



Rx Fly Fishing!

Volume XL

Number II

January 2017

Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

In this Issue

Page 2— [It's raining, it's snowing, the rivers are growing.](#)

Page 3— [Put February 12 on your calendar and prepare to attend and participate in the First Delta Fly Fishers Casting Day](#)

Page 4— [The Delta Fly Fishers first Kids Fishing Day, March 5th](#)

Page 4— [The February raffle will feature a complete eight weight outfit, rod, reel, line and flies](#)

Page 5— [Our installation dinner guest from Restore the Delta is also an author](#)

Page 5— [Presidents message for February](#)

Page 6— [Our February speaker, Rick Desrosiers, owner of the Trout Spot in Arnold, will speak of his five favorite Montana trout streams.](#)

Page 7 — [Photos from the installation dinner](#)

Calendar

February 4, Stanislaus Drift, Cancelled due to high water

February 8, General Membership Meeting, John R. Williams School

February 12, Casting clinic and rodeo, Oak Grove Park

February 15, BOD Meeting, Oak Grove Park

February 22, Fly Tying, Oak Grove Nature Center.

March 4, Bob McMillan Trout Bout, Oak Grove Park

March 5, DFF Kid's Fishing Day, Oak Grove Park

March 8, General Membership Meeting, John R. Williams School

March 15, BOD Meeting, Oak Grove Park

March 16-19, Pyramid Lake Outing

Charlie Reames named Fly Fisher of the Year at installation dinner, over 80 attending

By Jerry Neuburger
Jan. 21, Stockton, CA.

Fly Fisher of the Year: Charlie Reames

President's Club Service: Larry Schmidt

Incomplete Angler: Ron Forbes

Charlie Reames, true to form, was taken by surprise when called to the stage to be awarded the Fly Fisher of the Year for



An unassuming Charlie receives his award



Yes folks, Larry was wearing shorts!

2016 at the annual installation dinner. Charlie, a mainstay of the club, was given the award for his quiet efforts in keeping the club a functioning organization. Larry Schmidt was equally surprised when immediate Past President Gil Parker called him to the podium to hand him the President's Club Service Award for his efforts in supporting the club throughout the year.

On the other hand, Ron Forbes had more than an inkling that he was going to be the recipient of the Incomplete Angler award. His multiple foe paws throughout the year, including a series at the Bridgeport outing, drew the attention of, "The Shadow" and moved him to the front of the pack. He culminated and cinched the selection by breaking his arm while inspecting Pinecrest Lake only days before the annual dinner.

In addition to the club's traditional awards, a plaque was given to Sandy Adams, an employee of SJ County Parks and Rec. for recognizing the 40 years of support the county has provided the club by furnishing the facilities at Oak Grove park and the work together on the two trout bouts and the catfish derby.



Ron, "I broke my left arm for this."

Another special award was given to Michelle Workman and Richard Sykes, representing EBMUD. The award recognized the outstanding work the utility company has done in managing the Mokelumne, our home water, and its fisheries. Since the early 1990's, the utility has worked to restore the Chinook salmon runs and was

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

able to maintain a run of over 12,000 fish throughout the last five drought years. In addition, the idea of introducing Chinook salmon above Pardee for upstream spawning is being explored with a hope that the first fish will be trucked upriver sometime before 2020.



Sandy Adams receives an award of appreciation for SJC Parks and Rec.

The club also invited representatives from two advocacy organizations working very much in both the club's and the environment's interests. Tim Stroshane from Restore the Delta accepted a check for \$1,000 from the club, the money donated so that the organization can continue to advocate for greater flows for the delta and oppose the excessive water exports and the construction of the diversion tunnels on the Sacramento River.

Chris Shutes representing the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance was also given a check for \$1,000 from the club. Chris spoke to those attending, explaining that while CSPA is a very small organization, its impact on the state's and local water policies has been huge.

Incoming president Neuburger also mentioned that the club was providing Lodi Unified School District with an award of \$500 to assist them in their Salmon in the Classroom projects. While no one from the district was present, club director, Dena Mason, will make sure the funds are



Michelle Workman (left) and Richard Sykes (right) receive a commendation from the club on EBMUD's exemplary stewardship of the Mokelumne and its fisheries.

well spent.

Following the dinner, installation of officers and awards ceremony, outgoing president Gil Parker provided an excellent raffle and silent auction. Numerous rods, reel and other gear was won either in the drawing portion of the event or at the silent auction, and in addition, local guides, including club member Al Smatsky, offered four different guide trips as part of the event.

The drawing for four grand prizes ended the evening. Joe Balderston won a box of 15 hand tied Leo Gutierrez poppers and crease flies and then was drawn again for



Tim Stroshane, RTD, is handed a \$1,000 club donation for the organization's work to protect the delta from excess water exports and other assaults on the magnificent waterway

a Larry Mettler wine basket.

President's Club Service Award recipient, Larry Schmidt won a very upscale float tube, a nice addition to his inflatable fleet.

The final prize, a Sage 7 weight four piece rod and Aspen reel, with a value in excess of \$800, was won by one of the



Chris Shutes receives a \$1,000 check from Ron Forbes as a club donation to CSPA to assist in their work in protecting our fisheries and the environment.

club's newest members, Brendon Goldberg. Brendon is a friend of Mike Nicholson and just joined the club this month.



Brendon's smile tells the whole story

It's raining, it's snowing, the rivers are growing!

It's Monday and it's not raining but more is predicted for tomorrow. The Sierras are well above their seasonal averages and the rivers are flowing at levels unseen for the last five years.

All this water has caused the club to cancel the outing scheduled for February 4

on the Stanislaus but most likely will not affect the remainder of the 2017 schedule. Pyramid Lake in Nevada is the target of the March outing and Kelsey Bass Ranch in April. The earliest stream outing is on the American River and is scheduled for May 20th. Just to repeat so no club member misses this:

The outing on February 4 to the Stanislaus is cancelled due to high flows. Next outing Pyramid Lake, March 16 to 19.

Put Sunday, February 12th on your calendar and prepare to attend and participate in the First Delta Fly Fishers Casting Day

- We need you to make it a success!

A hundred foot cast with a fly rod? Just one of the things you'll see and possibly learn at the club's first Casting Day.

Our Instructors

World class caster, Willy George from the Golden Gate Casting Club and two of his associates will provide a morning's instruction in two handed spey rod casting as well as provide instruction and guidance in one handed casting to all club members attending. This is a rare opportunity to drastically improve your casting abilities.

Spey Casting and Casting Instruction Schedule

The event, to be held at Oak Grove Park on Sunday, February 12, will start promptly at 9:30 with all attending rigging their rods and readying them for the day's casting practice. A spey casting demonstration followed

by spey casting practice will follow until 11:00 with students and instructors working in pairs. At 11:00, the spey rods will be put away and students will be coached on how to improve their single handed rod casting with a series of demonstrations, observed casting and instruction.

Lunch and the Casting Olympics

The morning's events will be followed at noon by an oversized club lunch featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, a tossed salad, nachos and some surprise desserts. Then at 1:00, the real fun begins. Dena Mason, Amy Terra, Al Smatsky and Jerry Neuberger have put together a series of four skill fly casting events for all members. You are encouraged to compete no matter what your opinion of your skill

level since all of the events have some element of luck built in. To make the competition a little more challenging, the club has provided some great prizes with the overall top scorer winning a complete five weight outfit, rod, reel and line. Second overall will have his choice of a five weight rod or a five weight reel and line. Third place overall will receive either the remaining rod or reel and line. Individual event winners can earn a new, boxed 6-WF-F line.



IFFF Certified Casting Instructor Willy George has been fly fishing for close to 40 years. He has set up club casting programs and has instructed classes of up to 100 students at one time.

club's February 8th general membership meeting. If you can't attend either but are going to attend Casting Day, please contact club president, Jerry Neuberger by [e-mail](mailto:) (preferred) at or by phone 209-327-5993.

Weather

While we're hoping for a bluebird day, the day may turn out to be less than that. A cold and misty morning or even a light sprinkle now and then will not cancel the event but a winter storm or high winds will be too much for the day to be a success and the day will either be rescheduled if the calendar permits or, if rescheduling is impossible, cancelled.

Cost and Sign Ups

This is a free event and is limited to club members. A small donation is requested to cover the program and lunch costs. All participants must sign up beforehand to help with the planning and lunch count. Sign ups will start at the installation dinner and will continue at the



DFF Officers

President	
Jerry Neuberger	209-327-5993
Vice President	
Cliff Hoover	209-642-3809
Secretary	
Karen Keagy	
Treasurer	
Jason Stapleton	209-334-9201
Directors	
Ron Forbes	209-368-5767
Karen Keagy	
Larry Schmidt	209-482-8742
Sam Thompson	
Gary Tecklenburg	
Steve VonBerg	209-327-6161
Dena Mason	
Tim Costello	
Mike Nicholson	

Committees

Bob McMillan Trout Bout	
Catfish Derby (June)	
Earl Summers	209-957-6756
Conservation/Restore the Delta	
Ron Forbes	209-368-5767
Education	
Dena Mason	
Fishing Mentor Program	
Membership	
Bob Fujimura	209-339-0683
Monthly Raffles	
Jerry Neuberger	
Programs	
Al Smatsky	209-368-9261
Bob Sousa	209-368-2683
Property/Historian	
John Keagy	
Publicity	
Steve VonBerg	209-327-6161
Raffles	
Gil Parker/Jerry Neuberger	
Trout Bout (November)	
Charlie Reames	209-642-6704
Webmaster	
John Keagy	

Rx Fly Fishing! is the monthly publication of the Delta Fly Fishers, Inc. Delta Fly Fishers, Inc. is a public benefit 501c3 non-profit corporation registered with the California Secretary of State.

Any correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to:
The Delta Fly Fishers Inc.
PO Box 77862
Stockton, CA 95207-7862

Another first!

The Delta Fly Fishers First Annual Kid's Fishing Day, March 5th

Bring your kids, your grandkids, or even, if you're really an old codger, your great grandkids to the club's first annual Delta Fly Fishers Kids Fishing Day. Sunday, March 5, is the Sunday following the Saturday Bob McMillan Trout Bout, an event that the club assists the county with every year. Usually enough fish remain in the pond at the park to make it worthwhile to fish the following day.

This is NOT a fly fishing event! It's time to dig in the closet and get out that old spinning rod, stop by the tackle shop and pick up some PowerBait, hooks, sinkers, and bobbers and a forked stick to prop up that rod while sitting in a lawn chair and watching for the line to straighten and the rod tip to move. Bring the lawn chairs and any other stuff you'd haul along for a lake-side picnic.

The early response to this event has been outstanding with over 31 people signing up at the January installation dinner. An additional opportunity to sign up will occur at the February annual meeting. If you can't make the meeting, instructions for signing up are later in this article.

The large number of people signing up has caused some revised planning for the event. Participating families are asked to bring side dishes of some kind for the day, either hot or cold, enough for themselves and a few other people. The dishes will be set out for all to share in. The club will still furnish the burgers, buns, condiments and hot dogs

The club will furnish some hot drinks in the morning, coffee for the big kids and hot chocolate for the smaller ones, along with some fluffy donuts starting about 8:30 and later, cook up a lunch of hot

dogs, burgers, and potato salad and beans with some cookies for dessert.

We ask participating members to sign up with the number of adults and kids in their party at the February general meeting or e-mail that information to club president, Jerry Neuburger, gneuburg@gmail.com (preferred). A last option is to call him via his cell, 209-327-5993.



Nathan Chaney, fishing in grandpa's pram

The following is the schedule for the day

Enter the park any time on the morning of March 5. PLEASE PAY THE PARK ENTRY FEE WHEN ENTERING SINCE WE WILL BE USING THE PARK'S RESOURCES FOR THE EVENT. DO NOT EXPECT FREE "DELTA FLY FISHERS' ENTRY.

The "official" event time of 8:30 to 11:30 for the fishing time with lunch after was set taking into account that some of the participants have nap times and we wouldn't want these young anglers to miss out on their rest! However, if you really want to catch the Big One, you might arrive a little earlier than the start time of 8:30.

BRING: Your own fishing gear, worms, powerbait, etcetera, lawn chairs, warm clothes for the morning, all the things you might bring for a picnic.

An earlier description of the event stated that the club would set up in the barbecue area that the club usually uses at the June barbecue. That has been changed and the club will set up the club cover, cooking

equipment and tables on the north side of the lake, accessible to people while they are close to the water, fishing.

8:30 Coffee, hot chocolate and donuts will be available at the to be arranged "command post" location.

Family fishing continues throughout the morning. Make sure your junior fly fisher has their picture taken to be published in the club's April Newsletter.

11:30 Lunch of hot dogs, burgers, side dishes, with soft drinks and cookies for dessert. NOTE: The lid will be off the club's donation jar and any donations towards the food and drinks will be appreciated.

Wait, I don't have any kids or grandkids! What about me?

No problem. We need some "old hands" to help the young pilgrims on their way to becoming a future fly fisher. Come out and share the day with the future generation. But please, make sure you sign up so that there is enough grub in the chuck wagon to go around.

This is a SUNSHINE ONLY event.. If in doubt about the weather, check the club's Facebook page for cancellation or check your e-mail for a mass mailing before leaving for the event.

The February meeting raffle will feature a complete 8 weight striper outfit; rod, reel, line and flies

The February general membership meeting on the 8th of the month will feature a gently used St. Croix eight weight, two piece rod, a MaxCatch reel and a Scientific Angler 300 grain express sink tip line, along with six striper flies. The outfit is just in time

to fish the spring striper season on the delta. The drawing will contain another ten to fifteen items as well. As is recent practice, the doors will open at 6:30 with coffee, soft drinks and snacks Fly tiers are again encouraged to bring their gear as a before

meeting activity. The February program will feature Rick Desrosiers of the Trout Spot in Arnold speaking of his five favorite trout streams in Montana. A separate article on [page six](#) covers his presentation.

Our installation dinner guest from Restore the Delta is also an author

On January 25th at 6:00 p.m. in Stockton, Restore the Delta policy analyst, Tim Stroshane will be reading from his new book "[Drought, Water Law, and the Origins of California's Central Valley Project](#)." Come join us at the Restore the Delta office for a college-level class in California Water History. Books will be available for purchase at our office. If you would like to purchase the book beforehand, you can purchase [via Amazon](#) or directly from the [publisher](#).

RSVP to Jasmine@RestoretheDelta.org or by calling (209) 475-9550.

This book is an account of how water rights were designed as a key part of the state's largest public water system, the Central Valley Project. Along sixty miles of the San Joaquin River, from Gustine to Mendota, four corporate entities called "exchange contractors" retain paramount water rights to the river. Their rights descend from the days of the Miller & Lux Cattle Company, which amassed an empire of land and water from the 1850s through the 1920s and protected these assets through business deals and prolific litigation. Miller & Lux's dominance of the river relied on what many in the San Joaquin Valley regarded as wasteful irrigation practices and unreasonable water usage. Economic and political power in California's present water system was born of this monopoly on water control. Stroshane tells how drought and legal conflict shaped statewide economic development and how the grand bargain of a San Joaquin River water exchange was struck from this monopoly legacy, setting the stage for future water wars. His analysis will appeal to readers interested in environmental studies and public policy.

MEET THE AUTHOR + BOOK SIGNING

Tim Stroshane
Drought, Water Law, and the Origins of California's Central Valley Project

**DELTA SPEAKER SERIES
WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 25, 2017
6-8 PM**

RESTORE THE DELTA
42 N SUTTER ST
5TH FLOOR
STOCKTON CA 95202

RSVP: 209 475 9550 OR
JASMINE@RESTORETHEDELTA.ORG



President's Message for February

Change, it's a word that permeated the presidential campaigns of both parties in our latest elections. And, just like the candidates of the major parties I'm hoping for the same. But in my case, I'm looking to you the membership for some help in making that change come about.

The club has already introduced three new club events for the year, the first being the coming Casting Day to take place on Sunday, February 12. It's my hope that our membership take advantage of this opportunity to learn new casting

skills and improve on the skills they already possess. Our world class instructors, the lunch and the games that follow should make for a great experience.

The second event is also new to the club, DFF Kid's Fishing Day. Almost all of us started our fishing dunking worms or with a jar of salmon eggs. Our progression to fly fishing was over time. Let's give our youngsters the opportunity to do the same. Bring your kids or your grandkids to the club's first Kid's Fishing Day and don't be embarrassed to help them with a spinning rod and a jar of PowerBait in attempting to catch a few fish. They will be fussed over and made to feel important, whether they catch a fish or not and all of them will have their photos in the club's newsletter.

The last new event is not really new. It's something the club did more than a few

years back. We're going to invite a world class fly tier to spend the day with us, tying flies and telling stories of how to use them. This event will take place in December of this year, plenty of time for you to plan for your attendance.

Of course none of these events can be a success without your attendance. The officers and directors of the club are trying their best to give you a quality year and benefits far exceeding the cost of your annual dues.

Opportunities exist to add additional programs and events to the schedule. Not all of them may appeal or be attended by all members but hopefully we've designed a year where there's something for everybody.

If this was a game show, I'd be yelling out, "John Q. Flyfisher, come on down!"

Our February speaker, Rick Desrosiers, owner of the Trout Spot in Arnold, will talk of his five favorite trout streams in Montana

Rick regularly hosts fly fishing trips to Montana with Ed Lawrence's Fly Fishing, and will present a slide program focusing on five of the most productive trout streams.

He's the owner of The Trout Spot fly shop in Arnold California and the TheTroutSpot.com, a web - based flyfishing shop that specializes in gear and flytying materials.

Here's Rick's description of his fly fishing passion. "From the first time at the age of five, when my Dad took me fishing with a hand line at the percolation ponds in Campbell California, I have been fisherman. I

started fly fishing about 40 years ago, on the Apalachicola River in Florida for Bream and Bass. I have done a lot of fly fishing since then, (but never enough). I have fished all over California, Alaska, and British Columbia as well as Montana and Wyoming.

I had always wanted to own a bait shop, but after switching to fly fishing, a fly shop was the way I knew I would go. I have an IT background, so I started TheTroutSpot.com, back in 2002, to help support my hobby. As we all know, fly fishing can be an expensive sport. The primary focus of my company has been to provide lower cost, quality fly fishing gear, to help more people have access to the sport. I really love to help a person get into the sport. Knowing that I helped get someone on the water is almost, but not quite as good as being there myself.

In 2002, my wife and I purchased a home in Arnold, California, with plans to retire there. As I move toward retirement from the IT world, I

realized that I am not the type to completely stop working. I had all this inventory sitting in a warehouse and decided it was time to get it out there



in front of people, not just on the web.

In February of 2015, we leased a building in Arnold and opened our shop doors in April. It is a small shop only 800 square feet. As the business, has grown in the last two years we decided to expand a bit and are in the process of adding an additional 700 feet. We are a full-service shop and we carry a wide range of fly fishing gear and tying materials as well as home décor and gift items related to fly fishing. We have over 850 different fly patterns in stock, anything from Midge patterns to Tarpon patterns and sell to people from all over the U.S. as well as many other countries.

We currently have two local guides working with our shop as well as a person, doing beginning fly fishing and casting instruction. We also work closely with Bent Rod Fly Fishing, providing guided trips on the Lower Stanislaus, Lower Mokelumne and the Lower Sac as well as the Klamath. We also do beginning fly tying

classes in our shop (if we can find a new instructor).

We are located at 1311 Highway 4 in Arnold California, and our open Friday through Sunday in the winter and open Thursdays to Mondays during fishing season.

We have been a business member of Trout Unlimited and The Federation of Fly Fishers for 15 years and help support many local clubs around the country with their fund raising.

I started working with Ed Lawrence's Fly Fishing in 2011 and have been regularly taking groups to Mon-

tana each year for a shop trip. I am also, working with Ed, to expand our trip options to Mexico for Baby Tarpon as well as other fishing destinations.

In the program, I will be discussing five of the rivers we have fished with Ed's guides, the Madison, Yellowstone, Missouri, Big Hole, and the Beaver Head. I will go over fly patterns as well as when and where to fish, fish counts and other information about Fly fishing in Montana."

As been the current practice, the doors will open at 6:30 with hot and-cold drinks and snacks available. Fly tiers are encouraged to bring their gear. After the speaker's presentation, a raffle will be held with the month's grand prize a complete eight weight striper outfit.

The February 8th meeting will take place at the John R. Williams School, 2450 Meadows Avenue, Stockton. The doors open at 6:30 and the meeting starts at 7:00. The public is welcome.

More installation dinner photos. A complete album can be found on-line by following this [link](#)



Excellent
ADVENTURES
Unique Fly Fishing Trips

"Our mission is to provide you with a total experience, not just a fishing trip."

Kelsey Bass Ranch, Mulege Baja, Isla Blanca, Pesca Maya, Xcalak, Picacho Lodge, Chile, Trinity & Klamath River Steelhead, Yuba, Feather & American River Shad,

www.excellentadventures.org
Al Smatsky, Proprietor
619 W. Pine Street, Lodi, CA 95240
(209) 368-9261, (209) 601-0819 cell 1/14



The Headwaters Kayak Shop

For ALL of Central California's Kayak needs
847 N Cluff Ave #2, Lodi, CA 95240



We specialize in fishing kayaks and even have a small fly fishing section featuring rods, reels, lines and delta flies.



Rx Fly Fishing! Advertising Rates

2 column inches each newsletter issue for the year for \$400, six months \$200, quarter \$100, one month \$40. The ad may include artwork and will link to the advertiser's website.

Additional column inches of ad space may be purchased at \$200 for the year, \$100 for six months, \$50 for a quarter year, \$20 per month.

Included:

A digital subscription to the club's monthly newsletter.

Permission to post specials and other advertising on the [club's Face book page](#), 2 per month.

For additional information please phone or e-mail [Jerry Neuburger](#), Editor 209-369-5752



Elevation 9770' Established 1923

The Heart of the High Sierra
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Fishing, Hiking, Camping, Cabins, Restaurant, Lodge

<http://www.virginialakesresort.com>

HC 62 BOX 1065,
BRIDGEPORT CA 93517-9602
760-647-6484 Tel/Fax ^{1/14}

SAVE MART
SUPERMARKETS

Higher produce standards
than the USDA.
Fresh comes first

The Delta Fly Fishers are proud to participate in the Save Mart Shares program. Each purchase, once signed up, nets the club 3% of your purchase. To sign up, go to the [SaveMart website](#) and fill in the appropriate boxes.

Help put on some great programs for our members and work for better fisheries..

Ask John Keagy about the program today.

[Save Mart Store Locator](#)

Rx Flyfishing!

[Delta Fly Fishers, Inc.](#)

P. O. Box 77862
Stockton, CA 95207-7862
www.deltaflyfishers.com