

# Delta Fly Fishers

January 2008

Rx

Flyfishing

## President's Message by Herman Spalinger

January, 2008

Now that 2007 has gone by like a speeding freight train, it's time to focus on 2008. Hopefully it will be an Amtrak year instead of a bullet train year. I trust everyone has recovered from the holiday season by now and are looking forward to some great fly fishing trips. Well, you're in the right club for those outings. Marty and Earl are busy working on our outing schedule for 2008 which, by the way, if you've got a favorite place you'd like to see put on our schedule contact Marty or Earl or any officer or board member to get your message across, and it will be considered.

Three shows to consider close to home are the San Mateo Show January 10th - 13th; the Sacramento Show January 17th - 20th and "The Fly Fishing Show" in Pleasanton on February 22nd - 24th. For you newer members, those are the shows to take in if you're considering purchasing equipment, the Pleasanton show is more focused on fly fishing. Not only will you see lots of equipment, but there are plenty of guides and lodge destinations to consider, covering the West Coast from Alaska and down into Mexico. Hopefully you've put some cash away for such an adventure as some of them can be pricey.

While I'm talking about the Federation's shows, we all need to keep our eyes peeled to our newsletter for announcements regarding the Federation choosing Stockton for their early October conclave. Our conservationist Ron Forbes is on a committee checking some locations here in Stockton and possibly Lodi the Federation is considering this year to hold their conclave since they would like to have it more centrally located for us Californians. If our area is chosen, we would definitely be the host club to help organize their itinerary for whatever weekend they finally consider. That means a lot of us are going to be asked to volunteer your services so we can show the Federation we are a well-organized club willing to help out.

As far as local areas for planning a fishing trip, we have Rancho Seco Lake available just northeast of Galt. Weekly or bi-monthly plants of trout are made to "lure" you there during the cold winter/spring months. (Pun intended) There's also Lake Amador just northeast of Lake Comanche that hopefully has filled up a little from November and will be kicking out some pretty good sized trout. Don't forget some other lakes close by like New Hogan Reservoir. There you might want to try your luck for a fresh water striped bass. There are few water skiers in the winter months to churn up the lake. Watch for surface action and cast amongst it. Going farther south and east there's Lake McClure and Lake McSwain. You can set up a trip to Kelsey Bass Lake by calling Al Smatsky. I'm mentioning lakes here as they are the impoundments open year round. Check the state regulations on the North Fork of the Stanislaus and the Calaveras as they may not open until the "normal" trout season. Go West, young men and women. The Delta is also another place to consider for fly fishing for stripers. Contact Bob Souza, Grady Lee, Jim Rich or Bill Laughlin for more details on where to go and where the stripers were last seen.

Speaking of the Delta, Assemblywoman Lois Wolk, Democrat from Davis, chaired a special investigative hearing of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee in Rio Vista on December 6th. She was demanding answers from state and federal agencies responsible for the massive fish kill in the Delta at Prospect Island in November and blasted them for their lack of coordination with one another. She is considering legislation to improve future coordination and response to establish a strong and inclusive governing body that will provide responsible stewardship of the Delta. It looks like the more governmental agencies that get involved with the Delta; the longer it is going to take to get some kind of "solution" addressing all the complex fishery and water transportation matters that are now being considered by a host of various agencies. May I be so bold to suggest less "politics" and more "common-sense" science-dependent solutions may be the better tact to help resolve the differences between all the parties involved in trying to bring the Delta back from its lack of stewardship? If you would like more information regarding the fish kill hearings, the December 21st - January 4th edition of the Fish Sniffer Volume 27 has the complete story on page 22 under "Spotlight on Conservation" by Dan Bacher.

Until next month, get that equipment in top shape in case that "lunker" takes your fly and gets off because you were using two-year old tippet.

Herman

[www.deltaflyfishers.com](http://www.deltaflyfishers.com)

# Membership Form

Membership Form - Regular membership is: \$25 and a Family Membership is: \$30.00 or \$20.00 for 62 years or older. New members please add \$5.00 one time new member initiation. Dues are for one year September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. Please fill out then mail to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Check one: New membership \_\_\_\_\_ Renew membership \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Membership for one year \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Two years \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership for one year \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Two years \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 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:

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casting           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying         | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment          | <input type="checkbox"/> Knot Tying            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Outings | <input type="checkbox"/> Float Tubing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pontoon Boating    | <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Fishing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Fishing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Trout Fishing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead Fishing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Shad Fishing          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bass Fishing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Striper Fishing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Water Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Water Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rod Building      | <input type="checkbox"/> Selecting a Guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel             | <input type="checkbox"/> Entomology            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 [gmississippikid@aol.com](mailto:gmississippikid@aol.com)

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

## **An Achilles' Heel**

**By  
Bruce Rollans**

Sallye and I fished the Trinity River December 13 and 14 for steelhead. I stumbled upon an inherent advantage over my good fishing partner, Sallye. I had almost grown accustomed to less hook-ups and fewer fish to the boat when I discovered her Achilles' heel. Sallye does not fish well in really cold weather.

Both mornings we left the motel in 24-degree weather. The air temperature never rose above 31 degrees either day. In fact, had someone bothered to tell Sallye, she could have gotten out of the boat or off the bank and warmed up in 39-degree river water.

As it turned out, Sallye spent a lot of her time trying to warm those little toesies instead of casting to fish. I felt so sorry for her (see photo). Don't I look remorseful?



# CONSERVATION

Ron Forbes

Recently meetings were held in Washington D.C. between Senator Diane Feinstein and the Westland Water District which would greatly enrich Westland Water District at the expense of the California and US taxpayers. These meetings have yet to be made public, nor were they open to the public

Westland has been asking for a 60 year priority water rights deal on the Central Valley Project even though the normal Bureau of Reclamation contract is for 30 years. They also want other grants at taxpayer expense. The Westland Water District serves in excess of 700,000 acres. However, the BOR has considered not allowing over 200,000 of those acres to be farmed because the land is contaminated with naturally occurring selenium.

After reading about what Westland wants, we should be concerned that they have claimed they would handle the selenium clean up if they were granted all they wanted from the State and US Governments. However, they had no specific agenda for doing so at the time of the meetings. At this point they have not cleaned up their past problems. Now Federal irrigation districts north of Westlands drain their selenium waste into the San Joaquin and want to continue this practice. Some estimates place the cost of a total clean-up by Westland to be in excess of 2 billion dollars. Even though Westland has evaded its responsibility with the selenium problems in the past, it wants more favors to be granted now at the expense of the taxpayer.

Selenium first came to the attention of most of us during the Kesterson National Wildlife Refuge debacle in the 1970's. Water from the Westland Water District has naturally occurring selenium and was used for irrigation. This caused a massive fish die off and embryo deformities in ducks and shorebirds. The selenium killed fish at Kesterson and caused the death of more than half of the embryos of eggs laid at Kesterson.

However, selenium seems to be a long over-looked and ignored problem by the US Department of Interior. Despite the evidence of selenium poisoning, caused by farming, mining, coal burning and other industrial actions, little has been done to prevent future problems. The BOR built the west side irrigation facilities. However, they and their political appointees from the Department of Interior claim the Kesterson problem was a local one.

The BOR claims to have been surprised by Kesterson. This is because they have done neither their research nor their homework on the subject. Selenium is an essential micro nutrient but is the most toxic of all the essential elements we need. It has been found in California, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, Kansas, Arizona, and New Mexico. Even though 25 years have gone by and hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent on research, we still have no selenium standards for wildlife. A committee was formed to adopt such standards in 1989 but still hasn't set standards

One can go on and on about the neglect shown in the selenium problem by the State and National governments. The problem exists and will continue to exist. Perhaps an article in Time magazine can be used to put a historical perspective on the issue. In an article about selenium poisoning it said that the US Dept of Agriculture was "inclined to silence" about the selenium problems. Especially in cattle fed with alfalfa, corn, and wheat in high selenium soils. The article was published in 1933....75 years ago!

## Lake Davis Update

The California Department of Fish and Game and the US Forest Service continue to monitor the post-treatment of Lake Davis. At this time only one part of the rotenone use to kill the northern pike can still be detected in the lake. The flow from the dam is still closed to allow the chemicals to degrade naturally. The roads to the lake will remain closed until the Dept. of Public Health can be sure that all chemicals are below the levels which can be detected

The post-treatment of stocking trout was to begin December 11th 2007. The DFG planned to put 20,000 trout into the lake with some fish in the ½ to 3 lb range. Later this year 41,000 lbs of Eagle Lake rainbows will be planted. The largest amount of trout will be stocked in the spring of 2008. They will plant several hundred thousand fingerlings, along with sub-catchable, catchable and some larger "bonus" trout.

At this point I haven't seen anything in the literature as to the survival of northern pike in Lake Davis. Let's hope they didn't survive the rotenone treatment. There is a Project information line about Lake Davis. The number to call is: 530-832-4754.

Good fishing,

Ron Forbes

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Ron Pettit 209 - 931-2997

Help support your club by buying and using club merchandise.

Polo Shirt w/club logo sale	\$26.00
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Ball Cap	\$11.50
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Club Patch	\$5.00
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Lapel Pin	\$7.00
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Lic. Plate Frames	\$3.00
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Official coffee mug	\$5.00
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Also the club has a video library

Videotape Rentals	\$2.00 Per Video
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See Jacob Loyko 468-2664 for info on

merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

**January 9**

November Board Meeting

**January 16**

December Newsletter

**The deadline for the February issue is February 25th.**

**Fly Fishing Film Tour**

The face of fly-fishing is changing and AEG Media is the leader at bringing this new adventure to the big screen, by introducing the Fly Fishing Film Tour. Members of AEG Media: Chris Owens, Thad Robison, Justin Crump and Brian Jill, known as the "AEG Fish Bums", founded the film tour in 2006. This annual event will be traveling to 125 U.S. venues this year.

The new generation fly fisher has been typically ignored in the past... Last year, the 2007 film tour screened to over 5,000 attendees. Several venues sold out with over 500 seat capacities, and pre-show lines that have been compared to block buster movie premiers, the film tour far exceeded any expectations. AEG Media is launching the 2008 film tour this winter.

What can people expect to see at the Fly Fishing Film Tour? Films shot in extreme, exotic and distant locations; epic scenery, cutting edge music and conservation pieces that are as entertaining to watch, as they are important; and of course gigantic fish on the end of a fly.

The films they select to take on tour focus on action, adventure, excitement, humor, and lifestyle. AEG Media is taking people on a journey to see what it takes to be truly committed to capturing fly fishing adventure on film.

If you fly fish you are going to be blown away, if you don't fly fish you are going to be inspired. For more information log onto our website at: [www.flyfishingfilmtour.com](http://www.flyfishingfilmtour.com)

Tickets will go on sale January 1st and can be purchased on their web site. They are offering pre sale tickets to all of their shows through the web site. For the 72 shows across the country on March 13th, the only way you will be able to get a ticket is to purchase them on the film tour web site. They will not be selling tickets at the door for those shows.

There will be two shows in Sacramento a live show on February 8 and a satellite broadcast will be on March 13. I have no other information; if you are interested check their web site.

# Delta Flyfishers 2007



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meet- ing nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	FLY CASTING Contact: Jim Rich 477-6404 Rick Greene 477-1488
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
Tuesday January 1	John Van Assen Park Clements	Mokelumne River Outing
Wednesday January 9	John R Williams School	Member Meeting Jim Peterson Tracy Fly Fishers and Director of NCCFFF
Jan 10 - 13, 2008	San Mateo County Event Center	ISE San Mateo
Wednesday January 16	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
January 17-20, 2008	Cal Expo, California State Fairgrounds	ISE Sacramento

## JANUARY'S SPEAKER

**Our speaker for January is Jim Peterson. Jim is a member for the Tracy Fly Fishers and a Past President and Sustaining Member of the club. He also serves as a Director of NCCFFF and is the current Vice President of Membership.**

**Jim's program is about the Federation of Fly Fishers and the opportunities that are there for us as members and as a club. He will tell us what NCCFFF is involved with in conservation, restoration and habitat. Jim is a very good speaker and this is a program you will not want to miss.**

## JANUARY 1st, 2008 – MOKELUMNE RIVER

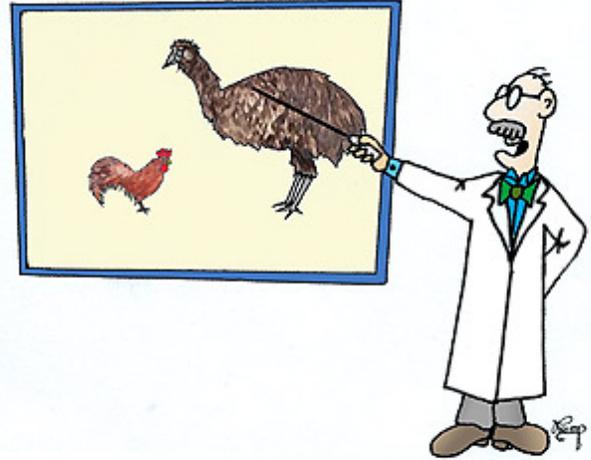
**Delta Fly Fishers invites you to join them for their annual New Year's Day outing at Van Assen Park on the Mokelumne River east of Clements. Access is off Highway 12 at McIntyre Road below the fish hatchery. If you don't care to fish come, on out for the food and storytelling. 2008 marks 32 years for 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.**

# 2006 Gene Trump Fly-Fishing Cartoons

## Fly Fisherman Magazine®



"Hold the phone! This is a trail of fin tracks leading into the river!"



"If we breed a chicken with an emu, we not only end up with offspring resistant to avian flu but dry fly quality hackle feathers 4 feet long."



"Strange. Your fly rod looks just like the custom model I requested for Christmas and didn't receive."



# *Delta Fly Fishers*

**Rx Flyfishing Newsletter**

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