

January 2009

# Delta Fly Fishers

Rx

Flyfishing

## President's Message by Herman Spalinger

January, 2009

In search of ... you guessed it ... a president and vice-president. Yet another year has passed us by, the holiday season is over, and we are approaching our Annual Dinner to be held at the Italian Athletic Club on Saturday, January 31st with social hour from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. followed at 7:30 by dinner, a short presentation of awards and ending in a fantastic raffle. As many of you know, the annual dinner also introduces our new officers and board of directors. Our club's By-Laws call for officers and board members to serve a one-year term unless coaxed or pushed into another year. January 31st completes my second year as president, and due to a family situation in Utah and personal obligations at home it is necessary for me to step down. Now is the time for one of you reading this message who wants our club to continue on its present course to give me a call at 477-3412 and we'll sit down and discuss the duties of the president. Believe me, if I can do it any one of you can. It's not that hard. There will be an outline for future incoming presidents to follow. With the help of our excellent board and other officers the job becomes a lot easier.

We all know there is more to belonging to a club than paying dues in exchange for a newsletter. The value of the meetings and events depends on the membership participating. The type of events and outings we have also depends on the members providing their input to what direction they want our organization to go. I know we all had a number of reasons for joining an organization such as Delta Fly Fishers, and it was not just for the monthly meetings. We are a collection of individuals from all walks of life with an interest in fly fishing and all the aspects that are related to that activity. Each of you may have his or her own idea of what to expect, but as you found out when you joined we are not a "service" club like Rotary or Kiwanis but we do provide services to the community like salmon/trout in the classroom, Mokelumne River clean-up, provide food and drink in helping the County at Oak Grove Park's Catfish Derby and Trout Bouts they hold for the public and their sons and daughters, as well as planning outings throughout the year. Without a president it is hard for a group like ours to continue on, so, please, give me a call and let's talk!

One of a few things I see us focusing on in the future is setting up a fly fishing day sponsored by our club and publicized in the paper to lure new members into our fold. Let's expand the Buddy Program to assign one or more members as a mentor/buddy to a newly-joined member and go one-on-one with that new member to introduce him to the rest of the club and set up some time with that person to teach them the necessary aspects of fly fishing. How about setting aside an outing for just the new members alone? That's one possible direction we as a club can take so we don't run into the situation we have right now where most of the long-standing members have already been an officer or board member and are not interested in doing that again.

Now turning the page to a new subject: Let us not forget Thursday, January 1st 2009 that is our traditional meeting place at Van Assen Park come rain, snow, sleet or fog. It's a good time to forge new friendships and renew old ones. Be sure to bring your waders, though, to keep your legs dry from all of the BS flying around about those tall fishing stories that go along with this event. I hope to see a lot of you there.

Mark your calendars, 2009 starts out with a bang the weekend of January 8th to the 11th with the 34th annual International Sportsman's Exhibition in San Mateo. This is followed by another sportsman's exhibition in Sacramento the weekend of January 15th to the 19th. These shows are a good place to attend and spend that money our wives gave us at Christmas for that new fly rod or waders we need for the New Year, right? Of course sandwiched in between those events is our regular meeting at J.R. Williams School on the 14th and a board meeting on the 21st before the dinner.

Well, it's time to stop this ranting, so at this time I want to thank our current board of directors and officers for helping me these past two years. I have been greatly appreciative of the fine level of support and commitment this year's officers and board members - and you the members - have been to the club. A lot of dedication and effort has been made to give your club the great programs, outings and events we've had this year. It has been a grand two years as your president.

Herman

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:suzasbs@clearwire.net).

Grady Lee at 951-3623 or [gmississippi@aol.com](mailto:gmississippi@aol.com)

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



### Wednesday Night Fly Tying

For years, the “secret” fly that everyone used, was Don Gillette’s Red Ryder. Now a new fly has emerged. It is unsinkable and is touted to catch everything that swims, except the Phantom of course. To find out who is daring challenge the Red Ryder, come to the weekly



fly tying get together, 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 tie flies 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 tying and/or BS abilities. For more information contact Joe Balderston at 474-8515.

### 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: [jcrich1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcrich1@sbcglobal.net)

# Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

## Fishing Tip:

Hope you left those fishing magazines lying around the house in very obvious place with large felt pen circles around the items you wanted for Christmas, and when that someone special asks you why you need this. Your reply would be, since the gas prices are down and some of my favorite water are not being stocked, I thought I would save enough on gas to splurge and get that new reel I've been looking at, oh, and it is only supposed to have that special 5 wt. Type II line and the Fluorocarbon leaders. She might just go for it. Hey, it's always worth a shot.

## WEATHER:

Not much snow except at Mammoth Mountain and they are happy as a pig in poo.

## NEWS:

Biological Diversity came to an interim agreement from their lawsuit of Oct. 2006. Judge Marlette stated "DFG can continue with their stocking program in places where there likely aren't any target species at risk," stated Chris Frissell, Director of Science and Conservation at PRC. DFG has posted a list of water that will and will NOT be stocked during from November 24, 2008 through January 1, 2010, which I have attached.

## CONWAY RANCH UPDATE:

### Alpers to maximize use of Conway Ranch Property By Stacy Powells, Mammoth Times Staff Writer

"We have the most highly accepted water quality process in the state," said Inland Aquaculture Group Co-founder Tim Alpers. "We've got water, land and gravity, and we will do great things with this property."

The property in question is Conway Ranch. While many Eastern Sierra residents have heard the name, not everyone is aware of what they do at the ranch or where it is...exactly. Most Eastern Sierra residents drive up and down U.S. 395 between Mammoth Lakes and Bridgeport dozens if not hundreds of times. Approaching the climb up Conway Summit we may know that Conway Ranch is somewhere in the vicinity but how many having actually been on the property or know what's going on at the 1,037-acre ranch?

One hundred sixty acres of the ranch are located on the west side of U.S.395, historically known as the Mattly Property. This area is adjacent to the Southern California Electric-Lundy Hydro-electric plant. The remaining acreage is on the east side of 395, 220 acres of which is owned by the BLM. The east side of the property is also where the Bell Diversion lies and has recently been a point of contention between Mono County and the Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power. But there is much more to Conway Ranch than issues with water rights.

"We want the public to be able to access this fishery in a controlled environment," said Inland Aquaculture Group co-owner Tim Alpers who, along with partners John Frederickson, June Lake and Crowley Lake marinas, and Steve Brown, Orange County, formed IAG in 2007, with the aim of growing up to 45,000 lbs of stocked trout, some trophy-sized.

"One of our future goals is to have an interpretive component at the ranch," Alpers said. "The County has asked us to maximize the use of the property and one of the ways we will do that is by reaching out to the community and the rest of the world."

During certain times of the year Conway Ranch plans to offer programs and tours. They also hope to plug in to some of the programs the U.S. Forest Service offers in the Mono Basin.

"We want to open the ranch up to educational opportunities for the local schools and universities so they can have access to course work."

Right now it's a race against father winter to get the construction of the raceways handled before the snow falls. A raceway is a long channel of water that's most conducive to producing trout for stocking.

"It's just a term we use for the growth facility," Alpers said. "We can have rainbows, German brown trout and cutthroat at our facility. We want to grow the species of fish that we can market and that are popular with anglers."

Given the temperatures and extreme weather conditions of the ranch, they want to be successful in whatever type of fish they raise. "Right now we have rainbows and browns. Cutthroats are in the near future."

In addition to being in the fish business, Conway Ranch has plans to irrigate the neighboring fields to sustain wetlands for habitat and grazing. And eventually, the water used in the fields will make its way back into Mono Lake via Wilson Creek.

By spreading the water onto the land as opposed to putting it directly into Wilson Creek, the ranch will utilize the nutrients through a process call Biopolishing.

"Biopolishing is a way of taking advantage of natural processes and photosynthesis to remove nutrients from water," said Dan Lyster, Mono County Director of Economic Development.

"The nutrients in the water that come from the fish excrement can be used for plant growth and soil enrichment by bringing it through the fields and wetlands, thereby removing the fish effluent before it goes back to Wilson Creek and then back into Mono Lake."

The county is very satisfied with the progress IAG has made. "They've done a tremendous amount of work out at the ranch," Lyster said. "We are very pleased with having them as a private sector partner on Conway Ranch."

## Fishing Report:

**UPPER OWENS** – Benton Bridge road crossing upstream to Big Springs is open Nov. 16 through the Friday preceding the last Saturday in April. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. ZERO bag limit. Flow is fair and water is cold and clear. Still a lot of fish but they are sluggish. Bring layered clothes, gloves, and don't drive where you think you'll get stuck. Cold weather has slowed the fishing, but when the next high pressure arrives things will change. Window is from 11 am to around 1:30 pm.

**HOT CREEK** – Open all year, only artificial flies with barbless hooks and Zero bag limit. Water is clear and cold about 50 degrees and fishing is fairly good stripping streamers and nymphing. Fish are holding along side the river under hanging branches. Saw some flying ants on Saturday, and small midges. Try everything and anything, it's darn cold, bring your best fingerless gloves and plenty of liquid to hydrate yourself as you walk and warm up your fluid will start to leave your body. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of the New Zealand mud snail, and protect the integrity of this fragile ecosystem.

**EAST WALKER** – Flow is 26cfs. Season open from Nov. 16 through the Friday preceding the last Saturday in April. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. ZERO bag limit. Late morning and early afternoon is the best time to fish due to cooler temperatures at night. Water is low so look for deep holes, undercut curves and runs. Nymphs are your best shot now with WD-40 #22 in black, grey and olive. Zebras and small baetis imitations, even a flashback emerger should do well. See you on the water! Cj 12.8

# Conservation

## State Ends Fish Stocking of Some Lakes, Rivers

SACRAMENTO – December 8, 2008 – 12:01 am

- Stocking will continue in some areas following court order
- The issue is native species being devoured by imports

Eight rivers or creeks and a dozen lakes, ponds and reservoirs in or near the Central Valley are among those that will no longer be stocked with fish by the California Department of Fish and Game.

A court order has specified where the state can add hatchery-raised fish and where it cannot in order to protect species native to California, including amphibians that make tasty meals for some non-native fish.

The order places as off limits to stocking some of the state's most popular fishing rivers, including much of the Kern River. Small businesses that depend on fishermen to buy supplies, equipment and services are expressing concern that a drop off in the fish population will see a drop off in the fishermen population.

The order is a result negotiation among DFG and the Pacific Rivers Council (Oregon) and Center for Biological Diversity (San Francisco), along with their counsel Stanford Legal Clinic.

"We are pleased that the order allows us to continue stocking in a number of areas where the communities depend on fishing," says DFG Director Donald Koch.

The order, with some exceptions, has a broad prohibition against DFG stocking "nonnative" fish in "any California fresh water body" where surveys have demonstrated the presence of 25 specified amphibian or fish species or where a survey for those species has not yet been done. The order does not address the stocking of native fish into native waters.

The order lists exceptions to the prohibition regarding stocking nonnative fish, which include:

- Stocking in human-made reservoirs larger than 1,000 acres
- Stocking in human-made reservoirs less than 1,000 acres that are not connected to a river or stream, or are not within red legged frog critical habitat or where red legged frogs are known to exist.
- Stocking as required as state or federal mitigation
- Stocking for the purpose of enhancing salmon and steelhead populations and funded by the Commercial Troller's Salmon Stamp
- Stocking of Steelhead from the Mad River Hatchery into the Mad River Basin
- DFG's Aquarium in the Classroom program
- Stocking actions to support scientific research
- Stocking done pursuant to an existing private stocking permit or to be done under a new permit with terms similar to one that was issued in the last four years.

In October 2006, Pacific Rivers Council and Center for Biological Diversity, represented by Stanford Law students, sued DFG over fish stocking programs it has engaged in for more than 100 years, claiming that no Environmental Impact Report (EIR) had been completed for the programs.

The following are now off-limits to stocking from Nov. 14, 2008 through Jan. 1, 2010:

Contra Costa County: Lafayette Res, Lake Refugio, San Pablo Res.  
Alpine County: Alpine Lake, Blue Lake Upper, Carson River East Fork, Carson River West Fork, Markleeville Creek, Meadow Lake, Mosquito lake Lower, Mosquito Lake Upper, Silver Creek, Union Reservoir.

Amador County: Amador Lake, Bear River Reservoir (lower), Bear River Reservoir (upper), Mokelumne River (Main), Tiger Creek Afterbay.

Calaveras County: Angels Creek, Schaades Reservoir, White Pines Lake.

El Dorado County: American River Silver Fork, American River South Fork Coloma, American River South Fork Riverton, Dark Lake, Echo Lake Lower, Echo Lake Upper,

El dorado Forebay, Ice House Reservoir, Jenkinson Lake, Kalmia Lake, Lost Lake General Creek, Number 3 Lake, Stoney Ridge, Stumpy Meadows Reservoir, Taylor Creek, Wrights Lake

Kern County: Kern River sec 0-4.

Lassen County: Ash Creek

Marin County: Alpine Lake, Bon Tempe Res, Lagunitas Lake,

Modoc County: Pit River South Fork

Napa County: Hennessey Lake

Nevada County: Bear River Camps, Beyers Lake, Boca Reservoir, Bowman Reservoir, Cold Stream Pond at Donner Lake, Donner Lake, Fordyce Lake, French Lake, Martis Creek Reservoir, Mc-Murrey Pond, Meadow Lake, Paradise, Prosser Reservoir, Rollins Reservoir, Scotts Flat Reservoir lower, Scotts Flat Reservoir Upper, Spaulding Reservoir, Squirrel Creek, The Blair Pond, Toll House Lake, White Rock Lake.

Placer County: Coldstream Creek Pond, Halsey Forebay, Lake Valley Reservoir, Sugar Pine Reservoir, Truckee River

Plumas County: Antelope Lake, Feather River MF Graeagle, Feather River NF Almanor, Graeagle Mill Pond, Hamilton Branch Creek, Jamison Creek, Spanish Creek, Warner Creek

Sacramento County: Lake Natomas.

Sierra County: Coldstream Creek Sierraville, Little Truckee River HW89, Smithneck Creek, Yuba River North Fork HW49, Yuba River North Fork Downieville.

Solano County: Putah Creek, Solano Lake

Tulare County: Kern River sec 5-6, Kaweah River.

Tuolumne County: Stanislaus River South Fork.

Yuba County: Englebright Reservoir.

## FFF On-Line Auction

The Federation will be running an on-line, E-Bay, auction from December 1, 2008 thru early 2009. Here is an opportunity for all of us to make some money for our clubs, councils and for the national office. We have entered into an arrangement with E-Bay to host an online auction site for the Federation. E-Bay will be handling most of the necessary details and doing so at a special reduced rate. The national office will split net proceeds 50/50 with the club or council that generates the auction item. Please consider that we have 30,000 potential bidders in our clubs in addition to the E-Bay loyal followers.

What we need from all of you are the auction items. Think in terms of trips, art, condo or vacation home use, tackle and fishing related "stuff". We will endeavor to combine items into packages with a value of at least \$500.00. For example we already have guided trips with a casting lesson the day before, in my case two days drift boat fishing combined with two nights of donated motel rooms. Items will be offered regionally to best serve each Council and those looking for specific destination packages.

All items are to be communicated through the National office. Don't forget to remind potential donors that their gifts are tax deductible. This should be a terrific short and long term fund raising program. Have questions? Contact Van at [van@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:van@fedflyfishers.org) or Josset at [josset@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:josset@fedflyfishers.org)

## Delta Fly Fishers Official Club Merchandise For Sale

## Membership Meetings

### DFF Officers 2008

#### President

Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

#### 1st Vice President

Charles Edwards 209 - 951-0391

#### 2nd Vice President

(Open)

#### Secretary

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

#### Treasurer

Bruce Rollans 209 - 274-0448

### Directors

Joe Balderston 209 - 474-8515

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

Ron Forbes 209 - 368-5767

Harvey Hamlow 209 - 467-8370

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

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

#### Catfish Derby (June)

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

#### Historian

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

#### Membership

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

#### Outings

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

#### Publicity

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

#### Programs

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

John Keagy 209-369-5690

#### Property

Jacob Layko 209 - 468-2664

#### Raffles

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

#### Trout Bout (November)

Charlie Reames 209 - 369-6053

#### Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout (February)

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

#### Web Site

David Coon 209 - 239-9936

#### Fishing Buddy Program

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Ron Petitt 209 - 931-2997

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 Jacob Loyko 468-2664 for info on merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

January 14

December Board Meeting

January 21

December Newsletter

The deadline for the February issue is January 25th.

## NCCFFF BBQ

By Bill Laughlin

Judging from the response of the attendees, the conclave BBQ was well accepted. Based on previous conclave barbeque attendance we anticipated approximately 80 quests. The expected attendance was raised first to 96 then 115 and we ended up with 145 served. There were many club members who volunteered and worked hard to make this a memorable event but first I would like to recognize those who are not members but volunteered their time and labor. We would like to recognize and thank them for their contributions to our club's success in hosting this event. They served food, collected tickets and provided other services during our BBQ. These valuable non member helpers are; Nancy Summers, Sally Hall, Carol Bockmon, Elise Forbes and Jean Laughlin. My wife Jean Laughlin is especially thanked for creating the table decorations for both the barbeque and the dinner, she along with Nancy Summers also set up tables & chairs for the barbeque. My sister Helen Crane, who is the most capable person I know, in organizing, planning and executing special events. In addition to her knowledge and skill of negotiation of a menu, she drafted and submitted letters requesting donations from wineries in behalf of Delta Fly Fishers; thereby obtaining ninety bottles of quality wine for the barbeque and dinner. She also loaned us many of the topiary center pieces for dinner decorations. The bar too was a result of her skills of making the right contact; Eddie s Liquors provided the open bar for both the barbeque and dinner. My lifelong friend Tony Rocha, a retiree from Alpine Meats, who when asked about the best sausage, purchased and seasoned the sausage, and then made two hundred and fifty sausages at his home. A week prior to the event he added another sixty sausages to our initial supply, we used all 310 and had request for more as they were the hit of the BBQ. This contribution of Tony's talent and labor saved our club 50% of the retail cost if purchased through other sources.

Our club members deserve special thanks too for their contributions to the BBQ event they are; Earl Summers, Ron Petitt, Loyal Hall, Glen Bockmon. Ron Forbes, Rick Green, Jim Rich, Larry Schmidt, AI Smatsky, Leo Gutterres and Charlie Reams who all helped in numerous ways and Tony Ott with friend showed us how to BBQ right. Tony Ott and friend supplied their fire house BBQ trailer and cooked the sausage and prepared the fried onions and garlic. Their cooking talents were such a success that everyone was impressed. The perfectly cooked dinner brought many compliments and requests for more. Larry Mettler contributed his 2005 Petite Sirah to the dinner; it was a welcome wine addition and was appreciated and enjoyed by all.

This event was a group effort and knowing we were representatives of the Delta Fly Fishing Club, we carried it to the highest level as did all of our program and committee representatives at the conclave. Our President Herman Spalinger stepped up to the plate when he accepted co-chairman of this event. Our club members reacted to support him which resulted in one of the best conclaves ever, with our club attaining a new degree of respect. Thank you Herman and to everyone who helped make this such a successful event.

## **Festival of Fly Fishing, Lodi, California**

**by Herman Spalinger, FOFF committee co-chair**

October 10th – 12th, 2008, NCCFFF decided to move its Festival of Fly Fishing to a more central location in California, Hutchins Street Square, Lodi, California. Since Lodi is located on the eastern edge of the San Joaquin Delta, host club Delta Fly Fishers chose the lowly Delta striped bass as the theme for the featured speaker, Dan Blanton. Most folks attending the event were quite impressed with the facilities as well as the great programs scheduled for Friday and Saturday and seemed to come away with a good feeling about the show. As is the custom, the event kicked off noon on Friday with Leo Gutterres' topic Top Water Bass Techniques, Steve Cooper talking about the West's Best Smallmouth Bass, Ray Hutcherson's Sail Fishing Guatemala, Michael Williams' Wilderness Fly Fishing, Jerry Neuburger on Delta Large Mouth Bass, of course Dave Scadden discussing Advanced Pontoon Boat Techniques, and Jay Murakoshi on Warm Water Fishing Opportunities. Most of Friday was also scheduled for those fly casters interested in obtaining their Master Casting Instructor Certification.

Friday evening ended the day of festivities with a fantastic chili/barbecue feed headed by Bill Laughlin and several members of Delta Fly Fishers. Tony Ott of the Delta club was able to scare up a trailerable barbecue from his work as a fireman to cook some delicious sausages to go with the chili. The event was held in a patio just outside the main exhibitor/vendor hall with lighted decorations on each table prepared by Janet Laughlin and Helen \*\*\*\*\*, Bill's sister. A bar was set up by Ernie's Liquors prior to the BBQ. Special thanks go to this group who helped make it a fantastic finish to a great day.

Saturday's speakers again included those mentioned above plus Andy Gubord on Peacock Bass, Ralph Wood on Yuba River Trout, Guy Manning on Breaking the Fish, Not the Rod, Al Smatsky for Salt Water Destinations, Frank Pisciotta & Sawmill Joe Cernigia on Fly Angling Opportunities in the Tahoe Area, concluding with Jim Roberts talking about Northern California Steelhead Techniques. Fly casting demonstrations were also scheduled during the event on Saturday by Floyd Dean, John Till, Guy Manning, Willy George and Al Kyte from the beginner to the advanced to pick up some forgotten tips on getting that fly out in the water in just the right position for that fish to attack it. There was one huge notable absent fly caster who had passed on to that great trout stream in the sky just before the event, Mel Krieger. A memorial was displayed on his behalf and a signature book was available for those who wanted to wish the family well and perhaps leave a note describing how Mel's instruction helped them in their fly fishing endeavors. Mel will be remembered by all of us who were touched by his teachings.

Saturday evening's banquet to celebrate both fly fishing and the efforts of the Northern California Council was attended by 150 people. The banquet was catered by a local restaurant, Angelina's, who served up one fantastic steak dinner that had to rival last year's banquet in Redding. The banquet was emceed by Ben Byng of the Tracy Club to set the tone for Dick Johnson who was, as usual, the highlight of the evening holding the live auction with the help of volunteers from Delta Fly Fishers. The auction again was a success raising funds to support the efforts of NCCFFF in their conservation, education, tying and casting which the club depends on for its financial needs to support its efforts.

Unfortunately one of Sunday's on-the-water clinics had to be cancelled because of that nasty old Delta "breeze" that decides to show up when a big event like this is planned. However, other clinics were held with Frank Seifert, Greg Nault, Steve Korbay, Mark Cottrell, Andrew Harris and Lois Kilburn all the way from Placerville, Putah Creek, Beardsley Afterbay to the Tuolumne River.

In conclusion, more thanks than mere words can convey go to all those Delta, Stanislaus and Tracy club members who contributed their time and effort in planning this event. Special thanks also go to my co-chair, Dustin Rocksvold, President of Amador Fly Fishers, Steve Cooper, Programs Chair, Jerry Neuburger, Registration Chair, Dan McDaniel, Raffle/Silent Auction Chair, Doug Ridgway, Publicity Chair, Charlie Edwards, Exhibitors/Vendors Chair, Eric Sherar, Fly Casting chair, Dave Kruss & Doug Fear, Fly Tying Theater co-chairs, Joe Balderston & Dean Watson, Youth Fly Tying instruction co-chairs, and especially those members of Delta Fly Fishers who helped this event to be the great success that it was.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>Every Wed (except meeting nights)</p>	<p>Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY EVENING FLY TYING</b> Contact: Joe Balderston 474-8515 Jim Rich 477-6404</p>
<p>Every 2nd Wed (except July &amp; Aug) 7:00 PM</p>	<p>John R Williams School Stockton</p>	<p>Membership Meeting Contact Marty Kjelson 477-9618 John Keagy 369-5690</p>
<p>Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton</p>	<p>Board Meeting All Members Welcome</p>
<p>January 1, 2009</p>	<p>Mokelumne River Day Use Area John Van Assen Park - Clements</p>	<p>DFF's Annual New Year's Day Outing</p>
<p>Jan 8 - 11, 2009</p>	<p>San Mateo County Event Center 2495 S. Delaware San Mateo</p>	<p>International Sportsmen's Exposition San Mateo</p>
<p>Wednesday January 14</p>	<p>John R Williams School Stockton</p>	<p>Membership Meeting Al Smatsky Salt Water Destinations</p>
<p>Wednesday January 21</p>	<p>Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton</p>	<p>Board Meeting All Members Welcome</p>
<p>Jan 22 - 25, 2009</p>	<p>Cal Expo, State Fairgrounds 1600 Exposition Blvd. Sacramento, CA</p>	<p>International Sportsmen's Exposition Sacramento</p>
<p>January 31st, 2009</p>	<p>Italian Athletic Club 3541 Cherryland Ave Stockton, CA</p>	<p>DFF's Annual Dinner Installation of Officers</p>
<p>Saturday February 5</p>	<p>Oak Grove Park Stockton</p>	<p>Trout Bout Steve Cooper - 956-1032</p>
<p>Wednesday February 11</p>	<p>John R Williams School Stockton</p>	<p>Membership Meeting Phil Erickson Heritage Trout Program</p>

# **New Year's Day Outing January 1, 2009**



**Delta Fly Fishers invites you to join them for their annual New Year's Day outing at Van Assen Park on the Mokelumne River east of Clements. Access is off Highway 12 at McIntyre Road below the Fish Hatchery. If you don't care to fish come, on out for the food and story telling. 2008 marks 32 years for the Delta club so come on out and help us celebrate. Coffee and doughnuts at 8am, a barbecue lunch of chili, hot dogs, potato salad etc. will be served at noon, tall tales and big fish stories all day. Non members welcome. Information Earl Summers 957-6756 or Jim Rich 477-6404.**

## **January General Meeting Salt Water Destinations**

**Delta Fly Fishers January program will be a presentation by DFF's own Al Smatsky entitled Salt Water Fly Fishing Destinations. Al is a founding member of the Delta Fly Fishers and operates Al's Excellent Adventures, <http://www.excellentadventures.org/excellent%20adventures/index3.htm>. He is offering guided fishing in Mexico, out of Mulege, for Dorado. He leads trips for permit, tarpon, bonefish, and barracuda out of Pesca Maya and Xcalak. Al also offers guided trips to Belize. The program starts 7pm Wednesday Jan. 14 at the John R. Williams School, 2450 Meadow Ave. The program is free and open to the public.**

**For information contact: Marty Kjelson 477-9618**

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