

Delta Fly Fishers

June 2010

Rx

Flyfishing

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

August 2010

“Never put yourself in a position to have to apologize for someone else’s behavior”, a quote from my grandfather many years ago.

Unfortunately I find myself in this position now and feel I must apologize...as many are aware I have had an ongoing case with the Federal Government for 2 years...much has been discussed and on several occasions the prosecutor’s office has offered to drop all charges if I sign an agreement not to sue them. Yea right, like that’s ever going to happen. To make a rather long story longer ...we have entered the time in this dispute where games are being played to wear down the opposition...we were scheduled to go to trial on July 6th, postponed until July 13th, then postponed again until July 21st, next came August 4th... and finally yesterday we now are scheduled for Aug. 11th.

Do you see where I’m going with this...it is August the month where I (your friendly, except to lawyers, fearless leader) was scheduled to: #1 host the monthly outing to the upper Sacramento River area and #2 be the featured speaker at our monthly meeting on the 11th.

The Judge, (Oliver Wanger) the same one who dealt the Delta a slap in the face last month over a technicality, is allowing the Prosecutors office one last chance to come to grips with reality...drop all charges or get into court...in the mean time I have to quietly (hahahaha, me quiet) sit by and have my schedule screwed up...Sorry for any and all inconvenience this causes, I know how much the membership looks forward to listening to my half assed witty sense of humor at these meetings.

So my apologies for disappointing my friends or is it friend...lost count.

On a more interesting note...water is warming up and the carp in local waters are hungry, Kate and I have been cruising the shorelines of Woodard and Modesto Reservoirs in the evenings and doing quite nicely...several in the 10lb range. A couple of day trips to the Sierras to check out the “little fellas” (Brookies) in the 6” to 10” range and my new 3 weight is no longer a virgin.

Kate is not a happy camper right now...only reading going on is legal papers and court documents.

Hopefully this will be the end to all the madness and I can get back to tending my flock like a proper shepherd... until then, thanks for the understanding and the beer is on me as soon as I get through kicking the Federal Governments ass.

The sad eyed mutt and Steve

DFF MENTOR PROGRAM

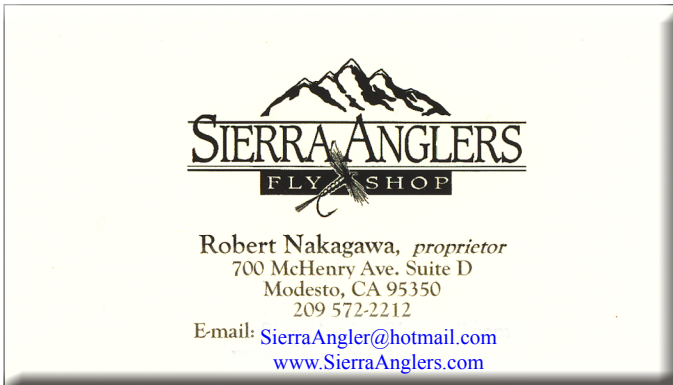
The Delta Fly Fishers Board of Directors, intent upon enhancing the existing Fishing Buddy Program, is proposing DFF adopt a Mentor Program which is proactive and broadly inclusive. The primary objective is, by sharing fly fishing skills and knowledge of existing DFF members with new members, this will 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.

Fishing Mentor Request	
NAME _____	
DATE _____	
PHONE CONTACTS: (1) _____	
(2) _____	
The best time to contact me is _____	
My E-mail address is: _____	
I WOULD LIKE A FISHING MENTOR TO HELP ME WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Casting	<input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying
<input type="checkbox"/> Attending Outings	<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Knot Tying	<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 Mentor Chairman: Steve Cooper, 956-1032 or e-mail @ repooc3@sbcglobal.net 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.

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
PO Box 1562
Lodi, CA 95241-1562

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 Fujimura at 209-948-7097 or e-mail at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com.

Membership

It is that time of year again, the most important time of the year. Not the opening of trout season. But, it's time to pay your annual membership dues. DFF relies on your dues as a major portion of its operating budget. So save DFF some money and use the Dues form and send your hard earned money to Bob Fujimura at:

Delta Fly Fishers
PO Box 1562
Lodi, CA 95241-1562

Also we would like to welcome our newest members:

Elizabeth Fortin
Ray Brudernich

If you are new to fly fishing, or would just like to increase your expertise, use the DFF Mentor Program. DFF has several very talented and knowledgeable members that would just love to help you.

Again welcome to the Delta Fly Fishers!



Conservation

by Ron Forbes

As one becomes more involved with conservation issues regarding our fisheries and California's water issues, you become aware our ability to solve water problems or inability do so will define us as a State. It has done so in the past and will continue to do so in the future. Unfortunately, urban users and agribusiness interest continue with their "ME First" attitude. Those of us representing environmental or fisheries interest are in a position of the poor relative. We do, however, put up a good fight given our lack of resources.

This month has a good example of how we can fight the two special interest groups. In the ongoing Striper wars, the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta (CSD) ask Judge Oliver Wanger (US District Court for Eastern California) for a summary judgment against the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) who's the defendant in the case. Interveners for DFG are California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA), Central Delta Water Agency (CDWA) and Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFFF). DFG and its three interveners presented strong scientific evidence against CSD's case and Judge Wanger ruled against CSD. With a name like Coalition for a Sustainable Delta, one would have a tendency to think the organization is an environmentally responsible group. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are nothing more than a group of western San Joaquin Water users. The suit is another attempt to have the Stripers declared non-sport fish so that anyone can catch and keep as many fish as they want regardless size or numbers. CSD has no interest in the extinction of species such as Salmon, Steelhead or Stripers. They want the all sport fishing regulations for Stripers removed. Their point is that if you get rid of the fish and you will get rid of the fisherman. They feel if they get rid of the fish and those of us protecting the fish they will have unrestricted use of Delta water and no Environmental Impact Act laws to worry about. The fact that they will destroy one half million acres of prime Delta farmland and the local farmers with salt intrusion is of no concern to them. Judge Wanger has denied CSD's request for a summary judgment twice. However, CSD can still decide to continue the case. Their decision will be interesting.

In the last part of July, CSPA gave a press release regarding California Water Resources Control Board (CWRCB) release of a draft which said that more water flows are needed in the Delta. Increased flows are needed to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta's water quality and to protect the fisheries. This report was required by the State nine years ago which told the Board to "develop new flow criteria for the Delta ecosystem necessary to protect public trust sources". The report should be finished in August of this year. Bill Jennings, Executive Director of CSPA is happy with CWRCB's draft. Jennings is pleased that this is the first time that the Board has given estimates on what flows are needed to sustain the estuary. Jennings is also pleased that the flow increase estimates are in line with those scientist, biologist and hydrologist who have been studying for the last thirty years. The draft also comments that the report is based on the "best scientific information" available. The recommendation will be sent to the Bay Delta

Conservation Plan (BPCP) and the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC). After review, a comprehensive plan is to be developed which hopefully will protect the Delta ecosystem. We will keep on top of this report. Given the nature of the three major groups interested in the Delta the report is certain to cause controversy. CSPA's Bill Jennings along with CSPA's attorney Mike Jackson and their expert witnesses were a big part in the outcome of the draft. Another job well done, thank you CSPA.

And just when you thought things couldn't become odder in the ongoing water wars.....! As you will remember, for the last three years we have heard how the drought has brought the farmers of the south San Joaquin Valley to their knees. We heard how the fish and the people who protect them are the bad guys and are turning the south Valley to a dust bowl. Even Fox's Sean Hannity felt he had to take to the air decrying how the farmers were being ruined because of environmentalist love of a small transparent fish rather humans. And who can forget all those signs from Stockton south on 1-5 telling us that their lack of water has ruined the economy in Fresno and Bakersfield. Evidently, according House of Representatives member Nunes, the protection of Delta smelt, and not the recession, has caused huge economic problems in the Fresno area. The fact he lied before congress seems to have escaped Hannity. According to south Valley farmers and Senator Diane Feinstein (working for her corporate agribusiness billionaire friend), environmental laws needed to be suspended to save the farmers and provide more Delta water to the south valley.

Given the lack of water for the last three year doesn't it seem somewhat strange that the Westlands Water District has somehow has "found" 50,000-100,000 af of water to sell to the Metropolitan Water District for the 2010-2011 water year? Westland's WD ability to sell their subsidized water after three years of blatant misrepresentation is truly outrageous. Yet they continue to get away with it year after year. Westlands, the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta and others seem very concerned about removing stripers from the Delta because they are a non-native fish. Using their logic, why should the state and federal governments give subsidized water and subsidized cash for crops like cotton and pistachios given the fact they are nonnative crops in California?

For several weeks I have heard pro-radio messages for Prop.18, the Water Bond, on varies stations. The state legislature is still pushing Prop.18 even though some in the legislatures are trying to get the NGO section of the bill removed with the approval for both state houses. Now some of the legislature wants to postpone the Water Bill vote till 2012. We however, want the bill defeated, not postponed. The pork-laden Prop 18 needs to be voted down and the state needs to come up with a comprehensive water package that will address the real issues that need to be solved, not just pass a package that really doesn't address the problems. Today Restore the Delta sent out an ACTION ALERT on the bill. Go to: nowaterbond.com and see the site. They have a video which hopefully will be seen on TV. It's called: "Spit out the Water Bond and Start Over" and uses Hollywood stars such as David DeLuis, Justine Bateman, Kelly Williams and Anna Belkamp. It runs 60 seconds and is worth seeing. The video gets the message across.

Good going Restore the Delta and keep up the good work!

DFE August Membership Meeting



RIVERS OF A LOST COAST

August is traditionally set for the President's presentation. Unfortunately, there is a distinct possibility the Steve Johnson will not be able to attend August's meeting (see the President's message). Marty Kjelson is working on several possibilities for the meeting. If he can't get another speaker, at the last moment, we will be showing the video Rivers of a Lost Coast.

For those who haven't seen it yet, it is a wonderful movie documenting the rapid decline of our planet's fisheries. The devastated fisheries of Northern California are a microcosm of the planet's larger problems. Once a major salmon producing region, in 2008 state and federal agencies agreed upon a complete closure of ocean and recreational ocean fishing off the California coast.

While much attention has turned to the crippled commercial fishing industry, Rivers of a Lost Coast examines the situation through the unique, little-known history of California's north coast fly fishing community. From this rare perspective, our documentary provides a symbolic, melancholy reflection on a wild California that has been lost to the growing metropolis.

Rivers of a Lost Coast follows California's coastal fly fishing community through the rise and collapse of one of the world's most magical fisheries. To some, this is a story about time and place, about a California that was. To others, it is a story about who we are, what we need and where we are going.

National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave Education, Inspiration, Celebration

West Yellowstone Montana here we come! Planning is on track and you can expect to get the best Fly Fishing Fair the FFF and West Yellowstone has offered yet. Some special activities going on will include a 1 ½ day women's program on August 26 & 27 with some outstanding instructors at the spectacular Bar-N-Ranch and we have a one day youth camp scheduled for Saturday August 28.

Fly Fishing Fair Registration is open now. Check the website for information on workshops available. See our website for all other activity information and be sure to check back often for the most up to date information.

Don't forget to plan to attend the live auction on Friday August 27. We will have a preview from 6:00-7:30 with great appetizers, a cash bar along with a raffle drawing and some silent auction items. To attend the preview, purchase your ticket for \$15.00 when you register or get your ticket on-site at the show on the 24 or 25. There is no fee to attend the live auction so just show up at 7:30 sharp to bid on great fly fishing trips, beautiful fly plates, flies, and exceptional art to the finest gear we are sure to have items for everyone who pursues a fly fishing lifestyle.

The 2010 Fly Fishing Fair will be a great opportunity for fun, fishing, and learning together come celebrate with us - don't miss it!

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(Open)

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Sallye Rollans 209-274-0448

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Grady Lee 209-951-3623

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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 Mentor Program

Steve Cooper 209-956-1032

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

Membership Meeting

August 11

Board Meeting

August 18

September Newsletter

The deadline for the

September issue is

August 25th

SAVE MART MARKETS – S.H.A.R.E.S

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

Since the last report about our SHARES participation, the membership has responded to the need. The donations from SHARES for the past two quarters totaled approximately \$484.00. Thank you membership. We have an additional 50 SHARES cards coming that will be distributed to new members, family and friends. Continue to shop Save Mart Markets! There is no additional cost to you. It merely gives 3% to DFF that otherwise would go to market profit.



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A Club President's Letter

Submitted by Mike Adamson - President

The Backcountry Fly Fishing Association - Orlando

"I just cost that kid a perfect game". (Jim Joyce, MLB umpire)
"Nobody's perfect". (Armando Gallaraga, pitcher Detroit Tigers)

Last night I learned a lesson from a kid half my age as one of the most intriguing baseball stories of the year unfolded. You probably saw it too, a chance for a perfect game. Two outs in the bottom of the ninth, a ground ball to the first baseman with the pitcher covering the bag. Clearly the final out, but the ump calls him safe. It may go down as the worst call in the history of baseball.

I felt bad for the pitcher and the injustice of the situation. It's almost impossible to be perfect, but he was. And yet the chance to make history was stolen from him by someone else's imperfection. But I felt almost as bad for the ump that made the call. By the time he knew he was wrong he couldn't make it right. Both men probably had a sleepless night.

What I remember most this morning is not the game. What I remember is the study in integrity that followed as both pitcher and ump commented on the game. First the ump acknowledged his imperfection and owned up to it. Without trying to whitewash or make excuses he showed genuine remorse for something he couldn't change. There wasn't an ounce of "yes but" in his answers. He just "manned up" and I was impressed. His response will define him as much as the bad call.

The kid's response was even more impressive. While bearing the brunt of a decision that had to hurt deeply he offered a gracious, forgiving answer. "We're all human". "He feels worse than I do". "Nobody's perfect". "We all make mistakes". In the midst of what had to be deep disappointment at a wrong done to him by another person, he offered a chance to save face. Without overlooking the mistake he set the tone for the rest of the nation to respond with grace, understanding and forgiveness. That's a kid with a great head on his shoulders. That's a man who has the capacity to take the long view. He may be 25 years younger than me but he sure set an example for me last night.

So what does all this have to do with fly fishing? Our whole sport is a combination of the quest for perfection AND the reality of experiencing imperfection more often than not. Lots of things draw me to my fly rod and one of them is the difficulty in making the "perfect" cast. Yet, more times than I'd like to admit I've pushed the final forecast too hard in the heat of the moment or the last back cast slips through my fingers and the fly lands 180 degrees from where I intended. On one hand we keep honing the mechanics and shooting for the sky. On the other we learn to live, and to forgive, in the midst of lots of things going wrong.

The combination of pursuing perfection and being comfortable with and forgiving imperfection is flyfishing in a nutshell. And at least for me it's a great metaphor for life. Shoot for the sky. Own the mistakes. Go easy on yourself and on others. Make adjustments and keep shooting for the sky. Move on to the next

fish, the next cast, and the next scenario.

So as I head out tomorrow morning with fly rod in hand I'll practice what was modeled for me last night in a baseball game. Pursue perfection unabashedly. And when my mistakes or more importantly, when someone else's mistakes cost me the opportunity for perfection...let reality and grace coexist.

Swap and/or Trade

St. Croix AFT 9010 "Avid" 9' 10# 3 pc rod.
Saltwater backup rod. Used once. \$120.00

Scott STS 1090/3 Saltwater 9' 10# 3 pc rod.
Good saltwater backup rod. Never used. \$175.00

Tuxedo Custom Rods RXF9'11#.
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Contact Bruce Rollans 209 274-0448.




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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	WEDNESDAY EVENING TYING Contact: Joe Balderston 649-0291 or 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 August 11	John R. Williams School	Monthly Membership Meeting Marty Kjelson 477-9618 - John Keagy 369-5690
Wednesday August 18	Nature Center Oak Grove Park, Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
August TBA	Upper Sacramento River (?) McCloud River & Dunsmuir Area	August Outing (?) Steve Johnson - 887-9255
Friday-Sunday September 17-19	2010 Bridgeport Eastern Sierra Outing	Earl Summers 957-6756
Wednesday October 13	John R. Williams School	2010 DFF Annual Pot Luck Marty Kjelson 477-9618 - John Keagy 369-5690
Saturday October 16	Lake Alpine	October Outing Earl Summers - 957-6756
Saturday November 6	Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta	The Delta for Stripers Earl Summers - 957-6756
Saturday November 20	Oak Grove Park, Stockton	2010 Stockton Parks and Recreation Trout Bout Charlie Reames - 369-6053
Saturday December 18	Rancho Seco	December Outing Bill Laughlin - 411-6644

August Outing

This August there was an out set for the Upper Sacramento River. Unfortunately, there is a distinct possibility the Steve Johnson, the Fish Miester, will not be able to attend August's outing (see the President's message). At this point in time (July 31) there are no plans for an August Outing. Should Steve become available and things change, check the Club's web site and/or wait for an e-mail to be sent to you. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb



This has been an extremely rough month for me, as I had to fire a gal and rehire another and training again. Also lightning hit our phone system from our house to Lee Vining and we were without a land line for 4 days.

This problem with the girls has been ongoing since the 15th of July, not giving me any time to fish or visit lakes and fish I should have something in a few days, but cannot promise anything. I will post, under the fly fishing report, on our web site www.virginialakesresort.com when I get a couple days next week to fish.....So sorry, but it has been a very trying month..... See you on the water! CJ (10 6)

Fish Factoids

by Herman Spalinger

The cutthroat trout is the second-most popular state fish. The largest line-class cutthroat ever taken was caught in Omak Lake, Washington, in 1993. It was caught on eight-pound line and weighed 18 pounds. The smallest cutthroat trout state record was landed at Pyramid Lake, Nevada, in 1984 and weighed 10 pounds 14 oz.. Also the largest cutthroat trout Nevada state record was caught in Lake Pyramid in 1977 by Ben Barlow, it weighed 23 pounds eight oz..

Here's another one:

In April, 2007, Alaska recorded one of the oldest fish caught from its waters. The female Shortraker rockfish was estimated to be as old as 115 years (based on analysis of its otolith, or ear bone). Caught by commercial fishermen trawling for pollock in 2,100 feet of water in the Bering Sea, the ancient 60 pound female was still reproductively active - its ovaries were filled with developing embryos. But this rockfish was just beginning her golden years. The oldest Shortraker ever caught in Alaskan waters was estimated to be an incredible 157 years old!



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PO Box 77862

Stockton, CA 95207-7862

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