

Story by Grady Lee Photos by John Rehn

Bridgeport Outing

DELTA FLY FISHERS LEAVE MANY BRIDGEPORT AREA TROUT WITH SORE LIPS

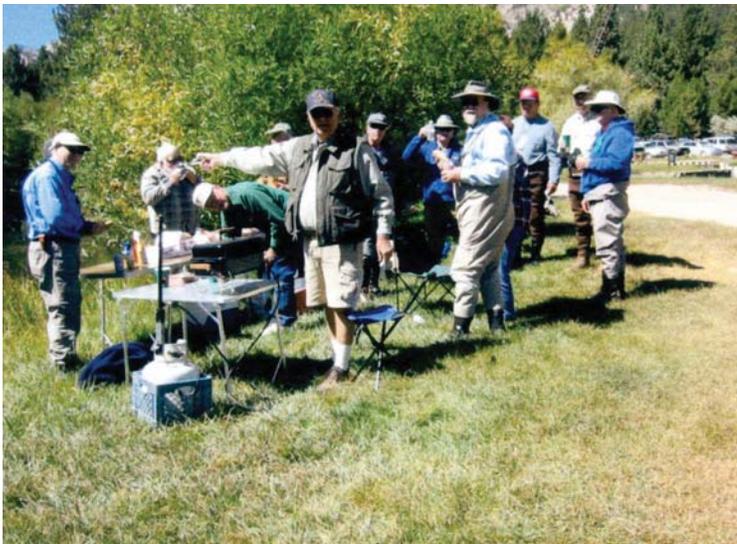
A conservative estimate and tally of the fish caught and released by the ten DFF anglers in attendance for the weekend's outing came out with over 300 fish. The best fishing was Friday at upper Virginia Lake and Saturday at upper Twin Lake. The wind blew hard Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. Those who fished upper Virginia reported high



Robinson creek that evening we had a fine happy hour with many great stories, followed by an outstanding potluck dinner hosted by Loyal and Sally Hall. John Rehn manned the barbecues and cooked our steaks to perfection. In addition to those already mentioned,

others in attendance were: Marilyn Bradley, Carol and Larry Schmidt, Harriet Rehn, Jim Rich, Bill Laughlin, Santa Claus Kotecki and helper Ed Sill, Hammering Harvey Hamlow, Ron Forbes, Ray Cole and Grady Lee. In addition to the fine eating and fishing, The Shadow observed or heard about several Foo Paws that might qualify several fisherman for Incomplete Angler. A Foo Paw or Fox Paw is Redneck for some French word that

the Shadow can't spell. The unabridged Redneck Dictionary says that a Foo Paws is something like taking a buddy out frog gigging who has hit the ole moonshine jug too hard and he mistakes the coiled up anchor rope for a cottonmouth and blasts a hole in the bottom of your boat with a shotgun. Any way the reported Foo Paws ranged from a tent blowing down, to one angler getting tangled up in a large weedbed with a partially deflated pontoon. There were others but the Shadow was giggling so hard he couldn't talk. On Sunday a few DFF types wandered back to upper Twin, where the water was dead calm but the fish did not want to bite. Some one said that it was because the wind was not stirring up the bugs. However Jim Rich and Bill Laughlin reported seeing a number of trout with band aids across their lips! Yours Truly Grady



winds and cold hands, but the fish were biting so of course a little wind and cold didn't stop the hardy DFF anglers. (the wives had another term for them) The only fishable area Saturday was upper Twin, but even there the wind was blowing hard enough to create whitecaps on the weed beds. The wind must have been churning up the bugs as the fish were on a bite all day. Large fish ranged from 16 to 21 inches with numerous good fighting fish in the 12 to 14" category. A fine barbecue lunch was served wa by Bob Bradley ably assisted by John Rehn and Loyal Hall. Many thanks to Bob who took over as Fishmeister for Don Gillette who was unable to attend for the first time since the club has been going to Bridgport. Back at



Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Harp vb: to dwell on a subject tiresomely. Midges, midges, and more midges, ok so I'm harping a bit on this subject, but when trout spend most of their life feeding underwater, it's nice to know what the heck they are living on. Dry fly addicts seldom feel the need to use anything other than dries, but when the bite is off, and you have 3 more days to fish and "skunked" is not on your menu, your tactics need to change. Both floating and sinking line will work for the trout feeding subsurface on one of the three stages of their favorite delicacy, the Chironomid larvae, commonly referred to as a midge. These little devils are segmented worm-like in shape with tiny legs at either end of the larval body and they live in tubes or cases situated perpendicular in the lake bottom. Their common colors run from maroon (bloodworm) to shades of green and brown. The retrieve is dead slow regardless of line type, but using several short quick pulls will help attract cruising fish nearby.

Weather Conditions

Typical Eastern Sierra high-pressure system moved into the area providing ideal conditions to start another great summer at high elevation lakes, with ice melting at an incredible speed with prolific bug populations making for very happy trout. All rivers are running full and a bit off color, and there is still plenty of snow in the trees around 8800' and up, so be prepared for everything.

AB7 has been set for hearing in the Senate Natural Resources. It will be heard on June 28th. The Committee meets at 9am in Room 112 of the Capitol. Dave Cogdill is looking for people to testify in this committee, as it was the same committee that killed AB2280 last year. If you can testify please email Erin Guerrero at (Erin.Guerrero@asm.ca.gov). CalTrout donated to the Hot Creek Hatchery Foundation to show support of their belief that hatcheries are an integral part of maintaining trout in all waters.

New Zealand Mud Snail is encroaching everywhere, and I believe it is imperative that fishers help prevent the spread by NOT WADING. Cal Fish and Game will be providing their update on the testing with the percentage of the 409 base chemicals they used on Putah Creek very soon.

LOWER OWENS ~ River is running at 300cfs and the drifting hasn't been sensational, but fishers are doing well in the wild trout section with caddis as a top and scud as a bottom or #18 crystal midge, Tiger midge, or WD40 in black.

ROCK CREEK LAKE ice free for three weeks, and fish are taking black woolly buggers, olive matukas and large spruce flies. Mosquito flats opened around the 18th for stream fishing. There is some snow left from the lake to US395 in the shaded areas.

CROWLEY LAKE has been doing well about one foot off the bottom in about 15 feet of water. Black and Grey are the colors of choice with tons of midges. Use larger midge for top fly with normal crystals, tigers, WD's as the "viper".

CONVICT LAKE has been producing nice Alpers on large woolly buggers in black and dark green #6 or 8. Some standard midges for top water near the south bank.

MAMMOTH LAKES BASIN is starting to thaw and the lakes basin road is now clear. Lake Mary has some ice, George is thawing, and Twin is clear and Matukas, leeches in black and dark olive #6 or 8.

SAN JOAQUIN – Scheduled to open July 1st.

JUNE LOOP – Silver and Gull have been doing the best on black, and purple woolly's, grey ghosts, and rainbow Hornberg #6. Also try some stimulators near Rush Creek.

LUNDY LAKE was the only game in town early on and produced some really nice fish on black woolly buggers with a lot of crystal flash in the tail #6 or 8. Ponds behind the resort are fun and hitting small midges and dries.

VIRGINIA LAKES has been a hot ticket for tubers and waders using black woolly buggers with lots of tail flash. Scuds are very active along with midges by the thousands. Walking and breathing has been difficult unless you need to increase the protein in your diet. Sparse Griffith Gnats, mosquitoes and Adams females all #16. Emergers will start when the air starts to warm.

EAST WALKER – Flow currently is running 325cfs and the mosquitoes are brutal making the fishing somewhat unpleasant. Emerging Caddis will buy you the "beast", so anything resembling this "bug" should put you into poundage. Lots of blood midges going off for the hungry browns, so pick your imitation with flair.

WEST WALKER – Water is over 1000cfs, so look for flat water and fish the bottom, unless you see rise forms.

TIOGA PASS road is clear and will be opened by 4th of July weekend, probably Friday, according Super. of Yosemite Nat'l. Park. See you on the water! CJ

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Bead Head Minute Midge

Originator / Bob Souza Tied by Bob Souza

Hook: 3769s size 14 - 18

Thread: color to match thorax

Bead: sized to hook, gold, black or clear

Tail: Pheasant tail barbs

Ribbing: opt.

Body: Pheasant tail barbs

Thorax: Ostrich or Peacock herl



1. Debarb hook if needed. Install bead to size of hook.
2. Start thread at bead, wrap too hook barb. Coat thread with clear nail polish.
3. Cut four to six Pleasant tail barbs and tie in as tail. Do not cut.
4. Add ribbing if wanted. Twist tail barbs and wrap forward 2/3s of body tie off.
5. If ribbing make four even turns to thorax and tie off.
6. If using ostrich herl for thorax use one piece and wrap three turns. If using peacock herl use two pieces, twist and make three turns.
7. Trim thorax if using ostrich herl, top and bottom so it looks like legs.
8. Tie off with whip finish behind bead head.

Note: This fly can be used in still waters as well in rivers. For use in rivers use tungsten beads for added weight. For still water use, brass or glass beads are best. This fly can be fished under a strike indicator with one or two added flies, in still water fishing.

Happy Fishing Bob.

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