped off the plane. The summer of 2009 is one I will never forget! Most members of the DDF who have been around for a while know my love of angling started at a very early age, like two. As a knee high worm dunker I never imagined angling would lead me coast to coast, finding adventure, seeing the country and meeting and fishing with some of the best junior anglers in the United States.

Let's start August first. I boarded a plane bound for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Earlier in the year I qualified to compete in the TBF Junior World Championships, the largest Junior Bass Angling event in the world. Only fifty anglers across the country qualify for the event. I was proud to represent California. Unfortunately Pittsburgh's Allegheny River was not kind to me or the other fifty anglers. Four inches of rain and a blown out river make for tough fishing. After two days on the river Daryk Eckert of Stockport, Ohio came out on top. Although I didn't catch a lot of fish I had the time of my life and made several friends from around the country.



It seemed like I no sooner arrived home, stepped off the plane from Pittsburgh and got on another plane heading to the Stillwater River in Montana. I was one of twenty junior anglers from around the country invited to try out for the Jr. National Fly Fishing Team. My father and I had an exciting flight to Billings. We flew over a fire filling the cockpit with smoke, and paralleled lighting storms. We were counting our blessings when we were back on the ground safe and sound. The next morning I was dropped off at the beautiful JJJ ranch on the Stillwater River. I quickly made some friends as I helped set up tents and cots. After setting up camp it was time for some pre dinner free fishing. Each day of the event was packed from 5:30 in the morning till dark. I was presented with tons of information and truly believe that I am a much better angler than I was before this event.

One of the many things I learned about was Phipps Mouche rules - and boy did I learn A LOT about them. They are the official rules for international Fly fishing competitions. I was presented with a rulebook thicker than a rainbow trout after a salmon fly hatch. The rules were complicated and very strict. They required you to use various techniques like Czech nymphing and continuous leaders, which were completely foreign to me. I found out that I have been fishing in a "western-style" of fly fishing all my life, and it did little to prepare me for this new method. The emphasis of the rules seems heavily weighted in tradition. I think of myself as being an innovative angler, looking for new and productive ways to catch fish. The required style of fishing was hard for me to adapt to. (I did sneak out during evening free time and revert to my "western ways". I caught some beautiful fish!)

The weather in Montana was beautiful the whole time until competition day... We had wind, rain, thunder and lightning, prematurely ending the competition. Other than the poor weather on competition day and the unfamiliar rules, the experience was near perfect and one that I will never forget. I wasn't selected for the team, but it was an eye opening experience and I learned about a facet of fly fishing that I had never even heard of prior to the competition.

I want to thank everyone in the club who helped me get to this once in a lifetime learning opportunity. I had a great time and will never forget this experience. I appreciate the club's support. I would also like to thank Steve Johnson for donating his frequent flyer miles for our tickets and for getting me involved with the competition. It was a great experience all the way through.

Save Mart Markets – S.H.A.R.E.S

DDF has joined with Save Mart Markets via the S.H.A.R.E.S. program. DDF earns 3% of most purchases made by customers using the card provided to DDF by Save Mart.

In February we passed out close to 100 S.H.A.R.E.S. cards to DDF members. Many of you have been using them. Since late February we have earned approximately \$300. We have noticed a drop in usage this past month so we encourage you to shop Save Mart and use the card. There is no additional cost to you. It merely gives 3% to DDF that otherwise would go to market profit.

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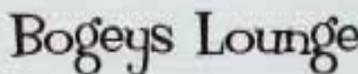


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